VISIT.

On Thursday, October 5th, members of the Institute visited the Colonial Ammunition Company's works at Footscray.

After the inspection, the President, in conveying the Institute's hearty thanks to the Company's manager, Mr. Cartwright, for the facilities that had been afforded members, said that all had been much impressed with the mechanical perfection of the various special machines employed, and the scrupulous care exercised to ensure that ammunition should be absolutely perfect and true to gauge. In this connection he might quote his own experience as a rifleman: Out of 10,000 to 12,000 rounds he had fired during the past seven years, he could recall only one weak cartridge. It was to be hoped that in the future Mr. Cartwright would be enabled to arrange for an even larger production of his raw material locally, in view of the importance of complete dependence on our own resources in time of war.

Captain G. F. Wilkinson was also thanked for the arrangements he had made for the inspection by his fellow-members, and was requested to convey to Mr. W. Davidson (Public Works Department) thanks for his courtesy in placing a steam launch at their disposal, to convey them to the works.

DISCUSSION.

ON THE RAINFALL OF THE STATE OF VICTORIA.

In opening the discussion on Mr. P. Baracchi's paper, the President said it would be interesting to know how the rainfall affected wealth, and whether the peaks and curves in the author's charts corresponded with those in diagrams of the export market conditions.

Mr. Geo. Gordon's contribution to the discussion is as follows:

"I regret very much that I shall be unable to hear Mr. Barrachi's paper, which must be one of the greatest interest to the Institute, discussed. I would offer the following notes of some observations I had made (when I was chief engineer of Victorian Water Supply) by Messrs. J. B. Henderson, who was then engaged on the Coliban Works; and Mr. Joseph Brady, who was in charge of the Bendigo Water Works.

"At the time, 1874-7, the lowest section of the Coliban main channel was made of a much larger sectional area than the upper section, in order that it might, during the construction of
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Colonial Ammunition Company, Footscray (Visit)

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