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NOTE

In this issue appears the discussion of "Centralization of Administrative Authority," with special reference to organization for war, held at the meeting of December 8, 1917. On account of suspension of publication of the Bulletin in 1918, it has been impossible to make this discussion available until the present time, when to some the subject may seem to have become obsolete. However, the discussion will

be found to be of great interest, not merely as a record of a past meeting of the Society, but as the consideration of a problem typical of problems constantly recurring in the experience of every consulting engineer in management, and of post-war problems now confronting the citizens of the United States—and citizens of the world.

A LETTER FROM M. HENRI Le CHATELIER

PARIS, JUNE 30, 1918.

DEAR SIR:

I beg to acknowledge the letter in which you inform me of my election as an honorary member of the Taylor Society. I am very sensible of the honor that has been conferred on me. As far as is possible for me to do so, I shall send you any information in regard to the development of the ideas of your great compatriot in our country. Just now there is a decided relish for new methods, but fear that sometime there is an attempt to apply them without an adequate understanding of their spirit.

The two most able French engineers along these lines to-day are M. de Freminville, who is engaged in reorganizing the Creusot shops, and M. Nusbau-

mer, who is in charge of the Power Plants of the French Government.

I want to call your attention to a very interesting document, of which unfortunately, I have no copies at my disposal. It is a circular dated February 26, 1918, signed by M. Clemmenceau, President of the Council, Minister of War, ordering the application of the Taylor System in all the establishments operating under the Minister of War.

The Minister of Marine, on his part, has given instructions that the same methods be applied in the Arsenal of Toul.

Will you represent me in the expression of my thanks to your colleagues of the Taylor Society?

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) H. LE CHATELIER