

The Technology Review

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GREAT MEETING IN CLEVELAND

Technology Clubs Associated are entertained by the Technology Club of Northern Ohio—A delightful and profitable meeting

No one who attended the meeting of the Technology Clubs in Cleveland, April 19, 20 and 21, can ever doubt that this institution has a place in building up Technology that is approached by no other function of the alumni. Although it is true that the exigencies of war reduced the number that would have attended by at least one-third, the attendance was amply satisfactory and it made up in spirit what it lacked in numbers.

The hospitality of the Tech Club of Northern Ohio knew no bounds. The visitors were entertained for three days in Cleveland and Akron and during that time the only charge for entertainment furnished by the club was for the big banquet on Saturday night. The machinery for handling the reunion was carefully laid out months before the event occurred and each feature of the entertainment was ably handled by some member of the club.

Headquarters were located at Hotel Statler where the visitor was provided with credentials and a handsome badge and a program revealing three days of almost constant entertainment. During the afternoon of Thursday, the nineteenth, the visitors were taken in automobiles about the city and shown its principal attractions. The party returned at four o'clock to attend a *Thé Dansant* at the Hotel Statler ball-room. It was expected that President and Mrs.

Maclaurin would be present and a reception for them had been arranged. Mrs. Maclaurin's health would not permit of her coming at all and prevented the President from being present on that afternoon.

The big event of the day was the Hawaiian Festa at the University Club. It was modestly called "The Grand Hoola Loola" and the entertainment was staged entirely by the Akron representatives of the club. The dinner itself, which was imported from Hawaii, embraced a list of toothsome edibles from *Okale-Hau* to *Papai Americaine* and this menu, like charity, covered a multitude of sins. The subsequent performance which included a faithful reproduction of the Technology Pageant done in sepia was weirdly and wildly wonderful. The music was Hawaiian, the language was Hawaiian, the decorations were Hawaiian and the general atmosphere was Hawaiian from the "Poi-fed Puppies" to "The Spirit of Alma Mater."

Friday was Akron day and in order to take in the wonders of that city it was necessary to get up about daylight, eat a hearty breakfast, and board a special train of electric cars which were waiting. The trip was a pleasant one because it gave an opportunity for fraternizing. On arrival at Akron the three big rubber factories, the Goodyear, Goodrich and Firestone, vied with each other in enter-

taining their Technology guests. Everywhere was the most open hospitality and generous treatment. The wonders of the Rubber City were told and explained by competent guides, special souvenirs were provided and, after the trip through the factories was completed, a wonderful luncheon was served in each of the three great institutions. At the end impromptu speeches told of the satisfaction of the guests and, later, automobiles carried the party away to the "Anna Deane Farm" which was placed on view through the courtesy of the owner, Mr. O. C. Barber, founder of the Diamond Match Company. From the Anna Deane Farm the visitors were whirled away to the palatial mansion of Mr. Seiberling, president of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. This mansion is a perfect marvel both of beauty and convenience. Mr. Seiberling was present in person and welcomed his guests who were free to roam about the house almost without reserve. Space cannot be given here to describe this most unusual residence which probably could not be duplicated for a sum largely in excess of a million dollars. Later street cars were again boarded, and after dinner the moving pictures of the Reunion were shown in the rooms of the Electrical League on the Hotel Statler roof.

Saturday was given to the serious consideration of the general subject "Technology's Opportunity for Service." The morning session was devoted to a discussion of the subject by the representatives of the local mobilization committees, at which meeting Mr. A. T. Hopkins, '97, presided. This meeting was extremely interesting as it brought out the varied ideas of the delegates in regard to the various ways in which Technology men could serve their country.

The various local committees told of the work that they were doing, each one serving in some useful way and yet no two covering the same field.

The following is a brief report of the meeting of which Maurice R. Scharff, '09, was secretary.

