

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE S.E. SECTION
OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION
HELD IN NASHVILLE, TENN. APRIL 26-27, 1946.

Vanderbilt University was host to the S.E. Section of S. P. E. E. at their twelfth annual meeting held in Nashville on April 26-27, 1946.

The first session was called to order by the Chairman, Dean L. L. Patterson at 10:00 A.M. and the following committees were appointed:

Nomination and Place of Meeting.

Dean F. L. Wilkinson, Chm.
Dean M. W. Dougherty.
Dean W. H. Hall.

Resolutions.

Dean J. L. Lasalle, Chairman.
Dean S. B. Earle.
Dean J. R. Cudworth.

The general theme of this session was "Post War Educational Programs. The first speaker, Mr. George B. Thackston, Chief, Educational and Training Section of the Veterans Administration, at Nashville, spoke on "Training of Veterans under Public Law 16 and 346. He reported that there were many more veterans taking advantages of the opportunities offered under these laws and that all of the colleges would be confronted with a superhuman task to take care of these veterans with the present limited facilities.

Dean H. P. Hammond of Penn. State College spoke on Technical Institutes. The opinion expressed by Dean Hammond was that there is a definite place in our educational program for Technical Institutes and that they will increase in number in the future.

The E. C. P. D. program for accrediting curricula for Technical Institutes, he said, was for the purpose of guiding the Technical institute movement in such a direction that it will be a benefit to technical education as a whole, including professional engineering education.

Dean O. W. Eshbach of Northwestern Technological Institute spoke on the Cooperative plan of Education. He pointed out that all educational objectives could not be achieved by formal methods of instruction. The basic philosophy of the cooperative plan, he said, was the achievement of a coordination between education and life thru which the student " should feel the throb of industrial and civic needs and desire to make a contribution toward their fulfillment. There is no magic culture in any particular subject of instruction or experience but properly synthesized, they may together contribute full measure to the discipline and development of young engineers". He described the method of operation of this plan at Northwestern and pointed out the many advantages which caused it to be so well accepted by industry, the schools and the students.

Dean F. L. ^{Wilkinson} ~~Lewis~~ speaking on the five year plan at the Speed Scientific school said that at the outset he was not an advocate of the five year plan for all engineering schools. He pointed out that the five year plan at the Speed Scientific School was " designed solely for the development of an engineering program pointing towards the professional and creative functions of engineering".

The plan, he said, required a careful selection of students. The students under such a plan should have a better foundation in mathematics than the average high school student and he should show better than average aptitude for the sciences.

As the time was short the talk by Dean Saarbacher was transferred to the afternoon session and discussion of the papers presented was taken up. In this discussion some of the salient points brought out were as follows.

Dean S. B. Earle in discussing the paper on Technical Institutes said that at this time the Technical Institutes would be of great benefit to some veterans who did not want to spend the time for a formal education. It was, he believed, a good move for the engineering colleges to help in promoting the work of the Technical Institutes.

Prof. J. H. Williamson of Univ. of Tenn said that many of the cooperative employers were planning to set up training programs in their plants as part of their post war plans. This he believed would stimulate cooperative education.

Dean Eshback was asked what effect the union activities would have on cooperative plan. His answer was that he was worried about this and that if the unions managed to get closed shops the cooperative student may have to join the unions.

In discussing Dean Wilkinson's paper, Prof. D. M. McCain of Miss. State College said that he felt that the Speed Scientific School recognized that there was a problem and had set about in a way to solve it. He felt that it was a goal for all to shoot at but that each school would have to solve this problem in its own way. He said that it was recognized that some extension was needed but there were several ways of doing this. (1) Possibility of one year graduate study. (2) a straight five year undergraduate course (3) four years after a short cultural course and (5) keep in touch with the student and extend formal training when needed after graduation.

The morning session was adjourned for the luncheon.

The section was very graciously welcomed to Vanderbilt and Nashville by Vice Chancellor C. M. Sarratt at the luncheon meeting. The guest speaker for this occasion was Col. Harry S. Berry who spoke on "Universal Military Training!"

Col. Berry said that he felt that the advocates of Universal Military training had proved their case for now, more than ever before, we needed a large reserve of men and materials. The unusually destructive weapons that we have to-day made this necessary. He advocated making the Army as a career as attractive as civilian careers so that we could build up a large volunteer army. This volunteer army could then defend the country until we could mobilize our reserve forces built up under Universal Military Training Program.

The afternoon session was presided over by Prof. A. T. Granger.

