

special requirements of each case, and should be dealt with on the spot.

Chairman,—

My experience has been that if it is possible to obtain a good natural draft, it is more preferable to the forced draft, and one would in all cases use natural draft if possible.

I might explain to Mr. Helps that it is the custom at these meetings for the members to ask any question they please, while some of them may not be directly connected with the paper, yet they are questions that interest the members, and we like the members to feel that they are free to ask any questions that arise in their minds. That has been the custom in the past and we earnestly hope that it will be carried on. I feel quite satisfied that Mr. Helps will endeavour to answer all questions as near as he can. Mr. Helps is a steam engineer as well as an electrical engineer.

Mr. Helps,—

An apology is due from me, Mr. Chairman, if I seemed to be in any way lacking in respect for the principle you mention, or towards the gentleman who asked the question. The question relates to something I have no very special knowledge or experience of, and I felt that perhaps there were some others here who would be better able to answer the questions asked by Mr. McRobert than I am.

Mr. McRobert,—

Of course I do not want Mr. Helps to feel that I am cross-examining him in any way. There are many questions that might be asked that are indirectly connected with the paper which may be of benefit to everybody to have them discussed.

Mr. Wilson,—

If you are buying a plant, say of 200 h.p., would you buy a high efficiency plant or a low efficiency plant. A low efficiency plant might cost say \$6,000.00, whereas a high efficiency plant might cost \$12,000.00. Would the saving in coal bills, repairs, etc., warrant this much greater expense in the purchasing of the high efficiency plant?

Chairman,—

That is just like a man going to buy a pair of boots. If he can afford it he knows that he will get greater efficiency