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EDITORIAL

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DEAR FRESHMEN

You have been welcomed and courted and rushed; you have had the best start that has ever been given a freshman class. Faculty and students have co-operated to acquaint you with the university and make you feel that you are a part of it. This issue of the Ohio State Engineer is sincerely dedicated to you; please accept our best wishes for your success in the College of Engineering.

Now, that you are settled and attending your classes, your real welcome is starting. It is not a welcome of parties, dances, or exhibitions. Indeed, it is a far different welcome than the first but it is certainly as warm. Your welcome is one that has to do with quizzes, midterms, and the student lamp. You are starting an intensive campaign for an education. You are truly entering the tempering furnace that will bring out the best that is in you, or warp you in the process.

Every one likes to give advice, and we might fill this entire page with good advice. However, this is our only suggestion: "Get to work."

BACK TO SCHOOL

It sure seems good to be back to school! In June everyone left feeling that he never wanted to see school again, but now that fall is here, back we come anxious to take up school life again.

Summer jobs to discuss, familiar faces to see again, and the warm handclasps of old friends combine to make this season the best of the year. The fellow who has been a coal heaver on a lakes steamer exchanges notes with the fellow who has been following the plow in Lucas County. Bull sessions last far into the night; everyone has his story to tell and is interested in the other fellow's story.

And now that the books are bought and the schedules made out, we are starting the quarter's work in earnest. This is a season of good inten-

tions. Looking back you may see C's and D's but looking forward it is easy to visualize the A's and the B's. Dear good-intentions wrapped in blue slips, but *without* good intentions there would never be even so much as a B.

YOUR JOB

As the science of engineering advances, the function of the engineer becomes more and more the perfection of existing forms of apparatus rather than the invention of radically new types. Every engineer must become an efficiency expert, for the most valuable man to his employer, and therefore the most highly paid, is the man who can make or save for his company the most dollars. Very few engineers are employed or hold jobs through "pull" or connections; in the final analysis tho you may be a nice boy or come from a good school you are worth no more than you can save.

An examination of the electric power statistics for the United States reveals a fine clean-cut job for the engineer. In 1926 around 73.9 billion kilowatt-hours of electrical energy were generated. Included in this amount, 47.4 billion kilowatt-hours were generated from the use of fuels, and the remainder by water power. Now let us compare average efficiencies with the best efficiencies, and find out just how much is wasted. Here are the average rates of consumption of fuel per unit of electrical energy produced; coal, 1.90 lb. per kilowatt-hour; oil, 243 kilowatt-hours per barrel; gas, 22 cubic feet per kilowatt-hour. The *best* practice gives us roughly the following efficiencies: coal, .9 lb. per kilowatt-hour; oil, 450 kilowatt-hours per barrel; gas, 13 cubic feet per kilowatt-hour. Here is the startling part, we find that the latter rates of best practice are roughly one-half of the average rates. We could reduce our electric-power fuel bill by one-half if all generating plants were brought up to the highest

efficiencies. In 1926 we wasted 20,000,000 tons of coal in our power plants. Here you are, heat power experts, \$60,000,000 on a gold platter ready to be snatched up.

WHAT GOOD IS ENGINEERING?

This brings up several questions and among them we might ask, "To whom?"

The person most concerned is yourself, and you owe it to yourself to make the fullest investigation possible as to what engineering offers you. If you are interested in having enough to eat and a place to sleep, in other words a decent livelihood, there is no doubt that you will never want if you are an engineer. If you aspire to great wealth, to luxury, or to ease then there is much doubt as to whether or not the practice of engineering will fulfill your ambitions. Essentially, the engineer is a worker, he must produce and keep industry moving forward. In return he is rewarded according to his ability, but on the general average, engineering is not a highly paid profession. You must have other reasons for taking engineering than the belief that you will make a lot of money.

After all, the satisfaction that you receive from your work here at school, and that you have reason to believe you will receive from the practice of your profession, constitutes the greatest good that engineering can be to you. If you have a practical turn of mind; if you like to construct or design; if seeing an idea of your own gradually take shape in material form gives you pleasure, and if your interpretation of engineering includes these phases of activity, by all means stick to engineering. To some, engineering may represent much more than the actual production or design of the commodities of civilization. You may want to follow the business side of engineering, or enter sales work for which only your technical training will fit you. Whatever your conception of engineering, be sure that that idea is sound, and then judge it by the measure of personal satisfaction it promises to give you.

ABOUT OURSELVES

This year marks two major events in the life of the *Ohio State Engineer*.

First, we are to be hosts to the Engineering College Magazines Association convention. Twenty-one college engineering magazines will be represented at this convention which is to be held here over the week end of the Michigan game. We certainly extend a hearty welcome to the men from the papers in the E. C. M. A., and we are sure that all members of the university will be glad to have them here.

Secondly, we are expanding. Heretofore, we have been satisfied to bring out your paper four times during the school year. This year we are going to expand from the conventional four issues to a total of seven issues for the year. This will mean that we are going to need your co-operation and help more than ever before. In return we promise to give you the best that it is in our power to produce. We feel that we have made a

change for the better and will be able to publish material of more recent interest and serve you better.

To those freshmen in the College of Engineering who want to do a little more, and get a little more out of their college life, we extend an invitation to come out for the staff of the "Engineer." We are also glad to have new upper classmen on our staff, and repeat our invitation to them.

TAU BETA PI NATIONAL CONVENTION

A. B. CRAWFORD, '28

Fifty-two colleges and universities, scattered from California on the West to Maine on the East, will be represented at Ohio State University on October 13, 14, and 15, when the local chapter, Gamma of Ohio, acts as host to the Twenty-sixth National Convention of Tau Beta Pi. Although handicapped somewhat by the shortness of time between the beginning of the Autumn Quarter and the dates of the convention, members of Ohio Gamma have been working diligently and have prepared a program which seems to hold promise for a most successful convention.

Tau Beta Pi is a national honorary fraternity, composed of juniors and seniors from all departments of Engineering who stand in the upper fourth of their class in scholarship. It was founded at Lehigh University in 1885 for the purpose of marking "in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their alma mater by a high grade of scholarship as undergraduates, and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in the engineering schools of America."

Ohio Gamma was installed in 1920, and although comparatively a youngster, the local chapter has become one of the most active honorary fraternities on the campus. This is Ohio Gamma's first opportunity to entertain her sister chapters, and it is her chief aim to do the thing in true Ohio State fashion.

Little remains to be desired in the program as it now stands. Following registration Thursday morning, the delegates will be taken for a tour of inspection of the University and city, returning at noon for the welcome and luncheon at Henricks. The first business session will be held in the afternoon at the Ohio Union. In the evening, the visitors will be entertained at a smoker to be held at Sigma Phi Epsilon House. In addition to the entertainment features that have been provided, it is planned to hold a model initiation at which R. C. Matthews, National Secretary-Treasurer, will preside.

Business sessions at the Administration Building are scheduled for morning and afternoon of Thursday, October 14. In the evening there will be the Formal Dance at the Neil House.

The final business session of the convention is Saturday morning at the Administration Building. The Northwestern-Ohio State football game is on the schedule for the afternoon. The closing feature of the program will be the Convention Banquet at the Neil House in the evening, and then Ohio Gamma will have credibly fulfilled her duty.