Dean R. I. Saarbacher was the first speaker of this session. He spoke on the operation of the Graduate School at the Georgia School of Technology. He briefly described the function of the office of the Dean of Graduate school at

Georgia School of Technology and the requirements of the faculty and students. The selection of students, he said, was based on an examination to determine whether the student had the ability to do Doctorate work. The requirements were for three years work one of which should be spent in residence. ~~The year of residence could be either of the three years. While it was sometimes best to select one of the first two years it sometimes happened that the candidate wished to do research elsewhere due to certain equipment. In this case he was required to return for the writing of his thesis in the last year. No accurate accounting of costs had been made but his estimate was that graduate instruction cost about twice as much as undergraduate instruction.~~

The remainder of the afternoon session was devoted to reports and discussion of Post War Policy Programs.

Dean D. V. Terrell of the University of Kentucky reported that, according to answers to a questionnaire that he sent out to the colleges in the southeast, all of the schools would be overcrowded unless something were done to limit enrollment. He pointed out that unless enrollment were limited now on the number entering the lower classes that we would over tax our facilities when these students reached the junior and senior classes. ~~We would not only be limited in physical facilities but in teaching personnel as well, he said.~~

Prof. A. M. Hill of Tulane University reported that most of the colleges were planning to extend the accelerated program in some form for several years. Most of them planned to increase salaries to the faculty for this extra time in teaching but that the faculties would have to be content with not more than a month's vacation per year.

Dean Lasalle reporting on teacher recruitment said that to get the quality of teachers we must have ~~that~~ it would be necessary to compete with industry in the matter of salaries. This, he said, would mean a substantial increase for at least several years until more settled times. The present average annual salary among the schools investigated was as follows: Instructors \$2400; Asst. Professors \$2800.00 ; Associate Professors \$3600.00 and full professors \$4450. The estimated number of extra professors needed in schools in the s.e. section he said was 300. He suggested the following solutions: 1. Limit enrollment of out of state students especially women. 2. Take no students not there before the war. 3. Limit the number of married veterans ~~due to housing shortages~~. 4. Take no out of state student unless in the upper half of his class in high school.

Many members took part in the discussion which followed these reports. Some of the highlights of this discussion follows.

Col. L. S. LeTellier: suggested that we put on brakes by selecting the best of the applicants up to our facilities. We should first recapture those who were in the colleges before and doing well, he thought. "We are called upon!" he said, "to meet a situation which we should not be called upon to meet".

~~Teacher~~ Dean W. S. Rodman said that at the University of Virginia that they needed few but were unable to find the few teachers they needed of the calibre they demanded. He suggested that we use our best teachers for the lower classes and place the poorer teachers where they would do the least harm. He thought our present difficulty was due to the fact that the men with brains have been in the army picking up cigaret butts instead of in the colleges where they rightfully belonged.

Mr. Henry H. Arnsby of the Office of Education said that the National Roster of Scientific Personnel had agreed to expand their service for top people in colleges. However they could not act as employment agency but would give names of men for whatever branch of work is desired.

Dean O. W. Eshbach predicted that we would not have maximum enrollment until about 1948-49 at which time we would need 50% greater capacity than is needed now due to those men in the lower classes reaching the upper classes. It is up to us now to make our administrating officers see this and be prepared for it.

Dean H. P. Hammond said we should not fear the future so long as we were doing something constructive. When the peak comes he pointed out we will have men who have had one year of graduate work who can return to the colleges and help.

Dean Joseph Weil suggested that if we paid enough we could get the men we want and that it was time we brought some of these men to our campus. To pay these new men will eventually mean a higher pay for the teachers now on the job, he said.

A strenuous day of discussion was crowned by a delightful dinner arranged by Dean Fred J. Lewis and presided over by Dean L. L. Fatterson Chairman of the S.E. Section.

The Guest speaker for this occasion was Dean S. S. Steinberg of the University of Maryland who gathered the members and guests together with him and with the aid of a large map took them on a very interesting tour thru the countries on the South American continent.

The final session was held in Memorial hall of Vanderbilt University with the Vice Chairman, Dean Joseph Weil presiding.

A panel discussion was held on the subject of "Participation of the Colleges and Universities in the Disposal of Surplus War Material".

In this discussion it was the general consensus of opinion that the rules and regulations under which the surplus property was being handled were poorly framed and improperly carried out. In general it was thought that more property could be donated to the colleges and that the property which the colleges were allowed to buy was priced above its value.

Business meeting

Dean L. L. Fatterson presided at the annual business meeting.

Dean R. L. Sunwalt moved that the institutional dues be \$1.00 per year for all members of the S.E. Section. It was seconded and carried.

Dean Dougherty, chairman of the nominating committee reported that the committee had nominated the following officers: For chairman, Dean Joseph Weil of University of Florida; For Vice-chairman Dean Fred J. Lewis of Vanderbilt University and for Secretary H. Gale Haynes of The Citadel. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the officers nominated.

Dean Dougherty reported that the place of meeting committee recommended that we accept the invitation of the University of Louisville for the spring meeting of 1947. Prof W. B. Wendt moved that the committee report be adopted. It was unanimously carried.

