

graduates. However, careful consideration of the replies as a whole, together with comparison of the figures with those obtained by other leading engineering schools convinces the writer that this summary gives, in most respects, a fairly accurate cross section of graduate experience and opinion.

### OCCUPATION

Fig. 1 shows graphically the percentage of the activity of the graduates in each of the major branches of engineering devoted to different kinds of work on a functional basis. Thus the first line in the diagram indicates that 9.4 per cent. of the activity of graduates in Chemical Engineering and 16.1 per cent. of the activity of those in Mining is devoted to executive or administrative work, while 13.6 per cent. of the activity of all the graduates reporting is so engaged. Mechanicals lead by a small margin in executive work; Metallurgists in superintendence and Miners in management. Civils do more than their share of designing and estimating, while Chemicals lead in research. Electricals are to the fore in consulting work and Mechanicals reach the happy stage of ownership to a greater extent than their fellows.

Tendencies in occupations are better shown, however, by Fig. 2, which indicates the gradual shifting of the centre of gravity as the years elapse after graduating, from activities which are mainly technical to those which are mainly executive or administrative. More than eighty per cent. of the graduates in the classes 1920-24 were engaged in work mainly technical, while forty-five per cent. only of the graduates previous to 1900 were so engaged. This drift from technical to executive work is entirely satisfactory and will probably increase. But the gateway seems likely to be mainly through technical employment.

Fig. 3 shows the tendency of graduates in the various branches of engineering to drift into other engineering fields or away from engineering altogether. Sixty-three per cent. of civils and forty-five per cent. of Mechanicals stick to their guns, and the Civil and Mechanical fields receive considerable accessions from other groups. On the other hand only twenty-eight or twenty-nine per cent. of Chemists and Miners are constant to their first choice, but both display considerable versatility in entering other fields.

### INCOMES

Graduates were requested to state their incomes since graduation derived directly or indirectly from earnings, omitting, however, all income derived from inheritance. Table 1 gives the average earned incomes reported for certain groups of classes upon graduation and at intervals of five to ten years thereafter.

The table shows the rapid increase in 25 or 30 years of the earnings of a new graduate; a rate of increase which has been well maintained up to the present year. But while the graduate today earns at the outset at least twice as much as his predecessor in the good Victorian days, it does not seem likely that he will be able to maintain a similar ratio as time goes on.

A number of interesting conclusions might be drawn from the careful analysis of the income figures submitted, did space permit. Graduates who enlisted for service overseas, for instance, have, the reports show, been set back on the average about five years as regards their earnings. University teachers and Government employees are the two groups of graduates who earn least. Both start off pretty well, but after twenty years the Professor's