



Armour Tech News



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Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois

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THREE RESEARCH ENTERPRISES NOW BEING CONDUCTED

Domestic Stokers, Coal, and Oil Are Being Investigated

HEADED BY T. POULTER

With three extensive research projects already under way, Dr. Thomas C. Poulter, senior scientist of the Second Byrd Antarctic Expedition, assumed charge of the Research Foundation of Armour Institute. Appointed this month as director of the Research Foundation by Dr. Willard E. Hotchkiss, president of the Foundation, Dr. Poulter's term as director began the fifteenth of this month. Many new activities of a research and experimental nature are being anticipated by the Research Foundation for the coming year to add to the projects that have been studied since the Foundation's inception last April.

Conduct Oil Research

First of the three projects to be organized is the Universal Oil Products Company Research Project. In a laboratory on the fourth floor of the main building, experiments on making gasoline and other oil products are being conducted by Dr. V. Komarevsky, director of the project.

The principal object of the work will be to discover catalytic agents which will aid reactions in cracking crude oil to make gasoline. In addition, experiments are being made on

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W. C. Krafft Resigns as Coach at Armour

William C. Krafft, coach of basketball and baseball, has recently resigned, according to an announcement of the Armour Board of Trustees. Mr. Krafft, who has been at Armour for fifteen years and had charge of the gym classes, plans to devote more time to his insurance business now. His successor or successors have not yet been named, but several names are under consideration.

Ensz Returns From Studies at Harvard

Mr. Herbert Ensz, professor in the department of civil engineering, returned last week from a seven months' stay at Harvard University. Having secured a scholarship through the efforts of Dean Heald, Professor Ensz studied the subject of soil mechanics with some of the most eminent men in this comparatively new field. Under the direction of Professor Terzaghi often called the "father of modern soil mechanics", investigations were made on soils to determine their physical properties.

While at Harvard, Professor Ensz attended the International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundations held in the latter part of June. He praised highly the proceedings of the conference, and recommends the volumes to any students interested in soil mechanics.

The science has been growing for the past 12 years and has served to predetermine safe methods of ground support, to design foundations whose stability must be assured against settlement, and to show how earth dams can be safeguarded from percolation and subsidence. All theories are considered tentative, and have been taught with this viewpoint.

It has been found that no formulas which are applied to steel and concrete can be used in attempting to prescribe building, settlement, or piping in dams. Soil mechanics, however, is actually put to work in these projects. According to Professor Ensz, "Already construction amounting to several hundred million dollars is being controlled by knowledge derived from the new science."

Professor Ensz left Armour on February 1, 1936, and had the privilege of devoting the summer to laboratory work at Harvard.

Pick Group Leaders to Advise Freshmen

As has been the custom in past years, the incoming freshmen will be divided into groups for the purpose of being enlightened on school customs and activities by junior and senior group leaders. These group leaders have been chosen and are scheduled to meet in Dean Heald's office this afternoon.

These group leaders answer any questions which the freshman can think of, and explain the sophomore-freshman relations, fraternity rushing, participation in athletics, and all school affairs.

The men selected are: H. J. Bodnar, D. N. Brissman, W. A. Chapin, W. J. Chelgren, C. W. Dunbar, E. A. Heike, P. M. Martin, S. M. Miner, F. X. Popper, A. H. Ramp, P. R. Schultz, and J. D. Sheehan.

ARMOUR TO HAVE LARGE FACULTY FOR COMING YEAR

Twelve new men will bolster the faculty during the coming school year with the greatest change in the architectural department. Increased enrollment due to the co-op students and to the regular day school students, and a desire to decrease the teaching load have brought about many of these changes.

Mr. Louis Skidmore, Chicago architect and chief of design of a Century of Progress, succeeds Mr. E. H. Reed as director of the department of architecture. Mr. Reed has resigned in order to devote all his time to his architectural practice. Mr. J. Loeb, a graduate of Armour in 1921 and a member of the Advisory Committee of Architects will assist Mr. Skidmore in administering the department.

