

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

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The Engineering College Magazines Associated Convention

By DON POSTLEWAITE

Down below the Mason-Dixon line in the heart of the Ozark mountains at Fayetteville, Arkansas, arrived two "damn yankees" from Ohio State. And if the cold, rainy weather seemed to indicate an unfavorable reception, the boys from the University of Arkansas quickly dispelled all fears of that possibility. For it was soon discovered that "Sunny South" refers to the warm hospitality of the southern belles and gentlemen and not always to the weather.

Eight o'clock in the morning proved too early for the fair sex, but within an hour or so the place was practically snowed under with beautiful women. Thus the inspection of the campus took on added interest.

Dean G. P. Stocker, Dean of the College of Engineering, took pride in discussing the merits of his college. Although there are only 300 men in engineering, the laboratories are well equipped. This is especially true of the department of Electrical Engineering. Mr. Beam, a recent graduate student from Ohio State University, and now a member of the faculty, displayed his new communication equipment which included television receivers. The Dean was so cordial and hospitable that we decided to move in on him and thus spent the remainder of our stay in his home.

The afternoon was devoted to learning the why's and how's and when's of the University of Arkansas. Their counterpart of our traditional University Hall was the victim of a fire just shortly before our arrival. Although the cause of the fire was unknown, ugly rumor has it that when the fire broke out on the second floor, every student rushed madly home to open the water taps thereby reducing the water pressure. Despite the lack of pressure, the fire was extinguished, with more damage done by the water than by the fire.

Down the main walk, the name of each graduating senior has been inscribed in the cement dating from "way back when" until the present time. Needless to say, in years to come this practice will require a good many side walks; however if they follow Ohio State's policy of building a walk wherever the students pass in sufficient numbers to beat down the grass, they should have no difficulty in this matter. It seems that the students down there have learned quite definitely that the shortest path between two points is a straight line, or a reasonable facsimile hereof.

The new stadium presented an eyepleasing spectacle as it lay nestled between two adjacent hills. That's just

another way of saying that it was in a valley. The parking lot should prove interesting on a Saturday afternoon as it represents a dream in a landscape artist's mind and probably a nightmare to the football fan who would like to know the quickest way home after a game. It is rather unique as the drives are built in terraces and separated by green, grass aisles. Their football team has the proud record of winning when they are expected to lose and vice versa.

Registration in the Union Building was quite harmless and painless. Within a few minutes we were signed up for two banquets, one dance, a couple "guaranteed" dates with local queens, and a small sum extracted, tax included.

Thursday night was Hallowe'en, and Fayetteville turned out for a street carnival. There's something about these small towns that gets us "big city slickers". They always seem so cozy and easy going. But don't sneeze at this town for two reasons: First, you might miss seeing it; second, it's getting along quite well the way it is, thank you.

Night entertainment differs little from that of Columbus. A show at the "State" theatre, a coke at "Henrick's", and although they have no Mirror Lake (thank God) you can get that atmosphere of H₂S, if desired, in their Chemistry Building. However, they do have such rendezvous as the Chi Omega Greek Amphitheatre and the Bailey Stadium where couples may carry on their Platonic friendships in private.

Ten-thirty rings the curfew at Arkansas on Thursday just as at State (darn these Deans of Women). Thus the first eventful day was a matter of history.

Friday morning constituted good hard work for all the convention delegates. The business managers went one way and the editors another, each to discuss pertinent problems with his associates. Some excellent ideas were given on staff organization, magazine make up, editorial policies, pictures, jokes, and similar problems. One characteristic about these representatives that seemed predominate was their frankness. In other words, if someone gave a half-baked idea, there was neither time nor words lost in putting on the heat and giving said culprit the hot seat. It seemed surprising to learn how many of the problems facing our staff were also encountered by other staffs. Their solutions of these problems should prove helpful to the Ohio State Engineer.

Friday afternoon was more of the same with no holds barred.

Friday evening the Engineering College Magazines Associated held their banquet in the Student Union Ballroom. The food was good, the program was entertaining, and last but not most important, the speakers were brief.

To the sweet music of the Varsity Club Orchestra, the soft lights, and the charming ladies, the E.C.M.A. boys went to town in most unorthodox style at the dance that night. Although the delegates were from all sections of the country and each had his own particular style, they all ended up doing low brow jitterbug a la Arkansas technique.

