Wave Turns Owl

Remember those sun-kissed afternoons in early Fall when you cheered the Green Wave as they bedazzled the opposition. If you do, you may be a “vanishing American.” Not that the Wave won’t continue to dazzle the opposition this Fall — far from it — but Andy Pilney’s boys will be playing several games under moonlit skies this year.

Spurred by competition from Saturday afternoon televised football games, do-it-yourselfers staying at home to work in the garden, and the necessity of fans and players conducting a game of football in swimming pool weather, Tulane has decided to install lights in Sugar Bowl Stadium. Already several contests have been rescheduled for Saturday nights, with more probably to follow.

The task of turning night into day on the Tulane gridiron has been entrusted to very capable hands. It has been announced in the press that Professor Walter E. Blessey and Mr. Mario G. Zervigon have been named as principal consultants for the project. Professor Blessey, of Tulane’s Civil Engineering Department, has been a design consultant on many projects in this area, especially in the field of prestressed concrete, where he has done much pioneer work. Mr. Zervigon, a former professor in Tulane’s Department of Electrical Engineering, possesses varied experience in the electrical consulting field, having maintained his own consulting firm for several years.

We look forward to football under the mazdas and hope that Tulane’s football stars will vie in brilliance with the stars overhead.

Your Society—Your School

By Joseph R. Mooney

“Don’t employ that man. He’s a Tulane Engineer.”

I doubt that anyone of us has ever heard such a statement made — and it’s not likely that anyone shall. For we know that every graduate of Tulane’s School of Engineering enjoys a slightly greater measure of prestige and respect, simply because he is a graduate of one of America’s better engineering schools. Yes, a client or employer knows that a Tulane Engineer has received thorough training under the guidance of a competent faculty; that even a recent graduate has a professional attitude toward his work, developed by instructors who have treated him as a mature individual.

With this respect goes confidence. Needless to say, most Tulanians have justified such confidence by fine performances and have added to the sum total of the high regard in which our School of Engineering is held. This is the finest contribution we can make in return for what we have received from Tulane. But it is not the only contribution possible — let’s exert some additional effort to aid our very fine faculty in maintaining, and even bettering, our school’s high standards.

What are some of the things we can do?

Join the Society. Join the Society of Tulane Engineers. Please send in your dues if you haven’t already done so. This will enable us to provide some tangible aid for specific worthy projects that Dean Johnson’s budget from the Board of Administrators does not cover.

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THE TULANE ENGINEER

Published by the Society of Tulane Engineers, whose officers are:
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MAY 1957

Tulane and Educational TV

Tulane University is one of the participating members of the new educational TV Channel 8—WYES. This will be a non-commercial educational channel for the greater New Orleans area. Other members include the public and parochial school systems of Orleans Parish, the public school systems of several adjoining parishes, Dominican College, and Xavier University.

Tulane University will participate in the operation and programming for this station including work and training for students who are interested in radio and TV. Also, there will be participation in the programs by faculty members to some extent. No decisions have been reached yet about the nature of the college programs.

The station went on the air about April 1. It will be operated by resources contributed by the participating members, gifts from WDSU and contributions from the fund for adult education.

Tulane Placement Office Gives Employment Service

As reported in last year's Tulane Engineer, the Tulane University Placement Office serves a three-fold function of: (1) helping undergraduates find part-time jobs on and off-campus in order to attend Tulane; (2) helping current graduates and returning veterans make contacts with prospective employers for career positions; and, (3) helping alumni change effects in positions where necessity demands.

The latter service has not been used to a noticeable extent. Nevertheless, numerous requests are made by prospective employers to have alumni contact them in the event they wish to make a change. The Placement Office, through its able Placement Officer, Johnnie Branch, is prepared to serve as a central clearing house for such matters by registering alumni for assistance and listing available positions reported by employers.

So, if you are a returning veteran or alumna who wishes to make contact with prospective employers, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Branch at the Tulane Placement Office, Tulane University campus.

Join The Society

All Tulane Engineering Alumni are invited to join the Society of Tulane Engineers. To date our membership embraces approximately twenty-five percent of a potential 2800 alumni. The Society has shown a steady increase in membership since its inception in 1951. With your interest and cooperation we can readily accomplish our aims—so join now. For your convenience, a membership application is printed here.

