

STRESSES AND STRAINS

The Engineer

Who is the man who designs our pumps with judgment, skill and care?
Who is the man that builds 'em and who keeps them in repair?
Who has to shut them down because the valve seats disappear?
The bearing-wearing, gearing-tearing mechanical engineer!

Who buys his juice for half a cent and wants to charge a dime?
Who, when we've signed the contract can't deliver half the time?
Who thinks a loss of twenty-six percent is nothing queer?
The volt-inducing, load-reducing electrical engineer!

Who is it takes a transit out to find a sewer to tap?
Who then with care extreme locates the junction on the map?
Who is it goes to dig it up and finds it nowhere near?
The mud-bespattered, torn and tattered civil engineer!

Who thinks without his products we would all be in the lurch?
Who has an heathen idol which he designates Research?
Who tints the creeks, perfumes the air, and makes the landscape drear?
The stink-evolving, grass-dissolving chemical engineer!

Who is the man who'll draw a plan for anything you desire?
From a transatlantic liner to a hairpin made of wire?
What 'ifs' and 'ans,' 'however' and 'buts,' who makes his meaning clear?
The work-disdaining, fee-retaining consulting engineer!

Who builds a road for fifty years that disappears in two?
Then changes his identity, so no one's left to sue?
Who covers all the traveled roads with filthy, oily smear?
The bump-providing, rough-on-riding highway engineer.

Who takes the pleasure out of life and makes existence hell?
Who'll fire the real good-looking one because she cannot spell?
Who substitutes a dictaphone for coral-tinted ear?
The penny-chasing, dollar-wasting efficiency engineer!

—*F. A. Lidbury, Niagara Falls, N. Y.*
(Submitted by Einar A. Comfield, '26.)

APROPOS

Who is it tries to marry art to hard-boiled steel and stone?
Who is it puts the buildings up that will not stand alone?
Who'd rather sketch a nifty frieze than figure out the shear?
The work-deploring, cost-ignoring architectural engineer!

Who wants the buildings fireproof, and won't take "good enough"?
Who raves about the firestops and non-inflammable stuff?
Who tries to fight the fire loss, but lets it grow each year?
The asbestos-selecting, fire protecting, actuarial engineer!