

Constitution of the Society of American Military Engineers

PREAMBLE.

The Military Engineers of the United States, having associated themselves for the advancement of military engineering knowledge, do hereby adopt the following constitution and by-laws:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

NAME AND HEADQUARTERS.

1. The name of this organization shall be "The Society of American Military Engineers."
2. The headquarters shall be in the City of Washington, D. C.

ARTICLE II.

OBJECTS.

1. The objects of the Society shall be in the interests of the national defence to promote the efficiency of the military engineer service of the United States; to maintain its best standards and traditions; to disseminate professional knowledge concerning developments in engineering with special reference to their application to military purposes; to develop between the military engineers and other arms of the service a spirit of co-operation and a mutual understanding of their respective duties, powers and limitations, and to foster relations of helpful interest between the engineering profession in civil life and that in the military service.
2. Among the means to be employed for this purpose shall be meetings for the presentation and discussion of appropriate papers, and for social and professional intercourse, and the publication of such periodicals and other papers as may be deemed expedient.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. *Classification.* The membership of the Society shall be classified as Active, Associate, and Honorary.
2. *Active Members.* The following persons shall be eligible to active membership, viz, all persons holding commissions as officers in the engineer service of the military forces of the United States, or who, having held such commissions, have been honorably separated from said engineer service; all persons qualified as technical engineers, serving in any capacity in any arm, department or service of the military forces of the United States, or who, having so served, have been honorably separated from the military service: *Provided*, That any technical engineer serving in a civilian capacity exclusively shall not be eligible to active membership until he shall have completed six months' continuous employment in any one arm, department or service of the regular army of the United States.
3. *Associate Members.* The following persons shall be eligible to Associate Membership, viz, all persons not included in the provisions of preceding paragraph, holding commissions as officers in the military forces of the United States or in the United States Navy, including the Marine Corps, or in the Coast Guard, or who, having held such commissions, have been

honorably separated from the service of the United States; all persons duly enrolled as members of technical engineering units of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; civilians of suitable technical qualifications, interested in military engineering affairs, and all persons serving in any military capacity in technical engineering units of the military forces of the United States or who, having so served, have been honorably separated from the military service: *Provided*, That no person eligible to Active Membership shall be classified as an Associate Member.

4. *Honorary Members.* Persons who have rendered distinguished service to the Society, or who have otherwise attained distinction deserving of recognition by the Society may be elected to honorary membership for life: *Provided*, That the total number of honorary members shall not exceed fifteen at any one time.

5. Active members only shall be empowered to vote and to hold office.

ARTICLE IV.

GOVERNMENT.

1. The government of the Society shall be vested in a Board of Directors consisting of a President, a First and a Second Vice President, and eighteen active members. The President and the two Vice Presidents, all of whom shall be directors, shall be elected to serve for one year and until their successors shall have been duly elected: *Provided*, That no one of the three officers herein first named shall be eligible to immediately succeed himself in office.

The eighteen directors, other than the three officers above named, shall be elected to serve for three years: *Provided*, That six of their number shall be chosen from the regular army, six from the other military forces of the United States subject to active service, and six from the active members at large, exclusive of the foregoing two sub-classes of members: *Provided further*, That the term of office of two directors of each such group of six shall expire each year.

2. The Board of Directors shall elect from its own number a Treasurer to serve for one year and shall elect from the active members, though not necessarily from its own number, a Secretary whose term of office shall be one year.

ARTICLE V.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Society shall hold an annual meeting of the members for the election of officers and directors and for the transaction of other business pertaining to the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all ballots cast by the members of the Society voting in person, by written proxy, or by letter-ballot: *Provided*, That notice of proposed amendments shall have previously been submitted to all members of the Society not less than sixty days prior to the date of the meeting.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

MEMBERSHIP.

Admissions and Separations.

1. The election to membership of all classes shall be intrusted to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, hereinafter provided for, and the decision of that committee as to eligibility shall be final.

2. Any person desiring to become an active or associate member shall make written application to the Secretary. Such application shall be in such form and contain such data as to military and technical experience as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. The applicant shall give the names and addresses of at least three persons competent to serve as references.

3. Honorary members shall be proposed by at least ten active members and a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee shall be necessary to election.

4. Any member may withdraw from the Society at any time by tendering his resignation in writing, but such resignation shall not become effective until said member shall have paid all sums due the Society at the time of such resignation.

5. Any member may be dropped for cause by a three-fourths vote of the entire executive committee: *Provided*, That he shall have been given full opportunity for a hearing in his own defense; *Provided further*, That any member so dropped may be reinstated by a three-fourths vote of the entire executive committee: *Provided further*, That prior to such reinstatement he shall liquidate all indebtedness which may be due the Society.

6. Members whose dues remain unpaid on February 1 shall be notified of that fact and no publications of the Society shall be sent them pending adjustment of dues. Members five months in arrears may, after a further formal notice of one month, be dropped from the rolls of the Society: *Provided*, That the executive committee is further empowered to act in the best interests of all concerned in any case which may arise relating to dues or fees.

7. For the determination of eligibility qualifications and for other purposes of this Society the following definitions shall obtain, to wit:

The term "the military forces of the United States" shall include the Regular Army, the Reserve Corps, the organized militia of the several states, territories and the District of Columbia (otherwise designated as the National Guard), the National Army and any other forces which may heretofore have been or may hereafter be authorized by Congress and formally inducted into the service of the United States.

The term "technical engineer" shall apply to any person who possesses such qualifications as would entitle him to an unrestricted voting membership in one of the four leading national engineering societies, namely—civil, electrical, mechanical or mining, or in any other technical society of national scope affiliat-