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EDITORIAL

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The news of the attempted weakening of the frame of the Zeppelin now under construction at Akron, Ohio, strikes an unpleasant note to the ear of the reader of the news of the day. That any man could wilfully seek to endanger life and destroy such an expensive project, seems almost incredible to the average person.

The engineering students who were privileged to visit the hangar at Akron recently, must certainly realize how easy it would be for some person to destroy the ship, merely by weakening the frame at some strategic point.

The history of dirigibles has been a story of death and destruction. That the failure of previous lighter-than-air craft could be attributed to such malicious tactics as those recently exposed seems improbable. Yet it becomes evident that careful inspection and supervision of the construction of such ships is vitally necessary.

A ship like the one now under construction not only represents an investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars, but also embodies the constructive thought and toil of the best engineers of the country. To destroy it would be to render valueless months of patient and careful planning, thousands of hours of skilful assembling, and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment. It would place in jeopardy the lives of the foremost of our military and naval leaders. Increased vigilance may solve the problem but the real solution lies in the removal of the antagonistic feeling which prompted the act.

IDEALISM

Nine out of ten engineering students, if pressed, will admit that their reason for pursuing a technical education is largely the monetary benefits to be derived after graduation. The fallacy exists in the public mind that engineers draw big pay.

The outcome of this idea is inevitable. Parents

who are hard put to see their offspring through college insist on a technical education so that said offspring may get a share of this mythical "melon." The formula happens to be: keep your nose to the grindstone while in school, then step out into the big racket and garner in your share.

Some students never learn the truth of the matter until they graduate. Many learn the truth before that time but decide to stick to the game. Others hang tenaciously to the idea that they are marked men and, despite the odds, will cut a niche for themselves in the engineering Hall of Fame.

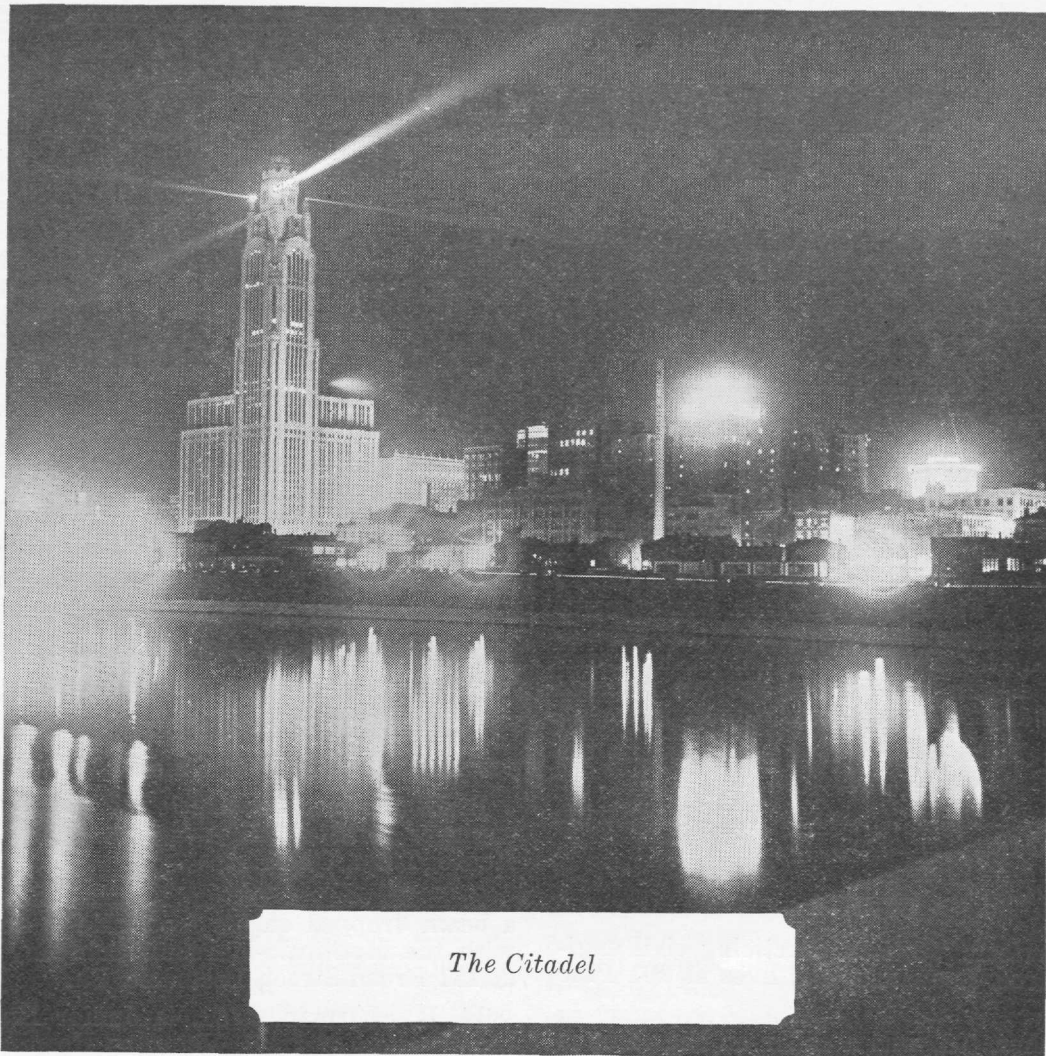
At the time of his induction into office as president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Mr. Francis Lee Stuart addressed the members of the society in part as follows:

