

GENERAL ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

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ALUMNI CASE-STUDIES WILL HELP!

Letters and addresses from alumni, both recent and long-standing, are always welcome and helpful. Recent Department activities, however, such as the bulletin preparation and exhibit or display planning, have pointed up the desirability of specific data on what individual graduates do, what demands they face, what products they make or services they perform, and what related fields of engineering they get into.

All alumni are therefore invited to send the Department a one-page summary of their present positions and duties, with emphasis on especially interesting assignments, photographs of products which can be published or displayed, and any suggestions for the curriculum and educational preparation of graduates for the future. Any compact hardware produced under the direction of alumni or other general engineers, or designed by them, might also be noted. Especially helpful would be information about items which might be available for loan as display units.

ANNUAL PICNIC

G. E. Seniors and faculty, and their families, enjoyed a picnic at the Lake of the Woods on Saturday, May 18. For a small pittance the seniors furnished a sumptuous hot dog dinner complete with all accessories and beverages.

Following the meal and a suitable period of rest and recuperation the faculty made the mistake of taking on the seniors in a softball game. Due to greater age, lack of energy, lack of practice, and the fact they were unable to buy the umpire, the faculty were defeated approximately 12 to 9. The faculty displayed considerable talent, most of it in a rough form. But since there were no broken bones or heart attacks the game must be counted a success. A good time was had by all at this annual affair.

PROFESSOR SPRINGER RETIRES

A teaching career extending over 38 years at the University of Illinois comes to an end this June with the retirement of Professor Clifford H. Springer. A native of Ohio, Cliff earned his B. S. degree from Ohio State University in 1917. He served 2 1/2 years in the Army Corps of Engineers as a Captain and then went to work for the Highway Department in St. Louis County, Minnesota. He married the former Lois Lovett in 1920, she also being a graduate of O.S.U.

In 1924 Mr. Springer came to the University of Illinois with the idea of studying for a Master's degree and teaching as a sideline. He decided to stay and make teaching his life's work and, meanwhile, completed work for two Master's degrees, one from Illinois and one from Ohio State, both received in 1929. The Springers have one daughter, Mrs. Wesley McDade of near Champaign.

Mr. Springer's main interest lies in pictorial drawing and freehand sketching but he is well known for his work on standards. He is general chairman of the subcommittee of the American Standards Association that wrote the standard on pictorial drawing, ASA Y-14.4. Last year he went to Europe to attend a meeting of the International Standards Organization. He will be a leader at the forthcoming American-British-Canadian Conference on standards; is a member of the Department of Defense Drawing-Industry Advisory Committee; and liaison member of the joint Aero - Auto - Space Committee on SAE standards, to mention a few of his activities.

Books which Professor Springer co-authored include Essentials of Engineering Drafting (for war industry classes), Industrial Production Illustrations, Engineering Drawing and Geometry, plus several workbooks. He is still working on books for future publication.

Cliff has always derived satisfaction

Prof. Springer (Cont'd.)

from seeing the transition from freshman to graduate engineer as our students pass through 4 or 5 years of exposure to engineering training. He has also gained pleasure from watching the evolution of the Department of General Engineering, and the enlarging and strengthening of the curriculum. Professor Springer has been largely responsible for much of the curriculum development.

While officially retired, Cliff has no plans for becoming inactive. He and Mrs. Springer plan to sell their house in Urbana and build a new home in Ft. Myers, Florida. Reading, fishing, golfing, boating, swimming, riding, and especially traveling, will occupy some of their time. In addition, Cliff will be active in standards work and will continue working on textbooks.

The department honored Professor and Mrs. Springer at a banquet on May 18. Just tribute was paid to a man who has been a devoted and tireless worker and whose efforts have benefited the G. E. Department immeasurably. Faithful and reliable, Professor Clifford H. Springer will be missed by all of us, and we all join in wishing the best of luck and happiness to him and Mrs. Springer in this new phase of their lives.

