

## Unemployment.

Sir,

From Press report, it is seen that the Institution of Engineers, Delhi centre arranged a seminar on "unemployment amongst Engineers" and the union education minister said—"It is unfortunate that Engineers do not become entrepreneurs.....They solely depended on others for employment....." The minister mentioned the steps taken to reduce unemployment among engineers and these are :—

1. Reduce the number of admission.
2. No further expansion of technical education.

It seems a very simple solution. The closure of engineering institution would have eliminated the problem of unemployment of engineers from schools and colleges. This would, however, will not effect engineers activities in the country, as the Institution of engineers has about sixty thousand students on roll, who are marking time to be chartered engineers and a charter having recognition of the Queen. and for that matter, not less respectable than the degree of Indian universities. In fact, whether British alien Government or Indian national Government, the attitude towards degrees and diplomas of Indian origin, found little favour.

The railways, which is the biggest national enterprise, recruit apprentices for training in Jamalpur apprentice school, for absorption as mechanical engineer in class 1 service of railways. Indian universities are turning out mechanical engineering graduates in hundreds and railways, our biggest national undertaking. treat these graduates as untouchable 'Harijan'. The Defence ministry maintains ordnance apprentice schools at various units, for preparing their supervisors chageman, foreman. instead of recruiting diploma-holders from polytechnics and giving them intensive training where required. The communication ministry has arrangement for training of their supervisors in their own telegraph workshops. Why then the education ministry bears the burden of running polytechnics and colleges? The ministries whom the education ministry wants to serve are not at all interested. to draw from degree holders and diploma holders of the country but to run their own show. It is also a mystery, why the education ministry is not interested in espousing the starting of "external" degree examination in engineering like the London University. Why the members, particularly engineer members of the senate are not taking the initiative to introduce the "external" degree examination? Is it to cover the institution of engineers who may loose the students and the income, if students prefer to sic for the "external" degree examination. In England, which is a smaller country than India, Government recognise 13 professional bodies, who have formed the Engineering Council of England (ECE) Simi'ar joint council exist in America. But in India, where we are vociferous about integration, disintegration works the under current. We wish the Association of Engineers, being the oldest professional body, would convey a joint meeting of all professional bodies to form a joint council. Yours faithfully

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