

a first-class practical and technical course combined. In my experience I have seen many boys in the United States who came from universities and colleges to shops and when given a job, he practically tells you that it is beneath him, and that he can figure out the whole thing and design the job, but as a rule, he can neither do the work himself or handle the men who can. The boy who is taken in as an apprentice and taught both the practical and the technical parts of his profession at the same time, such as has been described in Mr. Sealy's paper to-night, you are unquestionably going to have a superior mechanic than if you sent him to college first and from there to the shop. There have been hundreds of fathers and mothers who have worked and economized in order to send their boys to college and from there to the shop, and afterwards could not understand why they were not a great success, where as if they had sent them from the high school to the shop, and after they had served their apprenticeship then to college they would have given the boy the training he needed in the order that he needed it. To my mind it is a regrettable thing that the average city boy of to-day does not want to learn a trade, and the future mechanic, I believe, will have to come from the smaller towns and villages or from a foreign country. I think I voice the opinion of a great many present, when I say that the average boy in the city of Toronto of to-day does not want to do any drudgery in connection with the engineering profession; he wants to know how to get rich quick, get money and get it now; never mind about the future. If you talk to him about night school he will not listen. Now, I do not mean by that that all boys are this way, but certainly the majority of them are.

I know of a large concern who has not received a single apprentice application during the year, but I do remember the time when mothers would bring their boys and ask for a chance to have them learn a trade. Now, what is going to be the result of all this? Sooner or later will not the country suffer unless we get enough boys from the smaller places to take the place of the city boy who does not want a trade? It is either that or foreign labor, don't forget it.

It is too bad that there are some large shops who take in apprentices and keep them on one class of work, it is not fair to the boy. I have seen many men who when applying for a situation would say he was a planer hand or lathe hand, and he is usually an artist at the one thing. If you do not happen to have a job in his particular groove he is almost helpless, but where you get a man who has had the opportunity to thoroughly learn the practical and at the same time the technical side of his business, you have a finished mechanic, who can go through