

vive as individuals, as a profession, and as a nation, we must look to our youth and we must get the cream of that youth actively interested and participating in the several fields of engineering.

Today American engineering education stands at the crossroads, and the tragic fact is that neither the majority of our educators nor the American people as a whole seem aware of it. The engineering profession is being called upon to produce more and better guns without any interference with the production of more and better butter. We can improve our defenses without lowering our standards of living only if we receive into our ranks more and better young engineers.

To improve our own profession is the greatest task that confronts us today. Toward this end we must first reorient American thinking away from the extreme "progressive" ideal for our educational system towards some more reasonable ideal which will assure to our nation its life blood of engineering talent. If we fail in our task, our nation may well fail us; but if our efforts are crowned with success, we will see the inauguration of a new era of peace and prosperity for all Americans.

by S. D. Sturgis, Jr., Major General,  
U. S. Army, Chief of Engineers,  
Washington, D. C.