



A DIGEST  
OF  
"IN THE BEGINNING"  
by ALEX CROSS, C.S.I.(C).  
and  
AN ORGANIZATIONAL OUTLINE  
of  
THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF SANITARY INSPECTORS  
by L. A. McCREESH, C.S.I.(C).

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## DIGEST OF

# "In The Beginning"

By ALEX CROSS, C.S.I.(C.)

The Sanitary Inspectors' Association of Western Canada was formed in Winnipeg on April 19th, 1913. The first Conference of this association was held in Regina, in conjunction with the Canadian Public Health Association, later the same year. As far as we know this was the first sanitary inspectors' organization in Canada.

The first annual conference held outside Western Canada took place in Ottawa in 1921. At this conference the organization became the Sanitary Inspectors' Association of Canada.

At the 1930 annual conference in Winnipeg the matter of trying to secure a federal charter came to the fore. Because it was necessary to have incorporation before a Canadian certificate for sanitary inspectors could be established, this matter came in for a great deal of discussion.

It was the 1931 conference at London, however, which definitely decided to pursue this matter.

This conference was held in August of 1931 and it inspired a period of vigorous activity. Countless meetings were held and a profusion of letters were kept going between Douglas Little, the secretary-treasurer in Winnipeg, and F. A. Dashwood, the Association's lawyer in Toronto.

### **APPLICATION REFUSED**

After a great deal of preparation, the application for incorporation was presented to the Secretary of State in October 1932. This application was not accepted.

The main objection was, "that the petition purports to deal almost exclusively with educational matters," and the Department of State felt that this was a provincial matter.

A letter from Mr. Dashwood dated February 24th, 1933, outlined the problem. In the letter he stated:

"The fact that the General Accountants' Association was incorporated by Act of Parliament, rather than by Charter under the Companies' Act,

suggests that the Department of State was unwilling to grant the powers asked for, without special Act. However, it also indicates that the Dominion has jurisdiction, notwithstanding that Education is a provincial matter.

"The jurisdiction of the Dominion lies in the residual powers for the good government of Canada. If the health authorities had said that it was desirable that you should have the powers asked for in the original petition, they would probably have been granted.

"The State Department has decided not to grant the petition on the ground that Education is a provincial matter. The only way that decision can be reversed is by showing that the incorporation of your organization is for the benefit of Canada. And the question of whether or not it will be beneficial rests largely, if not exclusively, with the health authorities."

### **INCORPORATION RECOMMENDED**

Mr. Dashwood here suggests that the support of health authorities should be sought. With this in mind the Executive Council had Mr. Little write to Deputy Ministers of Health, Medical Health Officers, and other health officials asking them to communicate with the Secretary of State giving him their views on the incorporation of our organization. Twenty-five of them recommended that incorporation be granted.

Meanwhile, the Executive Council was amending the petition and our president, W. C. Millar, was in conference with health officials in Toronto.

Meetings were arranged with the Canadian Public Health Association's executive in Toronto and in May, 1933, a committee was formed with Dr. J. G. Cunningham as chairman. This committee reported to the C.P.H.A. conference in June of the same year. The following is a digest of the committee's report:

"(1) That the Canadian Public Health Association subscribe to the application of the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors for a Federal Charter.

"(2) That the Canadian Public Health Association assume responsibility for setting up standards governing qualifications of sanitary inspectors as would be applicable to the Dominion of Canada.

"(3) That through the Canadian Public Health Association, provincial examining boards be constituted; each board to be composed of three members, one of whom shall be a sanitary inspector.

"(4) That appropriate certificates be issued to sanitary inspectors who have successfully met examination requirements.

"(5) That an effort be made to assist in the training of such sanitary inspectors as are desirous of meeting the qualifications which might be outlined under section 2 above."

## INCORPORATION

Finally, on January 3rd, 1934, letters patent were issued, under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Canada, incorporating the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors. At last our organization had gained the authority to institute the Certificate in Sanitary Inspection, (Canada).

The obtaining of the Charter had not been easy. Unforeseen obstacles

had been encountered; there had been delays, frustrations, and objections. But to those who had thought that incorporation, the granting of a charter, and the establishment of a Canadian certificate for sanitary inspectors were worthwhile, the end results were gratifying.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The newly-installed Executive Council of the Institute was very busy for the next year or so. Its business included the applications for membership; discussions on the printing of a journal for sanitary inspectors; getting the various Provincial Branches to appoint officers; and the business of setting up, jointly with the Canadian Public Health Association, the following:

(a) The Committee on the Certification of Sanitary Inspectors and the Central Board of Certification and Registration. (These two committees were consolidated in 1961 into the Board of Certification of Sanitary Inspectors.)

(b) Examining Boards in each province.

(c) A syllabus for those sanitary inspectors seeking certification.

This proved to be a slow process. With the headquarters of C.P.H.A. in Toronto and the headquarters of C.I. S.I. in Winnipeg, most of the work had to be conducted by correspondence. However, the first examinations were held in December of 1935.

In concluding this outline it should be said that the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors has a heritage which must be guarded and maintained by the present membership.

As members of an organization chartered by the Government of Canada we have a responsibility to assure that all the people in Canada have the benefit of the highest possible standard of sanitary inspection we can provide.

# *The Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors' Organizational Outline*

## **ORGANIZATION**

The Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors was founded by Federal Charter under letters patent from the Secretary of State for Canada in 1934, and its membership comprises of persons holding professional qualifications as sanitary inspectors. Provision is made under the Constitution and By-laws for Life Members, Honorary Members, and Sustaining Members.

Provincial Branches have been established in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec. The provinces of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland are federated as the Atlantic Branch.

Each Branch President is automatically a vice-president of the Institute and a member of the Executive Council.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The four primary objectives of the Institute are:

(1) To promote the advancement of sanitary science in all or any of its branches, and the diffusion of knowledge relating thereto.

(2) To raise the status, standards, and rewards of the sanitary inspector. To secure that persons appointed as sanitary inspectors, meat, food, and dairy inspectors, and cognate positions in health departments, shall have passed a qualifying examination in some branch of sanitary science.

(3) To appoint representatives who shall be eligible to sit upon the committee of the Canadian Public Health Association for the certification of sanitary inspectors.

(4) To subscribe to and co-operate with any other association, whether incorporated or not, whose objects are altogether or in part similar to those of the Institute; and to interchange with any such association, information deemed to be in promotion of such objects.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

"The Canadian Sanitarian," published quarterly, is the official organ of the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors.

## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Technical papers are presented at the National and Branch annual conferences. In addition, Provincial Branches hold courses to keep the members informed of changes in the public health field.

It is an established part of public health practice for sanitary inspectors to provide lectures and addresses to technical colleges, professional associations, societies, and service clubs on matters germane to public health.

## **STANDARDS AND CODES**

The Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors does not publish standards and codes. However, the nature of the profession involves its members in the administration and enforcement of the statutes, regulations, and by-laws dealing with environmental conditions.

Sanitary Inspectors are frequently called upon to advise the various levels of government in these matters.

## **INFORMATION**

Requests for information about the Canadian Institute of Sanitary Inspectors should be directed to the Executive-Secretary, L.A. McCreesh, C.S.I.-(C), 202 Westminster Drive, Oakville, Ontario.