

A recent addition to the college of engineering faculty is Richard L. Huntington, a graduate of the 1917 class. Huntington is teaching classes in the school of petroleum engineering.

## Petroleum Engineering

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Member St. Pat's Council

**A** SCHOOL in the college of engineering may be judged from four general aspects.

First, one thinks of the curriculum of study which comprises the body of the school. Next in importance is the administration of the school, its director and his faculty. The equipment of the laboratories plays a great part in the degree of excellence which the school may hold, both in comparison of like schools and in the preparation of the student for the experience which he is to need. Lastly, the student body itself has an influence on the prestige of the unit, depending upon the degree of scholarship maintained, and the interest shown in extra-curricular activities pertaining to the school. In the reorganization of the petroleum school, we believe that an improvement has been made in its every phase.

Ever since the organization of the petroleum school, it has followed the program of expansion and improvement in courses which is typical of the college of engineering as a whole. It is necessary, in so progressive an industry as this, to make changes every year. This year new courses pertaining to the transportation of oil and gas and their storage and measurement, have been added, and greater emphasis is being laid on the research courses. The summer field course is also being bettered. The announcements for this course will be out in a short time. The mailing list will include engineers who might be interested in petroleum engineering in all the principal countries of the world. Professor Irwin Bingham will conduct the first section formed in the field course this year.

Perhaps the greatest change in the school took place in September of 1933. Professor H. C. George, who was the

head of the school, accepted a position as head of the petroleum department at the University of Pittsburgh, and Professor F. W. Padgett, who had charge of the refining courses, is now with the Sun Oil company of Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania. This constituted a great loss to the school. Professor W. H. Carson of the mechanical engineering school was picked to head the school in September. The University also was fortunate in obtaining for the faculty, Dr. Richard L. Huntington, a graduate of the college. Dr. Huntington comes from the Phillips Petroleum company, and is head of the refining branch of the school.

The equipment in the school has undergone a complete rearrangement, much new apparatus being added and some discarded. Much valuable space was occupied by tools and other display equipment. Such equipment was consolidated and some entirely eliminated. The unit for testing the antiknock qualities of gasoline was moved into the southwest corner of the main laboratory room downstairs in the petroleum engineering building. The remainder of the south side of this room was put into readiness for the gas measurement laboratory which had previously occupied floor space in the Engineering Laboratory building. The lay-out of this equipment was designed by Sylvan Cromer and installed under his supervision. All mechanical equipment relating directly to the production of oil was moved from the upper floor to the lower floor.

The mining equipment laboratory has been eliminated and a twelve-inch experimental bubble tower is being erected in its place, under the supervision of Doctor Huntington. The front downstairs room formerly used as an office is being con-



verted into a laboratory for glass working models.

The building has been painted throughout and all tables, racks and cases have been painted a light grey. Walls throughout the building have been hung with framed pictures of outstanding pieces of equipment and methods of refining and production. In the downstairs hall a large walnut bulletin board has been set up. In the upstairs portion of the building all of the wire partitions have been removed. Three rooms, twelve feet square, have been constructed. They are located in the northeast, northwest, and southwest corners of the main laboratory. The northeast room is a constant temperature room used exclusively for calorific testing of solid and liquid fuels. The oxyken bomb type of calorimeter is used for the tests. This is Professor H. V. Beck's laboratory. The northwest room is divided into two parts, both being constant temperature rooms. The outer part is used for making certain physical tests on oils; the inner part is a dark room for making flash and fire point determinations. The southwest room is used as a constant temperature room and the Podbeilniak Fractionating in this room has been improved materially by Doctor Huntington by the use of neon tubes, etc. This room is also used as a calorimeter laboratory for determining heating value of natural gas.

Doctor Huntington's refinery research laboratory is located in a half-walled room on the west side of the main laboratory. The American Petroleum Institute flow tube which formerly occupied space on the lower floor has been moved to the upper floor. This is being erected under the supervision of Professor Cloud. Many improvements are being made on the new set-up.

(TURN TO PAGE 146, PLEASE)

Bill Walner, '29ex, recently sailed for Cartagena, Colombia, South America, where he will be employed as a pilot for an oil company. Walner, after leaving the University in 1929, completed the United States Army training course at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas.

Louise Cox, '32as, is becoming one of the outstanding feature writers of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. She was women's editor of the *Oklahoma Daily* during her last year at the University.

Streeter S. Stuart, '32as, is teaching Spanish and social sciences at El Reno high school.

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## PETROLEUM ENGINEERING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 132)

A doorway has been built on the north side of the second floor, and a walkway on the refinery tower and the laboratory constructed between the run-down house room. This eliminates the necessity of carrying samples down the refinery stairs, through the building and upstairs to the testing laboratory.

The instrument room is being made over by adding inclined shelves which carry sawed-out sections to fit the various pieces of apparatus and glassware.

Cutaway models and the like have been secured to build a typical Oklahoma City Christmas tree. This will be assembled at the front of the building south of the walk. A circular type cellar will be used. Just north of the walk an electrically operated Lufkin pumping unit will be in-

stalled. Doctor Huntington and Professor Bennie Shultz are planning to install a small cracking unit just west of the refinery superheater.

A decided increase in the enrollment in the petroleum engineering school was noted this year. The student body is well represented in the engineering honor societies and takes a great part in outside activities beside holding a scholastic standing well above the average. Last fall the Petroleum Engineers club was organized. This meets twice a month to study and discuss papers given by students and men in the industry. The club is affiliated with the American Petroleum Institute and the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers.

With these and other improvements planned for the future, the faculty and students of the school of petroleum engineering mean to hold the prestige of the finest petroleum school in the country if not in the world.

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## "The Adding Machine"

The fourth Playhouse presentation of the year will be Elmer Rice's "The Adding Machine" scheduled for March 23 and 24 in the University auditorium. The fantasy will be directed by Larry A. Haydon and will include a cast of twenty-five dramatic art students.

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