"... To emphasize the relationship of man to man, should we not say to our young colleagues that they, as engineers, are engaged in the most important branch of those arts of applying the sciences to the improvement of our living conditions, and that as they themselves have been given the opportunity of studying and benefiting from the experiences of their predecessors in their chosen work, they, in return, should feel an obligation to dedicate a part of their lives to the benefit of mankind and give of their time and talents to the state? . . ."

We doubt if many student engineers, not to mention practicing members of the profession, are motivated by the high ideals mentioned by Mr. Stuart. One seldom hears of an idealistic engineer although many adhere or make an attempt to adhere to a code of ethics.

The element of service to mankind is often overlooked by the engineer and if at all considered, it is usually in the light of a platitude concocted by someone not conversant with the work-a-day world.

We plead for the engineer who will put service to mankind and profession just a little higher



The Citadel

TOWERING above the city of Columbus and the surrounding plains stands the Citadel of the American Insurance Union, a monument to modern engineering achievement and the enterprise of midwestern America. Nightly, its beacon sheds a friendly warning and guide to the flying mail. Daily, it is an unmistakable marker of Columbus—the Gateway to the Continent!

than devotion to the pay check. That man, we are sure, is the man who will win himself a place of respect and recognition in the world of industry and business as well as among his fellow engineers.

A LIBRARY FOR ENGINEERS

The need of a centrally located library for the College of Engineering is much in evidence. The engineering books are scattered all over the campus in several small libraries. It is a common occurrence for a student in the Engineering College to go from the Main Library to Orton Hall, from there to Lord Hall, and from Lord Hall to the Chemistry building, in search of a book. Many times he does all this only to find that the book is in the Brown Hall Library or is already out. If we had one library, not only would time be saved but one would know immediately whether the desired volume was available.

At the present time the engineers are not getting the full value from their library. Many are letting their work slip rather than go all over the campus for a book which may or may not be there.

We are sure that if a centralized library for

engineers were formed there would be a marked increase in the number of engineering students making use of the facilities offered by the University.

The Ohio State University has been progressing rapidly for the past few years and practically each college on the campus has received its share of buildings and equipment; as a result our school can boast of many new structures, while two more magnificent new ones are well on their way towards completion.

We are extremely proud of our buildings, but as there is always room for improvement we would like to suggest that a new auditorium be built. The present auditorium located in University Hall is not only rapidly deteriorating, but is not the type of an auditorium that students and visitors expect to see in a school that has an enrollment of nearly 15,000.

An auditorium with a seating capacity of from 3,000 to 4,000 students will be of equal value to each college on the campus and there are also numerous benefits to be derived from such a new one. Any one college will be able to hold a mass

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meeting with seating accommodations for every student in that college; it will be much more inviting and thus arouse more interest among the students in attending the lectures offered at the university; it will sufficiently accommodate those who attend the plays and programs that are offered by the various organizations.
