Progress Under Dean Felgar Is Remarkable

By Joseph Kornfeld, '30

The college of engineering had its beginning in 1904 when Mr. Majors, instructor in mechanical engineering, headed the newly-organized school of applied science. In 1905, Majors was succeeded by C. M. Jansky, who taught electrical engineering and physics. During the same year, J. H. Felgar joined the faculty as instructor of mechanical engineering.

The first instructor in civil engineering in the school was George Albert Hool. Hool, who has written leading text-books on engineering construction and materials, is now professor of structural engineering at the University of Wisconsin.

When C. M. Jansky left the university to handle state extension work for the University of Wisconsin during 1907, Mr. Felgar became head of the school of applied science. In that year, Herbert Bancroft Dwight was employed to teach mechanical drawing and H. B. BozzeI took over the instruction in electrical engineering.

In 1908, the school of applied science, comprising branches in civil, mining, mechanical and electrical engineering, was organized into the college of engineering with Mr. Felgar as dean. When the present year shall have terminated in June, Dean Felgar will have completed his twenty-third year as faculty member at the University of Oklahoma. The dean is one of the most democratic college heads on the campus. Within the college itself, the sons of St. Pat have the very highest respect for one who is their truest friend—Dean Felgar.

The faculty of the college was increased by 1917 to 36 men, exclusive of six special lecturers on engineering construction, finance and engineering law. The same year, F. G. Tappan was appointed director of the school of electrical engineering to take the place of Lester W. W. Morrow. Morrow a Yale graduate, is now editor of the Electrical World, acknowledged as the greatest electrical publication in this country.

J. F. Brookes succeeded James Irwin Tucker as director of the school of civil engineering, during the fall of 1910.

H. C. George joined the faculty in the fall of 1924 as director of the new school of petroleum engineering. The next year W. H. Carson succeeded G. B. Helmrich as director of the school of mechanical engineering.

The school of architectural engineering was organized during 1927 with Harold Gimeno as its head.

At present, twenty-five men are required to handle the actual engineering instruction exclusive of the group that teach allied subjects to the engineering curricula.

A course in aeronautical engineering was added in the fall of 1928. It is possible that within the next few years, a school of aeronautical engineering may be organized if present interest in aviation shown by university engineering students is taken as a criterion. Tau Omega, the first college aviation fraternity, was founded here and other chapters are to be installed soon. Its progress has been remarkable.

Student branches of four national technical societies have been organized at the college, representing: the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers—the local branch carrying the name of Pick and Hammer club.

The college recognizes three honorary engineering fraternities: Sigma Tau, Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Gamma Epsilon for geological engineering majors.