

SIDELINES

It will make interesting reading some fifty years from now to see what the historians say about Adolph Hitler and his gang, with their European antics. Since the time of Caesar only one other individual has scored as many victories in as little time, and that was Napoleon Bonaparte. What an interesting contrast exists between Caesar, Bonaparte and Hitler. The first was a man of tremendous initiative, energy and organization. A general who led his troops into the wilds of the then Nomadic central Europe, and underwent the perils and discomforts that they did. Bonaparte, though physically small, was a military genius with a lust for power and an ability to acquire and profitably administrate it. Standing on a site of vantage he personally directed his armies, often against great odds, to win consistent victories.

Adolph Hitler on the other hand is not a great general, has none of the forceful and powerful characteristics associated with leaders, and most certainly does not have the personality that makes him popular with his associates. It is said of Caesar and Napoleon that they knew personally most every officer in their ranks. Hitler meets practically no one, and has few, if any real friends. Hitler far excels his predecessors in one respect. He is gifted with the golden tongue of oratory, and with his powerful speeches he has swayed Germany's masses into supporting him. The radio has greatly assisted him, though his strongest appeal is through personally witnessing one of his hypnotic flabusters. From a personal angle, Caesar, and especially Bonaparte, were fond of the fair sex. Hitler is no Romeo, and has about as much S. A. as a clam. Except for a Hearst news flash once in a while, the man has no Valentine aspirations. Weak, small, anemic in appearance, nervous and temperamental, Hitler, it seems, would make a far better sanitarium case than the virtual ruler of the lives of central Europe's millions. And there are those who hold it would be far better were he in a sanitarium with the other psychopaths.

What then, is there about this man that has brought him up from the ranks of a house painter to being the most influential personality in Europe? Caesar slew the Helviti and Nervu by the scores to attain his territorial conquests through the Gallie wars. Bonaparte sacrificed the lives of thousands of Frenchmen before he whipped the Italians, Germans, and Austrians into line with his Continental policy. Hitler has had no open warfare and yet has torn up significant treaties ("scraps of paper"), rearmad at will, and helped himself to Austria and Czechoslovakia. To accomplish these questionable ends it has not been his soldiers who have died, but in their stead thousands of intellectuals of the church, school and profession, as well as innumerable Jews who have not fitted into the scheme of Aryanism have had their lives and property taken from them.

One explanation for this phenomenal rise of power comes in the unusual combination of circumstances that presents itself today. German nationalism for ten years following the war sought something to cling to, and unfortunately found it in Hitler's brown shirts. German, and foreign capital as well, sponsored the rise of a powerful and aggressive party in Deutschland in order that an equality of nations might again exist and bring about rearmament. In previous centuries too, those peoples being oppressed wrongfully by superior exploiters were defended and assisted by their neighbors. Today the big boys sell out the underdogs and international morality is a myth. The close of an economic frontier and the rise of conflicting social and political ideologies in a world aching with economic depression has also greatly influenced the life of Europe in the past decade.

Caesar was assassinated by his Senate when it was felt he had outlived his usefulness, Napoleon's subjects revolted and drove him into confinement and consequent death. What the fates will do to Adolph's threads is another interesting matter which historians may also discuss some fifty years from now.

E. H. W.

Juicers Learn of Onion Juice

Electrical engineers who have never looked into the field of biology cannot know what they are missing. A fascinated group of junior "juicers" were all ears in last Thursday's A.C. circuit class as Dr. Reed told of opportunities in this phase of science. His own experience has been intensely interesting.

It seems that the biology department at the University of Texas was in a quandry. An onion root that had been nurtured carefully in a salt solution was generating an electric current, and sending it in all directions through its bath. A puzzling question arose: How much power did the onion root develop? The electrical engineering and mathematics department were called in. For weeks they worked on the problem. Reams of paper were wasted, heads turned gray, nervous breakdowns resulted. But finally a solution was obtained.

Assuming the onion root to be an elongated ellipsoid of revolution, successive integrations were performed between the limits of hither and yon. Before long a Fourier's series was brought into play; this was enough to subdue any onion root. With a weak "scrunch" the onion root succumbed, and lay helpless,—caught in the net of higher mathematics.

How proud the professors were of their achievement! But their triumph was short lived. Dr. Reed, who had played no small part in the proceedings was boasting before one of his classes. "Ah!" remarked one of his students, "the solution is entirely incorrect. You have neglected the periodic nature of complex functions. Elliptic entities, oscillating empirical energies, rotating tensors, and undulating spherical harmonics must all be given due consideration."

Full realization then dawned on Dr. Reed. It took him two weeks to recover from the shock and he has never been the same since. But men with a stronger constitution may be able to survive repeated trials of this nature. He suggests that students who have gone through four years at Armour might well be qualified to make the field of electro-biology their life work.

Tokio Chem Prof Visits Armour Tech Laboratory

Dr. Sakae Yagi, Professor of Chemical Engineering of Tokio University, Tokyo, Japan, was a recent visitor at the Department of Chemical Engineering. Dr. Yagi is in this country with the purpose of obtaining ideas in regard to chemical engineering instruction which may be used in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Tokio, Japan.

