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Editorial Notes

Welding:

Welding has now become an established practice in all modern structures. The standard procedures in Manual Arc Welding are described in an article in this issue by Shri S. V. Nadkarni, M.Sc.; A.M.I.W. (Lond.), Chief Welding Technician of J. B. Adani-Oerlekon, Electrodes Private Ltd., Bombay.

Consulting Engineer: Consulting Engineers are now in great demand in India due to the number of development projects contemplated under the successive Five Year Plans under consideration. The functions of a consulting engineer are, however, differently understood by different countries. We publish in this issue an interesting article extracted from the French Technical Cooperation Services Bulletin, January-February 1961, No. 20. entitled "The French Consulting Engineer" by J. Valabrègue, General Inspector for Industry in Charge of Research Bureaus, showing a French view. The article emphasises the importance of technical research bureaus to the Consulting Engineer.

Official Recognition: Since this country became independent of foreign rule many members of this Association have been clamouring for some form of official recognition of this Association which was established independently of foreign patronage during days of foreign rule. It has carried on its functions for the last 40 years without any form of There is, however, a growing feeling, particularly official patronage. among students and aspirants to posts in public service, that it would not be worth their while, for entry to or promotion in service, to join an association such as ours unless it has an official recognition that its members are eligible for such service. This alteration in sense of values has caused a reduction in the growth of our membership, particularly student membership, and a fall in subscriptions from members whose purpose in joining this Association now appears to have been merely their own selfadvancement. Such a state of affairs is regrettable. But its existence is a fact and we must therefore face it. To obtain the funds necessary for furtherance of our laudable aims and objects, for the growth of our Technical Library and production of our Engineering Journal, our membership must be increased and the only way to increase that membership under the present sense of values is to offer the inducement of prospects of advancement in public service by grant of official recognition to the membership of this Association as suitable for posts in public service. This may now be safely done as the syllabus of our examinations for admission to membership have been recently revised to conform to official requirements, with this end in view. We trust that our progressive National Government will give their sympathetic consideration to this development, and help to keep alive this pioneering Association for the advancement of Engineering knowledge.

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