Editorial

ELECTROPLATING AND THE ENGINEERING INDUSTRY

ELECTROPLATING is an old art but electroplating to a specification is comparatively new to our country. Job plating has been going on for a considerable time but the process has been more or less controlled by rule of thumb. For the past one decade the process of plating has been posing a great problem to the engineering industry. Considering the importance of electroplating in the various manufacturing fields like hardware, automobiles, aircraft, electronics, missiles, space crafts, household appliances, etc., and specially in light engineering industries, the depth of ignorance and the popular misconceptions concerning it are appalling. Many believe that plating is accomplished by dipping something in a tank. Partly this state of affairs is existing in our country due to the poor attention paid to the electrochemists and the technicians when compared with their associates in the engineering field. Fortunately, plating industry is turning round the corner. People at the helm of engineering industries are realizing the importance of good plating which is essential as a means to sales appeal and as a protection against corrosion. It is time that they realise that finishing is as important as manufacture. They should promote understanding and appreciation of the facets of electroplating and their contribution to the manufacturing industries. Electrochemists and technicians should be given due importance so that they may also actively participate in building up the growing engineering industry.

— S. K.