THE COURSE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.

The question of what shall a course in engineering consist is one which must be answered by every institution offering such a course, and often the solution is attended with difficulty. Many institutions are restricted in their scope by lack of funds with which to provide adequate instruction together with sufficient laboratories and equipment. Thus in a large measure the conditions existing at any institution limit the number and nature of the subjects which make up the course at that institution. But even in the institution with large resources where money may be had for the asking it is not easy to decide upon a schedule or work which is to compose the course.

The profession of engineering is a broad one, and contrary to common belief, it is among the oldest of the professions. It is true that it was a general belief years ago that engineering was not a science or profession, but simply a trade. But call it by what name we will, and no well-informed person nowadays will question but that it is a profession. Civil engineering can be dated back with certainty to the beginning of history, and from ruins now in existence it is safe to say that we have no history dating back far enough to trace its origin.

In its broad sense civil engineering includes all branches of engineering except the military, while perhaps the most narrow definition that has ever been proposed is that which would confine civil engineering to stationary structures only.

The question of the composition of an engineering course has been taken up by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and has received much attention, and is still under discussion by them. This society includes many eminent practitioners as well as some of the foremost educators of the day. The divisions or branches included by the general term “engineering” as understood and in common acceptance at the present time are given by the society as follows: — civil, mechanical, electrical, mining and chemical engineering, architecture and naval architecture.

By common acceptance civil engineering includes plane and geodetic surveying, railroad, highway, hydraulic and structural engineering, and all of these may again be divided into sub-divisions. Is it necessary to be a specialist in all these branches to be a civil engineer? It is a self-evident fact that it is not only unnecessary but impossible, for no man can specialize in many branches with success. However, any one specialty is sure to come in close touch at some time with others, and the engineer should have enough knowledge of these latter that he may act with intelligence when the necessity arises. For example, the railroad engineer meets problems in highway, mechanical, electrical and hydraulic engineering. It is manifestly impossible for him to be a specialist in all these lines, but the more conversant he is with them the more successful he is in his chosen line.

It may be seen that four years is a very short time to give the student anything like a thorough course in any of the large branches of engineering. Many institutions crowd into four years the work of five or more. This can be done only by an attempt on the part of the student to “cram” his mental capacity, or on the part of the instructor by giving a very superficial training in his subject.

The general opinion of the society seems to be that it is not wise to specialize in the undergraduate college course, but that a course “shall include a thorough grounding in the principles underlying all engineering, and as far as practicable the details of practice of one of the seven branches.”

The fact is too often lost sight of by the student that he will not be an engineer on graduating from his course, but that he should have a training along theoretical principles, with as broad an education as possible, and as much insight into the methods of the practicing engineer as time will permit, thereby fitting him for an engineering life.

That the truth of these statements is testified to
not only by educators, but by practitioners as well, should have great weight with the student who is in a hurry to complete his course, and who grumbles at there being "too much theory and not enough practice" in his work. There are very few men who would not make radical changes in their lives if they had them to live over, and many of these men try to advise the young man by pointing out to him the mistakes which he is making, and lucky is he who hears and profits thereby.

The tendency of the technical subjects to crowd out other subjects from an engineering course, while very logical owing to the large number to be taught in the given time, results in a handicap for the graduate. The most noticeable deficiency of the young graduate from an engineering course is his inability to express himself clearly and forcibly in correct English in either speaking or writing. It is an established fact, that, given two men of equal ability in engineering lines, one having a command of the English language, and the other being rather deficient in it, the former is sure to achieve much greater success than the latter. That the college is deficient in it, the former is sure to achieve much greater success than the latter. That the college is deficient in it, the former is sure to achieve much greater success than the latter.

The following is taken from a paper by Dr. J. A. L. Waddell, one of the prominent engineers of the day:

"The English work of the course is of the utmost importance, for good or bad English will make or mar the engineer's work at every step. The successful engineer, using the word in its broad sense, must possess the forensic skill of the salesman in order to obtain engagements and develop the financial phases of his propositions, the clearness and fullness of the lawyer in the preparation of his contracts and specifications, the clearness and brevity of the business man in his business correspondence, and the skill of the writer in preparing the results of his investigations and the descriptions of his constructions for publication and record. The principles of rhetoric and composition upon which this large knowledge of the subject is based should be gained in the preparatory course of study, but their practice should be vigorously pursued throughout the entire engineering course."

