

August

TECH NEWS

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THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

TECH



NEWS

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

OL. 1, NO. 4

Thursday, December 2, 1954

By Student Fees



Civil Engineers dance to the music of Artie Qentzal.

ASCE INDUCTS 30 NEW MEMBERS

The crowning achievement of thirty Civil Engineering students occurred on Friday, Nov. 19, at the Semi-annual Induction of all of the American Society of Civil Engineers, when they were formally inducted into the organization. The ball was held in the swank Georgian room of the Hotel Piccadilly.

Engineers Turn Actors

Approximately 200 ASCE members and guests enjoyed the festivities, which included skits

by the faculty and students. The instructors' skit portrayed the student's version of what happens behind the grey, locked door marked "Off limits" (during lunch hour at the summer surveying camp in Van Cortlandt Park). According to this version, the disciplinary action of the "Chief" (Prof. Hartmann) was directed at his several inferior officers. Adjutant Steven didn't say "Sir" when addressing the chief. For this, he was given one demerit. Prof. Pistrang was given two demerits for not call-

ing an instrument by its right name. In the second scene the true version of what actually happened when the lunch break arrives was portrayed.

In the second act, a sketch of the impossible nature of CE final exams and the methods by which they are determined was delivered. For example, a problem was solved by Mr. Gershowitz who arrived at an answer of 800 ft. Dr. Lorrell who solved the same problem came up with an answer of four kips.

Continued on Following Page

ASCE Induction

Continued from Page 1

They compromised and agreed that the correct answer was 200 ft.-kips.

The Cast

Among the other actors were Dean Allan, who determined marks by flipping a coin, and Profs. Willig, Kedsian, Kaplan, Moskvitinoff, Armenakas, Holm and others. The play writers were Messrs Papoulas and Brandt.

The students produced a show entitled "What's Your Base Line?" The program had, as its guest, William Allan Dean (Larry Goldberg), Paul Hartburn (Bob Spitz), James Steven No'ess, pronounced No-s (Irwin Benson) and Joe P. Strang (Haskell Epstein) with his motorcycle. The panel included Herb Renter, Jack Kannry, Joe Reiner, and Lee Goodman. Eli Matsil did a bang-up job as moderator.

The induction was started with a speech by Dean Allan, who said that the present type of

inductions are by far the best since the formal dinner dances of the 1930's. Prof. Cunningham, the faculty advisor, and Prof. Willig, Chairman of the CE department, all tendered their congratulations. The oath was presented by Pres. Jim Jeffers.

Music was supplied by the Arty Quentzel Quintet, the same band which has played at many of the past inductions.

-Syd Harris

Another Case of Mutual Induction

Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, will hold its semi-annual induction dinner at the Washington Square Inn, 1 University Place, on Saturday evening, December 4. The affair should prove to be quite enjoyable.

Feedback

In "Jobs for CH.E.s" the article should read: new engineers will most likely NOT be designing processing equipment.

LETTERS

Dear Sir:

This is just a slight bit about the cartoon in your last issue depicting the plight of the Evening Session student.

The cartoon shows the student approaching bed at 11 P.M. It has been an evening student for nearly five years and it's been a rare night that has seen him going to bed at that time. I am sure other Evening Session students feel the same way.

Paul Lublin

Dear Sir:

We, the members of Alpha Epsilon, wish to register our protest. In your last issue we avidly read the statements of three obviously frustrated females. These sex-starved girls have probably never met Alpha Epsilon for they feel "all engineers are frustrated introverts".

Therefore we wish to publicly invite these, and all other girls who agree with them, to an AME social on Dec. 17.

Frank Allgaier
Social Chairman

Dear Sir:

I noticed that in mentioning the pledges for Pi Tau Sigma in the Nov. 18th issue, my name was omitted. It is difficult for me to believe that, in a publication of your allegedly superior caliber, such a ridiculous error could be committed. I refuse to forgive the guilty party.