Reports were called for from the representatives of the various clubs and a

printed report was presented by the Technology Club of Dayton, setting for that length the result of its discussions and its recommendations with respect to the activities of the Technology Committee.

A delegate from Akron then made a report submitting the following recommendations:

1. That the National Councils of Defense and Research be asked as soon as possible to give specific assignments to the Technology organization.

2. That factories having facilities for experiment and research offer same for use on problems assigned to them by the National authorities.

3. That each individual should devote some time to the study of his own specialty from the standpoint of National service.

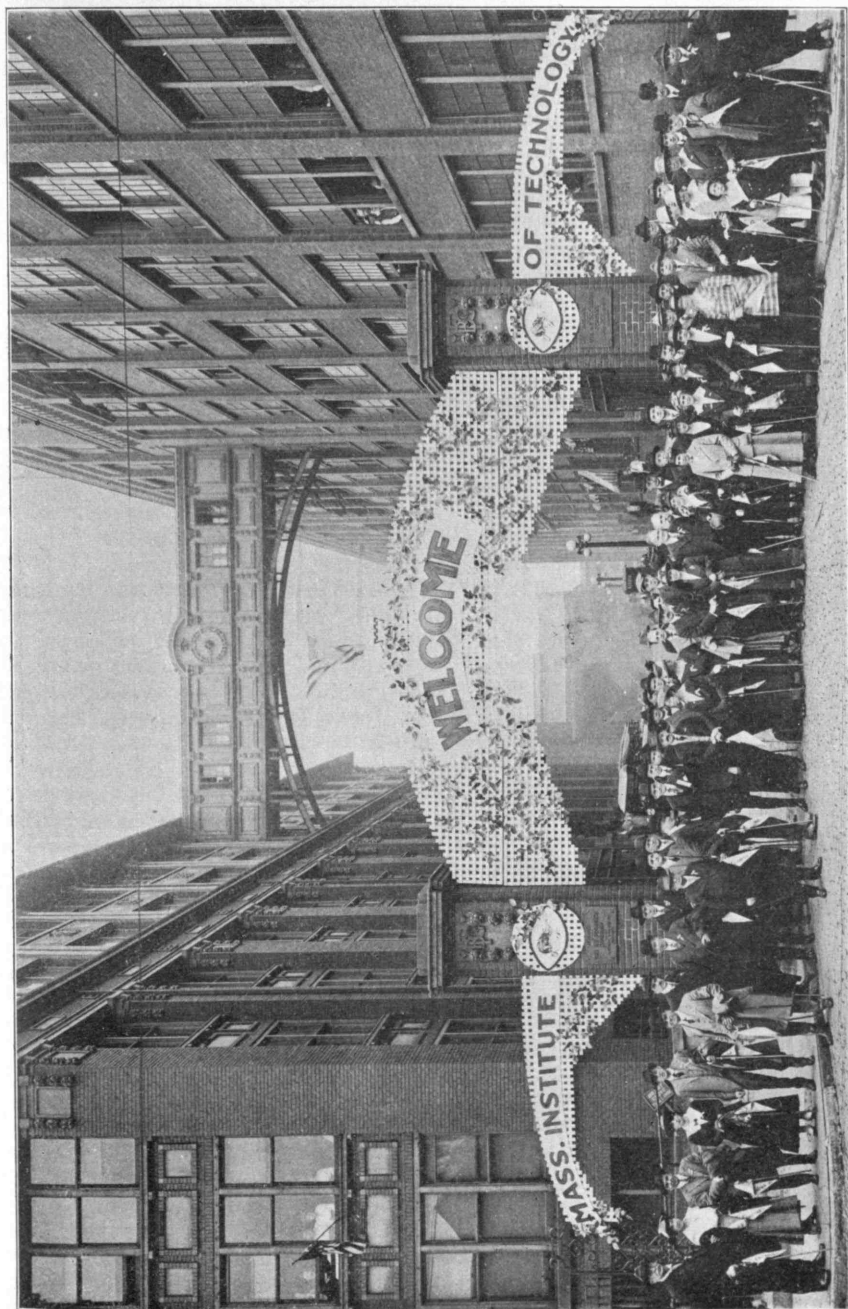
4. That in order to keep things moving until problems can be assigned by the National authorities, each local committee select one or more local problems to work on in the meantime.