REVISED G.E. BULLETIN AVAILABLE

A completely revised description of the Department and its curriculum, including discussions of the new design sequence and the various nontechnical fields of concentration, has been printed this spring and is now available for free distribution on request. Mailings have already been made to all companies who recruit on the campus, and to industry in the State, as well as to secondary schools and other guidance agencies.

An album-style 9 x 6" format, with an abstract cover in gold and black, the new issue can be obtained by calling or writing the G.E. Department at 117 Transportation Building. Sections in the

booklet include career possibilities in General Engineering, for young women as well as men; technical, design, and non-technical courses in the curriculum, formal fields of concentration (engineering administration, engineering sales, engineering geology, engineering meteorology, publications and journalism, and engineering law). Graduate study fields and a detailed list of courses required or recommended are also covered.

G.E. HONOR SOCIETY BORN

The G. E. Department has finally fulfilled a need for an honor society to recognize leadership and scholarship in our students. After some agitation on the part of the I.S.G.E., the ball was started rolling and organization was accomplished. Eligible for membership are 1st semester juniors with a minimum average of 4.5; upper 1/8 of 2nd semester junior class, 4.2 minimum grade point average; upper 1/5 of 1st semester seniors, 4.0 minimum; and upper 1/4 of the 2nd semester senior class, 4.0 minimum. In addition, seniors with outstanding activity records but who fall below the stated minimum grade point average may be considered for membership.

Probationary status has been granted the group, in accordance with University policy. After one year, full recognition should be forthcoming. Newly elected president is Charles Hedblom, Naperville, Illinois, and the secretary-treasurer is James Henson of Xenia, Illinois. The students have exhibited a high degree of enthusiasm and have indicated that they feel the society will only be worthwhile if it can carry on a program of worthwhile projects.

A suitable name is still to be chosen and such things as an emblem and key will be designed. Other members are Jerry Bilek, Chicago; Sam Leeper, Tolono; Ed Wahl, Arlington Hgts.; John Nonneman, Springfield; Dick Miller, Morris; John Raffl, Red Bud; and Bennie Babb, Champaign. Faculty adviser is Harrison Streeter.

IS INDUSTRY DISSATISFIED?

Mr. M. L. Hutchens, Vice President In Charge of Engineering of the Kearney and Trecker Company, Milwaukee, and graduate of Illinois, leveled criticism at the nation's engineering schools in a recent talk before our G. E. staff. It is Mr. Hutchens' contention that the typical present-day engineering graduate is well versed in scientific theory but cannot read and interpret an orthographic projection, does not know how to react to a practical engineering problem, and generally lacks training in getting an idea translated into workable and usable form.

Beyond this there appears to be an attitude on the part of many young engineers that they should be provided with a comfortable office where they will spend all of their working hours. The thought of spending any time at a drawing board or in a shop, helping in the actual assembly of a machine, for example, seems to offend the dignity of many of these men. These are Mr. Hutchens' views and they are apparently shared by many others. What are your feelings on this? Let us know.

SENIOR BANQUET

The annual G. E. Department senior-faculty banquet was held in the Wahl Room of the YMCA on Friday, May 18, with 10 seniors and 25 faculty in attendance.

Featured speaker was Dr. Orville Walters, Director of University Health Services, who spoke on "The Interrelationship Between Mental Health and Religion." Dr. Walters is an M.D. and a psychiatrist, with training at the world-famous Menninger Clinic, and is eminently qualified to speak on this subject.

The departing seniors entertained with a skit representing several staff members in a more or less libelous little play on a staff meeting in the office of the boss. In their turn several staff members presented a heart-rendering little drama concerning the thwarted love of a princess for a handsome duke. Designed to be a sorrowful play, it was really sad!

At the end of the evening seniors and staff members parted as friends. It is believed no senior will be flunked for his participation in the skit.