The following statements give a brief sketch of the civil engineering course at the University of Maine. It must be noted, however, that space will not permit more than a short statement of the principal engineering studies which make up the schedule:

The freshman year at the University is at present common to all the engineering courses, and although the student may know what division he is to follow during his last three years, he does not have to decide until the beginning of his second year. At this time, if he takes the civil engineering course, he is registered under the head of the department and begins to feel that he has started upon his professional course. The fall term of the sophomore year is not radically different from the other engineering courses, the principal difference being in two lecture courses, one in engineering and one in sanitary science. This latter course is given at this time to give the student an idea of the importance of sanitation and the prevention of disease, with the relation of the engineer to the work, and as a general subject for thought as to the broad importance of the subject is based should be gained in the preparatory course of study, but their practice should be vigorously pursued throughout the entire engineering course."

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The intention of this course is to give the student an idea of the principles of plane surveying and familiarize the student with the different engineering instruments and their adjustments, and to obtain such practice with them that when called into the field he may be able to perfect himself in their use in a much more thorough and logical manner than would be possible if he were ignorant of their construction and adjustments. The student receives a nearly continuous course in drafting, extending from his freshman year through his senior year, the aim being to graduate men who are able to make a plain neat drawing. Much stress is laid upon mathematics, English, physics and descriptive geometry during the second year.

Beginning with the third year the student is all-
allowed to elect a portion of his work, and hereafter
instead of being allowed to select his subjects in-
discriminately, certain elective branches will be of-
fered, these branches to consist of fixed studies. A
student beginning any branch will continue it as
scheduled. The study of applied mechanics is be-
gun this year, and continues throughout the entire
year. The importance of this subject cannot be
overestimated, and it is not possible to make the
course too strong. It is not only of great benefit
as a training for the mind, but the subject might
almost be called the working alphabet of the en-
gineer. In the fall term railroad engineering, both
class work and field work is taken up. Drawing
room work is substituted for field work the latter
part of the term. This course is continued in the
spring term, when the subject of railway location
from an economical standpoint, together with allied
problems, is discussed. It is the intention to offer
in the near future a course in the fourth year in
railroad designing which will take up the design of
yards, track work, signals, etc.

The study of theoretical hydraulics begins with the
spring term of the third year, and is followed in the
fall term of the fourth year by a course in hydraulic
field work, also by a course in hydraulic engineer-
ing which extends throughout the year.

Directly after commencement the junior field
work, consisting of lectures, drawing room and
field work, in base line measurement, triangulation,
plane table work, precise leveling, etc., is held.

With the spring term of the third year the stu-
dent begins to study the theory of structures,
familiarizing himself with the principles and ap-
plication of the influence line, together with the dif-
ficult foundations, etc. A course in sanitary en-
gineering is also offered.

A considerable portion of the last year is taken
by the student with the preparation of a thesis.
This thesis is supposed to be the result of some
investigation, or the working out of some problem,
involving the principles contained in his course.

Much depends upon the support which we re-
ceive from the next Legislature. If the much
needed support is accorded as we hope and expect,
plans which have already been made for strengthen-
ing and improving the course will be carried out.
More instructors and equipment will be obtained;
the present courses will be rearranged, and new
ones added; electives for engineering students will
be offered in all of the engineering departments,
thus giving the students a chance to obtain a
broader education in engineering subjects, and ul-
timately we shall have well equipped hydraulic and
structural laboratories.

The above mentioned need of more instructors
is a pressing one, for new courses can not be added,
if there is no one to teach them. At present all
the force of instruction is putting in nearly double
time. This leaves no time for the betterment of the
course, or for private practice and research,
both of these latter being essential to the success-
ful teacher of engineering.

