

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

Title: Civil Engineers Camp

Issue Date: Nov-1934

Publisher: Ohio State University, College of Engineering

Citation: Ohio State Engineer, vol. 18, no. 2 (November, 1934), 8.

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/35165>

Appears in Collections: [Ohio State Engineer: Volume 18, no. 2 \(November, 1934\)](#)

Civil Engineers Camp

Every year the Department of Civil Engineering holds a summer camp to give advanced students practical experience. The camp is of six weeks duration and is required at the end of the sophomore and junior years. However, twelve weeks of approved outside engineering work may be substituted for the camp work. In many past camps contract work has been undertaken for various state governments, federal departments and private concerns. Though no such arrangement could be made for the camp in 1934, the students were able to do much practical work and to gain much valuable experience.

This year's party included nineteen students and three instructors—Professors Sloane, Montz and Wall. Six of the men had completed their junior years; the rest were sophomores. The camp, located eight miles above Zanesville on the Muskingum River, lasted from the early part of June until late July.

The first day was spent adjusting the implements and preparing for real work. Approximately 400 acres of land between the camp and Zanesville was surveyed for a detailed topographical map. This project, along with all others that had been started, was completed in camp by the students.

The attention of the campers was then turned to the Muskingum River. Soundings were made for about two miles and the students, divided into crews, made determinations of the current flow, stretching a cable with markers every ten feet, across the stream. Soundings and current meter readings were then made at each marker.

In this way the velocity of the river and its cross section were found. These data were easily converted into the flow in cubic feet per second.

Highway engineering was not neglected in the program of work. A two-mile survey was made and plans were drawn up for highway construction under the supervision of the instructors. Proficiency in the use of instruments was emphasized by the instructors. As a test, each man was required to determine the true north some time during the camp period. This was based on observations of the sun and north star. The results were required to be within fifteen seconds of the correct line.

All the time at camp, however, was not spent working. An ideal swimming pool was provided by Dam No. 11, at which point the Muskingum is some 600 feet wide. A baseball team was organized by the men to try their talents while competing with a team from the neighboring town of Gilbert. The campaign was a notable success—for the town team.

Professor Sloane hopes to make more satisfactory arrangements for next year's camp. In past years the camp has been located in West Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and even at Yellowstone National Park. When arrangements for contract work are made the expense of the students is cut and sometimes a small sum is cleared to be divided among them. For this reason and because of the increased value to the students as experience, contract work is preferred. A government job could not be obtained this year because men on relief were given the preference.