5. That every Technology man be urged to put himself in a condition of physical fitness for any service for which he may be called upon.

A report was presented from the Technology Association at Cincinnati with the recommendation that local committees undertake publicity work and organize meetings with local engineering societies and alumni organizations of other colleges which have not yet become active.

A delegate from the St. Louis club pointed out the danger of duplication of the work which has been done by the National Engineering societies and other similar organizations and warned against waste of energy. A recommendation was made that particular attention be given to the problems of how to keep skilled mechanics at home and of postponing public improvement, the need of which is not pressing, so as to conserve the labor supply for use in National service.

A report from the Detroit delegation stated that the Detroit alumni were willing and anxious to serve, but lacked information as to what they could do. They stated that they had been instructed



DELEGATION OF TECHNOLOGY CLUBS ASSOCIATED AT THE WORKS OF THE GOODRICH RUBBER CO., AKRON, OHIO

to come to Cleveland to secure information along this line.

A report from the Pittsburgh organization recommended that local committees refrain from attacking problems, except under the direction of a central National organization; and that duplication of bureaus or committees to direct the work of local committees be avoided.

A telegram was read from the Denver society recommending particular attention to agricultural problems.

Mr. Litchfield read a letter from the association at Portland, Ore., suggesting that each local committee send to all employers located in each district a letter suggesting that employees consult with their employers before enlisting in any military or naval service.

The Technology Club of New York presented a report upon the educational work they have been carrying out through the circulation of books and by the holding of meetings and lectures on subjects in connection with the conduct of the war.

The Cleveland Association suggested that while certain services may best be performed by the Institute at Boston, it was quite possible that others might be accomplished as well or better by an alumni organization located elsewhere. They, therefore, made the suggestion which was subsequently referred to as the "Cleveland Plan," as follows:

That Technology Clubs Associated be made an active and continuing body, recognized as a form of alumni activity and be charged primarily with the conduct of relationships between the alumni and the fields of government, industry and commerce.

That Technology Clubs Associated for the prosecution of such activities shall organize a general committee, composed of delegates, to be chosen by each local Technology club on the basis of one delegate for each one hundred members or fraction thereof.

That such general committee shall appoint from its numbers an executive committee of five (5), which shall serve as the channel of communication between the organization and its fields of effort.

That the Executive Committee shall

establish headquarters at Washington, or such other point as it may decide to be best suited for the prosecution of its work.

That necessary funds be provided by contributing memberships, to be solicited from the alumni, or by such other means as may be devised by the Executive Committee.

That the Executive Committee shall cooperate with other alumni organizations to secure the most effective results.

That the Executive Committee shall be charged with the duty of ascertaining problems of national import, and submitting same to the alumni for action.

After a lengthy discussion, it was voted that a sub-committee be appointed by the chair, to consider the Cleveland proposal and to draft a resolution for presentation to the general meeting of the Technology Clubs Associated in the afternoon.

Messrs. Gardner, Knowles, Godfrey, Munroe, Waite, Hopkins and others were appointed and the meeting adjourned at 1.00 p. m.

After luncheon the annual meeting of the Technology Clubs Associated was called, with President Smythe, '89, in the chair.

The meeting was called to order by President F. A. Smythe, '89, and discussion was open in regard to the next meeting place. Rochester, N. Y., New York City, and Philadelphia, with Wilmington, all extended cordial invitations.

It was moved and carried that Philadelphia be selected.