All old members who have not already sent in their 1957 dues, please do so; and all new members fill in the application and mail it in with your first year’s dues. Do it NOW!

Vliet Wins NSF Award

Associate Professor Daniel H. Vliet of the Department of Electrical Engineering recently received notice that he has been awarded a National Science Foundation Faculty Fellowship for graduate study. He plans to take a full program of graduate study in the electrical power field of electrical engineering at Iowa State College and to audit several basic undergraduate courses in this and other fields of engineering. The work at Iowa State College will be scheduled between September, 1957, and June, 1958.

He also proposes to attend the 1958 Summer Session at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to audit undergraduate courses in electrical engineering and to discuss the philosophy of undergraduate education with certain members of the MIT faculty. During this time he intends to make a detailed study of the newly instituted energy conversion courses, both lecture and laboratory.

Demand for Engineering Grads

Last year, 1955-56, representatives of approximately 125 industries and agencies visited the Tulane campus to interview less than 60 senior students. This year, 1956-57, over 257 organizations have requested interview dates for about 70 seniors in the School of Engineering.

Since before Christmas, firms have been scheduling interview dates for June, 1958, graduates. As of March this spring, more than 100 dates have been scheduled for the period October 14-December 20, 1957.

Many of the seniors face military service shortly after graduation and are not accepting offers at this time. Many others are waiting until April to make decisions. Accordingly, there is scanty evidence with regard to job offers accepted. However, it is reasonably certain that the minimum salary will be about $430 and that the average salary will probably be in the neighborhood of $460 per month. The average for the February, 1957, engineering class at the University of Illinois was $467 per month.

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ANNUAL DUES $2.00

SOCIETY OF TULANE ENGINEERS

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Report From The Dean

By Lee H. Johnson

The faculty of the School of Engineering has participated in a number of significant activities regarding engineering education in recent months. A wide-sweeping study of all curricula in the School of Engineering and of the approach to the teaching of all subjects is currently in progress among the faculty of the School. The first stage of the study consists of separate work by three committees, one on the basic sciences and engineering courses of which Professor Daniel H. Vliet is chairman, a second on the humanities and social studies with Professor William T. Tucker as chairman, and the third on teaching methods and creative teaching with Professor John L. Martinez, chairman.

Although the committees began this study shortly after Christmas, a number of improvements have already been suggested and recommendations are on the way to the faculty. The second stage of the study next year will bring in members of the departments concerned in the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business Administration. The third stage of the study will bring all committee reports together for combined study and action by the engineering faculty as a whole.

It is anticipated that significant changes in the entire program of the School of Engineering will be forthcoming and that perhaps important contributions to engineering education in the country may be made by the Tulane faculty of engineering.

Many members of the faculty have also been active in the series of Tulane Conferences which have been held in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama this spring. These conferences are bringing education in very informative and intellectually stimulating programs to various communities. Panel discussions on timely subjects are presented by members of the Tulane faculty. Professor D. H. Vliet participated in the panel, "The House of Tomorrow," which was presented for the first Baton Rouge conference this spring. Professor C. J. Sperry was a member of the panel on "Human Engineering" presented at Jackson, Mississippi, and Monroe, Louisiana. Professor R. V. Bailey appeared in Lafayette and Lake Charles speaking on "Miracle in South Louisiana" and "Miracle in Lake Charles." Professors C. A. Peyromain, M. M. Gilkeson, and L. H. Johnson presented "Engineering Unlimited" at Alexandria, Shreveport, and Mobile, Alabama.

There has been some discussion about holding one of the Tulane conferences in the greater New Orleans area during the coming year. These conferences are organized by the various Tulane alumni groups but are offered to the entire community and are open to everyone who is interested in education.

Another conference is worthy of note in this report. On March 11, about 35 leading industrialists from Louisiana and Mississippi met with 18 engineering educators at International House in New Orleans to discuss the implications of the Report on the Evaluation of Engineering Education published about a year ago by the American Society for Engineering Education.

This conference was moderated by Dr. Robert W. French, Director of the Port of New Orleans. It was held in cooperation with the American Society for Engineering Education to assist that society in following up the evaluation report and securing comment from industry with regard to the problems of engineering education.

