Hello Frosh!

The Engineering Quadrangle, this month, has been blest with the arrival of a horde of newcomers. Frosh, we salute you! The four years before you are fraught with work and play, joy and sorrow, success and failure—but mostly with work. We wish you all the luck in the world.

In choosing Engineering as a profession, you have entered a field which is almost unique in its position. Viewed ruefully by its members and respectfully by others, it is conceded to promise a career almost unlimited in both possibilities and difficulties. You will find among those interested in engineering men possessing all the attributes of fine character—honesty, initiative, resourcefulness, and self-respect. You will find that here on the campus the students are rapidly developing these attributes and you will notice that the College of Engineering is a school somewhat apart, offering its members a common meeting ground in the departmental societies and social functions.

We hope that you will work hard and study hard to develop a well rounded character and so become a loyal disciple of St. Patrick. All of which is just another way of saying, “Be a good Engineer.”

Promises

The Ohio State Engineer with this issue introduces a new administration. Inexperienced and idealistic but fired with ambition, the editors will attempt to make this year’s magazine an improvement in every way over those of the past.

We have several projects in mind. First, we hope to make an appeal to a greater degree to the students themselves. While retaining the technical aspect in so far as at least a part of the feature articles are concerned, we will print more news of the campus and those who frequent it. Second, we hope to interest the alumni in the magazine, and through it, the college. When a man graduates and begins his search for the elusive dollar, he has a tendency to put in the background all of his acquaintances and interests of the past. If the Ohio State Engineer can provide a medium through which a graduate can recall his school days, we will consider it automatically to be a success. Third, we will make every effort to improve the editorial quality of the magazine. Every resource of the journalists’ and printer’s skill will be utilized to make this a more attractive and interesting magazine.

—M. J.

Personal Conferences

The English department has a very efficient method of establishing a closer personal relation between students and instructors. Two personal and private conferences are required of each student each quarter. By means of these interviews the student gets to know the instructor more personally than he ever would by merely attending class, and at the same time has a chance to learn just how his own work in that particular course needs improving. The instructor, on the other hand, learns the individual tastes, abilities, and difficulties of each of his or her students and can then help that student overcome any fault or troubles. In this way, the work of that course is made easier for both parties concerned; but by far the most im-

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Important result of these conferences is the friendly relation established between the faculty and student.

Now the question is: Why limit this opportunity for the instructors and students to be more closely acquainted to the English department alone? Wouldn't both parties profit by an extension of this same system, or perhaps a revision of this system into other courses? Not in all other courses; some instructors, especially in laboratory course, are in charge of too many students to make this plan feasible. But recitation courses, such as mathematics, would fit the system perfectly. It would require from one to two hours per student every quarter; and that time would be well spent in view of the closer mutual understanding obtained between the faculty and student.

—N. L.