Mr. Smythe appointed a committee, consisting of Mr. I. W. Litchfield, '85, Mr. L. D. Gardner, '98, and Mr. Morris Knowles, '91, to nominate officers for the ensuing year. They reported and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the following officers:

Dr. Hollis Godfrey, '98, Philadelphia, president; Pierre S. du Pont, '90, Wilmington, Md., vice-president; C. G. Hyde, '96, San Francisco, Cal., vice-president; Henry M. Waite, '90, Dayton, Ohio, vice-president; Gen. Edmund Hayes, '73, Buffalo, N. Y., vice-president. Executive Committee: F. A. Smythe, '89, Cleveland, Ohio; Frank

Schmitz, '95, New York City, N. Y.; E. B. Phelps, '99, Washington, D. C.; William R. Kales, '92, Detroit, Mich.; Frank E. Fowle, '92, Chicago, Ill.; R. G. Hall, '97, St. Louis, Mo. Secretary-Treasurer: Walter Humphreys, '97, Mass. Institute of Technology. Assistant secretary: E. S. Foljambe, '01, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Gardner, of New York, was asked to explain the work of Dr. Godfrey in connection with the Council of National Defense, which is composed of six cabinet members and the Advisory Commission of seven experts.

He stated how our Technology Mobilization Committee was coöperating under the direction of Mr. I. W. Litchfield, and also explained how the National Research Council, headed by Dr. Hale, was co-operating.

Dr. MacLaurin briefly reviewed what was being done at the Institute in regard to the enlistment of students and stated that the Faculty had offered its services to both the Secretary of War and the Secretary of Navy.

Dr. Godfrey outlined briefly how to best utilize Technology's resources in Washington, his principle being maximum material of the right kind in the minimum of time.

Mr. Munroe very clearly outlined how influence could be brought to bear in Congress by individual groups which serve as minute men throughout the country. The executives at Washington are hampered because petty politics in Congress hold up and delay action so essential for the welfare of this country.

A committee appointed in the morning session, consisting of L. D. Gardner, '98, chairman; J. P. Munroe, '82, A. T. Hopkins, '97, H. M. Waite, '90, R. B. Wallace, '98, Morris Knowles, '91, F. A. Smythe, '89, Maurice Scharff, '09, Hollis Godfrey, '98, George Merryweather, '96, I. W. Litchfield, '85, presented resolutions relative to a Washington department, and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot accepting this report. The resolutions were as follows:

WHEREAS, The Technology Clubs Associated have expressed through their repre-

sentatives at this convention, at Cleveland, an earnest desire to coöperate with the Committee on the Mobilization of Technology's Resources in the placing of their resources at the service of the National Government; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that the present crisis demands, above all else, the counsel and activity of technically trained men; therefore, be it

Resolved, That an Executive Committee of five be appointed by the president of the Technology Clubs Associated to coöperate with the Committee on the Mobilization of Technology's Resources in organizing the Technology associations of the country in a joint effort to ascertain those national problems in the solving of which these bodies can be of the greatest service and to secure prompt and effective action regarding them. Be it further

Resolved, That headquarters be at once opened in Washington, with a permanent representative and a sufficient staff to carry out the above plan, and that the Technology Clubs Associated as organizations, coöperate with the Committee on the Mobilization of Technology's Resources in the work of financing.

It was suggested that each alumnus use his personal efforts in bringing pressure to bear on Congress.

It was suggested that all of the local Technology clubs get a complete catalog of their personnel, in connection with the general personnel index at Boston.

An expression of thanks was given by Messrs. Smythe and Hopkins to those in the Northern Ohio Club who have participated in bringing about the reunion.

