

The members of the Fire Protection Engineering Society have, during the past year, been treated to a series of lectures which, for interesting features and educational value, surpass any in the history of the society.

By means of this extensive program it is felt that the society has successfully upheld the basic purposes of its formation. These are, namely, that of bringing the members into closer contact with men experienced in the field of fire protection engineering and fire insurance, and of fostering a spirit of fellowship among the students of the department.

The lectures were given by speakers connected with all phases of the field, who presented their views and experiences at the regular bi-monthly meetings of the society. The first speaker of the year was Mr. Kent Parker of the Western Actuarial Bureau. His subject was "Dust Producing Industries and Their Fire Protection." He emphasized the fact that it is secondary explosions in a plant that do the real damage. Therefore, cleanliness is very necessary.

The second guest speaker of the year was Mr. J. T. Babcock. Mr. Babcock, an air conditioning expert for the Western Factory Insurance Association, discussed the hazards of air conditioning as regards the air intakes, air filters, and ducts. He suggested many protective measures for each.

On November 4, 1938, members of the society were treated to an interesting lecture by Mr. Abel Gent, a representative of the Illinois Inspection Bureau. After his discussion on "Town Classification" he displayed all of his equipment, such as pitot tubes, gages, etc.

One of the newer angles in the insurance business was brought to light by Mr. Carl Herbst when he spoke to the society about "Fire Insurance Appraisals." It was interesting to know that a special slide rule is needed in his work.

At the annual smoker held on the night of February 15, in the lounge of the new Student Union, the honor student of the class of '42 was presented with a copy of the Crosby-Fiske-Forster "Handbook of Fire Protection."