

Presidential Address by Prof. M. S. Thacker

In his extempore address, Prof M. S. Thacker, stated that for over 10 years, engineers in the country had been merely talking about their problems and now the time had come for Indian Engineers to take bold concrete steps for action in conjunction with the Government. He suggested closer liaison between the Government and the profession. He asked the engineers whether they carry imagination in their works. He thought that foreign know-how might be considered unavoidable for technical consultancy purposes at any rate, for some more time but asserted that we must build indigenous consultancy agencies mean while. He wished export of Indian consultancy services to developing countries in Africa and the middle East. He urged employment-seeking engineers to fan out to neighbouring countries. Engineers should be self reliant and instead of posing problems, engineers should provide answers to specific problems, of the country. He hoped that humble beginning of the Conference would lead to more success in future.

Speech by Mr. J. M. Parsons, President, Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

In his speech, Mr. Parsons suggested that dialogue should be established between Engineers and the Industry so that technical education in the country become more job-oriented than now. Very few engineering colleges and institutions were aware of what the engineering industry expected from future engineers, nor was the industry forthcoming with its advice. To facilitate employment-oriented engineering education, he suggested constant consultation between engineering institutions and the profession. He also suggested a motto for engineers in the country : "God helps those who help themselves."