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TAKE HEED . . .

During the fall quarter, the Lewis Student Council and the administration requested the student body to refrain from smoking in the corridors and class rooms. Splendid cooperation was shown by both the students and administration in the enforcement of this agreement. Placards were printed and posted in conspicuous places by the students, and the administration opened the cafeteria as a place where students might smoke between classes and during free periods. So widespread were the results and so spontaneous was the cooperation among the students, that the Student Council, toward the end of the quarter, felt that it no longer needed to gently remind a student that smoking was permitted in the cafeteria only. Soon, however, the more honorable of the students could be found sneaking a smoke in the corridors and hiding the cigarette when a faculty member or a more responsible student passed. Strength in numbers asserted itself and boldly cigarette butts increased in numbers outside of the classrooms. Especially on the third and fourth floors was this condition noted. Not only does smoking in the corridors lead to hazy hallways and cluttered corridors, but it is, moreover, a fire hazard. With the wooden floors in the class rooms, a spark that escapes unnoticed to the floor may be sufficient to cause considerable damage. The tiled floor in the cafeteria is a prevention against any such accident.

Once more the unswerving cooperation of the students is asked. This quarter we see a new system inaugurated at Lewis. Students are now alloted only five minutes between classes. This shortening of the intermission demands closer hand-in-glove school spirit from both faculty and students. Faculty members can do their part by dismissing classes promptly, to enable the students to dash to the cafeteria, if they so desire. And it is up to the student to justly determine whether or not he has time for that smoke between classes without being late for his next class. Now the students need not adopt the juvenile attitude that they are being unreasonably persecuted. The shorter intermission will give them a longer summer vacation, and the risk and hazard of smoking in the corridors is not sufficient to warrant the puff or two the student may find time for while he dodges faculty members or students who are again going to enforce the agreement made this fall. There is no desire to make an example of any one found violating the agreement that was made, but if proper cooperation is not shown, more drastic steps will have to be taken than have been taken in the past.

So you see fellow students, it is up to us to see that the fire hazard is cut down, and that the Lewis halls may maintain a neat appearance. This can only be done with the wholehearted cooperation of each and every student and faculty member at Lewis. —P.A.

In The Wake of The Navy . . .

As a parting shot, we present for the further education of the United States Navy the following trifling bits of information:

Admiral Nelson, the greatest naval genius in the history of England, had but one arm.

General Wavell, brilliant conqueror of the Italian forces in Africa, is possessed of only one good eye.

General George Washington, during the American Revolution, was the proud owner of one of the first sets of false teeth ever used on this continent.

Genseric, leader of the Vandals, famous German tribe that sacked Rome and Carthage in 450 A.D., was lame and had a squint in one eye.

Julius Caesar was an epileptic and, during some of his later campaigns, was confined to a litter, from whence he directed his battles.

Richard III (Duke of Gloucester), renowned English crusader, killed in Bosworth Field (1485), was a hunchback.

Both Lawrence of Arabia and William III (The Conqueror) were in miserable general health during most of their escapades. —T.B.

THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Men walked about the city carrying what appeared to be long metal fishing rods attached to black boxes full of dials and knobs. People stared suspiciously remembering the last Martian invasion in New Jersey. One bystander summoned courage to inquire and learned that they were "probing the stresses in the ether." That helped a lot.

The real explanation is that the Electricity and Sound Division of the Armour Research Foundation was studying radio interference from therapeutic machines as one of its research projects. This division handles all of the Foundation's work in electricity, radio, recording, acoustics, vibration, noise reduction and related subjects. The staff, headed by D. E. Richardson, includes H. A. Leedy, Grote Reber, Marvin Camras and R. W. Westby.

All of the Electricity and Sound laboratories are grouped on the third floor of the main Research Foundation building. At the north end is the acoustical laboratory housing such equipment as the wave analyzer, and noise meter, sound analyzer, logarithmic amplifier, recording apparatus and oscillators. Across the hall to the south is the large electrical utility laboratory within which a specially constructed room floats on absorbent material. This room is soundproof and completely electrically shielded. Behind this is the electronics laboratory with its elaborate power panel, radio and optical signal generators, field strength meters and similar items. Here are constructed vacuum tube devices of all kinds for industrial purposes, some of them apparently almost capable of thinking, so intricate are the jobs they perform. Next to the electronics room is the dynamo laboratory, in reality a workshop full of various types of power units, meters and accessories.

