

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

This session has witnessed a number of renovations and changes in the working of the Society.

Among some of its undertakings may be cited the supplying of two or three grades of egg-shell drafting paper, cut to standard size. This is a great saving of inconvenience, labor, and expense to the students who, although not members of the Society, have the privilege of obtaining this paper at practically cost price. This alone should induce *all* students to become members; for, leaving out of consideration the great benefits derived from attendance at meetings and the discussion of practical questions closely connected with their work, the matter of expense alone leaves no doubt as to the relative costs of each side.

Another innovation, of perhaps minor importance, was the selection and purchasing of school colors by the Society. Although not exactly pertaining to the aims and objects of our body, yet being the principal organization of the school, and matters of this nature being better done by an organization than by any other means, it was taken in hand, and has been very satisfactorily performed. The colors are at once unique and distinct, and characteristic of the school shield, which bears the colors, blue, gold, and white.

The establishment of the Fourth year, which was looked forward to with great interest by the students, is now a thing of reality.

While at present no degree is connected with it, it has been practically promised and therefore virtually secured. The diploma already given with graduation must not be belittled; but it is conceded that a degree bears more weight and is of greater value. The degree in question is not one which may be tacked on indiscriminately by almost any one with a little engineering practice, as the letters C. E. often are, and therefore in that respect is perhaps of higher grade.

The work of the Fourth year student consists chiefly in testing and experimenting with the material, machines, and instruments placed in the Laboratory for his use. This Laboratory is well equipped with all the necessary machinery, etc., requisite for thorough tests and experiments in almost every branch of engineering.

An exchange in pamphlets with the Engineering Society of Ann Arbor University, Michigan, was made in the early part of this session. Their