

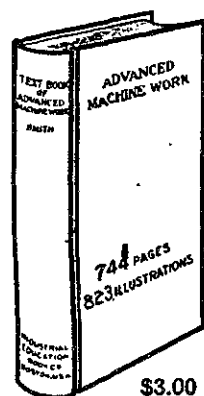


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COURSE VIA PROVES VALUE OF PRACTICE

(Continued from Page 1.)

course are attacking their work with enthusiasm and have rapidly developed an 'esprit de corps' that bids fair to establish a high standard of effort for the future.

OPERATING PLAN

The plan of operating the course is as follows. Each class is divided into two groups, one spending three months at the Lynn works, while the other remains at the Institute, carrying on the regular Course VI work. At the end of the three months the groups exchange places, two weeks vacation being provided at the end of each period at the Institute. The course is operated in this way for the last three years, the first two consisting of the regular Course VI curriculum. The summers of the Sophomore and Junior years are also spent in co-operative work, so that the course requires five years; the men receiving the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Master of Science. During the fifth year the men receive over \$1,300, the most expert instruction in Electrical Engineering, carefully supervised manufacturing experience, and the degree of Master of Science as a reward for the extra year's work.

CLUB FOR STUDENTS

The Thomson Club, which has been set aside for the use of the men in this course, has proven to be a delightful home. Life at the club is very much like that in a small fraternity, with its opportunities for making close friendships, and for quiet study and recreation. Here the men get to know the full meaning and value of team-work in play and co-operation in business. The library of the club has been augmented by a collection of technical books and works of general interest to the engineer, so that there are at hand reference facilities and material for reading along broader lines. The Institute Library has subscribed to two engineering journals for use at the club besides THE TECH and Technology Review which keep the men in touch with Institute life. Another feature which has decreased the separation are the visits of the Institute group to Lynn on the days when important lectures are given there. Class room work has been so arranged that the men have Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday free for recreation, giving them an opportunity of spending their week-ends out of town. In addition, one or two evenings a week are given over to recreation and collateral reading.

On the opening day of the new term, January 5, 1920, the students in Group A, who have been at the Lynn works for a full term, will return to the Institute. Their work has been crowned with great success, for the superintendents of the various shops have carried out the ideals of the originators of the course, sparing no pains to make the term one of educational progress. The production of work has been in every case subordinated to the more important consideration of giving the best possible educational training for engineers. Officials of the General Electric Company have given freely of their time in order to acquaint the students with the theory as well as the practice underlying the production methods of the shops. The men have also had the advantage of a weekly lecture by shop superintendents. At all times the officers and foremen have taken time to explain any point arising in the day's work which has amounted to almost individual instruction.

CLASSES HELD

On two afternoons each week, a member of the Institute instructing staff has conducted a class in the "Principles of Electrical Engineering," the material being closely coordinated with the electrical features of the shops. In this work, the class covers the equivalent of the subject as given at Technology. Accordingly, when the men return to the Institute, they will be that much ahead of their schedule and will have maintained uninterrupted work in this subject.

PUBLIC SPEAKING DEVELOPED

A course in "The Presentation of Engineering Projects to Boards of Directors" is given at the Thomson Club on two evenings of each week. This feature has attracted widespread interest among Technology graduates and the instructing staffs of other engineering schools. Twice during the term, each man is given the task of presenting to the class some engineering project, which the class votes on as a board of directors. As a result, there is a decided improvement in the ability of the men to talk while on their feet and to present a subject in a persuasive and convincing manner. Older graduates of Technology assert that the importance of an engineer's possessing this ability cannot be overestimated.

The heads of the Electrical Engineering department have made the following statement in regard to the course: "The present industrial crisis makes particularly opportune a word

concerning the ideals underlying the foundation and conduct of the course. The alarming rate at which the natural resources of the country are being depleted has made it imperative that we depend almost entirely upon our manufacturing industries to sustain us. We can no longer depend on our exports of raw material to maintain the balance of trade in our favor. These raw materials—the lumber, the ores, and the oils—must be manufactured into finished products if the expenses of our population are to be met. Our vast water power must be utilized to the full and new methods must be devised to make the most of our fuel. In all of this work trained engineers of the highest type become the most valuable asset to the nation. It is these men who must operate the country's industries, for they cannot compete with the industries of foreign countries unless they are conducted by men of large vision having a knowledge of manufacturing details and a thorough training in science. Not only must business be sound, but the cost of production must be managed in such a way that the total of the finished product is low enough to compete with the products of foreign countries. For this second requisite, the services of an engineer who has been trained in manufacturing processes are invaluable and his duties are multifarious. Not only must he be familiar with the best production methods, but he must understand the process of scientific research which will enable him to take advantage of new discoveries and thereby continually better his methods of production.

GOVERNOR PRAISES COURSE

This need of the nation was stated very strikingly by Governor Coolidge in a recent address. 'Our prosperity,' he said, 'comes from our industry, and our industry cannot flourish unless it is directed with the highest intelligence. Far more in the future than in the past will this intelligence call for sound training in science and its innumerable applications to industry. In this Commonwealth we are fortunate in having the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, one of the greatest assets of the nation—an institution that attracts men from every state in the Union and sends forth men well trained to play a leading part in the development of national resources.' Course VIA has already given great promise of meeting this need of supplying electrical engineers of the highest type, trained to apply their technical knowledge to the processes of manufacture."

COLLEGE NOTES

The Aero Clubs of Columbia, Harvard and Yale are making plans for a three-cornered airplane race next spring.

University of Nebraska—Nearly 400 students of the University of Nebraska have recently returned to their studies, after working in the mines of Nebraska and neighboring states to help relieve the coal famine. Support was pledged to the government at a mass meeting, and resolutions were adopted, condemning those responsible for conditions as they were at the time of greatest need. Three co-eds helped with the cooking for the men while they were at work in the coal fields.

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Payments for Second Term.

Students are strongly advised to make payments BY MAIL. Avoid waiting in line, by mailing check for \$86.00 to H. S. Ford, Bursar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., BEFORE January 5, 1920.

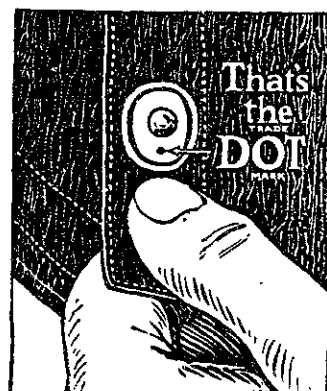


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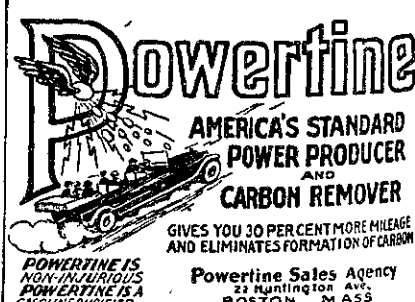
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