

PRESIDENT HEALD DROPS PLAN FOR THREE-YEAR TERM

President Heald announced last week that there would be no shifting of the engineering department to a quarter system, as had been considered, which would have eliminated summer vacation, and developed a three-year course instead of the present four year one.

Other engineering schools had also considered the idea, and have evidently come to the same conclusion. This was explained by Dr. Harvey N. Davis, president of Stevens Institute, as he spoke at the Midwest Power Conference last week, on the growing shortage of engineers in industry.

Would Lower Standards

The schools, he said, "are almost unanimously convinced that it is not practicable. In the first place neither students nor staff could stand the gaff without serious lowering of standards." He cited experiments in that line which showed the impossibility of students to retain high quality levels in their work, and mentioned that "all the spare energy the teachers have is more urgently needed for intensive emergency work."

No Gain in Time

"Furthermore," he continued, "the gain in time would be more apparent than real. These underclassmen need the experience in industry that an overwhelming majority of them get during summer vacations. If they don't get this experience before they graduate, they will have to get it after they graduate."

Lewis Chem Club

Hears Lecture By Doctor Van Atta

Dr. Van Atta of the Department of Labor delivered a lecture on industrial poisonings at a meeting of the Lewis Chemical Society on April 10. He put much stress upon lead poisoning which is quite prevalent in battery factories and which is becoming a problem in the modern leaded gasoline industry.

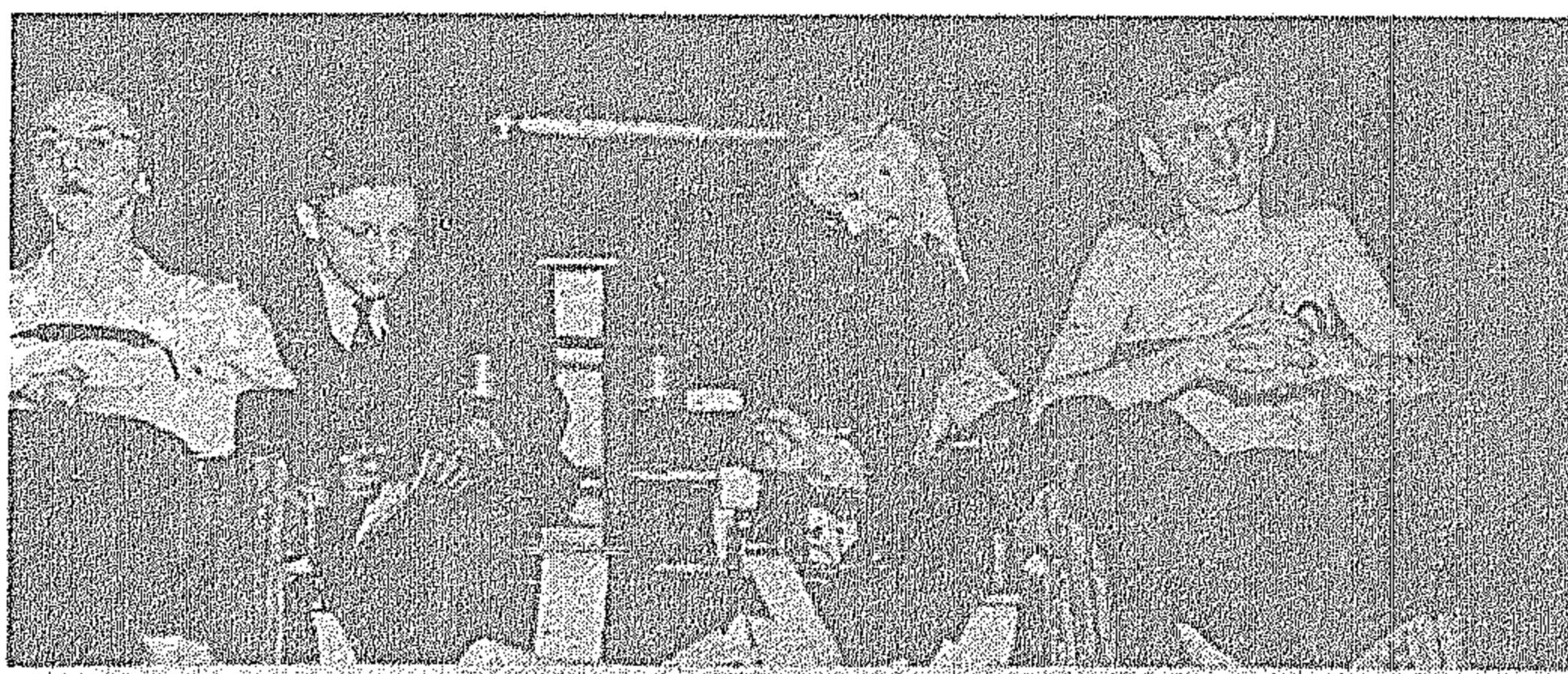
Dr. Van Atta pointed out the susceptibility of chemists to such poisoning, saying, "The chemist thinks that he is immune to poisoning." Most poisons enter the system through inhalation, and 1.5 milligrams of lead or more is enough to be toxic. He also discussed chromium poisoning, a disease that has manifestations similar to cancer, which is found in electroplating plants. Some of the things Van Atta pointed out as being extremely toxic most people never realize are poisonous at all. Benzene and related compounds, carbon tetrachloride amines, phenols, and halogenated aliphatics were some of those that were discussed.