Nearly all of the men graduating from this course
obtain positions without difficulty, and continue
their studies along practical work. An attempt is
made to impress the graduates that they are just
beginning their career in engineering, and that
they must begin at the foot of the ladder and work
up, being content at first with subordinate positions,
remembering they are equipped with a training
that will give them an impetus which will in the
end carry them far in advance of their former
companion who did not go to college, but started
in "to learn the trade."

The outlook for the civil engineer was never
more promising than it is at the present time. He
is in constant demand in all of the branches of
the profession, and if the young graduate can be
content for the first few years after leaving his
Alma Mater with only fair pay, keeping his eyes
open for experience, he will in the end reap his
reward.
THE MAINE CAMPUS
Published on Tuesday of each week during the college year by the students of the University of Maine.

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EDITORIALS

We regret to hear of the death of Judge A. P. Wiswell, who for the past few years has been on the faculty of the Law School. He was a man who won the esteem of all those with whom he came in contact, and his loss will be greatly felt by the University and by the College of Law in particular.

The CAMPUS greets with much satisfaction the formation of a dramatic society which has taken place during the past week. For some time, the lack of an opportunity to work along dramatic lines has been deeply felt by many of the students but not until this year was it deemed advisable to carry out any definite idea for dramatics. Much of the credit for having such a strong organization from the very start is due to the personal work of Mr. Daggett, who will also serve as coach for this year's play. From the interest taken in the society, and the ability of those at present in charge of the work for this year, the CAMPUS looks for the greatest possible success, and congratulates the University for having a society of this kind added to its list of organizations.

The recent action of the faculty in passing a resolution requiring regular physical exercise for Sophomores and Juniors is one which cannot be too strongly commended. The average man here in the University, unless he goes into some of the various athletics has no regular physical exercise. Every person, in order to retain perfect bodily health, must take exercise in some form, the student who neglects this side of his education is doing himself a serious wrong.

By making "gym" work compulsory every man will cultivate the habit of regular systematic exercise the value of which he may or may not recognize but which will nevertheless become evident both in his mind, spirit and health.

Another phase of the subject also presents itself. There are men in college today who have not shown any tendency toward athletic ability. Among these, there must be some in whom this characteristic merely lies latent, waiting for some circumstance to bring it to light. This "gym" work is going to furnish the circumstance and it is safe to say that at least a few men will be discovered who can be
developed into point winners for Maine in our several branches of athletics. •

What more could we say than to recommend that all enter heart and soul into this work? That you will benefit yourself is certain, and that you may possibly help out your Alma Mater is one of the highest ideas for any Maine Man can strive.

ARRERAGE EXAMINATION.

SPRING TERM STUDIES.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1906, 1.30 P. M.

Ce. 19, Railroad Engineering, 14, W. H.
Cv. 11, 34 C. H.
Ee. 2, Electricity and Magnetism and Dynamo Design, 23 L. H.
Hy. 4, History of England, 11 C. H.
Hy. 8, Modern History, 11 C. H.
Me. 20, Heating and Ventilation of Buildings 27, L. H.
Ms. 4, Plane Trigonometry, 1 A. H.
Ms. 8, Calculus, 1 A. H.

MONDAY, 7 P. M.

Ce. 1, Plane Surveying, 13 W. H.
Cv. 10, Hydraulics, 14 W. H.
Ch. 2, General Chemistry, 1 A. H.
Cv. 1, Constitutional Law and History, 3 A. H.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1907.

Ag. 4, Manures and Fertilizers, 31 L. H.
Bl. 7, Zoology, 22 C. H.
Bl. 9, Physiology, 22 C. H.
Lt. 10, Roman Satire, 23 V. H.
Me. 16, Steam Engineering, 27 L. H.
Me. 21, Seminary, 27 L. H.
Me. 6, Mechanics, 17 W. H.
Ms; 6a, Analytic Geometry, 3 A. H.
Ms. 22, 3 A. H.
Pl. 2, Logic, 32 C. H.
Ps. 2, General Physics, 22, W. H.
Rm. 5b, French, 13 C. H.
Rm. 9b, French, 13 R. H.

THE FRESHMAN TRIAL DEBATE.