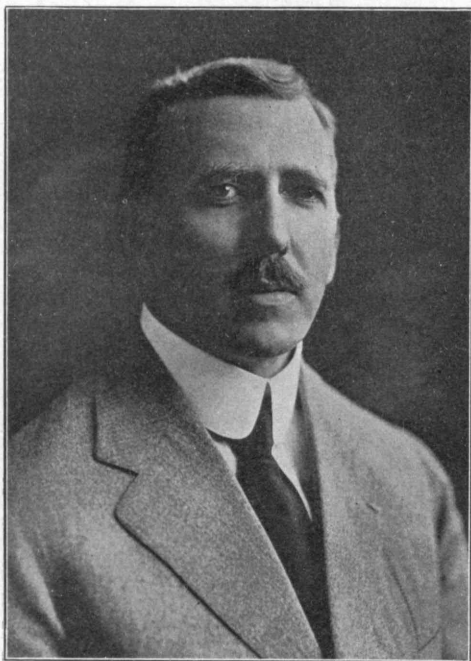
In order to financially support the attached resolution, contributions were given as follows:

New York Technology Club	\$500	L. D. Gardner
Northern Ohio Tech Club..	500	A. T. Hopkins
Dayton Technology Club..	100	C. B. Putnam
G. W. Eaton, through Northern Ohio.....	500	
Detroit Technology Club..	500	Marvine Gorham
St. Louis Technology Club	250	R. G. Hall
Pittsburgh Technology Club	250	Maurice Scharff
Philadelphia Technology Club.....	250	Hollis Godfrey
	\$2,850	

The following resolution was carried, after being presented by Mr. Munroe:

The representatives of the Technology Clubs Associated, in convention assembled, desire to place upon record their grateful appreciation of the splendid reception and the delightful entertainment provided by the Technology Club of Northern Ohio, the men of Cleveland and the men of Akron.

This gathering has been another and a



F. A. SMYTHE, '89, PRESIDENT T. C. A.

shining example of the generous hospitality of the Great Middle West.

They desire to express special appreciation of the arrangements made for the entertainment of the visiting ladies; of the generous hospitality of the Goodrich, Goodyear and Firestone companies; and of that of Mr. Barber and Mr. Seiberling; and they congratulate all the officers and other members of the local committees upon having carried out the program for the comfort and pleasure of their visitors, with even more than the customary zeal and team work of Tech men.

The banquet which closed the convention was held at the Statler. Toastmaster Smythe made a very happy introductory address and presented President MacLaurin as the first speaker. The President spoke as follows:—

It is particularly inspiring to meet Technology men under the circumstances of today. Any getting together of our alumni representing different sections of the country would be good, but the getting together of the Technology Clubs Associated is peculiarly appropriate. It emphasizes the national character of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at a time when there is properly an unusual emphasis on national rather than local institutions. Lack of unity throughout the country was strikingly exemplified before the war, but we may hope that one good result of war will be greater unity amongst our people. For permanent influence in this direction we must look to other fields than war and the most promising is the one occupied by the educational institutions that are national in their scope. There are not many of these, but happily there are some that are freed from the provincialism of particular sections and are broad enough to see the good that is in all other similar institutions that are making to the same great end. Technology students have ideals that are universal in their application and permanent in their effectiveness and have methods never more urgently needed than now. You must instil respect for these ideals and methods into the locality in which you live. You must do this not by talking of generalities but by service in your own field and by the application of scientific methods in the solution of particular problems. There is little use in saying as is so often done that things must be done better or more scientifically or more economically; the only practical help that you can give is to show how improvement is possible and this can be done only by attacking particular problems. See to it as far as you can that the scientific method and point of view is presented in the discussion and conduct of all the problems of public importance in which

