

With the Editor--

GREMLINS haven't bothered ye editor very much but recently they slipped one over. He had planned to include in the October issue short accounts of two very pleasant experiences of the summer; but the office gremlins put the copy in the wrong file, and so the articles were not published. According to schedule, the October E & S was issued several days after the copy for the November E & S was complete; so the December issue is our first chance to tell you about the parties held by Vice-President and Mrs. Howard Lewis in July and by President and Mrs. Morton Jacobs in August.

In both cases the Board of Directors and their guests assembled in the afternoon to play badminton, tennis, croquet, and other games and later enjoyed excellent outdoor suppers. At Howard Lewis' party the guests' wives attended and no attempt was made to handle any business. At Mort's party, however, supper was followed by what was to be a short business interlude before games were resumed. To the disappointment of all, and particularly Mort, who had announced that every attempt must be made to make business meetings short, the business meeting lasted until nearly midnight when it was recessed to be resumed at a special meeting a few days later. In spite of the disappointment, however, this and Howard Lewis' party will remain in the memories of the guests as two of the most pleasant events of the summer.

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In the October issue we told of a discussion between the managing editor and ye editor regarding the rarity of letters commending our efforts or telling of disagreement with our policy. The article which led to the M.E.'s proffered bet that we wouldn't get any reaction was published in the June issue. Ye editor now admits that up to now, time has proved that the M.E. was right—three months have passed and no comment has been received on the article. However, several alumni were spurred to action by ye editor's column. Excerpts from some of the letters are included herewith. That's a good start; keep it up.

Letters to the Editor

JUST a note to commend you for your excellent magazine. Why not carry the Humanities to the Alumni? You might offer book reviews and essays (non-technical) supplied by the Humanities Department. You could even carry articles on Atomic Energy and the United Nations.

—J. Kohl '40

Recent articles on these subjects will be found in E&S for Jan., Feb., April, May, June, October 1946; April and Nov. 1947. We shall continue to be on the lookout for such material. —Ed.

... THE LACK of reaction on the part of the Alumni can be interpreted in the way you describe, . . . or it can be interpreted in another way which places the blame squarely on the shoulders of the editorial staff; namely that if a magazine is not read it certainly will get no reaction. In my own case I would attribute my lack of reaction to the latter. . . .

Let's stop and analyze the October issue from my viewpoint. The first article is good from the standpoint of the engineers working in California or who expect to work there. I have not worked in California for over 10 years nor do I expect to work there in the future so I did not read the article. The second article is on a phase of the gas industry (detailed and dry). This is not my field of interest so I did not read it. . . . The next four pages have news items which, while drawing some interest, appear to be greatly padded, the same applies to the personals on the next three pages. It all sums up to

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Research in Industry

(Continued from page 7)

and some understanding of the economic and social problems of modern business.

For the right men there exists today a great field of opportunity in industrial research. It is in itself a rapidly growing "business" in which high reward may be found both professionally and financially. In fact, a noticeable trend today is to provide for ample salary advancement in straight non-administrative technical work for suitably qualified men. There are, of course, many other avenues of advancement as well, including administrative work within the industrial research group, or transfer to other types of business activity such as manufacturing and marketing.

FUTURE OF INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Industrial research is now a large industry in itself and is at the threshold of its greatest expansion. Immediate major problems include the training of more research personnel, the provision of adequate physical facilities, the promoting of public understanding of research and its importance, and the developing of a permanent mechanism for applying effectively the results of industrial research to national security. As potential participants in industrial research, men trained in science and engineering can look forward to the future with confidence. "Science has its cathedrals built by the efforts of a few architects and of many workers."* Industry will look to science and engineering graduates as architects of its future cathedrals of applied scientific knowledge.

*From the preface of Lewis & Randall's "Thermodynamics."

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 3)

if I had been busy I would not have read the magazine.

So much for destructive criticism, now for the constructive part. . . . Why not articles on what is new at the Institute? Set some of the graduate students to write them up; it would be good practice for them. An article like this if advertised on the front cover would cause most of us to at least open the magazine. . . . How about the Placement Service? It certainly deserves a place in the magazine giving an account of the new openings available and also in more normal times the men available.

E. D. Alcock '33
Dallas, Texas

What do others think? Thanks for your ideas, we are working on them. Some of our difficulties are mentioned in "With the Editor," November 1947. —Ed.

THE article on Registration of Engineers in California by Martin H. Webster in the October issue has been read with great interest. It has been of particular interest to me because of my long residence in California and the fact that I am now an active participant in the campaign for registration of engineers in Texas.

We have found one of our greatest problems to be that of interesting the young engineering graduate in the value of future professional status during those years when he is gaining the experience necessary to qualify for professional rating. Since the Texas law itself makes no provision for this we attempt to handle it through the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, affiliated with the National Society of Professional Engineers, membership in which is limited to registered professional engineers.

As a member of the fees and salaries committee of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers and a director of its Fort Worth Chapter, I should be very interested in receiving or furnishing any additional data along these lines which may be available or desired and which might in any way promote the acceptance of engineering as a recognized profession.

F. C. Clayton '25
Fort Worth, Texas

E&S will be glad to serve as a clearing house for questions or information. —Ed.

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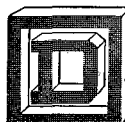
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