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THE TABULAR VIEW

Encouragement. - From ROBERT E. WILSON, '16, President of the Pan American Petroleum and Transport Company, this Review (page 483) presents a trenchant, hard-thought article well calculated to vitiate many gloomy prognostications about the industrial and technological future of the country. Discussing our situation as regards production and resources in petroleum, Dr. Wilson refers to the past to show convincingly that not so long ago things looked very black but that the blackness was very effectively relieved. His contention is that the same medium of relief can be counted on equally in the future, that the scientific and technological research which multiplied both proved resources and the rate of production from them can still be relied upon. As corollary, he stresses well the fact that for full realization of its potentialities, it must have freedom of action, and therefore that thoughtful people must look with doubt on social moves which may be expected to constrict it.

Era. — In days when the skillful and delicate art of making electrons work in dozens of ways plays a crucial part in the fighting of the greatest of wars, it is worth while to pause for consideration of how short a span the science of electronics has been in operation. We think readily of the first flight in a craft heavier than air; we remember with easy nostalgia the first automobile ride. Looking back in similar fashion, JOHN MILLS, '09, tells in this Review (page 486) the swift story of how electronics has developed since the invention of the audion by Lee deForest in 1906. Director of publication for the Bell Telephone Laboratories since its incorporation in 1925, Mr. Mills the author of a volume, *Electronics, Today and Tomorrow*, soon to appear.

Sandwich. — Steel, alloys, plastics — so the catalogue of much wartime construction automatically runs. Man's most familiar building medium is readily misconceived as usable only in boxes and crates for the materials of Mars. The degree of this error is plainly shown by ALBERT G. H. DIETZ, '32, in an article (page 489) discussing the speedy Mosquito bomber which has given such admirable account of itself over the Continent, and which, with its wooden wings, is fit successor to the wooden walls on which Great Britain in an earlier day depended. Assistant Professor of Structural Engineering at the Institute, Dr. Dietz has been a student of wood and wooden construction ever since his undergraduate days.

Gamut. — The electrical industry of the United States has been prolific in spectacular careers, so that not a few of its characteristic achievements are identified by the names of men. Throughout its course, moreover, the industry has benefited from the devotion and skill of other men whose work, fundamental and essential, has not been marked by drama. In these careers is many a story of human interest and industrial progress. One such is the story of Hermann Lemp, concluded in this issue (page 491) by DAVID O. WOODBURY, '21, biographer of Elihu Thomson and careful student of industrial history.