

Woman Engineer Captures Five 'Firsts' On Campus

While persons all over the country strive to obtain a rating of "first" in one particular endeavor, Althea Shaffer, senior in the mechanical engineering curriculum, has copped five "firsts" on campus. As co-editor of the Penn State Engineer, she established a new

precedent. Never before has a woman on that publication reached the point where she could legitimately use the editorial "we."

Hitherto engineering societies had catered exclusively to the male contingent. When the lady engineer proceeded to establish a permanent position on the dean's list, the bastions fell. Pi Tau Sigma, mechanical engineering honorary, tapped her. She is the only feminine member on campus and is one of 15 in the United States.

Although fraternity rules of Tau Beta Pi, engineering honorary, prohibit admission of a woman, Althea Shaffer will receive a badge which shows that she is eligible for membership.

In 1942 when she enrolled in mechanical engineering she was the first woman here who had ever chosen that course. In spite of the many students who transfer here, she will also be the first woman in that curriculum on whom the College confers a degree.

Entering this curriculum was her own idea. It appealed to her because it was new as a woman's field and seemed to offer many possibilities for the future. In high school the Allentown girl did not strive particularly to prepare for engineering although she elected two mathematics courses.

In spite of all the activities which claim her time, the technical coed manages to serve as treasurer of the College Cooperative Society. She is also president of the Society of Mechanical Engineers, student branch, as well as a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Mortar Board.

Miss Shaffer says that she has not made any plans about a career after graduation. She prefers to wait and see what opportunities will be available. Judging from her progress on campus, the industrial world should not offer any insurmountable obstacles.

'Vets Not Killers,' States Dr. Moore

Claiming that the viciousness of modern warfare is its own antidote, Dr. B. V. Moore of the College today decried the idea that servicemen will return toughened and ruthless with a killer's instinct.

"Undoubtedly there will be some gangsters among the several million men who will return to civilian life," Dr. Moore said, "but these men were that way even before the war. Military training may have improved their ruthless techniques, but it cannot be held responsible for making them criminals," he added.

Dr. Moore, who heads the department of education and psychology at Penn State, declared the majority of men will desire to get away from the horrors of killing and combat as soon as possible. If anything, he added, men will return from combat even more understanding and tender than they were as civilians.

One is more likely to be thoughtful and considerate of other people's welfare after he has suffered himself, Dr. Moore added. "Young men who never knew pain and death," he explained, "now know the meaning of suffering."

As proof of his assertion that men who were ruthless in combat are likely to be extremely kind in civilian life, Dr. Moore pointed to the tenderness and consideration with which Americans have been dealing with French women and children.

Church Door Canteen Scouting for Talent

The Church Door Canteen of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, continuing its search for talent, recently announced that anyone wishing to try out for the Wednesday night shows should contact Pete Johnson, 2420, or Rev. John N. Peabody, 3455.

The Canteen, which is open to both servicemen and civilian students, conducts a recreation night every Wednesday with entertainment, games, and refreshments. It is open from 8 to 10 p.m., and coeds serve as hostesses.

Last week's show featured an accordion solo by Jinx Falkenberg, boogie woogie piano solo by Carol Andre, and a jam session with Jim Burns, piano; Carroll Marcino, guitar; John Setar, clarinet; and John Sloane, trumpet.

African Scientific Mission Completes 3-Day Tour Of College Researches

Two members of the South African Scientific Mission have completed a three-day tour of College research work which they studied in conjunction with plans for post-war South African industrial development.

The representatives of the four-man Mission, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., came to the College as guests of the School of Mineral Industries. They have also visited research projects at Montana School of Mines, Carnegie Institute of Technology, and Columbia University.

Dr. Sidney H. Haughton, one of the visitors, pointed out that his nation's hope for industrial expansion lies largely in development of African markets. He added, however, that South Africa will continue world-wide trade in gold and diamonds "so long as there are women in the world to demand them."

Dr. Haughton was accompanied by Gabriel B. Louw, who was especially interested in chemical developments.

Ed Williams Sets Deadline For Return Of Underwear

STOLEN: All my underwear. Finder please call me before October 17. Ed Williams.

