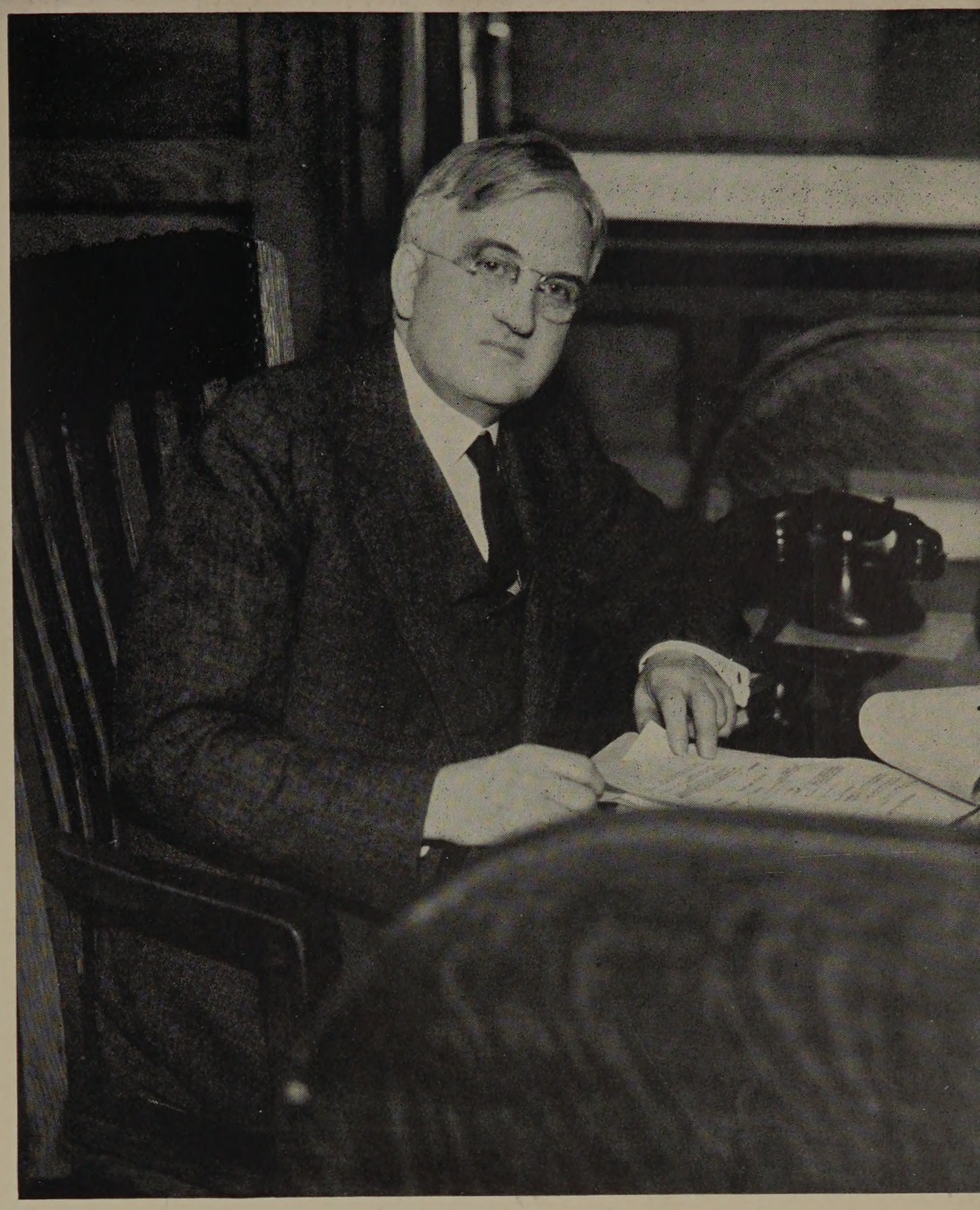
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ARMOUR



ARMOUR—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Without parade or display Armour, for the past forty years, has rendered distinguished service, not alone in Engineering but in other fields. The first president was a notable citizen of Chicago and the nation; an eloquent preacher, a patron of art. Armour's leading professor of mechanical engineering, now emeritus, contributed in successive editions an authoritative work on Power Plant Engineering used throughout the land. It is believed that the first instruction in Aerodynamics and Airplane Design was offered here; our graduates did important aeronautical work in the world war. From our Electrical Laboratory, Lee De Forest sent one of the earliest radio messages ever transmitted. In 1908, Armour started the first unit operation laboratory work ever offered in chemical engineering. Our fire protection engineering course is unique. Members of our architectural staff did distinctive work designing and executing artistic features at A Century of Progress, and our director has for some time been doing important reasearch into Midwest Pioneer Architecture. An Armour professor made the lens for the Arcturus ceremony at the Fair.

Armour alumni have also brought great credit to its name. One of our most active alumni trustees is an outstanding architect and builder. An alumnus, now state architect, designed the Illinois Host Building at A Century of Progress; before that, he had been president of the American Institute of Architects. In a recent authoritative History of Modern Architects, two brothers, both Armour men, were listed as leaders in this field; other graduates have done distinctive work in architecture, modeling, color, and design.

A holder of three Armour degrees, whose outstanding scholarship in the higher reaches of engineering and pure science is universally recognized, has made important contributions to human knowledge as collaborator with Dr. Michelson at Mount Wilson Observatory.

A prominent alumnus was the first successful producer of malt sugar and responsible for the business success of the company utilizing the product. Another, head of one of the largest metal companies in the United States, has developed processes for recovery of pure metal from scrap. An Armour graduate was member of the committee of three who selected the foreign patents taken over by the Chemical Foundation during the War.

The State Highway Engineer, and the Chief Engineer of the Sanitary District are Armour men, as were the late City Engineer, and a former president of the Board of Local Improvements who performed notable public service in constructing the Wacker Drive.

Alumni, who are also trustees, have respectively the following services to their credit: Design and erection of important buildings; directing important engineering construction; manufacturing executive; patent attorney; invention and commercial promotion of the teletype; direction of research and development for the Peoples Gas; invention and promotion of various devices for protecting electric circuits; head of important industrial engineering firm which has re-organized many governmental agencies throughout the United States and thus greatly improved the public service.

These are but samples of Armour achievement. Bringing the story down to date, basic scientific and engineering training at Armour has never been on a higher level than now. Instruction has been and is being subjected to careful scrutiny to make sure it is serving the ends contemplated. The curriculum has been materially broadened and some of the typical engineering subjects, as for example, Shops, have been reorganized in accordance with the best leadership in Engineering Education. Members of our faculty are occupied with research projects of great promise. The important question now is, where Armour is going and what is its equipment for the journey. From the standpoint of teaching and research, there can be no question of Armour's fitness to undertake the tasks ahead.

Physically, we still require considerable refurbishing in order to accomplish our objectives. We are therefore setting ourselves the task of locating in Chicago's front yard, where we may have the advantage of the best possible surroundings and the inspiration of Chicago's unrivaled Lake Front. The task we are undertaking is a large one, but the foundations upon which we are building are laid securely in Armour's past history and achievement. The superstructure we propose to build has started with an open minded critical review of our present activities. It is essential that every member of the new structure be designed to carry its load and to endure all the stresses to which it will be subjected in the rigid operating test incident to its future service to engineering, to education, and to mankind.

Willard E. Hotchkiss