

HOT OFF THE PRESS

At last we are doing what we have promised for so long and that is to get out a news letter type of communication to our alumni. This is but the first such attempt. We plan to do this at least once a year.

* * * * *

HOW ABOUT THE ADDRESS?

The addresses we are using are those supplied by our Alumni Association. We know some of these are in error, so please send us your current mailing address.

* * * * *

DEVELOPMENT IN CURRICULUM

A brief resume of what has been happening in General Engineering at the University of Illinois would be in order at this point. One of the most important developments occurred in September 1953, when the administration of the curriculum was transferred from the Office of the Associate Dean to a newly created Department of General Engineering which took over the administration of the curriculum as well as the teaching of many of the service courses in the College of Engineering, such as Engineering Graphics, Engineering Geometry, Engineering Law, History of Engineering, Transportation, etc.

At this time the curriculum was somewhat revised to permit a greater latitude in the electives, so that a student could follow an interest such as Engineering Sales, Engineering Administration, Engineering Law, Engineering Geology, Engineering Publications and various other areas of specialized study. The fundamental core of basic study in engineering was retained. It is now possible to go on to graduate school and receive a Master's Degree in Management or Marketing in one academic year by taking the proper courses in the various areas of specialization while satisfying the requirements for a B.S. Degree in General Engineering.

The enrollment in General Engineering has been about 250 each year and there have been about 35 graduates per year. We now have a special bulletin on General Engineering published in August of 1957. If any of you are interested in a copy please so state in your reply.

* * * * *

ENGINEERS GET BROADER

All undergrads in the College of Engineering are now required to take 12 credit hours of course work in the Social Science or Humanities. This is in addition to other elective sequences or requirements.

STUDENT SOCIETY

The Illinois Society of General Engineers has been quite active the past few years. The membership has been around a hundred. There are monthly meetings at which guest speakers from industry tell the students about the facts of life. There is an annual student-faculty bowling meet and a Senior Banquet. Both have become feature events. By the way, if any of you old Alums will be passing through the old campus, perhaps you would like to address our group.

* * * * *

PROFESSOR HOELSCHER RETIRES

Professor R. P. Hoelscher, who has been Head of the General Engineering Department since it was activated in 1953, is retiring as of September 1, 1959. His successor will be Professor J. S. Dobrovoly. Professor E. D. Ebert is Chairman of the Student Advisors Committee and Professor C. H. Springer continues as the sage advisor to the entire group.

* * * * *

INDUSTRIAL SEMINARS

In April of 1958, the General Engineering Department conducted an Industrial Seminar on the "Economy With the New American Drawing Standard". In April 1959, another Seminar was conducted on, "Cost Reduction In The Design and Drafting Rooms". The attendances at these was gratifying and another one is planned for April of 1960.

NEW DESIGN SEQUENCE COMING

Currently a Committee of the General Engineering Department is working on a program of developing a series of design courses particularly for the General Engineering curriculum. At the present time the thinking is that design problems would be considered involving the basic areas of engineering such as Mechanical, Civil, and Electrical. Since our graduates enter such a varied scope of employment, the opinion of our staff is that a general design sequence would be of more value to our students than one of the more specialized fields of design such as Mechanical or Civil, as is now the case. The enclosed questionnaire should help us decide what to include in these courses. Please give us your ideas.

* * * * *

QUESTIONNAIRE

Enclosed you will find a questionnaire that we would appreciate having filled out and returned in the stamped self-addressed envelope. Often our Department receives an announcement of positions open in industry. However, at the present time we are not set up to make recommendations, since we do not know what our graduates are doing.

The information from the questionnaire will be very valuable to us in deciding the future course to follow in planning the curriculum content. When we receive the information we will analyze it and inform you as to the results. We do hope you will take a few minutes and fill out the form and then mail it back.