THE MAN BEHIND THE GUN

An elderly man whose thoughts and opinions we respect very much once told us the following story. The tale came out quite naturally as he was somewhat of a hunter and sportsman in his younger days and was a witness to the event.

Bill Winston, being quite wealthy, was able to satisfy his desire for fine equipment and one of his weakest points in this respect was firearms. Never much of a shot, he was always turning to a new and expensive gun to “put him back on his game.”

About the only similarity between Jack Holcomb and Bill Winston was their wealth. Jack was a wonderful shot, a fine sportsman, and a lover of his pet gun which he had used for a good many years.

One day in the fall an argument ensued about the subject of guns. Bill claimed it was the gun which did the work, but Jack insisted that the man behind the gun was the determining factor. So it was decided that there would be a contest. Bill was to use his very latest acquisition, which he was sure was the gun he had been looking for all his life. Jack was to find the oldest, most out-of-date blunderbuss in town, and then they were to be turned loose for a half day, in a marsh where the ducks were moderately thick, in order to see who would get more ducks. Jack’s gun was indeed an antique dating back fully a hundred years.

There was little doubt in the minds of the waiting friends as to the results, and sure enough when they came trudging in Jack’s bag was bulging and his shoulders were covered while Bill carried a scanty half dozen.

This story brought home to us doubly strong the fact that no matter how fine our tools we ourselves must be able to wield them before we can expect results. We spend four or five of our best years in college acquiring an “education,” a tool which will do us little or no good unless we are able to dig out for ourselves the real education which our artificial one helps us to apply.

The manufacturer has the very best of tools, yet he cannot inject into his product that subtle something which the artist’s work contains. A musician’s instrument may be of the very finest, yet his music leaves us cold if he lacks the true artistic touch. A surgeon must have a steady hand and a sure eye or all the fine scalpels in the world will not save his patient.

It is the same wherever we go. There must always be the man behind the gun, whose steadying touch and calm nerve can do more than all the fine hunting pieces that can be bought.—R.M.E.

HONORS

With the spring of the year comes also the time when our fellow students are chosen for membership in the honorary societies on the campus. Here is one time when sons and daughters do not hesitate to write home for ten or twenty dollars, for when they explain that it is for an initiation fee for Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi, or some other worthy organization, the proud mothers and fathers respond at once if at all able to do so. At times like this it is hard to say who is the more proud, the honored student or the loving parents. Doubtless each has just cause for pride, for regardless of the propaganda which says that honor students are not any more successful after graduation, we all realize that if their intelligence or their perseverance were not above the average, they would not be elected to these societies. At any rate there are very few of us who would refuse the honor of membership in one of these organizations.

It is with this in mind that the Engineer wishes to congratulate those students who have been honored during the past weeks, more particularly those who are enrolled in the College of Engineering, and to extend to them hearty wishes for a long and successful life.

MAY, 1931
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Wednesday, May 6, was set aside as the Seventh Annual Scholarship Day. The various engineering awards are listed below.

The Edward Williams Morley Cup given by Alpha Chi Sigma Fraternity to the most distinguished Freshman student of General Chemistry was awarded to Paul A. Mills.

The Lamme Scholarships, founded by Benjamin Garver Lamme, '88, are given to those Juniors in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering who by their scholarship, character, and personality have shown themselves to be the "most capable students" in their class. These two scholarships were won by Darwin S. Renner, E.E., and Joseph Kenneth Walkup, M.E.

TheEta Kappa Nu Scholarship Award is given to the highest ranking Sophomore in the Department of Electrical Engineering. It was awarded this year to Gilbert R. Kuhner.

Phi Eta Sigma is the Honorary Scholastic Society for Freshman men who attain a 3.5 average. Those engineers who were elected to its membership this year are:


Those elected to membership in Tau Sigma Delta, Honorary Fraternity in Architecture and Allied Arts, are:


Eta Kappa Nu is an Honorary Electrical Engineering Fraternity whose requirements for membership are a high standard of scholarship and character, and the ability to live and work in harmony with others. Those elected to its membership this year are:


JUNIORS—Clayton L. Haller, Robert P. Kilgore.

Charles L. Lucas, Wm. V. Organic, Carl G. Simon, Chas. B. Sloan, Lawrence F. Tracy, Linvill L. Young.

Sigma Gamma Epsilon is the honorary fraternity in Geology, Metallurgy, Ceramics, and Mining Engineering. Those elected to membership this year are:


The general engineering honorary is Tau Beta Pi. The requirements for membership are high scholarship, personality, leadership, and integrity. This year's initiates are:


FORCE ELECTED

On May fifth the various colleges on the Campus held election of Student Senate Representatives. Each College elects one man to represent that College on the Student Senate. The method of conducting elections in the Engineering College is somewhat different from that in other colleges.

All petitions are received by the Engineers' Council, and from those petitioning, several are selected whom the Council considers fitted for the position. The students of the college are then allowed to vote for one of those who have been nominated.

The Council nominated four men for the last election. They were Gerry Boyd, David Force, John W. Cole, and Wm. Richards. Since this is the first time that students of engineering have been permitted to vote for their representatives, there were only a little over two hundred votes cast. Mr. Force led the field by a good margin. He is a member of Triangle Fraternity.

NIAGARA REBUILT?

A short time ago an astounding catastrophe caused everyone in the United States to give a gasp of surprise and incredulity. This occurred when 75,000 tons of rock broke loose from the American side of Niagara Falls and fell to the churning depths below. On the heels of this news came a plan for the restoration and preservation of the falls.

The plan is ambitious, and, as an engineering project, revolutionary and startling. It involves the temporary diversion of countless millions of tons of water traveling at a tremendous speed. There are 222,000 cubic feet of water pouring over the falls each second.

The plan in general is simple. The engineers intend to cover the brink of the falls with heavy armor plate a foot thick. This will be securely anchored to the 60-foot layer of limestone beneath, and the upper end of the plating imbedded in the solid rock of the river bed. The lower end will be curved over the brink and the contour will resemble the one it had before the recent breakoff of the lip of the falls.

The placing of the armor plate will be the simplest part of this task but the greatest difficulty will be in the temporary stemming of the mighty river. The engineers who will supervise the work intend to overcome this by building a pillar of steel on Goat Island and suspending a powerful cable from there to the New York mainland. From the cable a heavy sheet of metal will be dropped and made fast to one of the many jutting rocks in the river bed. Then the rest of the sheets will be put in place and when bolted to one another the flow will be forced over toward the New York bank leaving the workmen in possession of dry land.

Unles something is done to prevent the eroding of the falls, experts say, they will gradually move up the river and, becoming smaller and smaller, will finally be no more than a series of rapids.—J.J.T.

MAY, 1931