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April 29, 1941

OPEN HOUSE ...

On May 5 the doors of Illinois Institute will be thrown open for the first time to thousands of visitors coming from far and wide to watch the wonders of science and engineering unfold. Although Open House has been previously held at Armour, this is the first time that the facilities of both schools are to be utilized in putting on a public exhibit.

The combined influence of the merger, the expansion program, and the Engineering Defense Training program will undoubtedly result in the GREAT-EST show ever to be staged in the existing plant. The E.D.T., itself, will bring several thousand more people to IIT then were ever accommodated before at the Armour Open House exhibits. The publicity resulting from the merger and the building expansion plan will certainly bring many hundreds of people who had never been previously interested in the school. People whose interests in the solution of technical problems have been greatly stimulated by the grave world situation will undoubtedly constitute a large part of the huge congregation expected.

This year, Open House will not only have as its purpose the edification of the public, but it will endeavor to show the world the great possibilities Illinois Institute has as a focus of engineering activities. Since it is quite essential and appropriate that this theme be used for Open House, it is only logical to assume that the quality of this year's exhibits must hit a new high. This, in most part, demands almost unanimous student participation in the event. If we are to have the success which we are so anticipating with this, IIT's first Open House, each student must carry his share of the burdenous responsibility which such an event requires.

s. D.B.

THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

While virtually all of the research problems in the Armour Research Foundation are intended to lead directly to industrial applications, some of the investigations are of a more basic nature removed by one or two intermediate investigative stages from actual utilization in commercial production. This is especially true in the chemical field, where it may be necessary to develop certain underlying chemical principles or to gather a mass of information on properties of materials before work can begin on actual plant application of a new process.

Although it is often difficult to distinguish a sharp line between the two types of studies, it can be said broadly that the more basic chemical problems are handled by the chemistry division while the industrial applications fall to the chemical engineering division described in an earlier issue. The two groups naturally collaborate closely in many projects.

Until recently headed by Dr. R. H. Manley who last month began his duties at the Peoria laboratory of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the activities of the chemistry division are now under the immediate direction of Dr. T. C. Poulter. The staff includes Dr. Cyril Evans, Dr. J. R. Coffman, R. J. Foster and L. E. Anderson.

The laboratories of this division consist of three units in the main Research Foundation building. Two are located on the second floor, one an exceedingly well equipped general chemical laboratory and the other the newly established biological and bacteriological laboratory for which additional equipment is now being obtained. The third unit is a basement laboratory whose ceiling is two stories high to permit installation of special apparatus from time to time. This laboratory is used principally in the preparation and testing of large batches of new materials, plastic compositions and the like.

Research in the chemistry division at present and in recent months includes investigations on zein, and other industrial proteins, meat processing, shellac, candy, clay pipe joining compounds, petroleum, starch, rubber molds, erasers, fluorescent compounds, rock-wool, activated charcoal and hydrogenation methods.

The work of the chemistry and chemical engineering divisions furnish numerous striking examples of the manner in which various Research Foundation facilities are brought to bear upon a single problem. In several instances projects in the chemical field have been separated into two phases, the chemists working on basic aspects concurrently with the development of the industrial applications by the chemical engineering staff.

Paul Andres Speaks At Smoker

Paul G. Andres' wide acquaintance with some of the nation's outstanding scientists and engineers stood him in good stead last Friday at the AIEE's gala annual smoker in the Student Union when, as featured speaker, he discussed some of the unique personal characteristics that have brought some of these men to fame and fortune.

Feeling that a thorough technical knowledge is so often only part of the story that tells the rise of men to the egnineering genius classification, Mr. Andres spiced his talk with many intimate anecdotes concerning such personalities as the great Steinmetz. More than a little evidence was presented to demonstrate that the peculiar factors of a non-comforming temperament, pure chance, and even severe physical handicaps have been powerful influences in evolving some of the world's great engineering accomplishments.

Upon conclusion of Mr Andres' talk, the engineers retired to the lounge to polish off with considerable alacrity a bountiful supply of cokes, cake, coffee, candy, and cigars along with a few games of bridge and pinochle. The evening was closed with a half hour of moving pictures.

Musical Clubs Present Concerts

A two day trip will be taken by the members of the musical clubs this Thursday and Friday when they will present a total of five concerts—two of which will be broadcast—in the cities of Rockford, Illinois; Kenosha, Wisconsin; and Milwaukee.

Starting at 7 a.m., Thursday, they will head for Rockford, where they have been invited to present a full concert at the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club, to be held in the Nelson Hotel, at noon. Following this program will be a fifteen minute broadcast, and at four-thirty, they will be escorted into the presence of one hundred girls from Rockford College, at the Blue Room of the Faust Hotel, for a tea-dance.

Six o'clock will see the boys in a concert in the lobby of the hotel, and the last part of this will be broadcast. The evening, according to Mr. Erickson, "will be free for the men."