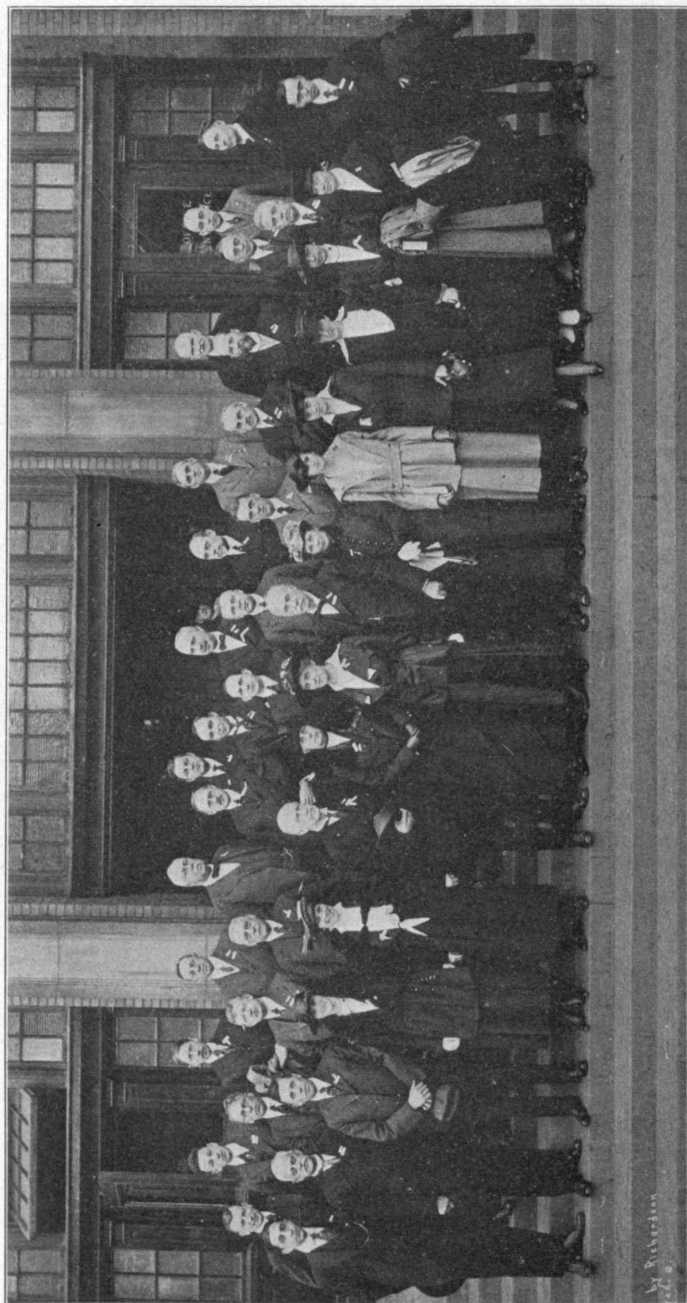
you are interested and in attempting this you should join hands with representatives of other schools in this great missionary effort.

At our meeting tonight we are supposed to discuss Preparedness. I sincerely hope that this will get beyond the conversational stage into the realm of action. The subject itself is far too large for after-dinner discussion, but the root problem of it should be familiar to every Technology man. The essence of Technology is its power to foster the scientific spirit and the working of the scientific spirit implies looking ahead, computing, calculating and observing so that there are no surprises, or none except those due to the fallibility of all things human. Everything is predicted as far as possible, there is nothing "rule-of-thumb" or haphazard, and consequently there is no hysteria, all being well ordered and well thought out. When a scientific man mixes various chemicals together he does not rush around in anxious expectation awaiting the result. He has figured out beforehand what will happen and based his figuring on experience and observation. To him there can be no surprises except those due to human errors. He may have taken the wrong chemical or too much of the right one, but except for such things he knows what will happen and he knows what to do to produce a desired result. How different in the realm of political action or inaction, and what a commentary on the lack of scientific method in our country to witness what is going on today. Chaos and almost hysteria are to be found nearly everywhere, and in many respects the country is scarcely better prepared than it was three years ago. War has come upon us apparently suddenly, but it has not come without repeated warnings.

And just as thinking men foresaw the possibility of war, so such men have long seen the possibility of industrial struggle after the war and we must be prepared for that and fortunately our preparation will be in the direct line of preparation for the important needs of the country. It is obvious that during the war our industrial efforts should if possible be made

more effective than in times of peace. Better results than usual will be needed to make up for the material losses that war inevitably entails. Here is a splendid field for scientific effort calling for the best that there is in men trained in the best scientific centers in the country—a field rich in promises of returns to the individual and to the Nation. The Nation has a great opportunity and to seize this opportunity is a national duty.