Dean W. L. Everitt of the School of Engineering, University of Illinois, also participated in his capacity of President of the American Society for Engineering Education and presented a brief abstract of the report. The engineering educators were from the four engineering schools in Louisiana and two in Mississippi.

Farmer Promoted

Thos. S. Farmer has been promoted to the position of research chemical engineer at Humble Oil & Refining Company's Baytown, Texas, refinery. In Research and Development Division he is a member of the section that is responsible for research on catalytic cracking and the fluidization of catalysts.

Farmer holds the bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Tulane University (1952) and the master's degree from Princeton University.
Help Wanted—Mail!

The purposes of this publication are outlined in the Articles of the Society of Tulane Engineers:

1. To keep members of the organization informed as to the progress, activities, and needs of the School of Engineering.

2. To provide closer contact between former students and faculty by providing information about their whereabouts and activities.

The former is easily accomplished through the splendid cooperation given the Editor by Dean Lee Johnson and other members of the Engineering faculty. The latter purpose has met with failure, and it is you, Mr. Engineering Alumni, who is at fault. This paper is not affiliated with U.P., A.P., I.N.S., N.E.A., or even the F.B.I. We can’t track you down and beat the news out of you, even if we wanted to take such drastic action.

But we are sincerely interested in what has happened to you, what you are doing, and what you are thinking. We want news of your family, your job, your meetings with other Alumni, and your comments on how we can improve the Society and this publication.

Won’t you jot down a few lines and enclose them in the envelope with your Society dues? Every bit will be appreciated, and the Tulane Engineer will have world-wide Alumni News coverage. Thanks!

Campus Improvement

Large scale improvement of the physical facilities on the Tulane campus is being planned over the next three years. The program will be announced in detail when plans have been completed.

Meanwhile, some phases of the program are under way. The School of Engineering has already been allocated over $122,000 for instructional equipment for the four departments of Chemical, Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering. This will enable needed significant improvements to be made in our laboratories. Some equipment has already been ordered.

Jets

The Society of Tulane Engineers takes this opportunity to commend the Louisiana Engineering Society and its Vocational Guidance Committee for their work in sponsoring J.E.T.S. programs in the high schools of Louisiana. To the uninitiated, J.E.T.S. stands for Junior Engineers Training in Schools, and it is an idea which is gaining momentum in the United States.

The program begins like this. Several graduate engineers, with the help of school officials, have set up a J.E.T.S. club in a local high school, preferably the high school which they themselves attended. The engineering and science-minded club members are shown technical movies, are given scientific literature, and are taken on industrial field trips. These activities give the boys ideas about what engineers and scientists do in their daily work. Should the boys then want to pursue a scientific career, the program guides them into the branch of work they like best, and encourages them to prepare themselves in high school with the subjects that will stand them in good stead in college.

As the club progresses, members work on their own projects under the guidance of the graduate engineer advisors, gaining invaluable experience in doing scientific research, planning a project, and fulfilling a goal.

Many Society of Tulane Engineers members have active in J.E.T.S. work in the New Orleans area, and over the state of Louisiana. We heartily recommend that you STE members throughout the country either set up a J.E.T.S. program in your area, or pitch in to help clubs which have already begun. You will have as much to gain from it as the young engineers and scientists that you help to develop.

Your Society—Your School

(Continued from Page 1)

Give your ideas. Give us your ideas re: worthwhile projects for the Society to undertake; specific suggestions for improving the Society or the School; and cetera. Get together with other Tulane Engineers in your area and discuss constructive ideas about the School and the Society—write us or phone us or about them.

Send us news. Send us news about yourselves. Rodney Mouton and his Publication Committee would like nothing better than to disseminate such information. Thus, by writing just one note you’ll be able to contact all your classmates, through your own newspaper, The Tulane Engineer.

Vocational Work. Get better acquainted with the high school faculties and students in your area. Tell them about Tulane’s high standards and the advantages of a Tulane education. Encourage better students, with the proper qualifications, to enter the Tulane School of Engineering. The student will benefit, Tulane will benefit, and you will be aiding in the effort to fill the critical need of our country for more engineers of higher ability.

We of the Executive Committee feel privileged at being called to serve you. We look forward to a year of accomplishment.

Further information concerning J.E.T.S. may be secured by writing:

Professor Harold P. Skamser,
Director of J.E.T.S. Program
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan