



Armour Tech News



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Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois

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REVISION IN E. E. COURSE TO MEET NEWER PRACTICE

Advanced Theory Given In Circuit Analysis Course

LABS IMPROVED

Due to the modern trend in electrical engineering practice, it has been found advisable to digress somewhat from the electrical course which has been pursued at the Institute for the last few years.

The efficiency and strength of the department have been increased to quite an appreciable extent by the recent improvements in the laboratory and by the acquisition of new equipment. The changes in the electrical curriculum which are anticipated will insure Armour's reputation of having one of the finest and most comprehensive courses in the country.

According to the present plans, it is intended to cover, during the sophomore year, certain subjects which have been given in the junior year, and to take some of the senior subjects in the junior year, and so to have part of the time in the last year to present additional studies.

Subject Matter Improved

A few branches of electricity which have been found to be of minor importance will be dispensed with, in order to allow these new subjects to be taught. For example, detailed treatises on magnetic measurements and ballistic galvanometers will give way to courses, the current importance of which is greater.

Professor Richardson is giving, as an experiment, an elective course in "Circuit Analysis" to senior electricals. If this is received with enthusiasm by the men who take it, and if it is considered to be of sufficient importance, it and other similar courses may be included eventually in the regular curriculum.

Ask Seniors to Order Announcements Early

One week from today the sales campaign for Senior graduation announcements will begin and will last until May 1. The announcements will come in two styles: one with leather engraved covers at 50c each, and the other, with paper engraved covers at 25c each. Samples of these will be carried by members of the Announcement Committee and may be inspected at any time. There will also be a display in the lobby of the main building. The committee is composed of the following men:

Art Jens, Chairman,
M. J. Lanka,
F. F. Strassenberg,
C. M. Westerman,
R. H. Windbigler.

Any one of these will be glad to take an order.

This plan gives two months in which to order announcements. However, the committee requests that orders be placed as soon as possible. The work will be lighter, and mistakes fewer, if all orders are in early.

Conditions Must Be Removed This Week

Condition exams start this afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. The civils, under assistant Professor Grafton, will tackle Graphics Problems along with Railway and Highway Location in the civil drafting room. Professor Freud will test out his doubtful chemistry students in Room C, Main.

When conditions have been received in subjects not listed in the following schedule, they can be removed only by special arrangement with the instructor.

PROGRAM CARDS DUE

There are still a few students who have not placed their program cards on file.

The office of Deans requests that these be turned in immediately.

RADIO OPERATORS PLAN TO REBUILD ARMOUR STATION

Changes in the operation of the Institute radio station, W9NV, were made at a meeting of the Armour Radio Association last Friday. The manner of conducting meetings and the time of election of officers was also altered.

The radio transmitting station, now in working order, will be employed to maintain regular schedules with similar units in other colleges and universities. After a definite system is arranged, the transmitter will be rebuilt as a modern, crystal-controlled arrangement, conforming with the best of present day practice. E. G. Squires, the chief operator, will supervise this work.

Meetings of the Association will be held regularly at 10:30 on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. At these meetings it is planned to have round-table discussions of radio problems or a speaker from the general field. In this way, those members who are not too deeply concerned with the subject will find as much to interest them as will the licensed operators. R. Van Osdel and M. Fagen will have charge of these programs.

Code lessons for beginners may possibly be presented if enough individuals desire them.

The constitution of the Association was altered to provide for election of officers at the end of the school year rather than at the beginning.

Bridges, Subject Of Lecture To Civils

A talk on the "Aesthetics of Bridge Design" was given last Friday before the Armour Branch of the Western Society of Engineers by Professor M. B. Wells. Many valuable suggestions as to methods of beautifying steel bridge structures were pointed out for the benefit of the competitors in the nation-wide bridge design contest sponsored by the American Institute of Steel Construction. Slides and projections from book illustrations were used extensively to show the unnecessary clumsiness and lack of pleasing lines in structures put up during the early days of this country. Good looking bridges are so few in number because it is so difficult to duplicate ancient standards of beauty with modern materials and methods of construction. Symmetry of design, use of contrasting materials, adaptation to the site and the carrying out of a general motif were also discussed.

In this contest all the data concerning the bridge is furnished the student. This limits the competition considerably since the structural development will be about the same in every case.

Seniors Now Exhibit Jewelry on Campus

Last Friday afternoon the Seniors received their jewelry from members of the committee. It was previously announced that delivery would be made by last Tuesday.

Backgrounds of both the ring and charm are in black or red onyx on which is mounted the A. I. T. monogram.

A majority of the Seniors are securing rings or charms with the staid black background, possibly to be more in keeping with the Armour colors of black and yellow.

Those who still wish to may order jewelry now and be reasonably sure of delivery before graduation.

Armour Journalists Enjoy Informal Talk By Woodruff

In an intimate informal talk last Thursday evening at the Sigma Kappa Delta house, Harvey T. Woodruff of the Chicago Tribune told the members of the Armour Press Club about his experiences as a sports writer and column conductor.

Right from the beginning the group was put at ease by the homely wit with which Mr. Woodruff responded to Professor Schommer's introduction. From then on the boys were held too interested to smoke the expensive cigars provided for the occasion, which, since this meeting was essentially a smoker, pays great tribute to Mr. Woodruff's knack of making himself interesting to everybody.

With the humble mien so characteristic of all professional men when pressed to outline the opportunities of their calling, he advised against taking up with the newspaper game. Yet this did not prevent him from offering some inside information to those who might do so in spite of the dissuasion.

"The secret of survival as a columnist" he said, "is to let your readers think you're a boob; nobody likes a Smart Aleck, and if

you're a boob they'll say: 'aw, he's one of us,' and read your stuff."

In response to the question as to how his column first found a place in print he explained that it was a successor to "By Heck," a sports feature at the time. His amusing recollections of the vicissitudes of nursing an infant column almost brought down the house, and incidentally brought up such subjects as what the public wants, what the editor will take, and what the writer gets.

Keeping up the theme of reminiscing, Professor Schommer, to whom the credit must be given for obtaining Mr. Woodruff's services as speaker, recounted many lively episodes of his life.

"Jawn," with commendable self-repression and super-human will-power, omitted all references to "the big one that got away," or "the bigger one that didn't."

After the light refreshments, a large group collected about Mr. Woodruff and Professor Schommer and the talk continued. Only the late hour finally brought the evening's entertainment to a close as all present still seemed inclined to listen to Mr. Woodruff's anecdotes.

Engineers Hold Joint Meeting

Production and distribution of electric power from the financial angle was the theme of Mr. Bailey's address at a joint meeting of the A. I. E. E. and the A. S. M. E. which was held last Friday morning in the Assembly Hall.

As Mr. Bailey pointed out, there are many problems which confront those who invest their money in the power production and not the least important is that presented by the interest on the sum invested in equipment. This charge is what is called a fixed charge and as such is present whether the plant operates at full load or stands idle for hours at a time.

In addition to this type of fixed charge is that imposed by replacements of obsolete or worn out equipment and the cost of projecting lines into territory which gives only a light load and consequently little revenue.

The speaker pointed out that it was desirable to keep the apparatus operating on an evenly distributed power factor because this cuts down the unit cost and in this connection he gave a hypothetical resume of the development of the load in a small city as industry begins to creep in.

Particularly interesting was Mr. Bailey's explanation of the operation of so-called mergers in which the houses sell power back and forth among themselves when the load on one of their number becomes higher than capacity. On this topic he gave many illustrations of such co-operation taken from his experience, among those being the explanation of the Chicago-Boston Power hook-up which was headlined in the newspapers some time ago.

Four Arx Initiated At Scarab Banquet

Four new members were initiated into Scarab Fraternity, Friday night, February twenty-seventh, at the Delta Tau Delta house.

The formal initiation was held at seven o'clock with a banquet in honor of the new men following. Those initiated are:

Donald Braun, '32.
Emil Minx, '31.
Raymond Peterson, '32.
Charles Schock, '31.

The banquet was then followed by talks and speeches.

Ralph H. Hammett and W. Lindsey Suter, instructors at the Art Institute, as well as a number of alumni were among those present.

Favor Riflemen To Win Big Meet

Leading by 186 points the Tech sharpshooters are now in the fifth week of a six-week meet for the Illinois championship. McHenry, Des Plaines and Downers Grove follow Armour in the order named. According to the members of the squad victory is certain. In the individual standings Armour is in possession of 1st, 2nd and 4th place, and is tied for third. Last week the squad beat the strong Fairport Rifle Club of Perry, Ohio, 1800-1727, in a postal match. Tonight the men will engage in a shoulder-to-shoulder match with the Morgan Park Military Academy at Morgan Park. Next week the club will shoot against Sunburst, Montana, by way of telegraph.

Any one interested in marksmanship is invited to the club headquarters in the basement below the second entrance to Chapin Hall.

Chance To Earn Tidy Sum Offered Smokers

Fifty thousand dollars, in prizes, is being offered by the Reynolds Tobacco Company, makers of Camel cigarettes, for the best answers to the question: "What significant change has recently been made in the wrapping of the Camel package and what are its advantages to the smoker?"

The contest closes tomorrow, so hurry home now, all you cigarette inhalers and get your answer in the mail tonight.

Calendar

Tuesday, March 3
5:00 P. M.—Orchestra Rehearsal.
2:00 P. M.—Condition Exams—March 3-5-6.

Wednesday, March 4
4:00 P. M.—Swimming—Armour vs. Loyola at Loyola.

Thursday, March 5
4:00 P. M.—Freshman Orchestra practice.

5:00 P. M.—Glee Club rehearsal.
Friday, March 6
10:30 A. M.—Cycle Pictures. Gymnasium and Assembly Hall.

A. I. E. E. meeting, Room D, Mission, talk on "Talking Motion Pictures" by H. Merrill Smith.

Saturday, March 7
8:30 P. M.—Boxing—Armour vs. Bloomington at Bloomington, Ill.

SENIORS TO CHECK CREDITS

Seniors have been requested by the office to see Mr. Kelly about checking credits as soon as convenient. There is still time to see that all credits are properly listed so that in case of some error the student will not be barred from graduation at the last minute.