As to matters strictly military, what can Technology do? You know that she has always done something. The rudiments of the military art have been taught at Technology for fifty years and for long Tech has trained all the naval constructors of the United States, all those who design battleships or submarines or the like coming to Technology for three years after graduation from Annapolis. This course in warship design, however, affects but a few. What is there for the great majority? Much, in my judgment. War in its technical aspect is nine-tenths straight engineering and the man who has been trained soundly as an engineer can be almost immediately useful in the field of war. It will interest you to know that some months ago the Secretary of War, at my suggestion, appointed a board of officers to examine the existing courses at Technology with special reference to their military value. This board was interested particularly in the regular training that Tech gives in so far as that training bears upon the profession of men going into the Engineer, Coast Artillery, Ordnance or Signal Corps, and they reported to the Secretary of War that everything in the engineering courses at Technology had its value for this end and the courses as they now exist should be recognized as giving by far the larger part of the necessary training of an officer in such technical branches as I have mentioned. *Men can be trained for civil life in such a way that they can be soon made effective in war.* Here, in my judgment, lies the hope of democracy. The field of war will not be dispelled in our day and generation. Much can be done to lessen its probability and we must do all we can



TECHNOLOGY PILGRIMS TO CLEVELAND VISIT THE WORKS OF THE FIRESTONE CO., AKRON, OHIO

by Richardson
et al.

in this direction, but we can not reasonably hope yet to abandon it from the globe. To think we can do so may be a pious hope possibly useful as an ideal, but if regarded as anything of practical value, inevitably dangerous. To accept it unquestioningly is to commit the unpardonable sin for the man of science,—the refusal to look at facts, however ugly they may be, the determination to take the world not as it is, but as we think it should be. As long as there is greed in the heart of the individual, there will be a tendency to robbery and we must have police, and as long as there is lust for power and dominion pervading the nations, or those that control their destinies, we must be in danger of war and must therefore have armies. If this meant standing armies of great size such as those in parts of Europe before the war, the outlook would be black indeed. Black or not, it would have to be faced. But the outlook is not really so dark. The experience of this war proves that if only men have preliminary training, a training that it does not take very long to get, they can soon become effective soldiers. And of course they become effective soldiers all the quicker if they are physically fit and mentally well trained, things that it is of the utmost importance that our citizens should be even if war were happily abandoned from the earth. I have said the war in its technical branches is nine-tenths engineering, and I may add that in many of its other branches it is nine-tenths business and big business. The country is rich in men with experience and capacity in the handling of such business and in the emergencies of the future we must rely not on politicians or on officers, except in the field of their specialties, where, of course, they should be of great value, but on men of proved capacity in the conduct of great enterprises. To the training of such men Technology must always make a large contribution.

Dr. Hollis Godfrey, the next speaker, outlined the organization of the Council of National Defense, also the Advisory Commission, of which he is a member, and told of the part that Technology could play in the war.

Mr. Frank A. Scott, chairman of the Munitions Board said substantially:—

We are at war. The time for preparation is past, and if we are not prepared, the consequences must be borne by ourselves. Whether or not we have heeded the lessons within our observation we shall know some day.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century all of Europe was one vast military camp. At the beginning of the twentieth all the world was a military camp. Now that we have lined up against inhumanity and on the side of justice we have a chance to show what our one hundred millions can accomplish.

Dr. Maclaurin and Dr. Howe have said that engineering is to cut the greatest figure in this conflict. War, the most complex science, calls for the best engineering talent the world has produced. In this struggle brains will be our greatest resource. We cannot win this war academically and we cannot delegate it to others. It calls for every ounce of power that we can bring to bear upon it.

