(5). That our colleges give some open lectures on the chemistry, etc., of caoutchouc, resins, cotton, silk, waxes, and so forth, which are or may be useful as dielectrics or protectors to dielectrics.

A course on such lines as this would spread the gospel of insulation, and would make for progress, in spite of the stumbling blocks our rule of thumb men prove themselves to be, with their shellac and resin or such like compounds, of which they make such a "dark and bloody mystery."

THE UTILITY OF ELECTRIC CLUBS.

ELECTRICITY is now recognized as one of the greatest factors in the commercial world, and the number of new enterprises coming into existence, and for which the services of competent electricians, engineers, etc., are required, emphasizes the necessity of intending applicants such positions thoroughly fitting themselves for the same.

The formation of Electric Clubs in the different cities is probably one of the best means of education and improvement. The opportunity is thus afforded for the interchange of ideas and the presentation of papers on practical subjects of interest. The Montreal Electric Club enjoyed a period of usefulness during its existence, but owing to the removal from Montreal of some of its members, and the fact that the work was left largely to a few it has ceased to exist. We are pleased to learn, however, that an effort will be made this fall to revive the Club. It is a significant fact that many of the prominent members of this Club, which was composed largely of the younger electricians, have secured responsible and lucrative positions.

In the city of Toronto there is also a good field for the organization of a similar club. The number of electricians, engineers, students, etc., in Toronto, should be sufficient to ensure a fair membership. During the winter months meetings could be held, say twice a month, at which papers should be presented and discussions held upon subjects relating to the various departments of electrical work. It is hoped that steps in this direction may be taken before the season is too far advanced.

MODERN PRACTICE IN INTERIOR WIRING.

IN the course of his paper on the "Evolution of Interior Conduits from the Electrical Standpoint," before the National Electric Light Association at New York, Luther Stieringer made the following statement:

The best experience in the past fifteen years in interior wiring has demonstrated the following facts:

First—Indiscriminate wiring with staples is universally condemned.

Second—Cleat wiring is admissible in exposed work where the circumstances admit, but not in concealed work.

Third—Wires imbedded in plaster, depending on the insulation only for protection, are condemned.

Fourth—Lead-covered wires are also condemned, except where protected in a conduit.

Fifth—Wires in mouldings do not afford mechanical or chemical protection, and are only admissible in surface work.

Sixth—Wires carried in plaster, and covered with split or zinc tubes to prevent injury by trowels, are condemned.

Seventh—Glass or porcelain insulators can only be utilized in special cases of exposed work.

Eighth—Paper tubes do not afford absolute mechanical and chemical protection.

Ninth—Insulated tubes covered with a thin coating of brass or other metals do not afford absolute mechanical and chemical protection, but in exposed work they are to a certain extent admissible.

Tenth—Woven fabric conduit does not afford absolute chemical protection.

Eleventh.—Heavy insulating covering, integral with the insulation offers no absolute protection against mechanical and chemical injury, and is analagous to rubber tubing for gas distribution installed throughout a building.

Twelfth—Concentric wiring is practiced in England with satisfactory results, but it is not in use in the United States. It offers many possibilities in the direction of a solid and fixed system.

Thirteenth—Paper-lined iron or steel pipes, known as "iron-armored conduit," "builders' tube," "armorite," "Clifton," and plain iron or steel pipe, are the only conduits that can afford absolute security against mechanical and chemical injury and assure permanence.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF STATIONARY ENGINEERS.

NOTE.—Secretaries of Associations are requested to forward matter for publication in this Department not later than the 25th of each month.

TORONTO, NO. 1.

THE regular meeting of Toronto No. 1 was held on the 15th of July. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the presentation of a family rocking chair each to Bro. T. Eversfield, engineer at Toronto University, and Bro. Wm. Butler, engineer at Nordheimer's piano factory. The presentation was made by the President, Bro. J. Fox, on behalf of the Association.

HAMILTON NO. 2.

AT the regular meeting on the 3rd of July, the newly-elected officers were installed by Bro. A. E. Edkins, after which he gave a brief address in connection with the approaching annual convention. Bro. Pettigrew also spoke along the same line.

BRANTFORD NO. 4.

The following is a list of officers of the above association for the term ending June 30th, 1897; President, J. B. Forsyth; Vice-President, Jos. Ogle; Secretary, Thos. Pilgrim, Continental Cordage Co.; Treasurer, L. Fordham; Conductor, F. Temperance; Door-Keeper, A. McKinnon.

PETERBORO NO. 14.

At the regular meeting of Peterboro Branch No. 14, held in Engineer's Hall, the following officers were elected: President, W. L. Outhwaite; Vice-President, W. Forster; Secretary, A. E. McCallum; Treasurer, W. Taylor; Conductor, G. Pogue; Door-Keeper, P. Milloy. Mr. Outhwaite was appointed as the representative to the annual convention in Kingston.

BROCKVILLE NO. 15.

James Aikens, Recording Secretary of the above branch, writes: On the sixth of July we met in our rooms for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. The following was the result: President, Archibald Franklin; Vice-President, John Grundy; Recording Secretary, James Aikins; Treasurer, John McCaw; Financial Secretary, Wm. Robinson; Conductor, Fred.