Arz News

Sherlok, the mad Russian, has attempted to intimidate one of my soph cohorts by threatening to relinquish his assistance on a project which involves said cohort. If these subversive activities do not cease, I personally shall enter the feud by publishing certain items concerning Sherlok which I have heretofore witheld for the sake of Sherlok's good (?) name.

Last Wednesday, Michaelsen had lunch with Maggie and supper with Elizabeth Wright—sure is nice (but expensive) to have one gal in the day and another at night. Mike sure has been a demon lately, probably making up for the time he lost while acting as president of the Women Haters Club.

Have you noticed that contented smile on Schneider's pan? Something happened and there was Schnitz on a date with good of Flossie the First. Obviously, a successful evening.

After a lengthy stroll along the lake front Hasskarl reluctantly returned to class (in body but not spirit) muttering something about slate green waters, balmy breezes, and billowy white clouds rolling across placid blue skies. Hasky, the lone woman hater of the junior class, regards this sort of thing

as being much more satisfying than gals. He may have something there, at least it's less expensive.

Scotty Todd and Abe Frelich have foresaken school for soft ball...

Why was Daly trying to sell a beautiful gold watch for \$2.00-Jack Randall finally admits that the inch marks on his well worn scale have something in common with the "little man that wasn't there" . . . The entire soph class flunked a physics exam, tsk, tsk!

Congrats to Center and Spitz on their pledging to Sphinx. Incidentally, these are the first Arx in many a moon to reap this honor.

The Arx are finally coming to.
One of the boys recently presented
Honey Chile with a gardenia.

Speaking of Honey, she thinks engineers talk too much (thank goodness for that)—every one knows about every date she has.

P.S. The latest was Tom Brown.

(Ed's Note: Who writes this column, anyway?)

Great news for the juniors. John R. Weese has finally agreed to give up impersonations of fog horns, sea monsters, lions, Hitlers, Mussolinios, and other undesirables.

GUS TOPPO.

Curiculum Changes-

(continued from page two)
low one or more electives to be
taken each semester during the
student's last three years. This
change will only effect freshmen
entering next fall.

The new degree in Industrial Engineering and Administration will prove of tremendous importance because of the fact that this will be the only degree of its kind given in the vicinity of Chicago. It will cater to the ever increasing demands of this most important industrial center. Professor Dutton is to be the head of this new department which will give special training in problems of production and industrial management. Much time will be devoted to the business and administrative aspects of engineering. Such subjects as business law, organization and control, statistics, cost analysis, marketing, labor problems, etc. will be fully dealt with as well as the usual technical aspects of engineering.

Because of demand for men trained to deal with aeronautical work, options will be offered to both students taking mechanical and civil engineering. The curriculum will remain the same during the first two years. However in the junior and senior years, many new courses relating to aircraft design such as aeronautical engines and laboratory, meteorology, airplane stress analysis, etc. will be given. The civils will be given a special course in airport layout and design.

Additional options are to be given in communications, for those in the electrical department. Certain hitherto required courses may be dropped in favor of courses dealing with radio and television, and high frequuency currents, by those students so interested.

Lastly, the English department intends to make these changes: Freshmen will be required to take English for three hours a week, instead of the previous two for one year. In the sophomore year, only three hours for one semester will be required, this to be in the form of an elective, to be chosen from some twenty diverse subjects, embracing the history and background of either literature, science or of a foreign language.

Rental Library-

(continued from page three)
Bell Tolls" by Ernest Hemingway, a story etched on the background of the tragic Civil War in
Spain. For the arm-chair traveler,
there is the entertaining "Trelawney; A Man's Life" by M. N. Armstrong, being the biography of
the 19th century Cornish adventurer.

Different in their approach and treatment are two historical narratives; H. K. Douglas' "I Rode with Stonewall," and "Oliver Wiswell" by Kenneth Roberts, who is renowned for his "Northwest Passage." Douglas, youngest member of Jackson's staff narrates his war experiences "... from the John Brown raid to the hanging of Mrs. Surrat." Predating Douglas' account by some eight years, Roberts has endowed his historical novel, "Oliver Wiswell" with an effervescent vitality which transports the reader to the days of the American Revolution to hear the tale of the political conflict from the lips of a colonial who remained loyal to the crown.

History is not a stagnant resume of the past, but a vibrant account of today's occurences. In this vein, there are several notworthy books, among them Mrs. E. Bigland's "Into China" — an epic of a struggle for freedom. Quentin Reynolds, who has written often for the Saturday Evening Post, authors "The Wounded Don't Cry" with present-day England as a setting and the morale of the British as a theme.

"Out of the Night" a current best seller by Jan Valtin exposes the secret world-wide revolutionary network directed from Russia. At present the author is facing deportation proceedings, and if convicted will be returned to his native country, Germany, which he has long vilified.

The books listed above are but few of the many timely books (there are a number of fictional novels, too) which are on the shelves of the Rental Library. Any book which is not stocked but which is requested by the students, will if possible, be purchased. This enterprise has been established for the benefit of the reading public, the students, faculty and employees.