

Broadly speaking, it can be said that fundamental principles remain unchanging in spite of the increasing ramifications of modern engineering. New and improved methods of attacking fundamental problems are devised as a development in the art of teaching, but there is no short cut towards an understanding of these fundamental principles. Students of to-day have substantially the same preparation and mental capacity as their predecessors, and while they must be prepared to deal with a wider range of subjects in the practice of their profession, we feel that the content of the courses of the first three years cannot be expanded to an appreciable extent. Adaptations of our courses will therefore occur logically in the fourth year. Our feeling is that at present the opportunities so afforded can be used to meet legitimate demands.

#### Groups for Selected Students.

It has been suggested that the standard of work done might be raised, in the case of selected students, if the classes in mathematics, mechanics, etc. were divided in the first year, so as to segregate into a special group those whose mathematical and scientific abilities appear to be high. Such a proposal appears seductive, and to require only the provision of additional staff to carry such a group along at a greater pace than that of groups in which all grades of students are represented. There are, however, some practical difficulties, and we must look not merely at the start of the race, but at all stages up to the finish. A sound knowledge of mathematics and