The University Debating Society dispensed with its weekly meeting of Thursday evening, December 6, 1906, and instead held the trials for the Sophomore-Freshman debate. The Freshman Trials were held in the lecture room of the new library building and the class was ably represented by those present. The question discussed was,—Resolved that the Inheritance Tax should be further applied in the United States to more-effectually reduce large fortunes. Of those who debated the question, only one spoke for the negative, but after the judges had retired to select the team, the open discussion showed clearly that there were two strong sides. Messrs. Dorsey, Daggett and Wheeler acted as judges and after giving special attention to each speaker, they selected Redman, Wadsworth and Johnson for the class team. It was decided to use the same subject, allowing the Freshman to write the question and giving the Sophomore the choice of sides. The interclass debate is scheduled for December 20, 1906.
SOPHOMORE DEBATING TEAM.

The trials for the Sophomore debating team were held in the Library Building on Thursday evening, Dec. 6. There were nine contestants for the team, and from this number, the judges chose the six best, three to constitute the first team, and three for the second team. The members of the first team are B. A. Chandler, W. A. Fogler, and J. H. Mason, while the second team is made up of the following: H. E. Blake, C. C. Farrar, and G. F. Barron. The judges were Prof. Sprague, Mr. Prince, and Mr. Morley.

At a meeting of the members of the first team on Friday, Mr. Chandler was elected captain, Mr. Morley was chosen to coach the team. Mr. Morley is a man who has been very prominent in debating circles at Tufts, having debated with some of the strongest teams that have ever represented that college. The sophomores are fortunate in being able to secure the services of such an able coach.

The sophomores will debate on the negative side of the question "Resolved: that the Federal government should adopt a progressive inheritance tax.

DEUTSCHER VEREIN.

The regular meeting of the Deutscher Verein was held last Wednesday evening, Dec. 5, at the home of Professor Chase. It was voted to extend invitations to the following persons to join the Verein, they having attained a standing of about ninety per cent in German for two years or more: B. E. Braan, '07, J. H. Mason, '09, C. E. Nason, '09, D. A. Woodbury, '09, L. F. Pike, '09, J. D. Clement, '09, W. E. Conner, '09, Dunton Hamlin, '09, F. A. Ringwall, '09, W. D. Hall, '07, Sarah E. Brown, '08, Elizabeth Dunmore, '09, Alice Farnsworth, '08. After the business session a pleasing informal program of German stories and songs was enjoyed, and light refreshments were served.

MUSICAL CLUBS.

The first concert of the year by the Musical Clubs was given in Old Town last Friday night, December 7, under the auspices of the Senior class of the High School. Although this was the first appearance before the public yet a very creditable showing was made. The following program was rendered.

1 Parade of the Dolls......... Gruenwald
   MANDOLIN CLUB
2 Kentucky Babe..............Geibel
   GLEE CLUB
3 Reading...................... Selected
   MR. FELLOWS
4 Minstrel Boys...............Banjo ORCHESTRA
5 Violin Solo................. Selected
   MR. TUCKER
   INTERMISSION.
1 Wayside Chapel............... Wilson
   MANDOLIN CLUB
2 Fill Your Steins............. GLEE CLUB
3 Reading ...................... Selected
   MR. FELLOWS
4 Red Demon.................... Banjo ORCHESTRA
5 Maine Stein Song............. Colcord, '07
   GLEE CLUB
   ROUND TABLE.

The ladies of the Round Table invite all students of the University and their friends to come to the clubroom in the library for a cup of coffee and a friendly chat on Tuesday afternoon, December 11, at any time between four and five thirty o'clock.

The following will serve on the reception committee: Mrs. Fellows, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Woods, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Huddilston and Miss Colvin.

1910 football season a better start.

During the second half of the game the downs were played saving each point.
CLASS FOOTBALL.

In a well contested and hard fought game of football 1909 won from 1910 by the score of 6–0.

The freshmen deserve much credit for the way in which they played making a much better showing than was expected.

On the sophomore team were four 'varsity men, Higgins, Hodgins, Ray and Farwell. This fact in a way decided the game before the start.

