

Letter to the editor

TRAINING OF ENGINEERS

Sir,—The training sub-committee of Indian Engineering Association, organised a seminar with union education minister as an inaugurator. Recession in their own sphere, offers an excellent recess to digress on current topics, which is not weather but engineering profession. To the ignorant, it may be information that Indian Engineering Association was a British dominated businessmen's guild. Indians are stepping in as Britishers are stepping out and of Engineering the less said the better. One thing is certain and that is the corporate members of the Association are business houses trading on or making engineering products by employing salaried person to carryout production process. These people shedding tears for the Indian ngineers is really an event.

In developed countries and we can specify Britain, there is co-operation between Industry and Engineering education. It is not so in India and how far the Indian Engineering Association share the ignomity, if any ?

All India Council for Technical Education (eastern zone) is presided by Sir Jahangir Gandhi for many years. Engineers and diploma holders from polytechnics have passed out in thousands during his time but did they receive any attention from Industry ? Shibpore College employs a wholetime professor for placement of students. Inspite of best efforts, he fails in his efforts to place students. Principals of polytechnics, Superintendents of Junior Technical schools fare no better, Educational advisor (eastern zone) has many more requests for training than the capacity offered to him. Let the Indian Engineering Association, to prove their sincerity, prove these wrong. There is no co-ordination between education ministry and railway or defence or communication ministry. As a result railways, defence, communication workshops train their own supervisors, though they could safely bank on polytechnics and draw their supervisors for intensive training. Will the Indian Engineering Association investigate into the cause and suggest remedies. Tatas, Birlas and Smaller fries also have their own scheme for recruitment of supervisors, instead of drawing from technical institution and giving them intensive training. Many members of the Indian Engineering Association have travelled far and wide and what they have seen in other countries and how much the industry differ in their country ? Seminar of Indian Engineering Association will be nothing short of a political stunt, if the Association cannot satisfy the countrymen on the points raised above. If it is a sincere attempt at solution, why the head of polytechnics were not invited in the seminar ? Why the Association does not sponsor introduction of "external" examination, for engineering degree, by the universities in London University ? Yours faithfully

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