## ARMOUR



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The first student magazine to serve the Institute was the Fulchrum. This magazine was founded by the Class of '01 in the fall of 1897. At that time the first issue of the magazine was published. The publication contained articles concerning student activities, sports articles, jokes, cartoons, and short stories. In the following year the magazine was again published by the Class of '01. After this volume was completed, the class decreed that the Fulchrum should become an annual magazine to be published by the sophomore class. It continued as an organ of the sophomore classes until 1907, when it was decided that the Fulchrum should become a student publication. Staff officers were limited to the upperclasses, and the editorial policy was altered. Editors no longer wrote haphazardly, but they followed a definite program. Feature articles were written by members of the faculty and senior students, while departments were devoted to sports, student affairs, jokes, and cartoons. In 1909 the Fulchrum became a monthly magazine, and its articles became more current, tending to make the publication follow the lines of a newspaper. During this same year the Armour Engineer was published for the first time. The Engineer assumed the role of a technical journal and an alumni forum. The Fulchrum continued as a newspaper magazine until 1914, when it was combined with the Engineer.

In January, 1909, the first issue of the Armour Engineer appeared. Students and faculty members had proposed a magazine for the Institute which would feature technical articles by Armour alumni who had been in the field of engineering long enough to become acquainted with the problems that face engineers. It was thought that such articles would be of great interest to undergraduates who could use such information to advantage after graduation. In addition technical articles written by the faculty, were also included. The magazine was to be representative of the progress in engineering made by alumni of the Institute. Alumni activities were to be mentioned only in a professional way, while student activities were to be avoided. The magazine did not receive the full support of the faculty and the students because many believed that a strictly technical publication could not exist. The magazine was published annually in January, and the second number was so well received that all doubts were quickly forgotten. The magazine was sent to every active member of the Armour Alumni

Association. This practice was deemed necessary to insure continued alumni support. In the succeeding years before the magazine became a quarterly, several important changes were made that have continued to the present. College notes that dealt with the Institute and students were included. These tended to make the magazine more appealing to the student readers, and kept the publication from following the purely technical line that was at first pursued. An Alumni department was likewise instituted, and this received commendation from the entire alumni group. Particular pains were taken to publish a neat and attractive magazine, while a standard size was adopted for the publication. The business department secured the aid of an advertising agent who worked hard trying to sell advertising space to engineering and industrial firms. In 1914 when the Fulchrum was combined with the Engineer the quantity of college news was increased, and the magazine became both an organ of student and alumni activities.

In 1932 an attempt was made to publicize Armour in an effort to secure support to enable the Institute to move to a new location. A publicity committee was organized and given considerable power over media considered to be of publicity value. The committee realized that the Engineer would be of considerable value. It was thought that the publication of a technical journal would bring attention to the Institute. Accordingly, the committee changed both the design and the content of the Engineer. Only purely technical articles were included in the magazine, while the student and alumni departments were eliminated entirely. Engineering abstracts filled a large portion of the journal, and each edition of the paper included a guest editorial on some outstanding scientific subject. The engraving was modeled after other famous technical journals and abstracts, and the printing and paper used were suggestive of a scientific journal. The magazine was sent to all technical associations in the country, and it gained a reputation that pleased members of the publicity committee.

The dissolution of the publicity committee came in 1933. The technical journal the committee had fostered was left without support. Officials of the Institute did not believe there were adequate facilities at Armour for continuing the magazine along technical lines and students were becoming more