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ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT H. I. STRANG, B.A.

[Special revision.]

FINDING it difficult to decide on any one topic for an address, and remembering that my duties as President would prevent me from taking my usual part in the discussions, I thought that it would probably be at once the easiest and the most profitable course for me to touch briefly on a number of subjects which are all connected with our work, and some of which might not otherwise come before us for consideration. I am quite aware that as regards some, if not most of these, anything that I may say, or any discussion that it may lead to, comes too late to affect the decision of the Department, or to be productive of any immediate effect. Nevertheless, I think it is of the utmost importance that we should speak our minds freely and fully. If we approve the policy and action of the Department, it is due to the eloquent and hard-working Minister who presides over it that we should strengthen his hands and encourage his heart by publicly expressing our approval. If, on the other hand, our

observation and experience lead us to regard a policy as unwise, or a regulation or an action as unfair, is it not equally due to ourselves that we should place our opinions on public record? There is no need that we should imitate the methods of the politicians or of the party press. It is surely possible for us to call in question or to defend the wisdom of a policy or the justice of an action without imputing unworthy motives or indulging in offensive epithets. I trust, then, that while continuing to claim for ourselves the right to the full and free expression of our opinions in regard to the policy and actions of the Department or its officials, we shall not forget either in our discussions in Convention or in our communications to the press to manifest a due regard for the rights of others, as well as for the dignity of our profession.

First, then, let me say a few words on the subject of examination papers. After a storm comes a calm, and, contrasting the almost entire absence of