

100 Years Ago This Month in The American Mathematical Monthly
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At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a committee of the faculty has been appointed to consider ways of improving methods of instruction. Dr. C. R. MANN, who for the past two years has been preparing a report on engineering education under the auspices of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has been called to the Institute to be chairman of the committee. In the *Educational Review*, January 17, Dr. MANN has published "A study of engineering education," [which] shows some interesting studies on the capabilities of students in technical schools. Under the head of "What freshmen know and can do," it is shown that 90 per cent. of those tested could solve the simplest linear equation in algebra, while only one third of the freshmen could substitute and correctly reduce a simple, fractional expression containing x, a, b , when $x = (a + b) \div 2$. But in "What the schools do to freshmen," it appears that of 2,000 students who entered technical schools in 1911, only 732 graduated in 1915; the mortality in particular studies seems rather high, 52 per cent. passing in physics and a like number in mechanics, 45 per cent. in calculus, 43 per cent. in modern languages and English, and 34 per cent. in chemistry.

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