Not only did all the eighth semester secretary-treasurer's underwear vanish from his abode in Triangle fraternity late Saturday afternoon, but his shirts, socks, and pj's disappeared too.

While the boys from the house were discussing possibilities of friendly tricks, or "should we call the cops?" President Herb Mendt, from Venezuela, was scrutinizing his room. As he joined the bull session, Herb reluctantly refuted his statement published in last week's Collegian:

"Movie stars and gangsters were what I expected to find when I came to the United States, and I haven't seen either in my four years here."

Maybe he didn't see the thug but a day later he experienced the unmerciful clutches of one. It seems as though Herb is missing a

blue pin-striped suit, a sport jacket, and the fraternity's cashbox.

A small footprint left in the dust of the back stairs is one of the clues picked up by the sleuthing ventures of the fellows with the aid of State College police. Folded and dated August 16, a Louisville, Ky., newspaper was found alongside the back porch. And an attempt to cash one of the checks in the cashbox under Mendt's name in Connecticut was the latest development.

Meanwhile, the only comment offered was Ed Williams' "I hope I get my underwear back before next winter, or I'll be cold!"

ASTP Students Complete Course

Graduating ASTP students will receive certificates of completion at exercises in Schwab Auditorium, 8 p.m. September 1. President Ralph D. Hetzel will address the group.

Graduates include 54 in Electrical Engineering and 17 in Civil Engineering. Sixteen men who are in the sixth semester of Civil Engineering will also receive certificates.

Two men, T/Sgt. John G. Thorpe and Pfc. Hugh Moore Jr. have also qualified for Bachelor of Science degrees. The College will confer these in November.

Because of changes in the national ASTP program, 13 pre-dental students will be reassigned. Reservists, numbering 11, who have reached the age of 18 have been called to active duty. These reservists have a possibility of returning to the ASTP program after they complete basic training.

Assignment to various branches of the army will follow for graduates. They may be given confidential assignments, sent to the Signal or Engineering Corps, or to any other part of the service.

Chi Phi has announced that it is active again. New pledges are Thomas Simmons, Anthony Truchetti, Jack Simpson, and Walter Falkenberg.

Grounds And Buildings Carries On With Endless Job Of Campus Housekeeping

It takes a whale of a job of housekeeping to maintain a college looking well groomed and luxurious, George W. Ebert, superintendent of grounds and buildings will tell you—if he can get a minute from his multiplicity of duties.

Besides the daily sweeping, dusting, and waste-basket emptying that goes on inside, the maintenance staff has an eye to having everything perfectly groomed outside.

The regular building maintenance men keep their eyes peeled right along for opportunities to varnish floors—for classrooms and office floors take a lot of scuffing from the thousands of feet that scrape across them each day.

A crew of painters, varying in size according to needs and conditions, usually is painting some place on the campus, to keep the woodwork and wood trim of the various buildings in shape; to protect the metal roofs from the weather.

Just as do homes, the College has to have its front yard—and its back yard—manicured now and then. This yard, not too very small, comprises 106.22 acres of fine turf. Power mowers do most of the work but there are corners that must be reached by hand. Now and then a reseeding job pops up, as does the maintenance of fertility and weed control. Every care must be taken to preserve Penn State's reputation for having one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.

Trees and shrubbery require a bit of attention. There are to be found growing on the campus 520 species and varieties of trees and

shrubs. The collection includes 99 species of deciduous trees, 33 species of coniferous trees and shrubs, and 388 varieties of woody shrubs and vines.

In weather such as State College has had this summer, watering is necessary for many shrubs to keep them alive. And when trees and shrubs die, they must be removed. That means new plantings now and then to keep up appearances.

Sudden storms in this locality necessitate a complete system of water drainage. Other tasks belonging to grounds and buildings are snow removal, campus lighting and maintenance of the golf

course.

Mr. Ebert could also give you a few mathematical figures on the chances of steam pipes breaking, sewer lines becoming clogged, washers wearing out, fuses blowing, windows being broken, elevators and clocks refusing to run, and chairs needing new rungs. These little odd jobs, popping up at the most embarrassing moments, create quite a work pile in a year's time.

The three-semester-a-year schedule gives the maintenance squad very little extra time to "catch up" on little tasks put off from time to time.

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