Petroleum Engineering

University Director Discusses Profession's Requirements

By H. C. George, Director, Petroleum Engineering School

In engineering education with its background of chemistry, physics, geology, mathematics, mechanics, engineering, economics and English is probably the best schooling that a young man can secure in our colleges, preliminary to entering the petroleum industry, even with the probability that most of his work in the industry will not be of a strictly engineering character. In petroleum engineering education, care must be taken that essential training in basic science, economics and English is not sacrificed in order to teach the purely petroleum technology, a sufficient grounding in which can be given by devoting to it from ten to fifteen per cent of the time for completing the four years course.

Broadly speaking an engineer is a man who can handle men, money and materials and secure efficient results. To do this he must know how, when, where and how much and the cost. A man who can do this is an engineer irrespective of the relative amount or source of his education and experience. However we learn to do by doing, to direct, by directing; so that men who qualify as leaders in the operating branches of the petroleum industry are always those who have had plenty of experience and have learned from that experience.

If a college education has given a young man any advantage in industry over others who have not had it, it is in the training in thought and effort, the ability to better place facts, in their true relation and relative importance, and thus accomplish more in a better and quicker way.

The young man who thinks that due to the fact that he has completed a university-course, he will be enabled to achieve success in industry without months and years of hard work and experience in the field, has failed to grasp the chief purpose of engineering education, and will never succeed in industry unless his perspective quickly adjusts itself to conditions as they really exist.

Practical experience in the field during the summer months of the college years, is the best means by which a young man can determine whether or not he is suited to industrial work.

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Our Engineering Alumni

By Joseph Kornfeld

The school of petroleum engineering, started in the fall of 1924, graduated its first class in 1927. Five engineers received the degree of bachelor of science in petroleum engineering at that time.

Sam F. Bowlby, '27, is with the petroleum engineering department of the Roxana Petroleum Corp., at Roxana, Texas.

Jack W. Dunn, '27, is instructor in petroleum engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dana G. Hefley, M.S.'27, is employed in the laboratory of the Marland Refining Co. at Ponca City.

While the class of '27 in petroleum engineering consisted of five, the last year's class of the P. E. school numbered ten.

A group of five of our P. E. graduates are engaged in the air gas lift for the Humble Oil and Refining Co., at the following offices of that company: Riley A. Aucoin, '28, at Houston, Texas; C. D. Alworth, '28, at Jacksonville, Texas; Arthur L. Cook, '28, at Pyote, Texas; Lamar Jones, '28, at Vernon Texas; and M. H. Parks, '28, at Wichita Falls, Texas.

Clem S. Luce, '27, is with the Stoll Oil Co. at Louisville, Kentucky.

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