

Geology perhaps did as much as any one department to center attention on the University of Oklahoma, and the school of geological engineering is enhancing that reputation under the able direction of Dr. V. E. Monnett, '12 arts-sc., director

## Geological engineering

**T**HE school of geological engineering was established at the University of Oklahoma in order to meet the need of those phases of geological work which require more training in engineering practice than was afforded in the college of arts and sciences.

The laboratory investigator in the field of paleontology or in mineralogy has never felt the need of this type of training but nearly all types of field work involve many basic engineering principles.

There are very few universities which offer this type of training and only a small percentage of graduates in geology from this university have undertaken the curriculum offered in geological engineering. Graduates of the school have found that it widens their field of opportunities. Naturally enough most of them have entered some phase of the petroleum industry either in the geological departments or production departments. The field of the geological engineer does not lie wholly in the petroleum industry. A large part of his technical training is designed to acquaint him with the various minerals and rocks that constitute no small part of the wealth of natural resources of any nation. Indeed the geological engineer is as much of a mining engineer as a petroleum geologist. Not only does his province include the search for, and development of, iron, gold, silver, copper, lead, and zinc properties; but also those non-metallic substances that often equal or exceed in value the metals.

Only one professional degree has been conferred on any graduate of geological engineering, but a number of men can now qualify for the degree by virtue

of having completed the necessary amount of field work.

The out-doors is the great laboratory for any geologist or geological engineer and it is only after considerable field experience that any graduate may consider himself fully qualified for professional work.

The present condition of the petroleum industry has probably limited the opportunities of the geological engineer more than that of any other engineering group. Exploration and extension of development necessarily must be curtailed in times of unsettled economic conditions. The work of the geological engineer is largely of this type. The search for new commercial sources of oil and other earth materials has caused American geological engineers to be sent to many foreign countries. Java, Argentina, Cuba, Venezuela, Morocco, Colombia, and Mexico have all served as field laboratories for Sooner geologists and geological engineers. Many are now engaged in the search for favorable gold prospects in the mountainous area of our own country. The geological engineer is primarily a pioneer and through his effort and success in locating valuable mineral deposits often aids in the opening of new sections of country which would otherwise have remained without transportation facilities.

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### Tau Beta Pi dues

Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity, voted to discontinue payment of dues for this semester. Revenue will be made up from tickets sold to members attending the fraternity dinner-dance.



### WASHINGTON

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movement of population that Woodrow Wilson called the swarming of the English was the hard necessity of poverty. Back in England, the enclosure of the fields of the peasants and the decay of the ancient guilds were of course not new, but the full effects were only visible in the closing days of Elizabeth and in the reign of her successor. Even in the sixteenth century, Sir Thomas More had written burning words regarding the difficulties of the unemployed. More than once he had seen husbandmen compelled to sell their little homes and 'depart away, poor innocent wretches, goods, men, women, husbands, wives, fatherless children, widows, woeful mothers and their young babes . . . out of their known and accustomed houses, finding no place to rest in. And when they have wandered abroad . . . what can they else do but steal . . . or go about begging? And then also they be cast in prison as vagabonds, because they go about and work not, whom no man will set to work.' How often in later days, would the same description prove to apply!

Fifty years later conditions were worse, rather than better. Many thoughtful Englishmen now pointed out the possibility of finding a solution for prevalent unemployment by a consciously directed policy of colonial expansion. Thus Sir Humphrey Gilbert who was to give his life to the enterprise that he advocated wrote in 1574: 'We might inhabit some part of these Countreyes (America) and settle there these needy people of our country which now trouble the Commonwealth and through want here at home are enforced to commit outrageous offences whereby they are daily consumed with the gallows.' In 1611, four years after the first settlement of Virginia, the watchful Spanish ambassador, Velasco, wrote to his master: 'Their principal reason for colonizing these parts is to give an outlet to so many idle wretched people as they have in England, and thus prevent the dangers that might be feared of them.' It is noteworthy that the decade of most severe depression came from 1620 to 1630, a time in which the foundations were laid for more than one future American state.

The earliest of purely American panics came (TURN TO PAGE 239, PLEASE)