IIT's fluid lab not a 'brig'

Equipment old, but can test beer barrels

By Andy Arentz

No, that cage in the dungeon of Main isn't the school's brig, it's Illinois Tech's fluid lab.

This lab had its beginning back in the days when Professor Phil C. Huntly was in charge of the mechanical engineering department. It was at that time an ME subject, but later, when Professor Huntly took over the CE department, it came under CE supervision.

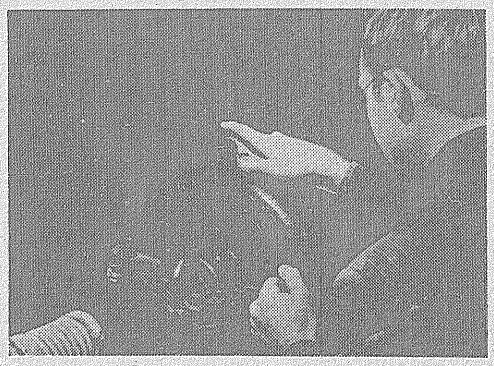
Equipment in the lab, although antiquated, has been adequate to demonstrate the fundamentals of fluid mechanics. Recently an apparatus has been added to test the flow properties of pipes, valves, and fittings. This was put in to acquaint ME students with the factors involved in their own special field.

Because of the consequences of its location, the fluid lab has acquired two prototypal nicknames, "splash lab" and "flooded mechanics lab." The reason for these names lies in the fact that every time there is more than a sprinkle of rain, the lab collects the community's rain water—to quite a depth sometimes.

C. G. Peller, who has been in charge of the lab since 1946, relates that the most enjoyable time he has spent there involved a research project to test aluminum beer barrels.

The problem was to determine the amount of fluid pressure the barrels would take, but in certain circles, it is rumored that the real test was to see how fast they could be emptied when full of beer, and that Mr. Peller got amazing results in the experiment.

Plans are being drafted for a fluid lab for the contemplated CE building. They are being designed to incorporate the latest in equipment and advancements in the fluid mechanics field, especially in the measurement of fluid flow.



MAKING FINAL MECHANICAL adjustments, Andy Arentz prepares to make a test run on a hydraulic pump. This is one of the many pumps available for tests in the fluid mechanics laboratory.

Vet freshman enrollment drops

IIT's rolls were increased by 399 new students this semester. Of this number, 131 were enrolled as freshmen, 130 as sophomores, 120 as juniors, and 14 as seniors.

The number of veterans entering as freshmen this semester showed a decided drop, going from 60 per cent of the freshman class last February to only 30 per cent this time.

The overall percentage of veterans entering, however, was 56 per cent. Most of this figure is due to men who went to junior colleges temporarily because of overcrowding at IIT.

The new students come from 19 states, two territories, and five foreign countries. A number of other countries would have been represented except that the students, all of whose papers had been approved, were unable to obtain travel accommodations.

The Chicago area again supplied the largest group, 85 per cent, of the new students. Students representing 41 Chicago high schools and junior colleges entered.

Staff positions still available

Five key positions on the staffs of the Integral and the IIT Directory are still open.

Appointments of a new editor-in-chief, business manager, and advertising manager for the Integral, and of the editor-in-chief and business manager of the IIT Directory are being considered by the Publications board.

Letters of application, containing all pertinent information, should be addressed to Dean Pare rather than to James Armsey as stated in the last issue of Technology News. Applications should be placed in the campus mail before March 21.

Correct poster size required, says Dean Pare

Several regulations governing the new mounting strips in the NU lobby and SU lounge have not been complied with, the dean of students office announced today. The height of the posters must be 30 inches and they must be initialed by Dean Pare before posting.

"Any poster not meeting the size requirement or lacking the initials of the dean will be taken down. Poster boards of the required height can be purchased in the book store," Dean Pare emphasized.

Rettaliata to address meet

The student branches of the ASME and IAS will hold a joint meeting at 1 p.m. Tuesday in the CB auditorium.

J. T. Rettaliata, dean of engineering, will be the guest speaker. His topic will be "Jet Propulsion."

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