



ONE Sunday in the early '90s Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, then pastor of the Plymouth Church at 26th Street and Michigan Boulevard, preached a sermon lamenting the lack of preparation which young people receive to face the practical needs and duties of life. One of the members of the church, Mr. Philip D. Armour, was deeply impressed because his interest in the practical training of young people had already been awakened to some extent by observing the work done under the direction of Mrs. Julia A. Beveridge at the Armour Mission. The Armour Mission had been built by Mr. P. D. Armour to carry out the wish of his brother, Mr. Joseph Armour, who had left a bequest of \$100,000 for that purpose. The building was opened in 1886. The popularity of the classes in manual training and domestic arts held in the Mission, together with the influence of the suggestions of Dr. Gunsaulus, induced Mr. Armour to erect and endow munificently an institution devoted to practical and liberal education, and the institution which now bears his name is a fitting and enduring monument to the ideals for which Mr. Armour stood.

In order to crystallize the ideas concerning the proposed institute, a trip to the various colleges in the East and in Europe was made by Mr. Armour and Dr. Gunsaulus. The organization of the Board of Trustees consisting of Mr. Philip D. Armour, Jr., and Mr. J. E. Black followed upon the return of Mr. Armour and Dr. Gunsaulus.

1892 saw the completion of a handsome and spacious building, and what is now known as the Main Building, but it was not, however, until the fall of 1893 that the first classes were organized.

The original program of the Institute included the Technical College comprised of Mechanical Engineering, Library Economy, and Architecture; the Scientific Academy; and the Associated Departments of Arts and Sciences, Commerce, Music, and Kindergarten Normal Training. The union with the Art Institute in inaugurating the Architectural Department was made in the early part of 1893 and the Armour Institute developed the course which the Art Institute had successfully established in 1889.