During the first few minutes play of the second half the freshmen held the sophomores for downs with the ball on their two yard line, thus saving a second touchdown. For '09, Higgins played the best game, for '10, Cook and Stobie.

FIRST HALF

1910 kicked to 1909, ball was brought in five yards by Hodgins, Higgins made five on the next play, he was then forced to punt, 1910's ball. Chase made one yard, ball then went to 1909 on an attempted forward pass. Higgins made one yard, Torrey made two, Higgins again punted, 1910 received the ball and Chase made six yards on the first play. Stinchfield was nailed for a loss and Stobie punted. The punt was returned by 1909. Stinchfield fumbled and the ball went to 1909. 1909 could not gain and Stinchfield punted. In the next play Higgins made a thirty-five yard run around right end for a touchdown. Hodgins kicked the goal. Score at the end of first half, 1909, 6; 1910, 0.

SECOND HALF

1909 kicked off, Stinchfield fumbled and Simmons fell on the ball. 1909 was held for downs and ball went to freshmen. Stinchfield made eight yards, Stobie then made twenty on a fake kick. 1910 punted and Cook fell on the ball for first down. 1910 was then penalized fifteen yards for holding. 1910 punted and after two rushes game ended. Final score, 1909, 6; 1910, 0.

The line-up:
LAW SCHOOL NOTES

The last meeting of the Assembly before the Thanksgiving recess was devoted to a criminal trial instead of the usual debate. Prof. Simpson acted as judge. Upon his entering the courtroom, Mr. Farnsworth, the court crier, made the usual announcement. Sheriff Seavey then led the prisoner Anderson into the court-room. The jury was drawn by the clerk, Mr. Goss. Clerk Goss then read the indictment charging Anderson with the murder of his wife, to which the prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The attorneys for the State, Messrs. Monroe and Waldron, then introduced their witnesses who testified that Anderson had gone to Veazie on the car with his wife on the night of the murder and also introduced as evidence a razor, but tons found beside the body of the dead woman, cloth from the coat found in the prisoner’s room and a cane covered with blood found beside the deceased’s body. They also introduced a woman by the name of Jones, who testified that Anderson thought considerably of her and in this manner tried to establish a motive for the crime.

Messrs. Keegan and Driscoll attorneys for the prisoner tried to prove an alibi and introduced witnesses who testified that deceased had bought the buttons found beside her body on the day of the murder from one of them and that the prisoner went to the theatre with them on the night of the murder, also that the razor found was not the prisoner’s as his was in his room the next morning.

Owing to the able arguments of the attorneys the jury after being out over a half hour were unable to agree. The prisoner was discharged.

On Tuesday morning the students were thrown into a sphere of extreme sadness by the announcement of Dean Walz that Chief Justice Wiswell had just died in Boston. Recitations ceased immediately for the balance of the day and there were none on the day of the funeral.

The Chief Justice has been a great friend of the Law School, especially in its infancy. He lectured on Evidence every other year and it was hope that he would deliver a series of lectures this winter.

At a meeting of the student body on Wednesday morning committees on resolutions and flowers were chosen. Messrs. Monroe, Godfrey, and Bridgham were appointed the committee on resolutions and Messrs. Lewis, Davidson and Anderson the committee on flowers.

The students contributed generously and the sum of twenty-five dollars was received. The flowers were blue and white, in pillow form, with the inscription, “In Memory of our Friend and Teacher.” It was adorned with blue and white ribbon on which was printed, “University of Maine School of Law.”

Dean Walz attended the funeral and several students were sent as delegates.

JUNIOR CLASS MEETING.

A meeting of the Junior class was held last Thursday, Dec. 6. E. N. Vickery and F. P. Emery were elected to the executive committee, which consists of the four class officers and two additional members, and S. F. Thomas was elected class track manager. Reports on the Prism were given, and the Junior Week, Junior Prom committees and the Ivy Day officers, who are soon to be elected, were discussed.

Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. held its first meeting in the new library, Wednesday, Dec. 5. Hutchins ’07, led and the subject “Light and Life” was well discussed. The meeting proved very interesting but the lack of a piano was very noticeable and it is hoped that this will be remedied before the next meeting.

