

# The Canadian Engineer

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## The Canadian Engineer

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### ACCIDENTS.

The question of ensuring the safety of life and limb is one that should enter into the engineer's design and the workman's execution. It is just as much a part of construction as of operation. No opportunity for increasing safety should be neglected. As man to man we owe this to our fellows, and on the plane of industrial conditions the prevention of accidents is a good investment.

The Fidelity and Casualty Company, of New York, in a recent publication, entitled "The Prevention of Industrial Accidents," points out with great emphasis that by far the larger number of accidents are due to negligence—negligence sometimes only by the one who suffers.

The absolute prevention of accidents is impossible; yet there is a wide field for work, and by inspection, legislation and co-operation the waste may be much reduced.

The employer has his part to do. He must provide suitable surroundings, pure air, sufficient light and plenty of room. A man working under good, healthy conditions will be less apt to blunder than the over-worked, crowded, sickly individual, with little interest in what he is doing or what he does.

The employer should also provide well-designed machinery, hoists, scaffolds, or whatever his men are working with or on. It is his duty to see they are working in guarded surroundings. They give their time and energy and thought to him—for a price. He does well to include in that price a care for their safety. He knows what is required of them, and will not allow a workman through ignorance to suffer. New men require careful instruction, followed by wise supervision. It may be all true that a man's value increases as the want of supervision decreases. But knowledge must be gained before the workman becomes careful and prudent. Sometimes he becomes an expert by imitation, sometimes by reflection and experience. But instruction is necessary.

### ENGINEER'S SKETCH BOOK.

Every engineer who aspires to advance in his profession should learn to sketch—all the better if he can sketch rapidly and with good taste. It is just as necessary for the engineer to be able to make an accurate, understandable sketch as it is for him to be able to write a good letter or furnish an understandable drawing.

Drawing is a universal language, in picture, in cartoon, in plan. It conveys ideas practically impossible with the spoken or written word.

Aside from the training that comes with the clear thinking necessary to produce a good sketch, the engineer is preparing a record which will preserve permanently the information he or his chief may require.