Like many other visitors at the Institute, he was particularly interested in the kind and quantity of laboratory work done in chemical engineering.

POWER CONFERENCE—

(Continued from page one)

Mr. H. Halpern of Commonwealth Edison of Chicago and Mr. G. G. Post of the Wisconsin Electric Power Co. will present papers on electric power generation, transmission, and distribution. Central station technique will be discussed by Mr. A. P. Bailey, of Commonwealth Edison of Chicago, and an analysis of rural electrification will be made by Mr. B. E. Miller of the Wisconsin Power and Light Co. and Mr. V. M. Murray of the Wisconsin Development Authority.

Present Papers on Metallurgy

The metals field will be covered by Mr. J. C. Hodge of Babcock and Wilcox Co. and Mr. J. J. Kanter of the Crane Co., who will discuss high temperature metallurgy and allowable design stresses for welded parts respectively.

Other papers will include two studies on air pollution, one by Mr. R. V. Kleinschmidt of A. D. Little Co. and the other by Mr. Lloyd R. Stowe, Director of the Chicago Air Pollution Survey; a commentary on railway motive power by Mr. H. P. Allstrand of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Co.; a paper on large power plant development by Mr. C. G. Daniels of the Commonwealth and Southern Corp., Mr. A. L. Rice of "Power Plant Engineering," and Mr. R. V. Terry of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co.

Caterpillar Tractor Co. Employs Peoria Co-ops

Professor Lease's office today issued a report on the group of cooperative students working in Peoria. This group, all employed by the same company, the Caterpillar Tractor company, now totals fifteen men. Of these, nine are freshmen students and six are in the sophomore class. They make up the largest of the out of town group enrolled in the course.

The attention given the coop course by this company is typical of the keen interest shown by a great number of progressive companies in the Chicago area. In some concerns the student must take a quiz as he leaves one department for another and frequently he is advanced systematically through every department in the plant while he is on his working weeks. Knowledge and experience are 'plastered' on him at every turn.

The Caterpillar Tractor company prefers to select its co-op students from its own employees. The candidates must spend at least three months with the company before they are considered eligible for the course. The company then holds preliminary examinations at the plant to pick the men best qualified. Those selected are then given the questionable pleasure of passing before Professor Lease's battery of quizzes and tests.

KNOW YOUR PROFS

Wm. A. Pearl

"Say, where's Pearl? I gotta see him!"

"He's down in Harvey, Illinois today. Could I help you?"

"No, it's Pearl I gotta see. Fer the luvva mike! Harvey! No wonder I couldn't find him—Well, tell him I hafta see him tomorrow."

"Very well, sir. He's busy until four p.m., though, unless you catch him between classes."

"Hm—What's his program tomorrow?"

"Call for Dr. Pearl—Call for Dr. Pearl—"

"Looking for Pearl? I saw him go into the Research Bilding a minute ago . . ."

"Oh, there you are, doc. Just the man I want. Can I talk with you a few minutes?"

"Gee, I have about thirty calls to make during lunch, and I'll be busy until eleven tonight. I don't know how I can do it today. How about next week?"

"Well, I finally contacted him, although he was due in the city in about twenty minutes. But what can you expect of the man that is professor of mechanical engineering, director of shops, and a member of the Research Foundation at Armour Institute, besides being director of engineering of the stoker division of the Whiting Corporation of Harvey, Illinois?"

A native of the state of Washington, Dr. Pearl received his education at Washington State College. In 1916 he received his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering, and the following school-year he became instructor in mechanical engineering for his Alma Mater. After one year there, he became machinist, then apprentice instructor, and finally estimator of the engineering department at the United States Navy Yards at Puget Sound.

He then went back to Washington State College to be made Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering. After four years in this capacity, he completed his thesis, and was presented with his M.S. degree. For a year after that he owned his own shop in Portland. He then became connected with the Benson Polytechnic School in Portland as head of the gas engine and aviation departments.

After eight years there, he received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan, and a year later, in 1935, he came to Armour Institute as Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Engineering Shops. A year later he became engineer in charge of production of the underfeed stoker division of the Whiting corporation.

Last year several things happened all at once. Dr. Pearl was made Pro-

MOVIES—

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"Progress on Parade," a General Motors research picture; "New Romance of Glass," the phenomena of the manufacture of glass; and "Big Timber," the story of lumber from the tree to the finished wood.

On May Twenty-first, after the scholarship exams in the morning, the participants will be able to see the movies in the afternoon. The programs for May have not yet been made out, but no less an interesting schedule than April's has been assured.

Credit for organization of the Saturday movie programs goes to Irving Footlik, M.E. '39. Mr. Footlik has recently secured the cooperation of some of the members of the public speaking classes. Members have volunteered to visit their old high schools and attempt to interest principals in movies.

Professor of Mechanical Engineering, still retaining his position as shop director, at Armour. At the same time the Underfeed and Overfeed Stoker divisions of the Whiting Corporation were united, and Dr. Pearl was made Director of Engineering of the combined division.

Man! I'm sweating at the thought of the work he has to do, for this isn't all! He is a member of the Research Foundation at Armour, as well as of the Engineering Experiment Station Staff of Washington State College.



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