It should also be noted that my initial is H and not A. Some foolhardy individual put me in the staff box. It was right the first two issues, why change the world did you decide to change my name? *I like it!* I so refuse to forgive the guilty party who made this blunder.

I demand a public apology for both grievous oversights. I so demand monetary remuneration.

Harold Pergam

(Ed: -Sorry John)

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X TECH -ROADS

Engineering--Builder of a Brighter Future will be the theme of National Engineers Week, February 20 to 26, 1955.

Production men and others interested in joining the American Society of Tool Engineers see Herb Geissler or the SAE bulletin board. (Their proposed motto: Keep a cool tool.)

FORE! Now is the time for all good men to organize a school golf team. Send name and address to Louis Elbert, care of this paper.

If you hustle down to the ASME 1954 national conference at the Hotels Statler, McAlpin and Governor Clinton today and tomorrow you can still catch some good lectures. Consult the program on the ASME bulletin board.

Latest craze among spacemen is Qubic, 3-D tic-tac-toe. The plastic boards have a capacity of three players. To win you need four-in-a-row in any direction.

Many opportunities in drafting and engineering positions in federal and state civil service are available. This includes summer work. Contact the placement office NOW.

Signs of competition-the ditto'd posters put out by Vector are getting to be as good as ASME's masterpieces. Nice work, Mike.

The CE's must have had a real good time at their induction dinner judging from the enthusiastic way some were making plans for the All-College Prom.

Items for this column may be placed in the envelope on the TN bulletin board in Compton Hall, first floor.

Flattery Will Get You Nowhere

Dean William Allan, speaking before a large group of ASCE junior branch students, recently emphasized that post-graduate studies should include, in addition to engineering, other branches of education.

"The most atrocious English is written by our graduates", said the Dean. To remedy this and other deficiencies, he stressed post graduate training in business, humanities, and especially human relations. Of 4000 cases of engineers fired, 38% were fired for technological incompetence but 62% were fired for "unsatisfactory social adaptability."



Dean William Allan

Engineers generally tend to flatter themselves too much. They place a high value on activities involving things and numbers and low value on activities involving people. In short, they stress logic instead of feeling. "The engineer", said the Dean, "believes he can persuade others by logic, but he can't".

A question and answer period followed the talk. In this lively period, it was pointed out that, of those who receive bachelor degrees, 20% to 25% take post graduate study. However, not all those who take graduate study attempt to get a Master's or a Ph.D.

ROSH FARRAGO

Phil Gottesman
Anne Dechter

Now that we have a column to express our views, we hope that it will serve the purpose for which it was intended; namely to discuss the problems that we freshmen engineers are encountering in our first semester at the college.

Although our upper-class engineers are more or less resigned to their fate, we have a pet peeve which in our estimation is of primary importance; the stigma that is attached to tech majors as human robots the like by other students at the College, especially in the Liberal Arts departments.

Let the upper-class engineers register their almost resigned to the fact, there is absolutely no reason for such bias.

Now that the term has entered its home stretch, it is about time that we reflect on one of the most serious problems that the freshman class has faced so far. We mean the various difficulties that many of the students have encountered in Physics 7. Regardless of who the instructor is, the fact remains that many of us are getting 30's and 40's on the exams. And, in addition, some of the students have already dropped the course.

Is there anything to blame for this hardship? Frankly, we feel that the only solution is to stop plugging. We hope that you, as tech freshmen, will not become discouraged. Just stick it and your grades will start to rise.

Look for us in the next issue. At that time we will present to you some methods of study that bear the "Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval", methods which have proven in every case that, if followed properly, the result will be a clearer understanding of the work, and, therefore, higher grades. Most of the ideas are simple and efficient, and you would no doubt come upon them eventually...the hard way. Let's make it easy for ourselves!

TECH LIFE



Well, Is It?

Professor Fabri of the Art Department, armed with a large number of excellent reproductions from the C.C.N.Y. collection, spoke to a capacity audience of Tau Beta Pi members Nov. 16 on "Is Modern Art Art?"

It Grows On You

All works of nature are considered to be art by some. Mr. Fabri defines art as something which survives the changes of time and grows on one after many other paintings are forgotten.

