

( NOT FOR PUBLICATION )

DRAFT OF SUGGESTED LECTURE TO SUB - FRESHMEN

Young Gentlemen:

The subject of my address to you today is "The Engineering Profession"; and the object of my discourse is to make you acquainted with that great and important calling; the ground that it covers, not only as a whole but also in its various ramifications and specialties; the characteristics of the men who are fitted for an engineering career and those of the men who are not; the pros and cons to be considered before adopting technics as a life's work; the compensations (both financial and otherwise) for engineers in comparison with those of men in other lines of activity; the possibilities of attainment in the various branches and specialties; what to do in order to succeed in engineering; and the ethics of the profession.

That engineering is the most fundamental of all the learned professions is conceded today throughout the civilized world by most of the intelligent and deep-thinking people. It is truly the mainspring of all material progress. It provides the numerous comforts and conveniences of modern life that make it worth living. It has evolved and established rapid transit by land, water, and air. It has produced instantaneous communication of thought even between peoples situated at opposite sides of the globe. It has harnessed many of the water-falls and applied their energy (theretofore totally wasted) for utilization in numerous ways. Through sewerage, drainage, and the eradication of noxious insects it has much improved the general health of mankind and prolonged human life. By irrigation it has changed the deserts and waste places of the earth into productive fields that regularly and certainly yield larger crops than do similarly-situated lands cultivated without artificial watering. It has provided bridges, many of enormous size and span-length, for both highway and railway traffic. It has