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The First Issue

A few days ago we picked up Volume I, No. 1, of the *Ohio State Engineer*. It was published as a quarterly. The first issue was dated January, 1918.

An editorial in this number described the purposes of the magazine. "The purpose of this magazine is three-fold. The main purpose is to bring the different branches of the college together, to create a more fraternal feeling among the Mechanical, Electrical, Ceramic, Civil, Mine, Chemical, and Architectural students and departments. . . . The next purpose is to give the engineering students a chance to branch out and obtain knowledge and experience along a line, which would be impossible to procure in their regular college course. . . . The last although not necessarily the least purpose of the magazine is to bring the students and alumni closer together."

Reflection upon this three-fold purpose has raised the question as to whether we are carrying on these fundamental ideas that were expressed by the founders of this publication over 16 years ago. We believe we are. Although other departments have been added to those that were in the College of Engineering in 1918, we are trying to unite all by publishing more departmental and organizational notes. We hope that you students will be interested enough in organizations, other than your own, to become acquainted with their functions and activities.

We feel that if the second purpose of the *Ohio State Engineer*, to give an outlet for those anxious to have some journalistic training, is not being utilized it is the fault of the student. We believe that there are many men enrolled in the College of Engineering, upperclassmen perhaps, who have the inclination to write for publication. In one of our previous issues we stated that we would be glad to get contributions from these men whether they were staff members or not. We realize that an upperclassman in the College of Engineering has little time for extra-curricular activities. We believe, however, that writing for the *Ohio State Engineer* is advantageous to every engineering student. We have heard from many sources that the chief general fault of the engineering

graduate is his inability to express himself, both clearly and fully.

We expect to have several alumni articles either of a technical nature or concerning the engineer's experience in industry.

Thus, we believe that we are following those ideals of the founders of the *Ohio State Engineer*. We are attempting to improve each issue. The members of the staff, of course, can not gaze into a crystal and discover your likes and dislikes. Express yourself on what you desire to read in *The Ohio State Engineer*.

We await your comments and constructive criticisms.

The College of Engineering

The aim of the Engineer is to lessen drudgery, to erect fine structures with every possible convenience, to design better cars, radios, homes, and innumerable utilities—in short to make life more livable.

He has found through years of experience that a man can do better work in twelve hours than in sixteen hours; later, that he can turn out more actual work in eight hours than in twelve and now it is evident that he is looking toward the six hour day which has been proved successful where it has been tried.

Yet this same Engineer with these high ideals must spend six to eight hours in a class and later in that same day, three to five hours in preparation for the next day. The pathetic part of it all is that he has to spend so much of his time preparing reports and cramming for mid-terms that he has little chance to assimilate his knowledge and understand the practical application of the material taught in class.

This is no fault of the Engineering College, which supplies ample equipment and laboratories. Any student who has the earnest intention of becoming an engineer in spite of every obstacle need not fear that his effort will be overlooked or that he is attempting the impossible for many have gone before and come out on top. He must work hard now but, when he is finished, he is prepared to make the most of his opportunities. J. L. K.