G. E. AGAIN OFFERS NSF PROGRAMS

Supported by NSF grants for instructional costs and student-expense assistance, the Department is continuing to offer summer sessions in two important areas. For instructors in junior colleges and technical institutes, a Summer Institute in Engineering Technology is being presented for eight weeks, from June 18 to August 11. Courses will include engineering mathematics, problems in electronics or in machine design technology, and seminars in technical education. Participants in this institute can earn credit toward an appropriate degree.

For superior high school students who are completing their third year of study, an introductory program in engineering and science is being given as background for college work. Program content includes six weeks of lectures, laboratory experiments, discussion periods, and individual directed research under the guidance of faculty members. Emphasis is placed on the research project, which looks forward to advanced undergraduate or even to graduate levels, and should encourage good students to continue study with research and teaching as long-range goals. Specific course materials will include mathematics and engineering problems through the calculus and computer concepts, plus the history of engineering and the scientific method as reinforcement for research activity.

Interest in both programs has been surprising: more than 400 inquiries were received for each of the institutes, with more than 225 completed entries for the technical instructors and 175 for the highly selective high school session. Each group has been limited to forty participants by the funds provided. The breadth and quality of response to the experimental offerings indicate that there is need and use for expanded programs whenever money can be made available for them.

NEW CAMPUS BUILDINGS
CONTINUE TO SPROUT

Building continues apace on the campus as the summer season begins. On the engineering campus are being built the second half of the Physics Lab at the northwest corner of Green and Mathews, and the addition to the E. E. Building, at the northwest corner of Wright and Green. Some not too old timers may remember the latter as the site of the old Health Service building about 1940 or so.

The Physics Lab is a 5-story structure, half of which was built three years ago with limited funds then available. It is now being approximately doubled in size as the remaining portion is built. It is next door to large 2-year old dormitory buildings housing 700 men and women graduate students at 1010 W. Green Street.

The E.E. Building will now have a 4th story over the south parts of it, and most of the northern portion sprouts a second, third, and fourth floor. It will also be approximately doubled in size.

Elsewhere on campus, the spectacular new Assembly Hall is being more or less unveiled as scaffolding is being removed from the periphery. Much work remains to be done inside, but with luck Harry Combes' men will play at least some of next winter's games in the new building.

On a portion of Stadium Terrace is being constructed a new central Physical Plant Services Building, which will remove need for the welter of shops east of Goodwin between Green and Springfield. In this area is planned the erection of a mammoth materials Research Lab under the sponsorship of the Atomic Energy Commission. Work to be done will cut across many fields of engineering research. (It is also fervently hoped by G. E. people that some more parking spaces will become available along Doak's Alley north of Transportation.)

Last but not least the Illini Union addition nears completion. This repeats the shape of the present building, and has an addition between the two. The new building tremendously increases lounge, food service, and recreation space.

ENGINEERING OPEN HOUSE BROADENS

Again on March 16-17, honoring the birthday of St. Patrick, patron of engineers, the College held Open House for high school students and other visitors from all areas of the State. This year an attractive new feature was added in cooperation with the JETS organization, the Junior Engineering Technical Society. High School JETS members visited the Open House and displayed samples of their project work in the main lounge of the Illini Union. A special luncheon was also held for JETS exhibitors, at which Dean W. L. Everitt, Station Director Ross J. Martin, and other University notables spoke. State Director of JETS is G. E. Instructor David Reyes-Guerra, under whose leadership the JETS movement has been developing rapidly.

Next year an even more significant cooperation is in prospect -- a joint meeting and all-science weekend with the State Junior Academy of Science and with JETS. This triple activity will require a move of the Open House to May 9-11 for 1963, to meet the already-established schedule of the Junior Academy.

The late spring will place somewhat more pressure on the hospitality of the engineering student body because exams follow closely, but the new arrangement has been approved by the Engineering Council on a trial basis. The greater opportunity for service and guidance advice to a wider and promising group of high school students makes the later date well worth a try. Though Open House as a College activity has attracted more than 20,000 visitors this year, several thousand exhibitors, faculty members, and friends of fellow-students will find it possible to attend who generally could not do so in the past.