Recent and present studies in electricity include such subjects as remote-control devices, radio interference by therapeutic machines, air compressors, sound recording equipment, radio modulating systems, signal lights, automatic drier controls, electronic operating "brains," golf ball classifying apparatus, electrical insulation, diathermy, motors and transformers, Sound and vibration investigations include redesign of calculating machines for quietness, noise-reduction in water pipes and valves, vibration studies in large drop-forge hammers and in subway operations, explosion proof engine mountings for naval vessels, sealed-beam headlight vibration, applause measurement, noise surveys and numerous developmental projects in the fast growing field of engineering.

Letter from the Dean

Editor, Technology News:

A great many questions about the Selective Service Act and its application to students of engineering are being received constantly by the Dean's Office and the Registrar's Office. In order to answer as many of the questions as possible, I should like to state here the latest information which we have on the subject.

The Selective Service Act provides for no general or blanket deferments for any group or class. It does provide, however, that college students may be given a 1-D or 1-E classification. Such a classification makes them subject to call for general or for limited military service after July 1, 1941. Under this provision, a senior would be able to complete his course and receive his degree before being called for service.

In the case of a senior, therefore, it is only necessary that the proper evidence as to his student status be supplied to the local board. The Dean's Office has assisted a number of students in presenting such evidence, and shall be glad to do so in the future whenever the need arises.

The regulations governing the administration of the Selective Service Act further provides that a registrant shall be placed in class II-A if the local board finds that he is a necessary man in any industry, business employment, agricultural pursuit, governmental service, or any other service or endeavor, or in training or preparation therefore, the maintenance of which is necessary to the national health, safety, or interest. The National Headquarters of the Selective Service System has recently sent a memorandum to all state directors of selective service, this memorandum to be submitted to the local boards. In this letter, the National Headquarters calls the attention of the local boards to the above provision in the regulations, and suggests that the local board give proper weight to this provision in dealing with claims for occupational deferment of necessary men engaged in training or preparation for activities necessary to the national health, safety, or interest.

It would seem from the above that college students in engineering should be able to secure occupational deferment and be placed in class II-A. It is necessary, however, that the local boards have complete information about the student status of any registrant.

We have recently received from the Illinois State Headquarters of the Selective Service System a number of questionnaires which have been distributed to all registered students. When these questionnaires are properly filled out they will constitute a record of the registrant's student status, and on the basis of this record, the local boards may make a II-A classification. One copy of this questionnaire is retained by the Institution; two copies, together with a transcript of the student's scholastic record, will be submitted to State Headquarters of the Selective Service System. One of these copies will be retained by the State Headquarters, and one copy, together with the transcript, will be forwarded to the proper local board. The information contained in this questionnaire will furnish the chief basis for the board's decision on occupational deferment.

If at any time it becomes necessary to supply the local board with additional evidence, the Dean's Office will be glad to cooperate. It is the duty of every registrant to keep his local board fully informed as to his status so that the board in turn may have ample data upon which to reach a decision.

It must not be forgotten that occupational deferment is good for six months only. At the end of that time, the local board may continue the deferment or may re-classify the registrant, depending upon whether any change has occurred in his status. This is a point which seniors expecting to graduate in June should note carefully. After graduation, they will no longer be "in training or preparation" and their further deferment will depend upon the kind of employment which they enter. If a senior secures employment prior to July 1, 1941, it is important that information about this employment be supplied to the local board. Here again, the Dean's Office will be glad to cooperate in supplying this information. Such data should include the name of the firm, the nature of its business, and the character of the work which the graduate expects to do. With this information at hand, the local board can decide whether the graduate is entitled to further occupational deferment. It seems probable that most engineering graduates will be able to qualify for this deferment. It must be kept in mind, however, that the registrant himself, assisted by his college officials, must supply proper information to the local boards.

It is possible that some of our seniors in Architecture and in Civil Engineering may wish to prepare for examinations as registered architects or structual engineers. If this fact is brought to the attention of the local board, an occupational deferment can be secured until after the examination. Deferment beyond that point will depend upon the nature of the employment secured.

The whole intent of the Selective Service Law is to make it truly selective. For this reason, all officials having to do with the enforcement of the law are cooperating so that the selection of men for military service will be done with a minimum of disturbance to normal industry. If students will cooperate with their local boards in supplying all necessary information, it seems possible that most engineers can secure occupational deferment.

Sincerely yours,
J. C. PEEBLES,
Acting Dean

Junior Week—

(*Continued from page three*)

engineering department, William Dres representing the electrical engineering department. Frank Kemmet from the chemical engineering department and Carl Sparenberg representing the fire protection engineering department.

Junior Week Sports—

(*continued from page three*)

events.

The probability of a marble competition ought to force you fellows to stay home and sharpen your knuckles. Also, it would be a good idea to try and eat a pie without your hands, it may be worth your time.

The last event is more interesting and exciting than all the rest. That is the class rush where the greatest sport of all goes on —depantsing.