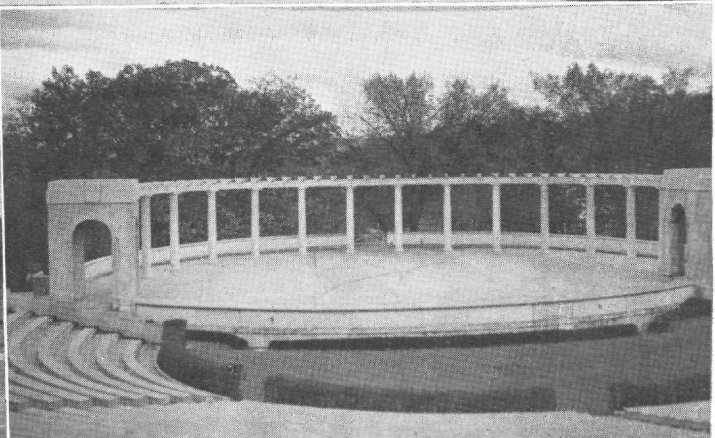
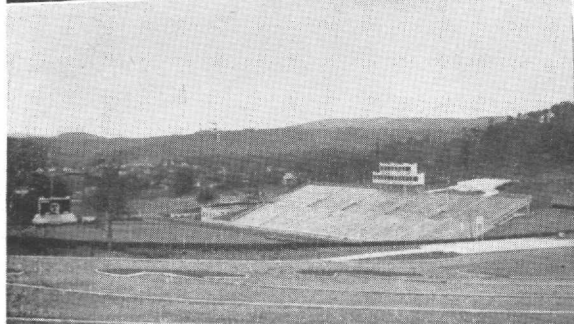
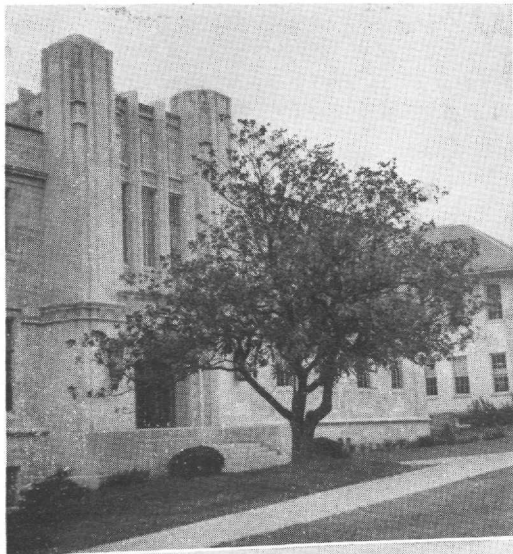
The stag line, contrary to State habits, was on the inside with the couples dancing around them in a large circle. Whenever a dance ended, the girls would continue circling the floor. The reasoning behind this custom is simple. Going at the speed that they go down there, it takes time to dissipate the kinetic energy or momentum. Furthermore, it is mighty convenient for the stag as he merely stands in one place and looks straight ahead until he spots the girl he wants.

One troublesome feature was the changing colors and intensities of the lighting at irregular intervals.

Although it was beautiful, of course, it often led to cutting in on the wrong couple when the lights went low. But then again it really didn't matter as they were all O.K. with a capital O.

That night all the delegates and the Arkansas engineers went serenading in the dark. To such tunes as "St. Patrick was an Engineer," "In the Evening by the Moonlight", and others, the girls would reciprocate from the sorority house balconies with their own sorority songs. Finally to the haunting refrains of "Goodnight, Ladies", we bade the girls farewell and another day was over.

Saturday morning and afternoon sessions were much the same as the previous day. The committee reports resulted, after much bickering, in proposing to have an executive secretary to unify the E. C. M. A; classification of engineering college magazines both within and without the E. C. M. A. so that membership could be improved in quantity and quality; election of Robert Taylor, Monsanto Chemical Co. as Eastern Vice-Chairman and Professor Stelzner, University of Arkansas, as Western Vice-Chairman. Without any quibbling, the convention gave a rising "vote of confidence" to the Arkansas boys for their splendid job of promoting such a successful convention. (Continued on Page 16)



Convention Snapshots

Upper Left: New Union Building, University of Arkansas.
Upper Right: Convention Delegates.

Lower Left: Football Stadium with parking lot in foreground.
Lower Right: Chi Omega Greek Amphitheater.

The E. C. M. A. Convention

(Continued from Page 13)

Mr. C. O. Willson, Editor of the Oil and Gas Journal, Tulsa, Oklahoma, gave an address at the Saturday evening banquet. His most interesting remarks to the common laymen at Ohio State were the explanations of the not too successful record of our football team. You see, Mr. Willson is a graduate of Ohio State and naturally had been embarrassed many times by this question. He explained it by saying, "Ohio State had the best football team in the country during the months of August and September". He discussed editorial

problems in connection with his excellent trade journal which must be published every week. This editor sympathizes with him after publishing only one issue.

The ride home was made pleasant by the congenial company of the Rose Polytechnic delegates, a Marquette gentleman, and Mr. Taylor and Mr. Littell.

But now we must return to our task of attempting to put out a better magazine, sadder for having to leave so many fine friends whom we met in Fayetteville, but wiser for having met them and learned from them some of the secrets of publishing a successful magazine.