Senior critic, Mr. C. G. Beersman and Mr. E. A. Merrill, instructor in architectural construction, have resigned their positions in the architectural department to devote full time to professional practice. Mr. S. H. Harper, a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and employed in the office of the state architect will be an instructor in architectural construction.

Professor John E. Snow of the electrical engineering department, who became a member of the faculty of Armour Institute in 1894 and was the senior ranking professor in the school's service has retired. A new instructor, Mr. E. A. Kent, who comes from Kansas State College, will take some of the classes in this department.

Under the present expansion program of the institute, Dr. H. A. Giddings has been appointed as assistant professor of mathematics and Dr. G. C. Webber has been appointed as instructor in the same department. Dr. Giddings comes from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his Ph.D. and taught mathematics. Dr. Webber received his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago

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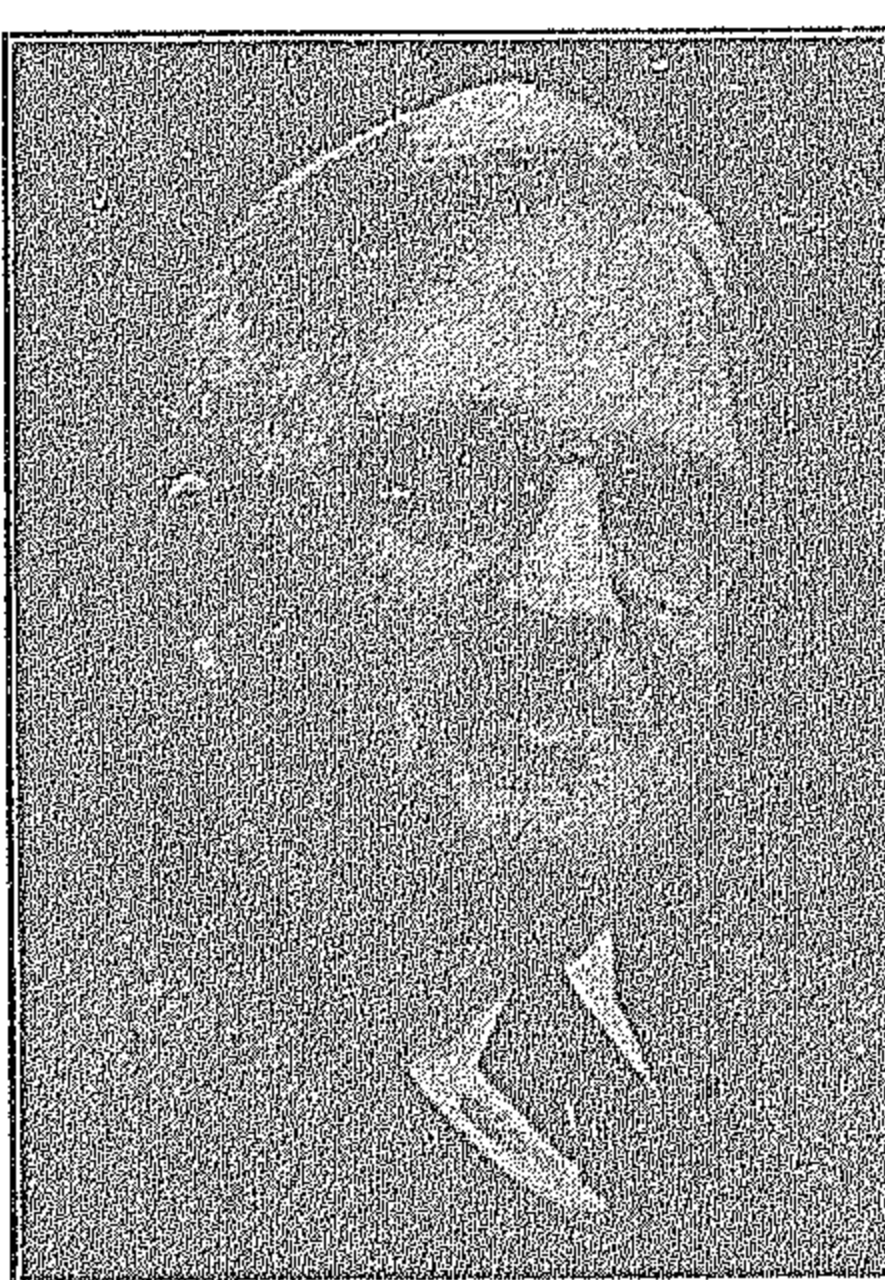
Wanted!

