EDITORIAL

THE NEW STAFF

With this issue the present staff relinquishes the helm of the good ship OHIO STATE ENGINEER to the new staff elected recently. John K. Griffin '26 has been elected Managing Editor; Raymond Birch '27, Editor and C. L. Terrel '26, Business Manager. We wish these men success in the ninth year of the OHIO STATE ENGINEER'S existence.

SPIRIT

What do we mean by SPIRIT? Webster says vivacity, courage, mood, essence, to encourage. We mean the spirit of the engineering students as a body, their pride in the college, their willingness to cooperate in any venture that will advance or strengthen the college as a faction in the University.

We have certain traditions some new and some old, but the attitude of the students make or break them. The Engineer's Round Up is a comparatively new tradition and seems to be firmly established, yet it could not continue without the solid support of the engineering students. The Engineer's Day is another tradition, yet it has come to mean only a half day without classes. Interest has not been maintained for the simple reason that nothing happens. A tradition cannot be called a tradition if nothing of importance is planned to make the event appeal to every person.

The Engineering College should be the strongest body on the campus but is it? If not, why not? To our mind the best explanation is the one Professor Magruder told us: "The engineer fumbles and fusses over the pennies and allows the rest to walk off with the dollars." We cannot get our noses off of the grindstone long enough to work for the best interests of the college. Such a condition is deplorable but nevertheless it remains.

Look into the past and we find that engineers were among the biggest men on the campus, and if they could do it why can we not do the same thing? Then comes the old excuse that we have so much class work that we haven't time for campus activities. That is an excuse of a weakling and certainly is not the attitude for an engineer. We do not come to college to obtain only the fundamentals of engineering although they are essential, but we must have the abality to think and act, meet men, and most of all be able to get up on our feet and deliver our thoughts. The best way to get this ability is through campus activities and there are surely enough for every engineer. We have the student societies, Engineer's Council, campus publications and many others. It is much easier though to say we haven't time and then get a date or go to the show but we are cheating ourselves as well as the college.

The Engineer's Council is obviously the answer to all this. The members should be the thinkers and leaders from all the departments. Surely there are at least two real men or "go-getters" in each department. It remains only for the men in the different departments of the college to do a little serious thinking at election and put the right man in the office.

Let's wake up, dig in and tear things up. Don't leave it to the other fellow but do it yourself. THINK, but also ACT.

DESCRIPTIONS

In the various articles you have read written by engineers, have you ever read a description which you failed to understand, in which you could not clearly see the object or process which he was portraying? We will note, first of all, restraint, a sort of conservatism, as general characteristics of his descriptions. There is an absence of "ests," an absence of such words as "wonderful," "magnificent," which to you and me have a wide range of meaning. His descriptions are tangible, exact. He depicts objects and processes accurately. He is capable of doing this for he possesses at least a fundamental knowledge of these objects and processes, if not a thorough knowledge, even to the most minute detail, and he need not resort to some such indefinite words to cover up his lack of knowledge of the subject. His words and word-pictures, which illustrations are a common and valuable device of the engineer in writing, are practical and matter-of-fact. His comparisons are made with reference to devices and products of his profession. That should not make them strange, for we live among countless feats and achievements of the engineer.

Take an instance, in his description of a river, say the Maumee River at its source. The engineer would see beauty in its development, despite the fact that to you and me it presents a dirty grimy appearance: over on one bank are the railroad yards with their smoke-laden air; covering the bank from those yards down to the water's edge are weeds and brush mud-encrusted by the most recent high water; the muddy water itself is dragging along its load of yellow clay, depositing it here and there about some debris carried in by that same high water. It occurs to me that perhaps his point of view is similar to that of the mathematics professor, who, having worked some intricate problem, at great length and to our astonishment, remarks, "Now isn't that beautiful?" I am confident he is sincere. Likewise the engineer sees beauty in this river development, in the dykes, side-boards for the riven when it gets full, in the flood pumps to prevent backwater, in the bridges, works of art and engineering achievement, in the dam, likewise an achievement, and when developed, a source of power and energy.

TEXT BOOKS

I am saving my text-books. I am building up my reference library. Only yesterday I made a valuable addition: Composition of Technical Papers, by Watt and McDonald. Here is a book which I will be able to use, to turn at will to the matters to which I wish to refer, for as I read it, I study it; I mark its pages. And so throughout my college work. I hope to do the same thing, to collect my various text-books, to mark them, to underscore things of particular importance or interest, to make marginal notes of outside references and suggestions. Then in later years, in college, as well as in after years when I hope to be a busy engineer, matters to which I wish to refer I can have at hand in a moment.

