

Annual general meeting, 29 March, 1973 / The Royal Institute of Chemistry.

Contributors

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THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 29 MARCH, 1973

Notice is hereby given that the Ninety-Fifth Annual General Meeting of the Royal Institute of Chemistry will be held in Lecture Theatre A, Applied Science Building, **University College, SWANSEA, WALES**, at 4.30 p.m. on Thursday, 29 March 1973; Dr F. Arnold Robinson, *President*, in the chair.

ORDINARY ANNUAL BUSINESS

1. To receive and consider the Report of the Council for the year ended 30 September 1972 including the Statements of Account with the Auditors' Report (circulated herewith).

The Statements of Account will be presented by the Honorary Treasurer. The Chairman will then present the Report as a whole and will submit a motion for its adoption.

2. To receive and consider the Report of the Benevolent Fund for the year ended 30 September 1972 (circulated herewith).

The Honorary Treasurer, as Chairman of the Benevolent Fund Committee, will present the Report and will submit a motion for its adoption.

3. To receive the report of the Scrutineers and to elect Officers (Vice-Presidents and Honorary Treasurer), General Members of the Council and Censors.

(The Ballot Paper accompanies this notice. Votes will be received up to 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 27 March, 1973).

4. To elect the Auditors and to fix their remuneration (if any).

Present Auditors: Dr. D. I. Coomber, Mr D. G. Forbes (both Honorary) and Messrs. Finlay Robertson, Chartered Accountants.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

(See Council Statements on pages 3 & 4)

5. To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution:—

That under the powers exercisable by the Institute under or by virtue of its Royal Charter, the existing By-law 68 be deleted and the following new By-law 68 be substituted therefor:—

68. (1). At each Annual General Meeting the Council shall lay before the Institute the Annual Report of the Council on the affairs of the Institute, including Statements of Account made up to 30 September of the preceding year, showing the income and expenditure of the Institute for that year.

(2). The Statements so made up shall show the amount of income, distinguishing the several sources from which it has been derived, and the amount of expenditure on the various activities of the Institute, arranged under the most convenient heads.

And if this change in the By-law be allowed, with or without modification by the Privy Council, it shall be deemed to take effect from the date of such allowance.

6. To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following Resolution:—

That under the powers exercisable by the Institute under or by virtue of its Royal Charter, the By-laws of the Institute be amended as follows:—

1. In By-law 61(1) delete the words "Ten Guineas" and substitute the words "Twenty Pounds".
2. In By-law 62(1) delete the words "Eight Guineas" and substitute the words "Twenty Pounds".
3. In By-law 63 delete the words "Six Guineas" and "Three Guineas" and substitute the words "Ten Pounds" and "Five Pounds" respectively.
4. In By-law 64 delete the words "Twenty Guineas" and substitute the words "Twenty one Pounds".

And that if these changes to the By-laws be allowed, with or without modification, by the Privy Council, they shall be deemed to take effect from the date of such allowance.

NOTE: As motions 5 and 6 are proposals for changes in the By-laws, they will be passed only if approved by a majority of not less than two-thirds of those Fellows and Associates who vote at the meeting either in person or by proxy. Under the provisions of By-law 12, Licentiates are NOT entitled to vote on any motion involving a change in the Charter or By-laws. They are, however, fully entitled to take part in discussion at a meeting at which such a change is submitted for consideration.

7. To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following Resolution:—

That on the recommendation of the Council in accordance with By-laws 61 and 62, the annual subscriptions payable by corporate members on the first day of January in 1974 and succeeding years until otherwise determined by a General Meeting shall be as follows:—

- (a) By a Fellow—Eleven Pounds (£11.00).
- (b) By an Associate—Ten Pounds (£10.00), except that if an Associate is under 35 years of age on the first day of January in any year, the subscription payable by him in respect of that year shall be Eight Pounds Fifty Pence (£8.50).
- (c) By a Licentiate—Nine Pounds (£9.00), except that if a Licentiate is under 35 years of age on the first day of January in any year, the subscription payable by him in respect of that year shall be Seven Pounds Fifty Pence (£7.50).