Applications for positions on the reportorial staff of the *Armour Tech News* will be received during lunch hour Thursday, September 24 in the offices of the *News*, fourth entrance, second floor, Chapin hall. Applications for the photographer's position will also be taken. Freshmen and sophomore students are eligible.

While a knowledge of journalistic-english is not imperative, a willingness to do conscientious work is a definite requirement. Freshmen who are interested in newspaper work, or who think they may become interested, are urged not to wait till the second semester or the second year to commence working for the *News*.

New men on the staff will have their choice of working on the editorial staff, the sports staff, or the business staff.

President's Message



Welcome, Class of 1940!

Forty-seven other classes have come as freshmen to Armour Institute of Technology before you came. Three of those classes are still here to join with the faculty in passing on to you the heritage of winnowed and ripened tradition, which should become a part of a man of Armour and make him receptive to all the potential benefits his college education here can bring.

Every class of all the forty-seven which preceded you has contributed something toward making Armour what it is, every class has had a part in preserving the best of Armour traditions. You too will have opportunity to make a discriminating contribution to Armour traditions and Armour life. Your teachers and all the Armour men who have preceded you will hope and expect that Armour will be a better place for the young men who will be Armour students in years to come because of what you do while you are here. Even more, they will hope that you, by your eagerness to profit by your study, by the inspiration of your teachers, and by the qualities of those with whom you cooperate in student affairs, will take away from Armour four years hence an ability to serve your generation nobly. The years of your professional service will be a time in which roundly educated engineers will be greatly needed. We shall all strive as best we can to help you prepare to meet that need.

A hearty welcome is yours!
WILLARD E. HOTCHKISS,
President.
Sept. 22, 1936.

Aptitude Tests Are Given to Freshmen

For the third time in the history of the school, entering freshmen will be given orientation tests which will consist of aptitude tests in mathematics, general science, reading, and English vocabulary. A series of general psychological tests will be included. All freshmen will be required to take these tests which will be given Tuesday, September 22, from 10:00 a. m. to 12:30 p. m., and from 2:00 to 4:30 p. m. on the fifth floor of the main building.

The tests this year will be somewhat different from those used in past years. They come from a variety of sources, two being published by the American Council in Education, and two being furnished by Iowa State University. This will be a strictly objective type of examination which is intended to show aptitude rather than the factual knowledge of the student. It will have no effect on the entrance of freshmen since they will be already enrolled when they take the exam.

The committee giving the tests consists of Dr. C. A. Tibbals, chairman; Dr. W. C. Krathwohl, technical director; and Professors W. B. Fulghum, B. E. Goetz, L. J. Lease, and W. H. Seegrist. These men will be assisted by several other members of the faculty.

Tibbals Appointed Assistant Dean

To Assist Freshmen in Choice of Vocation

In keeping with the present expansion program of the Institute, Dr. C. A. Tibbals was appointed assistant to the Dean. Dr. Tibbals, who is professor of analytical chemistry, will take over his new duties immediately. In addition, he will teach freshman chemistry lecture and recitation and the chemical hazards course.

Increased enrollment and more calls upon the service of Dean H. T. Heald has made necessary the appointment of Dr. Tibbals. In addition to cooperating with the Dean, Dr. Tibbals will direct a personnel service for the guidance of the freshmen and other students.

