

SCIENCE

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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

ENGINEERING AS A PROFESSION AND ITS
RELATION TO THE AMERICAN ASSO-
CIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF SCIENCE¹

IN considering what should be the topic of my brief address as retiring Vice-president of Section D of this association, the question of the relation of the profession of engineering to this association has been forcibly brought before my mind. A number of engineering subjects of interest suggested themselves, in regard to which I might perhaps be able to present to you ideas more or less novel and interesting; but all these subjects seemed, upon consideration, better suited to one of the professional engineering societies. I have therefore concluded to ask your attention for a few minutes to a consideration of the profession of engineering itself and its relation to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

I do this, in the first place, because the profession is one in the standing and recognition of which I have the deepest personal interest, and, in the second place, because I have even within a few months been made to realize that many well informed people deny that engineering is a profession at all or the engineer a professional man in the proper sense of the term; and, in the third place, because the relation of the profession to this association seems to have long been a matter of doubt and

¹Address of the vice-president and chairman of Section D—Mechanical Science and Engineering. American Association for the Advancement of Science, Boston, December 29, 1909.