

As is to be expected, in a field of activity so new, and with boundaries so elastic and vaguely defined, there is no hard and fast system of educational training. The public is perplexed to distinguish between the trade school, the manual training school, and the strictly technical school. In order of establishment, the manual training school was probably the progenitor of the three. They today hold the anomalous position which the advanced academy does to the preparatory school and the literary college, and will doubtless soon undergo marked modifications, as it is too advanced to train skilled mechanics, and too elementary to educate engineers. Beginning with the trade school, its function is to train the electrician, a skilled electrical mechanic who shall operate dynamos and install and maintain transmission circuits.

These few words are all too brief to allude to that highly essential system of educational manual training.

The electrical engineer is the one who utilizes, plans and designs. It is his mission to control what science places at his command for the accomplishment of an economic purpose. In his training the essential element is such a command of mathematical physics, and the general laws of the physics of matter and energy, that he is enabled to apply them for the accomplishment of his purposes. To this a considerable knowledge of chemistry must be added, and a working command of the leading principles of steam, hydraulic and mechanical engineering. To accomplish this, even in a small way, the conventional collegiate course of four years in the school of technology is all too brief, even with the daily routine of lectures and constant laboratory practice.

For the larger relations of the electrical engineer to his profession and to society, there must be added to all these, intellectual training in the essential elements of a liberal education. The essential elements for the success of the engineer are a trained judgment and a nicely balanced sense of discrimination, and whatever conduces to these in a liberal education adds new power to a professional career.

To turn to the material resources of the electrical department of Armour Institute of Technology, it presents to the student an equipment remarkably complete in many lines. A carefully expended sum of about \$75,000.00 has given it an equipment unexcelled in many respects. The newness of the institution, coupled with the rapid advances in the applications of electricity, still leaves much which it will be necessary to complete. This is especially true of the multi-phase apparatus. But the liberality which has marked the establishment of the equipment will no doubt be exercised to its completion.