Dr. Tibbals, who is fifty-five years old, spent his undergraduate days at the University of Wisconsin, where he was also instructor in chemistry from 1902 to 1906. He received his Ph.D. there in 1908 and in the same year joined the staff of the Institute as an instructor in chemistry, serving as an assistant professor until 1910.

During the war, Dr. Tibbals served in the United States Army as Captain in the Ordnance Division. Returning to the Institute in 1919, he accepted the position of associate professor of analytical chemistry, and in 1928 he was promoted to the rank of full professor in the same department.

DR. T. C. POULTER TO DIRECT NEW RESEARCH WORK

Former Senior Scientist of Byrd Expedition

Dr. Thomas C. Poulter second in command and senior scientist of the Second Byrd Antarctic Expedition, arrived at Armour last week to take up his duties as Director of the newly-organized Research Foundation.

Dr. Poulter, although still a young man, has had a great breadth of experience. He received his B.S. at Iowa Wesleyan College in 1923 and his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1933. In 1935 he was awarded the honorary degree of Sc.D. by Iowa Wesleyan College.

He has had considerable experience as an educator, lecturer, and research worker. He taught at Iowa Wesleyan Academy as professor of physics, 1916-18; at the University of Chicago as assistant in chemistry, 1923-25; and at the Iowa Wesleyan College as assistant in biology, chemistry, and physics, 1923; as head of the department of chemistry, 1925-27; as head of the department of physics, 1927-33; and as head of the division of physical sciences, mathematics, and astronomy, 1933. He lectured before fourteen state universities.

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Seven Seniors Given Honor Scholarships

Seven seniors have attained distinction by becoming the recipients of half scholarships which were awarded by Dr. Willard E. Hotchkiss, president of the Institute. The winners of the scholarships are: M. H. Beckman, Arch.; W. B. Graupner, E. E.; S. M. Miner, M. E.; J. J. Penn, Eng. Sc.; H. M. Ross, C. E.; and E. A. Heike, Ch. E.

Each of these seniors, representatives of every department but fire protection engineering, is a scholastic leader in his department.

Graupner and Penn are the recipients of the Bernard E. Sunny Scholarship; while Miner and Heike benefit through the Isadore S. Prenner scholarship. The John H. Hamline scholarship was awarded to Goldsmith, and the Malek A. Loring scholarship to Beckman. Ross is the recipient of the Edward A. Elcock scholarship.

REMODELED AND IMPROVED SCHOOLROOM FACILITIES READY FOR STUDENT USE

Program Will Continue Over Number of Summers

TO IMPROVE LIBRARY

Talk current for fifteen or more years has been transformed into action. Armour's physical status has been improved, due primarily to the abilities of two men, Dr. Willard E. Hotchkiss and Professor Harold A. Vagtberg. Through their efforts, plans too often out of the reach of the Institute have given way to action.

The manifestations of these plans are everywhere, as the school presents a definitely improved and neat appearance. Chapin and Science Halls and the chemistry laboratories attest to this fact.

Improvements have been made, and what is more encouraging, will continue to be made. A definite plan has been arranged. Each summer the buildings will be improved and remodeled as the need for remodeling arises.

Since this summer's remodeling operations take the "major bite" into the total costs, improvements for the following years will be easier. The feeling current among the faculty, officers of the Institute, and trustees is that should the school move, remodeling costs of the old buildings would be insignificant and negligible as compared to the moving costs.

Next summer the chemical department will definitely see changes. Facilities will be enlarged for the chemical engineering laboratory and all of the freshman chemistry laboratory will be equipped with the same type of lockers as those in the recently installed section. These moves will effect

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Ten Freshmen Receive Scholarship for Year

Of the 132 men who took the competitive examinations for the Freshman Scholarship awards last May, ten were awarded full scholarships. The men were given a three hour examination in mathematics and in either chemistry or physics, or both. In addition each was privately interviewed. Character and the applicant's high school record, together with his ability to use English correctly, entered into the judgment of the scholarship committee. The committee was headed by Dr. C. A. Tibbals and included Dean H. T. Heald, S. F. Bibb, W. E. Kelly, W. H. Seegrist, and S. E. Winston.

