

## LOCKED OUT OF PHYSICS

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### MACLAURIN ON TECH STUDY

(Continued from page 1.)

tions by practising the profession they teach, and the manufacturers, in turn, eagerly and confidently employ graduates of the schools, and assist directly both in the courses and in the administration of the schools.

In illustration of these conditions the administration and curriculum of the Institute are then explained in full detail, with the following paragraph of comment:—

"... The characteristics of the Institute, perhaps insufficiently displayed by this sketch, are the following: (1) the importance attached to the fundamental principles rather than to the details of a trade; (2) the encouragement of social life among the students, a recent development due largely to the spirit of the previous president; (3) the encouragement of investigations made by the students, in whom is instilled much independence of thought and action; (4) the combining of professional with liberal studies. A liberal view is held as to the object of the studies, and serious effort is made to co-ordinate science and culture. The object of those who shaped the spirit of the institution was not to make solely engineers; but men of liberal spirit and large ideas.

"After studying such an institution one may doubt the wisdom of the usual method, which is this: to separate, or to try to separate culture from science and technology study. It is usual to devote the first part of the student's life to culture, and to postpone his technical and scientific education. This artificial arrangement is completely irrational; for if there is really ground for making any separation, it would seem more reasonable first to train the young mind completely by inculcating scientific methods, and to leave its general culture to completion in a later period when it will have a widened horizon and better knowledge of men and affairs. However, this may be, there can be no doubt that an education received at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology may be of the largest service to any one who has the least aptitude for science. Even for a man who might aim at a purely scientific career it would be well to go through such a school; he would escape the danger of too sharp a separation between head and hand which is so unfortunate for both. Science is too much inclined to concern itself with abstractions and unreal problems; its detachment from practice deprives it of its most necessary stimulus, and that to the harm of science or of industry. A good technological institution reminds us only that we need not to develop able men of science and of industry, but that we must develop science and industry together, and by these raise humanity to its highest possible level.

An editorial footnote is as follows:— Professor R. Maclaurin, who during a trip in Europe some time ago wrote the above articles, has been quite recently elected president of the Institute of Technology. We desire here to congratulate him on his nomination to this important position, for which he is especially marked out by the independence and breadth of his ideas.

### C. E. SOCIETY DINNER

At the next meeting of the Civil Engineering Society, tonight Associate Prof. Breed will speak on the subject of "Expert Testimony." Prof. Breed has been called out on several times to give expert testimony, and it is expected that he will tell something about these cases. He graduated from Tech in 1897, course I, and after a year in the engineering department of the Boston and Albany railroad became assistant in Civil Engineering, and has since risen to Assistant Professor.

Dinner will be at 6.30 in the Union.

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