Dean L. J. Lasalle gave the following as report of the Resolutions Committee:

Whereas we, the members of the Southeastern Section of S.P.E.E. have been the guests of Vanderbilt University during our twelfth annual meeting and have been entertained with distinctive hospitality, therefore, be it resolved:

1. That we deeply appreciate the many courtesies extended to us by Vanderbilt University.

2. That we express our thanks to the officers of the section, to Dean Fred J. Lewis in particular and to the various committees on arrangements for the unexcelled program .

3. That we thank the speakers for the able manner in which they presented their timely and very interesting subjects.

4. That we express our appreciation for the special entertainment provided for the ladies.

5. That we thank the management of the Hotel Hermitage for providing such excellent facilities for our meetings.

6. That we desire to express appreciation to the United States Office of Education for the appointment of Dr. Henry H. Armsby as Liason Officer with Engineering Colleges.

7. That we express thanks to the General Education Board for their grant of \$30,000.00 to the S. P. E. E. for assistance to the S. E. Section institutions project with the Tenn. Valley Authority.

8. That these resolutions be spread on the minutes of this meeting and that a copy be sent to the Vice-chancellor of Vanderbilt University and to the U. S. Office of Education and to the General Education Board.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The minutes were approved as written.

Dean Dougherty moved that the group endorse reception of grant from the General Education Board for research scholarships in this area. Motion seconded and adopted.

With the motion for adjournment the twelfth meeting of the S.E. Section of the S.P.E.E. came to a close.

There were 85 members present representing 23 Engineering colleges in the S.E. Section. There were 6 guests members of the S.P.E.E. from other sections and seventeen lady guests present.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. Gale Haynes, Secretary.

Attendance

Southeastern Section of the Society for the
Promotion of Engineering Education
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.
April 25, 26, 27, 1946

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Alabama, University of	Colgan H. Bryan James R. Cudworth Oscar Dahлана Gilbert H. Dunstan J. M. Faircloth C. N. Gaylord George Johnson Warren G. Keith Otto H. Lunde W. H. Taylor W. G. Warnock
Auburn	J. E. Hannum R. S. Poor
Chattanooga, Ind. Res. Inst. of	Raymond B. Seymore
Citadel, The	H. G. Haynes L. S. LeTellier
Clemson College	S. B. Earle I. A. Trively W. M. Wachter
Duke University	Frederick J. Reed & Mrs. W. H. Hall
Florida, University of	Joseph Weil
Georgia Tech. "	C. L. Emerson Gerald A. Rosselot Robert Sarbacher
Kentucky, University of	A. L. Chambers F. J. Cheek A. S. Coffinberry C. S. Crouse R. E. Shaver D. V. Terrell
Louisiana, University of	L. J. Lassalle
Louisiana Polytech. Inst.	J. T. Folk H. J. Nethken Roy T. Sessums

Attendance - SPEE.

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Louisville, University of	R. C. Ernst & Mrs. M. G. Northrop W. B. Wendt F. L. Wilkinson
Maryland, University of	S. S. Steinberg
Mississippi State	Duey McCain H. P. Neal L. L. Patterson
Mississippi, University of	Lee H. Johnson
Monsanto Chemical Co.	M. D. Whitaker
North Carolina State College	J. H. Lampe W. G. Van Note
Northwestern University	O. W. Eshbach & Mrs.
Pennsylvania State	H. P. Hammond & Mrs.
South Carolina University	Robert L. Sunwalt
Tennessee, University of	W. H. Baskervill R. T. Brown Cecil S. Camp N. W. Dougherty & Mrs. Armour T. Granger K. L. Hertel Roscoe W. Morton W. G. Pollard F. H. Thomas & Mrs. James H. Williamson
Tennessee Polytech. Institute	J. M. Henderson D. W. Mattson
Tennessee, State of	Burgin Dossett, Com. of Ed.
Tennessee Valley Authority	John P. Ferris R. Brooks Taylor
Texas, University of	W. R. Woolrich
Tulane University	F. H. Fox & Mrs. A. M. Hill James M. Robert

Attendance

Institution

Representative

Vanderbilt

W. D. Glenn & Mrs.
S. K. Haynes
George A. Henderson
A. W. Ingersoll
Fred J. Lewis & Mrs.
E. E. Litkenhous & Mrs.
G. H. Lundberg
R. N. McDonald & Mrs.
Glenn A. Milligan
W. L. Miser & Mrs.
W. H. Rowan & Mrs.
Philip Rudnick
Fred Schumann & Mrs.
S. R. Schealer & Mrs.
F. G. Slack
M. H. Stopinski
Dan A. Thomas
F. M. Tiller & Mrs.
W. G. Whitsitt & Mrs.
W. F. Wright

Virginia Military Institute

Col. R. A. Marr.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Dr. F. C. Vilbrandt.

University of Virginia of Virginia

Dean W. S. Rodman.