

George F. Gebhardt

The Mechanical Engineering Department at Armour has always functioned since the date of its inception as an undergraduate school. The few applications for post-graduate work and specialized research have not been of sufficient moment to warrant the added expense. Barring a few minor changes the curriculum is substantially the same as that adopted 10 years ago, and how well it was planned is evidenced by the fact that today it meets in every respect the ideal course in mechanical engineering as formulated by the Wickenden Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. While research, pure or applied, has not been undertaken by the department as an organization, a vast amount of work of this nature has been carried on by the instructors in their individual capacity. In fact, many of the members of the faculty have achieved national fame through their contacts, in this connection, with industrial concerns. These contacts have not only reflected credit upon the individual and the Institute but have opened up positions for graduates which would otherwise have been unobtainable.

There has been no change in personnel during the past year and the department enters the new year with its faculty intact.

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Barring replacements and a few instruments of precision no additions have been made to the equipment. Most of the apparatus is old and some of it is obsolete, but insofar as the teaching of fundamentals is concerned, it matters little how old the equipment is, provided the instructors are masters of their art and know how to impart knowledge to the students. It is the faculty and not the equipment which makes a school really great. The Mechanical Engineering Department has the faculty and Armour is a great school.

Not so many years from now, when the present depression and gloom have been forgotten, there will be founded in the City of Chicago, the greatest engineering school in the world, and the nucleus of that school will be the Armour Institute of Technology, and its outstanding department, the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Meanwhile let us put our shoulders to the wheel and keep the old cart moving until we catch up with that limousine de-luxe which is waiting for us just over the hill.

