

Engineer Shortage

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There is a good need—and certainly a shortage—for some 30,000 engineering graduates per year. On the basis of present enrollment and any future conditions we are able to predict with reasonable accuracy, we will fail to achieve that training objective by a very sizeable margin.

Shortage Aggravated By Wars

The long-term trends that have created and nourished our present shortage of engineering personnel are: (1) a massive acceleration in the pace of research, both civilian and governmental, and (2) a continuing increase in the size and complexity of the nation's productive plant. Under normal circumstances, the increased demands for technical personnel to meet these needs might have been met by a corresponding natural growth in engineering education. A serious interruption in the normal flow of engineering graduates during World War II was an exceedingly important factor contributing to the present shortage. The heavy defense effort since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea has made the shortage more pronounced, and in a few fields has approached hysteria.

Wilson Proposes Solution

A clear-cut analysis of what must be done about the shortage of technical manpower has been supplied by Charles E. Wilson, Defense Mobilization Director. Speaking at the 20th anniversary meeting of the American Institute of Physics in Chicago last October, Mr. Wilson said:

"First, government, industry, and educational institutions must make the most effective possible utilization of those persons who have received scientific and technical training."

"Second, our educational institutions can develop counseling programs which will result in a larger number of men and women being trained in these fields. Students with aptitudes for such training can and should be shown that by obtaining scientific and technical training they can prepare themselves for satisfactory employment and, at the same time, make a major contribution to the preservation of our way of life. More women should be enrolled in scientific courses and in engineering school than is the case today."

"Third, industry and government should develop both on-the-job training programs and cooperative training programs with institutions of higher learning. I appeal to our educational institutions and to administrators in government and industry to take every available measure to help alleviate the shortage. This must be done if our defense program is to succeed."

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different cultural backgrounds would be properly excluded as being inharmonious and detrimental to the purposes of the fraternity. Since the present fraternal policies, both avowed and secret, are so nearly parallel to the suggested policies, little change would need to be made in the operation of the fraternities. Furthermore, and most important, no objections by other groups could logically be made of organizations with patterns and objectives so similar in purpose to their own existing biased societies.

Fred L. Schultz '55
February 16, 1952

Engineering Student Casualty Rate Almost Half

The attrition among engineering students is large, for nearly half who enroll as freshmen drop out before graduation. For this reason, figures on freshmen enrollment bear only a rough relation to the number of graduates four years later. Thus, although the graduating classes in 1949 and 1950 were

large, they were considerably smaller than that group which initially had begun engineering training at the close of World War II. Even these bumper crops did not completely fill the gap produced during the war years; there has been little difficulty in placing engineering graduates in the past decade.

Ignoring any withdrawals for military service, only some 26,000 engineers are expected to be available in 1952 against an estimated need for 34,000, and engineer graduating classes are expected to be progressively smaller beyond 1952, with the estimate for 1954 placed between 12 and 17,000.

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On Other Campuses

by Sheldon Dick

The Harvard Crimson informs us that Richard Sandler, last year's President of the Harvard Student Council, presented a report to that body several weeks ago which imputed that under the existing "gentleman's agreement" with University Hall "the Council has not even the minutest independent voice in the construction of policy." He asked moreover that the Administration and the Council must explore the possibility of having Council members sit on Faculty Committees. In order to assure a correlated policy and produce a close association with the faculty, these members must eventually be granted a vote. This would in no way constitute a control of faculty decisions by the student body, it was felt, but the direct presence of student opinion and a "forceful avenue of communications" would only improve relationships. By having a seat and even a vote in matters concerning student affairs, Council recommendations and proposals could be more strongly presented.

Speaking of Harvard, the Crimson also reports that two of its students sat down to a two-day face slapping contest. Several applications of Absorbine Jr. and 17,280 slaps later their ordeal was over.

Going down to pleasanter climes, the Miami Hurricane of Miami University has come upon the following criteria for distinguishing sophomores from freshmen.

1. Freshmen believe all their professors are smart. Sophomores know otherwise.

2. Freshmen aren't dry behind the ears. Sophomores are always dry.

3. Freshmen will take a wooden nickel. Sophomores will take one too, but five minutes later, will use it in a slot machine.

4. Freshmen kiss their dates goodbye. Sophomores will kiss them hello.

5. A freshman is looking for a girl like his mother. A Sophomore is too, so long as his mother happens to be Jane Russell.

An old thought with a hidden meaning:

"If you are surprised at the number of our maladies count our cooks."

—Seneca.

Grad Formal Friday

Reeves to Play

Hal Reeves and his eight-piece orchestra will provide the music for the fifth annual Graduate House Formal next Friday evening. The affair will be held in the Princess Ballroom of the Hotel Somerset, from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Attendance at the Formal will be limited to 140 couples, and those planning on attending are urged to buy their tickets as soon as possible. The tickets are available at the Graduate House desk. The price of the tickets is \$3.60 per couple. Although no refreshments will be provided, there is a bar adjacent to the ballroom.

Dr. and Mrs. Compton, Pres. and Mrs. Killian, and the deans of the various schools here at the Institute are among those included on the list of patrons and patronesses.

NOTICES

L.S.C. Movie

Lecture Series Committee will present Mark Twain's famous "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" in Technicolor on Thursday, February 28, in Room 10-250 at 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. Admission will be \$40.

L.S.C. Lecture

On Friday, February 29, Maurice J. Tobin, Secretary of Labor, will speak on "Labor Problems." This free L.S.C. sponsored lecture will be held in Room 10-250 at 5:00 p.m.

Walker Smoker

The Walker Memorial Committee will hold its annual smoker at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, in the Litchfield Lounge. All interested freshmen are cordially invited.

Young Republican Club Meeting

An M.I.T. Young Republican Club business meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 26, at 5:00 p.m. in Litchfield Lounge.

Catholic Club

Very Reverend Joseph L. Musquiz will address the Technology Catholic Club tomorrow at the club's weekly meeting. His topic will be "Opus Dei," a Catholic Action organization. The meeting will be held in Room 2-190 at 5:00 p.m. Ashes will be distributed in observance of Ash Wednesday.

T. P. Basketball

Holders of Tech's-A-Poppin tickets are advised that the weekend will begin with a basketball game at 8:00 p.m., Friday, not 7:30 as printed on the ticket.

ENGINEERS, MATHEMATICIANS AND PHYSICISTS



YOU HAVE A DATE

FEB. 25, 26 & 27

Bell Aircraft representatives will be here to discuss with you the engineering opportunities in all fields now available with this leading pioneer in the challenging fields of GUIDED MISSILES, SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT, ROCKET MOTORS and AIRBORNE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT. Long range diversified programs make these openings more appealing than ever before. Don't miss this opportunity.

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Budapest String Quartet

Sunday, Mar. 2, 3:00 p.m.
At Sanders Theatre, Camb.

Quartets: Ravel, Haydn,
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\$1.80, \$1.20, sold at Harvard
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