Advantages for the high schools will be very great, bringing together three events which otherwise might represent competing demands on different weekends during the always-busy spring season. High School acceptance of the new plan has been most encouraging, and we look forward to a banner Open House next year.

Y'all come!

WORD FROM GRADUATES

Charles M. Cheffer, Jr., '62, is now a Flight Test Engineer for the Astronautics Division of General Dynamics at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. Chuck's enthusiasm for his work is reflected in a recent letter in which he describes his work in the installation and checkout of a new rocket launch complex.

Stanley Felderman, '57, recently graduated from the Northwestern University School of Business Administration and has accepted a job with IBM.

A letter from Jim Brubaker, '56, and a former member of the G. E. staff reveals that he is working for Westinghouse in their Naval reactor program in Pittsburgh.

From the foot of the Bavarian Alps Lt. Jerry Hogan, '59, has sent greetings. Now serving with the 10th Special Forces Group, Jerry has found plenty of time for skiing, etc., and would like for any friends traveling in Europe to stop by his house. (Those Bavarian Alps cover a lot of ground, Jerry. Do we just yodel out your name when we get there or can you give us a more precise location?)

Recently returned from a tour of duty with the U. S. Navy in Rota, Spain, is Tom Gabbard, '60. Now ready to resume his role as civilian, Tom will be working in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Earl Johnson, '49, was speaker at the May meeting of I.S.G.E. and gave a very informative talk on what employees are looking for in the newly hired engineering graduate. Earl has been with Westinghouse since his graduation and does recruiting work from time to time along with his other duties.

We are eager to expand this feature of our newsletter and hopefully request from each of you any news about yourselves, your jobs, etc. We maintain a card file on all graduates and can furnish such information on addresses and jobs as we have, upon request from you.

NOTICE
THE SECRETARY'S BOOK FOR THE I.S.G.E. IS MISSING. IF ANY OF YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE THIS RECORD BOOK, WILL YOU PLEASE RETURN IT TO THE G. E. DEPARTMENT? THANK YOU.

PLEASE SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELVES

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
EMPLOYER _____
POSITION _____
REMARKS, COMMENTS, OR NEWS ITEMS _____

SEND TO: G. E. Department, University of Illinois, 117 Transportation Building
Urbana, Illinois

G.E. SENIOR WINS TBP ESSAY CONTEST

With his title, "Lack of Culture?", echoing the Huxley-Arnold 19th Century battle over the place of the educated scientist in the world, G. E. graduate Bennie D. Babb has won first place in the current semester's pledge essay contest for Tau Beta Pi initiates. His success brings him a cash prize of \$25, recognition as a thoughtful leader in humanities-conscious TBP, and an opportunity to compete against other chapter winners in the national essay contest of the engineering honor society.

A married student with varied industry experience, Bennie looks forward to administrative as well as design work. In his essay, he accepts the importance of ideas, cultural awareness, and an understanding of our classical background for technical competence today. He believes students should be allowed time and given incentives to extend their knowledge and perfect their judgment toward wisdom.

Much of these efforts, he feels, can be and should be incorporated into technical and engineering college courses to avoid the apparent separation of science and culture. In our modern world, he feels, technology and the humanities must be integrated for engineering students to help them meet both the scientific and social responsibilities of today and tomorrow.

JUNE GRADUATES LISTED

- Bilek, Jerry A., North Riverside, Illinois
- Bock, Kurt W. P., Des Plaines, Illinois..
- Brammer, Bruce, Chicago, Illinois.....
- Cervantes, Michael R., Waukegan, Illinois
- Ettinger, Jerry M., Skokie, Illinois....
- Irwin, Glenn L., Edinburg, Illinois.....
- Peterson, Frank., Chicago, Illinois.....
- Simcox, James K., Champaign, Illinois...
- Slazas, Stanley, III, Chicago, Illinois.
- Snively, Jerry L., Hoopeston, Illinois..
- Wegener, Thomas C., Belleville, Illinois