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Editorial Notes

With this issue we enter our twentieth year of publication while the Association itself completes its twenty-fifth year of existence. Celebrations of its Silver Jubilee will be performed during a suitable period of the current year and we shall also publish a "Jubilee Number" in due course dealing with the Jubilee functions.

It is unfortunate that just at this period in our life we should be in the midst of a devastating war which necessitates the curtailment of every expense that does not contribute to the war effort and forces us to sacrifice a number of activities that would have been quite permissible in peace time.

Our activities have gradually been so cut down due to war-time conditions that questions have actually been raised as to the need for further prolonging our existence.

It is, however, remarkable that inspite of—or, may be, because of war time conditions, there appears to be a rise in the interest taken by our members in the presentation and discussion of technical papers.

In this issue we publish the discussion on a paper read the previous year on the subject of PH. It is interesting to note that it was brought out in the course of discussion that observation of PH is a matter of regular practice in the Calcutta Waterworks & the power house of the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation though to many members the subject appeared rather academic and abstruse. We also publish in this issue a

paper on the Central Battery Telephone System by Capt. R. R. Chibba (our Hon. Secy.). The telephone is an instrument of such common use in modern times that we seldom reflect on the wealth of ingenuity and thought expended in the development of the system by which telephone calls are received and distributed with such facility. These were excellently brought home to us by the exemplary manner in which this paper was read and its diagrams demonstrated. The manner of presentation was noted as remarkable by all who were present. The beauty of it cannot be conveyed through the pages of the Journal to those who had not the opportunity to attend the meeting. For the preparation of the diagrams and their enlargement on the blackboard in the meeting Hall we are indebted to Mr. R. N. Basu, A.M.A.E., who spared no pains in making them as clear as they could possibly be, and their clarity inspite of complexity shows what an infinite amount of labour must have been given to their preparation.

The current year's programme of the Association has in store a vast amount of work in the Committee rooms in the shape of Post war planning. We hope to have in due course the results of deliberation for publication. Planning is now "in the air"—both figuratively and literally speaking.

This war has shown the need of proper organisation for Industrial and Agricultural development. The achievements of Soviet Russia has demonstrated the utility of "planning" and the lack of proper planning in the past has brought us to the unhappy state in which we in India find ourselves at present. It has been made amply clear that the country—must not be allowed to remain dependent on Shipping and imports for its Machine tools and Machinery parts, and for this purpose raw materials of its own produce must be made "available to itself" in the terms of the Atlantic Charter and not totally exported as had been done in some cases in the past and is probably intended to be done in future in conformity with the same Atlantic Charter whose terms are often so confused as to consider them inapplicable to India. Nor must raw materials be retained wholly in the country as a matter of Birth right. But "all" rights obtained by "Birth" should be held as a "Trust" for "all"—the word "all" including India. A fair proportion for distribution to all must be arrived at by mutual agreement and efforts must be directed towards such an ideal achievement.