

# SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1909

THE NEW COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING OF  
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEDICATORY ADDRESS

## CONTENTS

<i>The New College of Engineering of Northwestern University:—</i>	
<i>Dedicatory Address: DR. CHARLES WHITING BAKER</i> .....	879
<i>An Opportunity: PROFESSOR JOHN F. HAYFORD</i> .....	887
<i>Comparative Enrolment of Students of Engineering: PROFESSOR RUDOLF TOMBO, JR.</i> ..	891
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i> .....	892
<i>University and Educational News</i> .....	894
<i>Discussion and Correspondence:—</i>	
<i>The Philosophic Zoologist: PROFESSOR HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN. Nelson's Loose Leaf Encyclopedia: DR. E. O. HOVEY</i> .....	895
<i>Scientific Books:—</i>	
<i>Crew's General Physics, Duff's Text-book of Physics: PROFESSOR J. S. AMES. Williston's Manual of North American Diptera: PROFESSOR J. M. ALDRICH</i> .....	896
<i>Scientific Journals and Articles</i> .....	899
<i>Botanical Notes:—</i>	
<i>General Notes: PROFESSOR CHARLES E. BESSEY</i> .....	900
<i>Special Articles:—</i>	
<i>Some Geological Problems: C. E. GORDON</i> ..	901
<i>The American Association for the Advancement of Science:—</i> ..	
<i>Section G—Botany: PROFESSOR HENRY C. COWLES</i> .....	903
<i>Societies and Academies:—</i>	
<i>The Section of Biology of the New York Academy of Sciences: L. HUSSAKOF. The Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society of the University of North Carolina: PROFESSOR ALVIN S. WHEELER. The American Chemical Society, Northeastern Section: KENNETH L. MARK. The Scientific Society of North Dakota. The Anthropological Society of Washington: JOHN R. SWANTON</i> ..	916

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THE beautiful new building which you to-day dedicate calls to my mind in contrast a plain old building at my own alma mater, in which my college work was done. The four walls of that building were as barren of architectural adornment as the cotton mills in the near-by village. And so the building had been known to many generations of students as "The Mill."

But in our minds our college building was a grist mill and not a spinning or weaving mill. Our college was not a place for spinning yarns, but for grinding away at our studies. Grinds, on each other or on our instructors, served to lighten and brighten our tasks. We considered ourselves choice wheat, which the old mill was to turn into the finest flour.

Realizing the associations which cluster in my mind around that old building, you will understand that I intend no disrespect if I liken your beautiful new building to a mill. A new mill, added to a large and prosperous manufacturing plant. A new mill to turn out a new product.

A new product, did I say? No, not a new product, but a staple article. There was a time, it is true, within the memory of men still young, when the engineering graduate was a novelty in the market—a novelty which sometimes found eager purchasers but which at other times literally went begging.

That era long ago passed away. Training men for the engineering profession in colleges is no longer an experiment. The engineering graduate is a staple product.

But even staple products are sometimes a