TALKING MOVIES SUBJECT OF NEXT A. I. E. E. MEETING

Mr. H. Merrill Smith, of Electrical Research Products, Inc., the Sound Projection division of the Western Electric Company, will address the student branch of the A. I. E. E. on "Talking Motion Pictures" next Friday at 10:30 in Room D, Mission.

He will present a general discussion of the operation of recording and projection apparatus as used in the commercial field. The problems with which the sound engineer is confronted will be indicated.

Mr. Smith is Technical Inspector for Western Electric systems in the Chicago area, having for some time been engaged in the survey of numerous theaters throughout the Middle West, supervision of equipment installation, and maintenance work. His wide knowledge of the subject and broad experience in its application should provide background for an instructive lecture.

All who are interested in this subject are welcome to attend the meeting.

Glee Club Practices Home Concert Songs

More men are needed by Dr. Daniel E. Protheroe for the Glee Club. To repeat what appeared in last week's article: it is really an opportunity to be able to receive vocal training from such a noted director as Dr. Protheroe and every student who has the time should jump at the chance.

The Glee Club is holding practice every Thursday night at five o'clock in the Assembly Hall. New selections are being chosen and learned in preparation for the Annual Home Concert, which is to be held about May 21 during Junior Week.

Among the selections which will comprise the Glee Club's part in the Spring Concert are "A Little Closer Harmony" by Geoffrey O'Hara and "Italian Salad" by Richard Genée.

The former is a take-off on the quaint American invention commonly known as the "swipe" or barber-shop harmony. The consecutive fifths and other "grammatical" errors in this piece are not composed, but are as they sounded to Mr. O'Hara, and which he jotted down at various times.

The latter is a musical jest in the form of the finale to an Italian opera. It is composed of most all the musical terms in use which makes it very instructive as well as amusing to the listener.

Annual H. K. N. Essay Contest Announced

Eta Kappa Nu, honorary electrical engineering fraternity, is conducting an essay contest open to sophomore electricals. The papers, of from 2,000 to 4,000 words in length, are to be written on some electrical topic. Either a copy of the Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers or its equivalent will be given to the author of the winning essay.

The essays are to be given to Professor Richardson not later than April 1, 1931. They will be merited on subject matter, quality of presentation, and form. The judges are:

R. Patzelt, '31.
W. Drigot, '31.
W. E. Penfold, '31.
T. B. O'Connor, '31.
M. Fagen, '32.

EDITOR OF CYCLE GIVES SCHEDULE OF TEAM PHOTOS

Pictures to Be Taken in Assembly Hall and In Gym

PROGRAM COMPLETE

A. H. Jens, editor-in-chief of the 1931 Cycle, has arranged a schedule for the taking of the first Cycle pictures on March 6, 1931, both in the gymnasium and the Assembly Hall. He has worked out a definite schedule of times that must be rigidly adhered to in order that the program may be complete.

Formal group and individual pictures of the basketball, boxing, golf, and swimming teams will be taken in the gymnasium while the pictures of the orchestra, Glee Club, and Stresses and Strains will be taken in the Assembly Hall.

To Snap Team Captains

In addition to the group pictures the following individual pictures will be taken: boxing captain, boxing manager, swimming captain, swimming manager, golf captain, golf manager, orchestra conductor, Glee Club conductor, the director of Stresses and Strains, and individual pictures of the basketball players. Athletic teams must appear in their uniforms while the musical organizations must appear in their regular formal dress.

Schedule

The schedule of time for these pictures is given below:

Gymnasium
2:45—1931 Basketball Team.
2:15—1931 Boxing Team.
2:25—1930 Golf Team.
2:35—1931 Swimming Team.

Assembly Hall

1:30—Orchestra and conductor.
1:40—Glee Club and conductor.
1:50—Stresses and Strains and director.

Fire Protects Learn Details of Life Work

Mr. R. E. Vernon described the work and organization of the fire prevention associations to the Fire Protects at the meeting of the F. P. E. S. held Friday, February 27.

Of all the deaths in the home from accidents, thirty-three per cent of them are caused by fire. Most of these fires are started by the occupants trying to use gasoline or kerosene to start fires quickly, or for cleaning purposes.

The industrial corporations, etc., are also working hard to cut down fire losses. For instance the Youngstown Steel and Tube Company cut their fire alarms from 2,274 to 500 in three years.

According to Mr. Vernon the whole country is now vitally interested in preventing fires and are everywhere extending their efforts to reduce the loss per capita.

Some very interesting pictures of scenes of fires were passed around at the close of the meeting.

President Wilde reminded the Sophomore fire protectors that they must hand in their names in order to get their shingles.

Freshman Smoker To Be Held March 13

In order to successfully promote the plans for the freshman smoker, the date of this event has been postponed from March 6th to March 13th. This was necessary because members of an orchestra, recently formed among freshmen for the purpose of offering entertainment at the affair, wanted more time for practice.

L. A. Callen, social chairman, has announced that tickets are now on sale and may be procured from him. Architects may purchase theirs from W. Krol.

The price of tickets is twenty-five cents.