Popular prejudice always opposed evolution in art. Rembrandt and Van Gogh both died poor. Manet's "Olympia" first was called absurd because it had outlines instead of the academic softness of forms, but now hangs in the Louvre. Van Gogh's paintings, once not bought at all, are now worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. Printed reproductions of "A View of Toledo" by El Greco, unknown for centuries, now sell in the millions yearly.

Faddists give much present-day poor art an undeserved reputation and, although the camera has freed the artist from the slavish copying of nature, some people still expect a painting to be a photographic likeness.

Spanish painter, Joan Miro's "Dutch Interior," a fanciful satire on the old Dutch technique, looked better when viewed upside down, said Dr. Fabri, and the style is original and colorful. Prints of works by Braque, Cezanne, Chardin, Van Gogh, Dufy, Constable, Homer, Turner, Marin, Rembrandt, Picasso, and Mondrian were also shown.

Prof. Fabri, a former architect, recommended Engineering training as a good foundation for art. He exhibited a collection of his etchings, many of which had won awards.

ASME-SAE Student Paper Contest

Can you picture your best friends as teachers? Well today, at the ASME-SAE student paper contest you will get a chance to watch the entrants in action. Under the rules of the contest papers of technical interest will be presented to the group with a 15 minute time limit set on each. The best 3, as judged by three members of the faculty, will receive cash awards with a certificate going to the winner. Drop in today: H017 at 12:15 PM.



Digital Computers

Members of the E.E. department, as well as prospective electrical engineers, packed the A.I.E.E. and I.R.E. meeting of November 18th to hear Professor John Raggazini speak on digital computers. The professor is a graduate of CCNY and a former member of our own EE department. His discussion took the form of a research report rather than a straight lecture on the mechanics of servos. His report divided itself into three areas, the latest status of the problem, the techniques, and the applications.

Both industry and the military are undergoing an increasing trend towards automation, the transfer of human operations to controls and automatic devices. The days of kettle processes are over, continuous

processing and increased output are now the mode of operation. Furthermore, the age of robots is fast becoming passé, a high intelligence controlling system is essential. The digital computer technique offers a sophisticated method of handling the problem.

In a continuous system, say a chemical process, the output is continually sampled. This process is based on elementary feedback theory. A portion of the output is fed into the system at preset intervals, the error being recorded and the information stored. To store the data such devices as magnetic drums and condensers are used. The time intervals are arbitrary, set according to the requirements. The "memory" of the digital computer has a finite capacity, but can store the information indefinitely.

The advantage of this system is that it has an intelligence somewhat human. The servo of the future will be able to benefit by its own mistakes and will correct its program automatically.

The computer may have many simultaneous duties. Just as a radar system scans the total azimuth, the servo controls every function of the machine.

The programs designed for the computer depend on the results desired. A special form of transform calculus was devised by Professor Zadi of Columbia University. It resembles the mathematics of Le Moivre and Laplace transform. They have endeavored to replace differential functions by linear ones to facilitate their manipulation.

The audience was impressed with Professor Raggazini's clear explanations, explanations devoid of highly technical terms and complex mathematics. Being a teacher himself, he was able to gauge our knowledge of the topic, thus his presentation was thoroughly understood.

Extra Parts

In this term, ASME new service members. Squared to disassemble aircraft previously been the ME lab. obtained from the end of its power. The age to run in Student member 215, are for part of the get their however, the her again.

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COMING EVENTS

ASCE - T 107

Today - Mr. John G. Hotchkiss, AISC, speaks on "Steel Construction."
Dec. 9 - Mr. A. E. Cummings of the Raymond Concrete Pile Co.

ASME - H 021

Today - Student Paper Contest
Dec. 4 - Plant Trip to Piasecki Helicopter Co.
Dec. 10 - Social-Technical Meeting Council Meeting.