You remark that those text-books will, in a few years, have outlived their period of usefulness, that they will no longer be up-to-date for more recent investigation, discovery, precedent will have brought about changes advocated in newer text-books. That is true. But will not the principles, the fundamentals, remain the same

and will not supplementary works in such form as periodicals provide me concerning recent developments?

Then, too, I am a little sentimental. Some of those text-books are pretty good friends of mine; I would hate to part with them for the four or six bits they would bring in the market. Also, as I turn the pages of those books, I notice some marginal notes which allude not particularly to the subject at hand, but do they not recall pleasant experiences and acquaintances?

C. L. LAMBRIGHT.

DOES THIS INTEREST YOU?

Not long ago we noticed some figures of enrollment in the College of Engineering on the board in a room of Lord Hall, probably put there for discussion in a faculty meeting. We became quite interested and soon certain points came to our attention. The enrollment for the Winter quarter was as follows:

Year	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*Total*
Architects	40	21	13	15	90
Architectural Eng.	19	28	10	14	71
Ceramics	17	34	25	15	91
Chemicals	35	21	22	31	109
Civil	56	75	50	54	235
Electrical	132	141	74	50	401
Mechanical	58	53	57	41	209
Metallurgy	6	19	7	7	39
Mining	9	19	17	9	54
Engineering Physics	1	1	--	1	3
Miscellaneous	61	--	--	--	61
	434	412	275	242	1363

The thing most apparent is the fluctuation in the first and second years. Take the Architects with 40 first year men and 21 second year men, a decrease of half while the Ceramics have doubled and the Metallurgists tripled. Apparently many of the first year men come to college having heard of the more widely advertised courses such as Electrical or Architecture and enroll in those but later on hear of the other branches and decide to change. For instance Metallurgy is not well known except in certain communities, and very few people know what the word means. Consequently there are only six men enrolled, but during the year Metallurgy is brought to their attention and some change, boosting the second year enrollment to 19. The Electricals, however, take a drop in the third year and not in the second. Any Electrical will probably say the reason for the drop is the physics with which they must suffer.

The same general trend is in the enrollment for the Spring quarter, but there is a decrease in the total enrollment of about 200. The enrollment is as follows:

Year	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*Total*
Architects	36	15	19	7	67
Architectural Eng.	26	23	14	10	73
Ceramics	19	24	24	10	77
Chemicals	34	15	22	26	97
Civils	45	63	61	31	200
Electrical	94	105	78	47	324
Mechanical	48	45	62	33	188
Metallurgy	5	18	8	5	36
Mining	7	10	18	6	41
Engineering Physics	3	--	--	1	4
Miscellaneous	58	--	--	--	58
	365	318	306	176	1165

It might be well for some of us to take some time off and study these tables a little, for they tell a story if you take time to analyze a little. Then go out, get the freshmen acquainted with your department, especially the 61 or 58 miscellaneous first year men.

A RADIO RECORD

John F. Byrne, Engr. 2, and Loren Windom, A. 1, are claimants of a world's record in their class because they were able to carry on daylight communication with an amateur station in England for 45 minutes. The record-breaking code conversation was begun at 1:08 P. M., Sunday, April 12th, the men operating a twenty-meter transmitting set. The English station was 2VW at London.

These men can also boast of conversations with stations in South America, South Africa, Hawaii and Australia, and with the McMillen Arctic exploration expedition.

"Who is that terrible looking woman?"
"That's my sister."
"Oh, that's all right; you ought to see mine."

Multi Millions: "Is your son home from college?"
Well Thye: "I presume so. I haven't seen my car for a week."

"Use our cold cream and protect your lips from the son."

His arm around her slender waist,
She nestled close, in sweet content;
Not e'en a Borah's eloquence
Could make her want disarmament.

Every time the kid takes castor oil, his ma gives him a dime. And then she goes and buys more castor oil with his savings. Nice ma!

If a man is going to be a liar, he might as well get more than a local reputation.

He: "Why did you close your eyes when I kissed you?"
She: "Because I thought I was in Heaven—and who ever heard of a red-headed angel?"

The U. S. Army Air Service has divided airplanes into 28 classes, with reference to various military operations. There are some five different classes of pursuit planes, long and sohrt distance planes, day and night bombers, corps observation planes, etc.; each class being given explicit performance ratings. The navy classifies airplanes with regard to their various purposes, such as gun spotting, reconnaissance, bombing and torpedo planes.