

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

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TWO CENTS from the Editor



We Hope You Liked Our Jokes . . .

It's always so hard to make a good selection. All the other articles are similar problems. We never know what to put into a first issue. Later in the year, when the "grapevine" system gets going, we can get some idea of what you like and don't like.

But this year's staff considers the grapevine entirely inadequate. We want you readers to express yourselves in writing. You can drop us a postcard expressing your ideas on subjects to be covered. We intend to explain the fluid clutch, for one thing. There are certainly numerous other mechanisms whose operation you would like to know about. Drop us a line!

You see, we DON'T want you to FEEL that this is your magazine: We want you to KNOW it. So you fellows who feel the "Engineer" doesn't have in it the things it should, say so.

And if your roommate is always reading your copy, arrange for some word to get to the circulation manager. We regret he is not clairvoyant, for then he wouldn't need to be told. We have trouble with addresses every year. The only way we can know that you haven't gotten your "Engineer" is by your saying so. So please, say so!

To The Freshmen: . . .

We've included a list of activities engineering students can join. Make use of it. If you get into a few things around the Engineering Quadrangle, you'll make your school life more complete. If you join up now, your chances of being a B(ig) M(an) O(n) C(ampus) are greater than if you try to get on the bandwagon as an upperclassman. Not only that, but professors will know you, you will know them, and you'll get a better insight into what's going on.

Needless to say, you will also get numerous keys to dangle on your chest.

The staff has a few recommendations to make: Keep your health up, get plenty of sleep, and remember, if you aren't paying for your present privilege of working, your Dad is, and there's no sense in trying to "beat" the professors. You are here to learn. If your algebra or trigonometry instructor doesn't catch up with you, your calculus professor will. If you cheat through mechanics, they'll get you in machine design. You can coast on a glorious freshman year, but you can only "muddle through" after a bad one. Just ask any upperclassman.

Build your life in school around the fact that you are in school. Make it the center of your interests. There is no reason why you can't. There are enough things going on around a university like this that everyone can fill his time and brain with agreeable things to do. Here there is an opportunity to become a big fish in a big pond, and acquire the right to hold one's head up. There are responsibilities to be assumed, and many things to be learned.

If you need advice, go to your instructors. Most of them are quite happy to be considered human beings. They want to help you—in fact, that is the fundamental idea behind their being here. If you need help, there are math instructors always ready to help in that department, chemistry maintains remedial sections, your physics instructor is charged by the department to help you. You see, it's all up to you. The opportunity is there.

Remember also that no instructor is against you until YOU turn him against you, but remember, you can turn him against you. Instructors are human, and therefore subject to human emotions. Defiance of that fact is beneath reproach.

We do not recommend "apple polishing". There is a difference between that and making things a little easier for your instructor by listening to what he says in class, staying awake, and handing in homework regularly. Legible writing helps on midterms, too. You can get credit on a problem where the grader can see that you got part of it right, where you might not get any if he can see only that you got the wrong answer.

This has been a bit of a sermon, but it is based on experience. Again we say, ask your upperclassman.

Just one parting shot—about the Makio. People are generally vociferous in their denunciation of Makio policies, when it is a simple case of people not giving a darn until the Makio is published, and then finding everything wrong.

We personally feel that the Makio is a good investment. The three dollars it costs now is very little for the value received. No other publication even hopes to cover the activities of the school as the Makio succeeds in doing. It is a MUST for every senior, certainly, and every freshman who gets one will have a beautiful, complete, and lasting record of the school year. So buy your Makio now.

Helmuth Engelman.