AIEE - H 106

Today - Mr. Carl Quirk of the Dumont Corp. will speak on UHF-VHF
Dec. 9 - Film: "Arteries of Power and Aerial Cable" RM 53 A

AICHE - H 103

Today - Mr. R. H. Barton of I. E. Dupont Corp. will speak on "Neoprene".
Dec. 9 - Dr. H. B. Smith of General Foods will speak on "Chemical Engineering in the Food industry"

has two sets of contacts, one for starting, and one for normal operation. It is also of interest to note that the valve cam followers have roller contacts, thus assuring a minimum of friction in operation. In the absence of a manual it is often necessary and instructive to trace the various systems of the engine in order to determine how each works.

Many parts of the engine cannot be removed because special tools are required, but the squads removed virtually everything else in sight to make up for this deficiency.

The entire project is a very worthwhile supplement to the ME 215 course and is proving a useful source of practical information to the ASME member.

SPO at West Point

At the stroke of 9, we all met at the main building. It was Thursday, Armistice Day. A holiday. Dum-de-dum-dum. The fraternity, an all engineering fraternity, Sigma Phi Omega, was going en masse to the soccer game between West Point and C.C.N.Y.

The big moment arrived when the two teams lined up on the field. To our surprise there were many more C.C.N.Y. fans than men in gray. The game was a thriller from start to finish. Too bad we lost. See pix above.



In their first day at work, the first squad removed the intake manifold and the oil pan, exposing the overhead valve mechanism. The front of the distributor and the accessory cover were also removed. Two of the more striking features of this engine are the lightness of its parts and the beauty (to an engineer) of the machining of its gears and cams. As is typical of most aircraft engines, the engine has two spark plugs per cylinder as a safety feature. This also serves to improve the knock characteristics. The distributor rotor

HUMANITIES AND THE ENGINEER

By Prof. Wasser, Acting Coordinator of the Humanities Sequence

In this technological world, it seems necessary to wage an increasingly difficult battle to establish the validity of the Humanities. Humanities deals with nothing less and nothing more than man in his finest moments, man when he has fused passion with intellect in the alembic of his imagination and then poured the result into the multifarious forms of art which themselves are the products of the same process. It is not accidental that a recent report out of Soviet Russia reveals that it is educating many more engineers, or rather technicians, than we are but that they are doing so by almost completely cutting out the Humanities or the Arts. There seems to be no place in Soviet Russia for the whole man developing his sensibility and his sense of freedom as well as his knowledge. Fortunately, our engineering schools are aware of the prime necessity for educating the whole man and not merely the specialist or technician, though perhaps not to the extent that those trained in the liberal arts might desire. We in the Humanities keep this objective constantly in mind as we strive to give our engineering students some idea of the world of literature and of the arts. Perhaps it is necessary here to point to the functional values of our courses as well as to the complex view of man's existence that the literary classics provide.

Certainly, reading the classics of Western literature is of considerable aid to the student in acquiring the vocabulary and ease of expression so necessary to clear writing and speech. The importance of facility of expression in writing and in

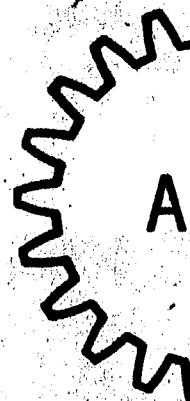
speech in the future career of the engineer cannot be overemphasized. The professional engineering societies have made this declaration again and again. Increasingly in our society, the engineer becomes the manager, and the manager must have at his command a varied vocabulary, an assured and fluent manner of speech and a cognizance of himself as an individual and as part of society. He must be able to phrase his ideas clearly and succinctly. He must be able to converse in an informed and alert fashion about the affairs of men.