SOPHOMORE CALENDAR.

The committee in charge of the calendar for 1907 have their work well in hand, and the calendar bids fair to be one of the best ever issued from the University. Many new ideas have been used and a special feature will be the general color scheme and cuts. The calendar will be issued before the Christmas recess.

During the meeting of the committee the following members were elected:

President: J. W. Morse
Vice-President: A. J. D. Moore
Secretary: T. W. Paterson
Treasurer: W. N. Mills

It was decided that the last meeting of the month would be held to all the Y. M. C. A. members.

The Junior class meeting was held before the time limit of the try.

The University has been found most attractive.

Duke: B. H. Gage
Fresday: J. E. Grayson
Jaquish: E. G. Morgan
Le Roy: E. J. Paul
Chapman: M. F. Stebbins
Oliver: E. A. Smith
Jaques: L. W. Stancil
Olive: H. A. Smith
Orland: J. W. Wells
Adams: H. D. Wing
Toms: L. W. Williams
Corliss: B. M. Wing
Silver: W. G. Wood
Williams: S. S. Young
Rossetti: J. A. Young
Rossetti: H. A. Young
Phebe: I. A. Young
Australasian: C. J. Young
Cel: J. W. Young
Cel: J. W. Young

By W. C. A.

By Wehadines

By Y. M. C. A.

By Y. W. C. A.

As the prom is to be a very big play, the students have been busy at the library, preparing for the evening.
THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

During the past week, a well attended meeting of those interested in dramatics, resulted in the formation of a Dramatic Society and the following officers elected:

President, J. Burleigh, '07.
Vice-President, E. J. Wilson, '07.
Secretary, W. D. Hall, '07.
Treasurer, W. A. Cobb, '08.

It was voted to present "As You Like It" the latter part of this year, the trials to be open to all members of the University.

The contestants will have individual trials before the committee of judges, and will read the lines of the character for which they wish to try.

The required lines for each character will be found in the following scenes:

Fred—Act 1. Scene 3.
Le Beau—Act 1. Scene 2.
Oliver—Act 1. Scene 1.
Orlando—Act 1. Scene 1.
Orlando—Act 2. Scene 7.
Adam—Act 2. Scene 3.
William—Act 5. Scene 1.
Rosalind—Act 1. Scene 3.
Cel—Act 1. Scene 3.

By Wednesday, ten copies of the play may be obtained at the college book store.

Contestants are requested to come prepared to try for more than one character.

As there are nearly twenty characters in the play, the University should be well represented at the trials.

Watch the bulletin for later announcements.
The following judges will serve at the trials:
Mr. Daggett, Mrs. Fellows and Prof. Stevens.

LOCALS

"Mike" Farley, Maine's old coach, and producer of championship teams was a visitor here for Maine Night and the Bowdoin Game.

Mr. Everett H. Stetson, '07, is out of college for a few weeks in charge of some surveying and cross-sectioning work at Waterville.

Prof. J. M. Bartlett and H. H. Hanson, chemists of the experiment station, attended the meeting of agricultural chemists of the United States held in Washington, D. C.

A stack of silver dollars one foot high is offered by Callahan's Commoner for the three best short stories. Send stamp for particulars to James E. Callahan, Editor, 109 Randolph St., Chicago.

Lieut. W. S. Brown, present head of the military department at the University of Maine, has successfully passed examination for captaincy in the regular army, and expects to be assigned to his company within a short time.

For special chapel music last Wednesday, Mr. F. Lane of Bangor sang "The Plains of Peace," by D'auvergne Barnard. Mr. Lane has a very strong and rich voice, and an opportunity to hear singing of this high quality is greatly appreciated by the students.

In a recent issue of the St. John Telegraph appeared an elaborate article from the pen of Fred W. Holt, C E., setting forth the advantages of St. John as a winter port. Mr. Holt is a graduate of the University of Maine, class 1873, but has for a considerable period of years been a resident of the New Brunswick metropolis, and during the past season has been associated with the construction of the big dry dock build at St. John. Mr. Holt has achieved eminence in the engineering world and his services are always in demand.
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