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DANIEL J. BRUMLEY

By C. E. SHERMAN, Head of Civil Engineering Department, Ohio State University

(Editor's Note—This is the second of a series of biographies appearing in this magazine of Ohio State graduates, who have attained prominence in their respective fields. The first one was on Charles Felton Scott, and contributed by F. C. Caldwell, Head of the Electrical Engineering Department of Ohio State University.)

CADISON, it is said, believes genius to be nine-tenths perspiration and one-tenth inspiration. It is certain that he has worked inordinate hours throughout his long life, and he still works hard for a man who has passed his seventy-fifth birthday.

Many successful business men claim that the same law applies to business in general, unless it be that the percentage of perspiration is higher than above stated.

That the same general law applies to success in engineering, may be inferred from the records of many successful alumni of the Engineering College of Ohio State University. The subject of this sketch, who graduated in Civil Engineering in 1895, is an instance.

Daniel J. Brumley was born on a farm near Belmore, Ohio, March 19, 1865. After attending the common schools he taught in country schools nearly ten years and in this way prepared for college while supporting himself and saving enough from his meagre salary to make his way partly through college. It didn't cost much to go to college then, but on the other hand, it was hard to make much money at that time.

Students who are in college today, and who unavoidably have spent the formative period of their lives during the years of extravagance which accompanied and have followed the Great War, can little realize the economies prevailing on the Campus twenty-five or thirty years ago.

At that time the University had two buildings near the corner of Tenth and Neil, which were used for men's dormitories. The larger one was demolished some years ago to make way for the new buildings of the college of medicine. The smaller one, then known as the "Little Dorm," is still standing at the corner of the avenues above named, but is marked for destruction in the onward sweep of improvements.

Brumley lived in the "Little Dorm" while in col-

lege, doing his own cooking and house work, as did all students in the building, and paying a small rental amounting to \$4.50 per year to the University. In the University catalogue, at the time Brumley entered, the total expenses for the school year of nine months were estimated as follows: Low \$124.50; Moderate \$224.50, Liberal \$359.

These figures included tuition, lab fees, books, board, lodging, one suit of clothes with military cap, and an item for incidentals.

After graduating, Brumley became assistant section foreman on the Louisville and Nashville railroad at Evansville, Ind. He thus began at the bottom of the railroad engineering profession.

He was with this railroad, which is one of the best railroad systems in the country, for nearly ten years, gradually becoming acquainted with all problems of maintenance and construction of track and structures above and below track.

He rose in responsibility through the positions of assistant supervisor, section foreman, rodman, assistant engineer, roadmaster, engineer maintenance of way, division engineer, leaving the latter position in October, 1904, to take charge of the construction of the Indianapolis Southern

Railway from Indianapolis south 89 miles.

After the completion of this work in 1905, Mr. Brumley entered the service of the Illinois Central Railway as principal assistant engineer. On this system he rose successively through the positions of engineer of construction, engineer maintenance of way, assistant chief engineer and in April, 1914, was put in charge of the Federal Valuation of the Illinois Central System comprising 6,200 miles of line.

After completing the valuation work, he was made chief corporate engineer for the company at Chicago and on April 1, 1920, was made chief engineer of the Chicago Terminal Improvement which is described elsewhere in this number.



D. J. BRUMLEY, Chief Engineer, Chicago Terminal Improvement.

In his new position Mr. Brumley has charge of the engineering and construction of the new passenger terminal and rebuilding of the freight terminals so far as they are necessitated in the passenger readjustment. This involves electrification of 400 miles of track and a large amount of other work incidentally thereto.

The cost of the new terminal will be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000,000 and the magnitude of the engineering connected with such a project may be judged by those who have given some attention to the subject of railway terminals in our largest cities.

If one would cite an example of success due to learning one's business from the ground up in railroad engineering, it would be hard to find a better example than that of D. J. Brumley. He understands the engineering and construction features of all portions of the work assigned to his subordinates, for, he has familiarized himself with the details by both practical experience and study.

He has been called in consultation on electrification and other work by a number of railroads. In 1910 as a part of his consultation work, he evaluated that part of the property of the Central of Georgia Railway which lies in Alabama (some 577 miles of line) with appurtenant buildings and property, which information was used by the railroad company in its suit against the railroad commissioners of the State of Alabama. So carefully was the work done that the railroad was victorious in its suit in the United States courts. This task employed sixty engineers, some of whom were former Ohio State University students, Lewis H. Strom of the class of '06, being principal assistant engineer and serving very efficiently in that capacity.

Mr. Brumley has taken an active interest in the affairs of the University and has served on committees of local and national organizations. His younger brother, Dr. O. V. Brumley, is one of the well-known veterinarians of the country and is a professor of veterinary medicine at Ohio State University.