But, the more significant, if more intangible values of the Humanities must be mentioned. Here we might begin by indicating the most satisfying pedagogical experience a Humanities instructor has—encountering the graduating senior or alumnus engineer who tells him of the world of literature and of the arts which the Humanities opened for him. Or we might cite the repeated experience with the student in Humanities 2 whom we met as an entering freshman in Humanities 1 and who has greatly matured in his personality and in his reading enjoyment and habits. Or we can refer to the perceptive and excellently written article on "Poetry and the Atom" by Anthony Di Benedetto in the November issue of *Vector* to illustrate the engineering student responsive to the intent of poetry. This is not to say that the instructor is completely satisfied with the fact that there are many great works of literature which he does not have time to explore with his class or with the fact that he has time only to introduce, but not to investigate with his class the arts of painting, mu-

sic, sculpture or architecture. His hope is that his students no longer indifferent or even hostile to poetry, read Milton or Shakespeare or Browning or Tennyson or Eliot or Frost with enjoyment, even excitement, if not always with full comprehension. His desire is that the student's sensibility has developed, that the student realizes that the arts are the finest expression of man's endeavors in society and of man's perceptions into the complexities of the human soul, and that literature and the other arts inform him about the nature of the human being often sustain him in the tribulation and crises of daily life. His firm belief is that one of the finest experiences available to the engineering student is to be introduced, no matter in what limited degree, no matter in somewhat dimmed by translation to the world of the purest expression of man's hopes and man's tragedies, the literature and art of our heritage.



Here'



The Walking G

The Walking Epsilon is once reorganized last period of inactivity is affectionately taken gigantic regaining its presence at CCNY.

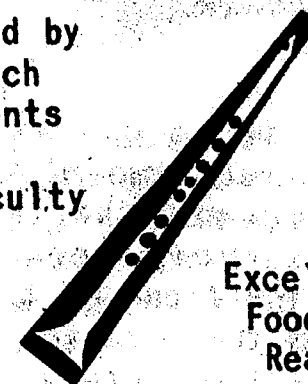
A major step in the emergence of AME acquisition house. What coal bin has a finished bar redecorated comfort, the boasts both a refrigerator.

AME has the tradition of being ternity on campus on four varsity the chorus and psychology hold major c SAE and TIIC.

On Nov. 12, pledges for the 'Hell Night' assured the pe

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Clarinet

Selected by
the Tech
students
and
Faculty



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Reasonable
Prices

Menus Changed Daily

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GOOD TASTY FOOD - PLEASANT ATMOSPHERE

AT PRICES TO FIT YOUR POCKETBOOK

DAILY SPECIALTIES

CAMPUS GRIDDLE

Engineers and Sports—The Perfect Combination

If one were to stand at the Tech Crossroads and listen to a conversation of passers-by, he would undoubtedly hear one budding engineer after another crying about the load of work that he has to do. The story would not only include tales of back homework and lab reports, but that the engineer just does not have the time to participate in college athletics.

We at Tech News do not believe this story. On this assumption, we gathered the facts.

Down in the depths of Lewisohn Stadium, in the back of the Athletic office, there stands a filing cabinet loaded with interesting facts about our stout-hearted athletes. Did you know that if it were not for ten engineering students, the 13 man Rifle squad would be cut to three men? As a matter of fact, more than 50% of the lacrosse, swimming, and wrestling squads are engineers.

The actual breakdown for City College athletics is: rifle—77%; swimming—65.3%; lacrosse—56%; wrestling—50%; soccer—40.6%; cross country—35.3%; fencing—31.4%; and boxing—10%.

Since basketball is the popular sport on the campus, let's see the breakdown on that sport. The figures show that 33.33% of Nat Holman's gladiators are disciples of the slide rule. The overall percentage of engineers in sports is a large 45.4%.

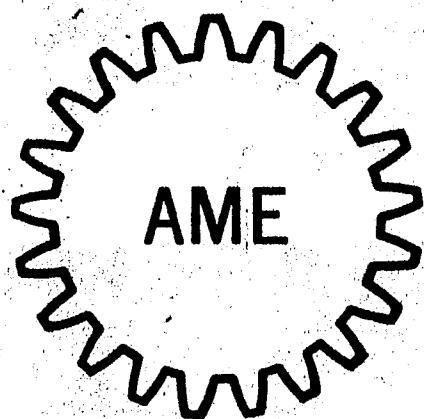
We all know that truth is substantiated by fact. We at TN, therefore, feel that if it were not for the engineers, athletics at City College would be in a bad way.

