

offered by closely identifying yourselves with the Society. For the benefit of those who are with us to-day for the first time a short account of the history, aims, and internal economy of our organization may not be out of place, and will, we hope, stimulate in many that active interest in the Society which can alone maintain the high standard which has been set for us by our predecessors.

The Engineering Society of the School of Practical Science was founded in the spring of 1885. Professor Galbraith was elected President, and remained at the head of the Society during the three following years. Under the careful nursing of our worthy Principal the infant Society quickly developed into a robust organization, quite capable, Professor Galbraith thought, of taking care of itself. At his suggestion, therefore, the undergraduates, in the spring of 1888, elected one of their number to the Presidency, and have continued to do so from that time. That the students were worthy of this confidence is shown by the continued advances made by the Society under the management of the able men, who, backed as they were by energetic committees and enthusiastic members, have elevated our Society to the proud position it now occupies.

This growth in influence and usefulness is all the more substantial because of the fact that it has often been in the face of difficulty. Two years ago it was only the clear-headed energy of Mr. Campbell and his colleagues which saved the Society from becoming bankrupt.

Last year Mr. King grappled with the question of a revision of our constitution, which, in keeping pace with the requirements of the growing Society, had been so many times amended and changed that it had become too unwieldy and obscure. A competent committee was appointed, of which Mr. Duff was chairman. As a result of their labors we now have our constitution and by-laws collected together under one cover in a concise and comprehensive form.

As will be seen by reference to our constitution the objects of the Society are: (a) The encouragement of original research in the science of Engineering; (b) the preservation of the results of such research; (c) the dissemination of these results among its members; and (d) the cultivation of a spirit of mutual assistance among the members of the Society in the practice of the profession of Engineering.

But this is I think a very modest enumeration of the advantages which the Society offers to its members. Assisted by liberal contributions from the Faculty, the Society maintains a library, the shelves