Spring Seminar

The chemical society has planned a full program for the spring seminar. Mr. Chester Himmel from the University of Illinois will give a lecture on free radicals at a meeting to be held in the near future. Mr. Himmel has been doing research for several years in this field. Ralph Pearson, who received his B.S. from Lewis and who is now doing graduate work at Northwestern University, will talk later in the quarter.

Five new men were admitted to membership in the Society at a recent business meeting. The new members are Richard Heidorn, Emanuel Green, Kenneth Valhoun, Weldon McElroy, and Howard Reiser.

SCIENCE ANALYZES HORROR



Dr. Boder assisted by Michael Cogen record the reaction of Alda Kairis on pneumograph, and the reaction of Edward Collendar on the cardiotachometer, at horror show. Jane Goelert and Robert Meyer are caught reacting to thriller.

Times Photo

Clarke Stresses Education Shift

"Shifting Emphasis in Education" was the title of the speech given by Dean C. L. Clarke at a luncheon session of the Illinois Commercial Education Association in Rockford, Illinois, on March 28. The main points of his speech are found in these key sentences:

"It seems certain that, for the masses, we are in the midst of a very important shift from the emphasis on merely extended education with its accent on diplomas, degrees, and other trademarks of institutional regularity, to more and more emphasis upon types and kinds of education which definitely promote higher and higher stages of adult competency. It seems apparent that there will be unprecedented popularity of education for occupational competency. We are entering a new era for vocational education."

Recess Hop Only A Memory Now

With Duke Hayne supplying the music, Lewis, Wright Junior, and the nursing schools of St. Luke's and Michael Reese's Hospital providing the girls, and Mother Orcutt chaperoning, the Recess Hop got under way last Wednesday evening in the Student Union auditorium. Quite a few of the engineers were lured to come to trip the light fantastic by the "A-1 wolfing" sign that was posted on the bulletin board. The Armour pack was out in full force to be sure that the evening was made a howling success.

Some of the features of the occasion were vocal renditions by the Armour Anemic Five, Doc Davey, and Gravelthroat Chuck Faris. Armour's answer to Gene Autry. Also on the varied program were such features as novelty dances and door prizes.

United States Maritime Commission Cites Need For Trained Engineers

Employment opportunities for graduates of engineering colleges are opening up rapidly in the maritime industry and information about jobs may be obtained upon application to the United States Maritime Commission at Washington.

Available jobs fall into two categories, ship operation and ship design. The greater number of jobs are in ship operation in which the graduate engineer can become a ship's officer traveling to the ports of the world. A national competitive examination will be held early in June for qualified men who apply to the Commission before May 10, 1941.

Appointments will be made from this list as engineer cadets in the merchant marine. After three month's service the cadet may take an examination for third assistant engineer. With his license obtained, the engineer can be appointed cadet officer, and now many cadet officers are being appointed to licensed officer positions after only one voyage.

The Maritime Commission also has provided training for graduates of accredited engineering schools to enter the field of ship operation. Three month's service as an engineer cadet at sea aboard a steam vessel qualifies engineering school graduates to take examinations before the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation for a position paying from \$160 to \$210 per month.

Promotion will then be made to second assistant engineer of those qualifying at a salary of \$180 to \$220 a month, and from that rank to chief engineer at a salary of more than \$300 per month. The path has been shortened under existing regulations so that the engineering school graduate may quickly step into a well paying position with stability of tenure and promotion assured. Candidates for cadet training who are placed on the eligibility list will be assigned to one of three schools, either at New York, New Orleans or San Francisco.

Pre-medicals To Take Aptitude Exams May 1st

Medical aptitude tests will be given on May 1 to the pre-medical students who expect to apply for entrance to medical school by the fall of 1942. This test is a requirement for admission to medical school and May 1 will be the only time the tests are to be given this year.

