



IN THE fall of 1897 the Class of 1901, then freshmen, decided that Armour needed a college paper; whereupon they elected an Editor-in-Chief and a Business Manager. After considerable preliminary discussion and planning, these men produced the first issue of THE FULCRUM, which came from the press in November, '97. That the new paper might be insured of a good beginning this same class, then as sophomores, guided it through its second volume. Since then THE FULCRUM has been edited and managed by a staff chosen from each succeeding class, as it came to its sophomore year.

During the comparatively short existence of THE FULCRUM it has varied very greatly in its make-up. It has passed through several sizes and thicknesses, from a sixteen-page paper, ten by twelve inches, in Volume I, to a forty-eight-page pamphlet, four and a half by six and a half inches, in Volume VII. The present volume was made the size that it is, namely six by nine inches, partly from precedent—as four of the eight volumes are of that size—but mostly from the fact that for its purposes that size has proved the most satisfactory.

THE FULCRUM in the past has had two functions to fulfill, one that of a magazine, the other that of a newspaper. In the current volume we have striven to carry out both of these as best possible. As a magazine we have presented much solid material, both technical and literary. Commencing with the fifth issue we presented a series of numbers, each one of which was for one of the departments of the Institute. For many of the articles in this series we are greatly indebted to members of the faculty. Editorially we have endeavored to deal fairly and impartially with such problems as came before the student. As a newspaper we have given reported accounts of the various happenings—athletic, social and musical, coming into the student life. We have conducted an Alumni Department, and under “College Items and Exchange,” we have given notes of interesting happenings at other colleges. Along artistic lines we have sought to add attractiveness to the paper by means of various illustrations, color plates, and a new cover design with each issue.

Altogether we have put increased effort and expense in the make-up and publishing of THE FULCRUM, first that we might produce a paper of technical excellence in itself, and second that it might be a paper truly representative of Armour Institute, both College and Academy. Thus have we endeavored, and the hearty reception that our efforts have received, from both faculty and students, assures us that we have succeeded. To what degree we have succeeded is not for us to say. We merely point to Volume VIII of THE FULCRUM and allow it to speak for itself.

H. RALPH BADGER.