BOOK REVIEWS

GOOD ENGINEERING LITERATURE. What to read and how to write, with suggestive information on allied topics. By Horwood Frost, Am.Soc.P.E.E., etc. Published by the author. Chicago Book Company, sales agents. Chicago, 1911.

Recognizing the dearth of publications upon the selection and reading of technical literature as well as upon its preparation, the author has attempted to present the subject in a concise and practical form. In this he has, with so elusive a subject, succeeded admirably. His material is largely "an elaboration of that given in addresses to engineering students." While the fact is too little appreciated by the average student-engineer in the earlier years of his work, every engineer sooner or later is called upon to do some form of literary work in connection with the routine of his profession, and the ability to speak and write clearly, and forcibly express his views upon the subject in hand so that others will understand them is one of the most valuable assets in his mental equipment. The work under consideration seeks to impress the reader with the value and need of a command of good English; to indicate something of the standards of engineering literature, and to show how to collect and arrange information, adding information in regard to the theory and practice of publication to aid the writer in the preparation and publication of his literary works. It also attempts to guide in a general way the literary aspirations in the selection and reading of professional literature and the collection and preservation of writings and addresses on engineering subjects. The volume is compiled under twenty-two chapters running through the entire subject from rhetoric and grammar to the making of a book and literary criticism. While the volume is directed mainly to the engineer, its deductions will apply to all the professions equally, and as a whole is a unique, as it should be a valuable, addition to technical literature.

NOTES ON HEATING AND VENTILATION. By John R. Allen, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan, M.A.S.H.V.E., etc. Third edition. Domestic Engineering Co. Chicago, 1911.

For many years editor of Domestic Engineering, a close student of heating and ventilation, particularly in its sanitary aspect, and a thoroughly equipped investigator, the author has been peculiarly fitted for the work of producing a text book that is not only valuable to the student, but to the practical workman in the more advanced forms of heating and ventilation. The subject matter of the present edition was originally contained in a series of articles published in Domestic Engineering, though in the present work the text has been re-written and a large amount of additional information incorporated in the text. The book is written mainly to show that the subject of heating and ventilation could be developed in a logical way from the fundamental principles of engineering. There has always been a great lack of specific information of an accurate nature in regard to the laws of heat and the value of the constants entering into these laws. The scientific experiments of Dean Cooley of the University of Michigan, covering over twenty years, is largely drawn upon. The results of these experiments are given in various tables and serve to give the designer data from actual experiments upon which to base his calculations. There is also a resumé of German experiments and methods for determining the heat losses in buildings that add much to the value of the volume as a text book. It contains fourteen chapters in which the author presents the theory of heat measurement and temperature, different forms of heating systems, design, ventilation and fan systems and including all the detailed minutiæ of pipe covering, auxiliary devices, connection of mains to risers, etc., that pertain to the practical design and installation of heating and ventilation plants. Mr. Allen is one of, if not the first authority on these subjects in the United States, and his present work is a distinct contribution to technical literature pertaining to heat and ventilation.

APPLIED SCIENCE. A monthly periodical incorporated with Transactions of the University of Toronto Engineering Society.

The December issue contains, besides current information, papers upon "Electrochemical and electrometallurgical developments in Canada," "Street condensing equipments," and "Street planning."

DIRECTIONS FOR LAYING VITRIFIED BRICK STREET PAVEMENTS. No. 1. Specification. Endorsed and recommended by the National Paving Brick Manufacturers Association. Cleveland, Ohio.

Illustrated with photographs and diagrams, giving minute directions from substructure and grading to rolling and tamping and filler, the installation of brick pavements is covered in every detail. The specifications have been compiled with great care by the engineers of the issuing association, aiming to set forth in a clear and practical manner the best methods of brick paving construction. Many municipalities and states, realizing their value, have already adopted them outright, and the specifications are being sought by city and county engineers and highway commissioners as well as by civic boards, and improvement associations.

HOW TO TREAT CONCRETE FLOORS. Issued by the Glidden Varnish Company of Cleveland and Toronto. The Glidden Press. 1911.

This neat leather-covered "pocket edition," gotten up in a most tasteful and artistic form of typography, is issued to lay before the trade solutions to the constantly arising problems on the treatment of concrete floors, their maintenance and decoration, in a thoroughly practical manner. Through short, concise paragraphs the reader is told how to treat concrete floors, their maintenance and protection, and their decoration and hygienic effect. The nature of the surface is gone into specifically, and their reliability under service conditions, with specifications for the treatment of proposed work, low and high temperature floors, with many other details, make up a volume that is well worth not only possessing, but using in all concrete floor work.