Application which should be made in the registrar's office must be accompanied by a fee of one dollar. A practice sheet will be given to the applicant upon registration which will admit him to the examination but which must be returned to the proctor before the regular tests sheets are handed out. Dr. Leslie Hedrick, head of the biology department will preside at the examination, which is to be given in Room 535 from 3:00-5:00 on May 1. Any further information may be obtained either from Dr. Hedrick or the registrar.

Power Conference—

(continued from page one)

University of Wisconsin, Purdue University, University of Michigan, University of Illinois and Michigan State College.

Record Attendance

Over one thousand experts, twice the number accommodated in former years, were present to attend the discussion of power problems by twenty men of national and international reputation in engineering and economic fields.

The afternoon sessions of the conference were divided into two sections with the first at 2:00 o'clock devoted to a discussion of Central Station Practice. M. P. Cleghorn, representative from Iowa State College was chairman of the session, and speakers included: F. H. Rosencrants, vice-president of Combustion Engineering Company, Inc., New York City; C. C. Franck, Engineer in Charge of Central Station Turbines, Westinghouse Electric, Philadelphia; and G. V. Edmonson, American Blower Corporation, Chicago.

The second afternoon session was devoted to Hydro Power with B. G. Elliot, representative from Wisconsin as chairman. Speakers for this session included R. B. McWhorter, chief engineer, Federal Power Commission, Washington, D. C.; S. M. Woodward, chief water control planning engineer TVA, Knoxville; and W. J. Rheingans, test engineer (working on TVA) Allis-Chalmers Company, Milwaukee.

Cunningham M.C. at Dinner

The "All Engineers" dinner began at 6:45 o'clock in the evening. James D. Cunningham, chairman of the Board of Illinois Tech and president of Republic Flow Meters Company, Chicago, was toastmaster. Dr. Harvey N. Davis, President, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey, was the featured speaker and he addressed the guests on "Priorities in Men."

The purpose of the power conference as set forth by its founders, is to provide an opportunity for all persons interested in power production, transmission and consumption to meet together annually for the study of mutual problems free from the restrictions of required membership in technical or social organizations. Academic sponsorship, such as is affected by the co-sponsorship by the eight midwestern colleges and universities, provides a freer discussion ranging through the technical and into the economic and social aspect of power.

HARVEY N. DAVIS DELIVERS ADDRESS AT POWER MEET

With "Priorities in Men" as his subject, Dr. Harvey N. Davis, eminent educator and president of Stevens Institute of Technology, presented an address at the "All-Engineers" dinner of vital interest to every young engineer or about-to-be engineer. The occasion was the annual "All-Engineers" dinner held last Wednesday, April 9, at the Palmer House in connection with the Midwest Power Conference.

Don't Draft Engineers

The theme of his talk was exemplified when he told the assembled delegates and their wives that, "My own belief is that, at least for the present, no engineering trained man, no matter how young or inexperienced he may be, should be drafted from industry." He added though, that he was speaking only for the present since no one can see what the situation six months or a year from now will be. As things are now, however, the needs of defense industries should be given absolute priority over combat training.

Dr. Davis spoke of the current fear that there would be a shortage of vital war materials and pointed out that these fears are, for the most part, merely a reflection of the excitement of the times, of over-anxiousness on the part of munition makers to protect themselves against possible future difficulties. "But even so", the speaker continued, "everyone agrees that the way to meet the situation is to establish a system of priorities which will ensure that the available supplies of these raw materials will go where they will do the most good." The United States government has wisely made such a move and anxious citizens need have no fear regarding our supply of the si-news of war. Dr. Davis pointed out, however, that we are already facing acute shortage of certain kinds of trained man-power, and here there is no question but what the shortages are real and not merely psychological.

Shortage of Engineers

The most pressing of these shortages is that of young engineers. Last October nine engineering colleges conducted a joint survey to investigate the personnel needs of the defense industries in the New York area. The gist of their findings was that, at the very least, the needs of the defense industry in that area would be twenty-five per cent greater than the engineering schools would be able to supply.

Dr. Davis estimated that the engineering schools of this country will graduate not more than twelve thousand students this summer and that one-third of these would go directly into the technical services of the Army and Navy. The remaining eight thousand will only begin to fill the needs of private industry. Thus does the nation also have need for a system of priorities in men.

"As a first step toward establishing such a system of priorities in men, the general public must realize that, at least at present, production is far more important to national defense than is combat training." This is the reason that Dr. Davis gives for exempting all engineering trained men. The assembled production men and engineering executives were told that they should ask deferment for any of their engineering personnel in order to pool and conserve the meagre supply of such talent available.