STANDINGS OF TEAMS IN TIIC SLIDE RULE LEAGUE

	Won	Lost
1. ASCE	5	0
2. AIEE	3	3
3. ASME	2	4
4. AICHe	1	4



Here's what they look like with their gears stripped.



The Walking Gear

The Walking Gear of Alpha Mu Epsilon is once more on campus. Reorganized last term after a period of inactivity, AME (as it is affectionately known) has taken gigantic strides towards regaining its former prominence at CCNY.

A major step in the resurgence of AME has been the acquisition of a fraternity house. What was formerly a coal bin has been converted to a finished basement. Recently redecorated with a stress on comfort, the frat house now boasts both a TV set and a refrigerator.

AME has the unique distinction of being the only fraternity on campus with members on four varsity teams, one in the chorus and a member in the psychology club. They also hold major offices in ASME, SAE and TIIC.

On Nov. 12, the 13 miserable pledges for this term had their "Hell Night." One group measured the periphery of Times

Square while another team of unfortunates tried to get on the *Ernie Kovacs Show*. They didn't but their gear did. It is now on display. A third group visited Union City. They returned with Vicki Welles' signature (on an egg) and one of her most prized possessions. The last team of three visited Georgia Gibbs at the "Boulevard." After telling her all about AME, CCNY and engineering, she willingly posed for the picture (shown below). They also got her signature (on three raw eggs).

After this novel evening, the pledges were welcomed into the fraternity, although they were still in a state of shock.

The thirteen were: S. Chesis, H. Citron, J. Del Gobbo, B. Ellison, H. Geissler, S. Goldfarb, M. Perlow, N. Stein, S. Stone, E. Trunk, L. Wartell, B. Wildfeuer, L. Willin.



Those AME pledges certainly do get around.

SPORT

ASME Succumbs to AIEE, 43-35

ASME, seeking their first win over the EE squad, fell short as the electrons managed to maintain a slight lead throughout the game.

A noble effort was made by Dan Rosner, ME, scoring 13 points, who tried to lead his team to victory. Dan was hitting with a good hook-shot from the outer circle throughout the game. However, the new spirit in the EE squad, Arthur Freilich, with his 16 points, balanced the scales for the night. Artie, playing his first game of the season for AIEE, proved to be an accomplished player with a fair one-hander, a good set, and a strong drive.

Sy Zeiberg and Walt Nazimowitz, ME's with 11 and 8 points respectively, helped to keep the game a close one. It was. But



THE EE SQUAD

From the left; first row: Vincent De Marco, Peter Dorato; second row: Arvids Vigants, Lenny Wertheim, Herb Targovnik; third row: Fred Manasse, Ted Constant, Tom Weiss, Henry D'Angelo, ?, Marty Schwartz.

the EE's, with an unusually large 10 man squad, quickened the pace in the closing minutes, just managing to push past the ME's.

Other scorers for the night were: for the ME's; Marty Solon with 2 points, and George Veder with 1; for the EE's; Hank D'Angelo with 8, Marty Schwartz with 5, Lenny Wertheim with 5, Herb

Targovnik with 4, Peter Dorato with 3, and Vin De Marco and Ted Constant with one apiece.

ASCE Buries AIEE 137 to 62

Nov. 18, Main Gym: In an relenting attack upon the squad, the CE's amassed a score of 137 points to the EE's 62. The EE's, short of players for the game, refused to declare a forfeit. The weak squad managed to gather its few members to meet a good CE squad that held no mercy for them.

The game started at the usual pace for a Slide Rule League game, fast moving and tight. But, it soon became a matter of which player would compile the highest score, with 6 of the man CE squad competing. Norm Miller (CE) with 60 points, followed by Artie Freilich (EE) with 32, and Dan Schwartz (CE) with 30.

CLASSIFIED

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TWENTY-EIGHT
PROBLEMS
IN ENGINEERING MECHANICS

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