Provided that if for any reason the changes to the By-laws set out in item 6 on this Notice shall not have taken effect by the first day of January 1974, then the foregoing resolution shall be deemed to have been varied as follows:—

- (a) For £11.00 substitute £10.50
 - (b) For £10.00 " £ 8.40
 - (c) For £ 8.50 " £ 8.40
 - (d) For £ 9.00 " £ 8.40
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Any Corporate Member who is unable to be present at the Meeting is at liberty to appoint other Corporate Member as his proxy. In that event, the enclosed form of proxy must be received at the office of the Institute before 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 27 March, 1973.

It is desirable that two persons should be nominated as proxies in case the first-named should be unable to attend the Meeting. If Dr F. A. Robinson, *President*, is nominated it is suggested that Mr P. F. Corbett, *Honorary Treasurer*, c/o 30 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DT, should be named as an alternate.

Licentiates are entitled to vote on motions 1, 2, and 7, and also to act as proxies in respect of these motions.

30 Russell Square,
London, WC1B 5DT.
25 February, 1973.

By Order of the Council,
R. E. PARKER, *Secretary*.

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL ON THE MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER "SPECIAL BUSINESS"

Motion No. 5.—This motion calls for a relatively minor change in By-law 68 (2) so as to allow for the presentation of the Annual Financial Statements in a more modern and informative style, showing the true cost of each of the main fields of activity, including suitable proportions of salaries, other administrative costs, and overhead expenses.

The present By-law 68 (2) is as follows:—

The Statements so made up shall show, arranged under the most convenient heads, the amount of gross income, distinguishing the several sources from which it has been derived, and the amount of gross expenditure, distinguishing the expenses of the establishment, salaries and other matters.

This means that all income and expenditure of a general nature must be shown in total with no indication of the "break-down" on a functional basis.

If the new By-law is approved the Council intends to reshape the published Accounts so that the financial situation of the Institute will be much more readily apparent to members.

At the Annual General Meeting in 1972 a private member's motion calling for the "further modernization and democratization of the By-laws" and listing a number of important proposals in this connection, was duly carried. This motion was supported, in principle, by the Council and a far-reaching review of the By-laws is now in progress. All but one of the changes recommended in the resolution mentioned above have been accepted in substance and many other amendments have been approved. However, important questions relating to the requirements for admission to membership and progress from one grade to another are now being investigated. The final decisions, which have not yet been taken, may necessitate further By-law amendments.

The Council therefore intends to prepare an entirely new set of By-laws for submission to members at a Special General Meeting later in 1973, or at the Annual General Meeting in 1974. However, the redrafting of By-law 68 (2) was specifically mentioned in the

resolution approved at the Annual General Meeting in 1972 and as this particular amendment does not affect any other By-law, the Council feels that members will wish to make the change without further delay.

Motion No. 6.—This motion provides for increases in the upper limits of the annual subscriptions payable by corporate and non-corporate members. These upper limits have to be prescribed in the By-laws, and they were last adjusted in 1951. Regrettably, continuing inflation over the past 21 years has reduced the value of money by more than 50%, and raising the upper limits on subscriptions to the proposed new figure is therefore necessary to restore the status quo. It is hoped that all members will vote in favour of this motion, which is simply an enabling provision, so that they may be free to consider motion No. 7 on its merits and to reach a collective decision within the more realistic limits of the proposed new By-laws.

Motion No. 7.—This motion asks for approval of the Council's recommendation for increases in the subscription rates of all corporate members, to take effect from 1 January 1974. The increases are substantial but they are no larger than necessary to maintain the activities of the Institute at their present levels and consolidate the good work that has been done in recent years.

The Honorary Treasurer will propose the motion and has set out the urgent reasons for the proposed increases in a letter that accompanies this notice. It is hardly necessary to add that he has the full support of the Council, whose responsibility it was to decide on the precise sums that members should be asked to contribute annually. The amounts were agreed with great reluctance but without dissent, for the only alternative would have been to cut back activities in almost every direction.

These are difficult times, and a strong and energetic representative body is the first requirement for a prosperous and flourishing profession. The Institute has undoubtedly grown stronger and more energetic, especially in matters connected with the material welfare and conditions of employment of members. It would be a catastrophe if the benefits of this progress were to be lost, and members are earnestly requested to give the motion their support.