

on the subject of " Bridge Accidents," which deserves the very serious consideration of town authorities. It was to the effect that every bridge built should have a tablet fixed upon it in a conspicuous place, on which should be inscribed the name of the builder, the expert inspector, the names of the committee or corporation officers under whom built, the load for which it was proportioned to carry, with factor of safety and date of erection. Such a method of procedure tends to fasten responsibility, which is a powerful incentive to honest, conscientious work, and if every State passed a law covering the above suggestion, there would in a short time be a surprising improvement in the design and construction of highway bridges, although that improvement would be accompanied with an increased cost.

It will be noticed, in the last clause of the form for " Invitation," bidders are requested to be present at the opening of the bids, and hearing them read. This is simple justice ; and when one considers the time required to make plans and estimates, even for a small piece of work, to say nothing of the expenditure of money incident thereto, with probable travelling expenses in addition, no fair-minded man can object to rendering at least what satisfaction may be derived from the public opening of tenders. Bids secretly opened always lead, whether justly or unjustly, to the suspicion of unfair practices, an imputation that can be readily removed by the method of publicity suggested, a method which can be objected to