

that students who take the proper view of the matter will appear here as regularly as at lectures.

The success of our Society depends largely on the papers read at these meetings, and the larger the stock your committee has to choose from the better the quality of those selected. As a rule, the papers read here have been written by graduates of the school and outside engineers, and turned over to the corresponding secretary to read. In a few cases have the writers themselves been here to explain points of difficulty, or to answer the numerous questions that may be asked regarding the work covered by the article.

Now, gentlemen, the point which I want to bring out is the advisability of students themselves writing papers. No man who has spent his summer in an office or on construction work has, so far as I can see, any laudable excuse for not writing something for this Society. In fact, gentlemen, I think it is his duty as an active, honest member of this Society to help to supply it with working material. I believe more benefit is derived by the majority of members from a paper written and read by a student than from one by an outside engineer who is not here to take part in any discussion that may arise from the reading of such. Do not misunderstand me, gentlemen; I do not say that students' articles contain as much solid information, or are more cleverly written, than those of outside contributors, but I do say that I sincerely believe that more instruction is gained from them on account of the discussions which are likely to follow their reading. For these reasons, gentlemen, I trust that every member, who can at all, will write a paper for the Society this session. I am not in favor of long papers. I would say, let them be short and to the point, so that we may have several read at each meeting. We have not hitherto confined ourselves strictly to articles on engineering subjects, nor do I think it would be wise to do so, although if we adhere closely to the constitution we shall be prevented from discussing any papers that do not bear on work connected with our profession. I think papers descriptive of a canoe trip, a yachting cruise, or a shooting expedition wedged in with an article on a heavy scientific subject serve to make our meetings more attractive and interesting.

The council of the school are anxious that students should write articles to be read at these meetings. In fact, I may say that they are about to consider the advisability of holding out inducements to encourage men in work of this nature.

This Society has advanced steadily since its formation. Let us this year, by united effort, make the session of 1893-94 famous in its history.