

At the beginning of engineering specialization in this country, the practicing engineer doubted or denied the value of technical training and distrusted engineering graduates. Today, engineering has ceased to be traditional and is becoming recognized as a learned profession. Yours is the problem of gaining recognition for the safety engineer, not only as a man technically qualified, but also as one educated in the study of "human behavior."

I note in the Qualification Standards Bulletin on Registration dated July 13, 1951, several items that deal with human behavior have been indicated. If we fully understand these problems and can get top management to know that we do understand them, and how to use them, your prestige will immediately be raised. Perhaps when this pamphlet is revised we should stress this part of our qualifications, even more, as today we indicate more emphasis on the technical and statistical work, which accounts for only approximately 10 per cent of accidents.

We might consider the technical side of our qualifications as the foundation upon which the whole structure of safety is built.

As soon as possible we should establish registration for our members as a compulsory item. Registration does not signify that the engineer is immediately more proficient, but it does give you a "Trademark" to sell.

I mentioned professionalism as a trademark or cloak on which to build prestige. Prestige or stature is something that can be conferred or earned, but cannot be demanded. It is built up over years of per-

formance. We can build our stature through good work and also sell the "Trademark" of Registration, such as the medical profession has with M.D. and the legal profession with LL.D.

It is quite evident, the greater the reputation of the individual or the profession to which he belongs, the greater respect and attention is given to his words and actions.

Conclusion

In conclusion, one cannot live unto himself alone and be acceptable in our society of people. His actions are greatly influenced by his contact with others and by the type and amount of education and training he has received.

Our program must have full support of top management and appeal to the worker. As our knowledge, know-how and prestige increase, our work will become more effective.

I would like to give you my impression of the great value, importance and high calling of our work by quoting John Ruskin:

"It is nothing to give pension and cottage to the widow who has lost her son; it is nothing to give food and medicine to the workman who has broken his arm, or the decrepit woman wasting in sickness. But it is something to use your time and strength to war with the waywardness and thoughtlessness of mankind; to keep the erring workman in your service until you have made him an unerring one; and to direct your fellowman to the opportunity which his judgment would have lost."

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