When war came it was decided to create a General Munitions Board for the purpose of quickening the munitioning of our forces and to cooperate with our allies. England created a minister of munitions which has proved to be a very necessary factor in the conduct of the war.

One thing we must look out for. We have a small army and a small navy, not on a war basis and neither is yet fitted to carry the load. The technical knowledge of war is in the army and navy but they are under great disadvantages at such a time as this. The object of the Council of Defense is to utilize and reinforce the army system with civilian experience and civilian ability in production. Such an auxiliary and such machinery would help to coördinate the needs of our army with those of the Allies.

To accomplish this is a huge task but not beyond the possibility of performance. The first necessity is to arrange the facts and to analyze the whole question in an orderly fashion. The steps in this development would be: first, anticipate; second, coördinate; third, standardize; fourth, produce. The only serious diffi-

culty is that our needs have been so small that we have been doing things on a laboratory basis. That is why it is necessary to bring in trained civilian ability. The difficulty lies in the fact that we have not fully standardized; we have not gauges, drawings, etc. But the experience of the last two years has been a constructive lesson to us. Some one has said, "America is sometimes foolish, but always fortunate." Dr. Howe remarked that we must forget the past and do things on a very different basis. "Time makes even ancient good untrue." The introduction of civilian aid has been welcomed by the army and navy. It is not yet certain that this form of organization will be finally adopted but, if it is, both arms of the service will heartily support it.

One critical period in the Civil War was when the *Merrimac* started out in its work of destruction but we had the *Monitor* to offset it. The failure of this resource might have been vital.

There is a thought for Tech in Carlisle's words: "This I take to be the true meaning of gunpowder that it makes all men alike tall."

In this war we need brains; we need Tech brains for the purpose of economizing materials used in war and for working out methods to meet new problems.

President Henry C. King of Oberlin College was the next speaker. He said:

You are really asking me to speak on the present duty of educated, thinking, scientifically trained men.

As educated men, you know what it is to have what James called a store of permanent and valuable interests. You know something of the meaning of the whole liberal inheritance. You understand with Herrmann that education ought to give both mental and spiritual fellowship, and mental and spiritual independence. And you recognize that it is peculiarly incumbent upon our higher institutions of learning that they should furnish that unselfish leadership which democracies peculiarly require. Your very privileges, thus, as educated men, lay special obligations upon you.

And as thinking men, you will feel that

it peculiarly concerns you to think, and to think anew, in these critical and destructive days, what civilization means, what democracy means, what liberty and representative government mean, what religion means. And to be sure that these great ideals of the race are realized you must think clearly and deeply enough to mean and to purpose them.

As scientifically trained men you are bound, of course, to cherish the scientific spirit,—the habitual determination to see straight, to report exactly, to give an absolutely honest reaction on the situation in which you are placed. And you will feel bound to help in that scientific mastery of prodigiously increased resources, for which our time so distinctly calls. You will not forget how imperative for science is freedom of conscience, freedom of thought, freedom of speech, freedom of investigation. And in the midst of these days of passionate feeling, you will feel bound, therefore, to stand with calm purpose for real tolerance and consideration.

In the light of these primary obligations as educated men, as thinking men, as men of scientific training, what the country expects of you is to be determined.

And with these obligations in mind, I may urge, first, that the country expects you to *keep your ideals high*. No nation ever came into a great war with cleaner hands, after more patience, or in more disinterested fashion than ours in this war. It peculiarly concerns us all to make sure that our conduct of the war shall match our original aims.

In the second place, the country may well expect you to *believe in the possibilities of a new civilization*; not to be cynics or standpatters. The great Russian revolution already gives us hope that other revolutionary changes of social significance are yet to come out of this war, and that we may believe that there is to be a better civilization than the world has yet seen—a civilization worthy in some measure of the enormous sacrifices which have gone into this war, and more worthy of the name which we give to our civilization—Christian.

In the third place, the country may