



PETER M. LEICHENKO

Thesis: *Design of a Single Leaf Bascule Bridge for Interurban Electric Railway Service.*

Armour C. E. Society

At Odessa, Russia, some four days before Christmas, 1888, there was an arrival in the Leichenko household. Peter the Great was again honored, as the little tot was immediately wrapped in that soul-stirring cognomen, which we in our American hustle have shortened to Pete. He entered school at Odessa and graduated from the high school of that place in 1905. Pete came to believe that his chances for a short life, or else free transportation to that famous eastern colony of his country were good, and very naturally he journeyed in an opposite direction, and after a brief stay in Germany he landed in New York. With the aid of the newspapers and a dictionary our anarchist soon mastered the intricacies of the English language. He made a good job of this, as has been shown by the many excellent articles contributed by Pete to the Fulcrum.

In 1908, he entered the evening school at Armour and in the following year he joined the class of 1912 in the day school. He has stuck, and has demonstrated an ability to keep a smiling face even when the joke has been on him. Pete is one of the boys who are to be congratulated on working their way through school. His field of work has been varied, ranging from tutoring, assisting in the math. department, selling books, and representing accident insurance companies to the entertaining of the Chicago Grand Opera audiences. During the vacation of 1910, he went to the summer camp and, besides dividing two chains neatly with an ax, found time to learn a little practical surveying, maintaining all the while his position as the camp comedian.

Leichenko is fortunate in the possession of a good stiff backbone, the determination to be successful, and mental powers above the ordinary, and with this trinity of helpers his career is bound to be successful.