Those who received scholarships were for the most part Chicagoans. The complete list of the scholarship winners is as follows:

D. I. Dykstra, Central High, Nicoma, Okla.; John R. Gerhardt, Oak Park; Joseph H. Greenberg, Crane; Walter H. Kahl, St. Leo; Clarence Laskowski, Proviso; John M. Lenoir, Senn; Henry F. Newman, Lane; Philip I. Robinson, Tilden; Chas. J. Ryan, Jr., Calumet, and William F. Yeager, Evanston.

A freshman assembly will be held today at 9:00 a. m. in the Mission Assembly Hall. After the assembly all freshmen will report to the fifth floor drafting room in the Main Building for the Orientation Tests.

The course in Heat and Radiation, physics 301, will be offered on Saturdays from 8:30 to 12:30. This is primarily a laboratory course in temperature and heat measurements; lectures will cover the experimental work. The course is open to juniors and seniors as an elective. Credit—2 semester hours. Those who wish to take the course should register with Professor Thompson on Tuesday.

Chapin Hall Heads List of Far Reaching Changes

GET NEW EQUIPMENT

Opening officially yesterday, after a summer of bee-hive activity, Armour presents a new and somewhat different appearance. An extensive program of remodeling and redecorating has just been completed. Professor Harold J. Vagtberg, Superintendent of Grounds and Buildings, had complete charge of the program.

Starting in the latter part of June with the placing of 20,000 feet of a new concrete sidewalk by the W.P.A., the large remodeling program took effect.

Chapin Rooms Enlarged

Next on the program and now completed, was the first floor of Chapin Hall, which was completely remodeled and redecorated. Chapin Hall will now be able to accommodate a greater number of students in larger and more pleasant classroom.

West of the long hall running from the third to last entrance are instructors' and departmental offices. To the east are the classrooms. New flooring and modern electrical fixtures overhead enhance the classrooms and offices.

Shortly after work on Chapin Hall started, the organic chemistry laboratory was enlarged some thirty per cent, to accommodate more of the sophomore organic students. Steel lockers, designed originally for the organic chem. laboratory, but used in the freshman lab, were moved to the fourth floor laboratory. By enlarging the laboratory and installing the new lockers, accommodations for 48 more students were made. In the freshman laboratory, four new tables having 96 lockers were installed, thereby taking care of the increased chemistry enrollment.

Windows Bricked Up

On the third floor Main, Science Hall showed similar improvements. The two west windows have been bricked up to keep out the noise of the passing trains. The demonstration platform has been enlarged and placed adjacent to the west wall. New seats have been secured and are arranged so that the two columns are in the center aisle. The women's rest

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Jobs Secured by Most of '36 Class

Ninety-four percent of the 163 men who graduated last June are employed at salaries five to ten percent higher than in 1935 according to figures released by the placement bureau last week. At this time last year 54 percent of the 1935 graduates were employed, but this figure was later increased to 95 percent.

Mr. W. N. Setterberg reports three to five times as many companies sending representatives seeking interview with seniors this year as compared with 1935. Starting salaries this year range from \$100 to \$130 per month depending on the size of the company, the kind of work, and the qualifications of the candidate.

Three departments, the civil, fire protection, and science are now employed 100 percent. Through the National Board of Underwriters, the fire protects always have been quite well situated. In the years since 1928, however, the civil department has been toward the bottom. The increase this year was caused by the Illinois Highway department which absorbed most of the men. Increases in the other departments were correspondingly favorable, especially in the architectural department, which with twenty-two graduates each year increased from 37 percent employed in 1935 to 82 percent employed.