



## Report of the 1946 President

Louis Shattuck Cates

Ours is a Mineral Age. In its material aspects at least the civilization of any people is conditioned by its use of minerals-including metals, coal, petroleum and other nonmetallic minerals. Possession of natural mineral resources is an asset; but capitalization of this asset, and effective use of the resulting products, depends on competent and resourceful engineering and technology in the mineral industry.

In the United States, leadership in these fields has been taken by the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers; in other countries by the learned and professional institutions whose distinguished delegates do us the honor of attending this 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Two main objectives were prescribed by the small group of forward looking engineers who founded our Institute in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in 1871. As set forth in the Constitution these were: first, to "promote the arts and sciences connected with the economic production of the useful minerals and metals"; and, second, to further "the welfare of those employed in these industries by all lawful means." We of today take just pride in the accomplishments of those who have preceded us; we look forward with confident assurance to the continued progress of those who shall follow us.

It is impossible at any important gathering in March, 1947 to ignore the profound and critical problems-social, economic and political-that confront the world. Our Institute dedicates itself to aid in the solution of these problems. Our members join with our guests-particularly those from foreign lands-in facing the future with high hope that throughout the world right will prevail and that peace will endure.

Louis Shattuck Cates  
1946 AIME President