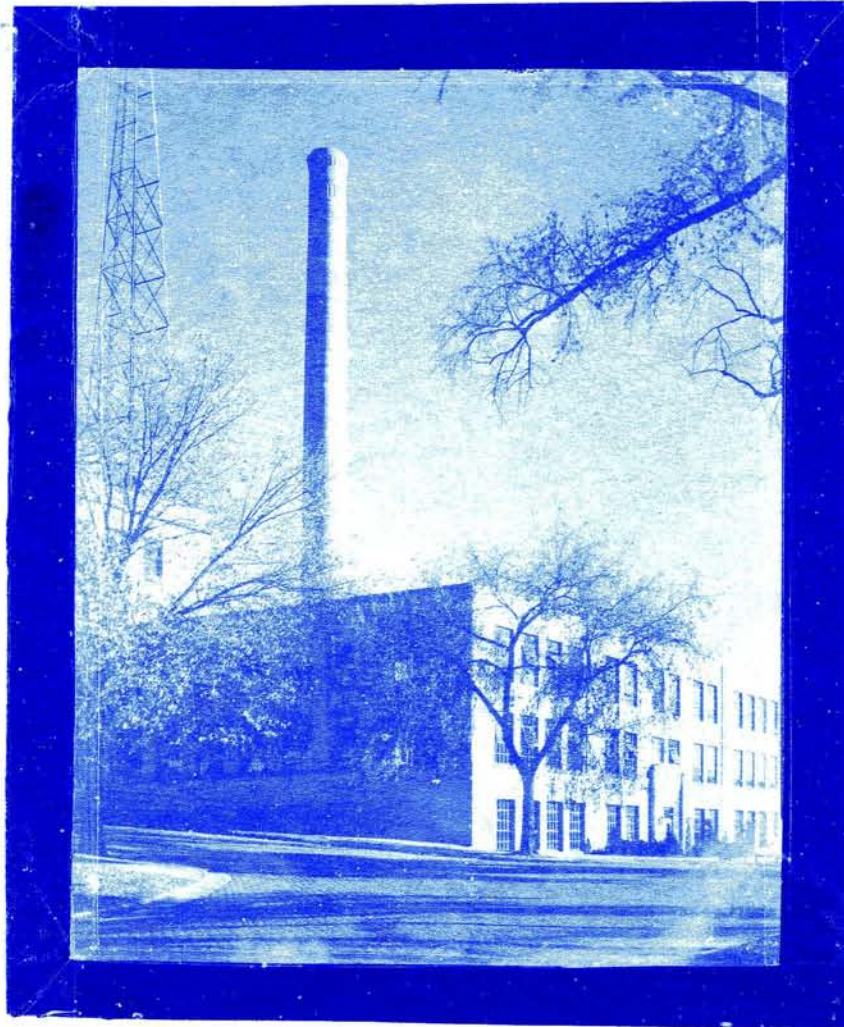


The

1938

MECHANICAL'S BULL-SESSION



CLASS of 30

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING

February 18, 1939

To the Graduates in Mechanical Engineering:

This letter has been somewhat tardy in reaching your class secretary in view of the fact that there has been a renewal of the old question of moving our College of Engineering to Ames. It is with a certain pleasure that we can now report that this issue is again dead for this session of the legislature, as they have referred the question back to the Board of Education.

Our staff remains rather constant, as there has been but one change from the staff we had last year. Mr. Sherrill left us to accept a similar position at Cornell and we have employed Mr. R. W. Leutwiler, nephew of Professor Leutwiler at Illinois, to fill this position. He seems to be a most likeable chap and enjoys his work very much.

It may be of interest to you to know that the undersigned has just been elected president of the Iowa Engineering Society. This Society is making an effort to interest itself in the professional and economic aspects of engineering as well as the more familiar technical subjects. This movement, originating in Iowa, is of great interest to engineers all over the country and we are receiving many requests for information. We hope that all of you have taken an active interest in the engineering societies in your vicinity and have applied for membership with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, as this will undoubtedly be a professional advantage to you.

The enrollment in Mechanical Engineering is now the largest it ever has been as we now have about one-third of the College of Engineering and about 45 in both classes of Sophomores and Juniors.

Those of you who are interested in the fields of "Thermodynamics, Heat Transmission and Fluid Flow" might find a book of this title (written by the undersigned) to be of interest to you. This book may be obtained from the Mc-Graw-Hill Book Company in New York.

Assuring you of our great interest in your class letters and personal letters which we receive at odd intervals, I am

Cordially yours,

Professor Huber C. Croft
Head of Department

hoc/b

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
Iowa City
College of Engineering

February 14, 1939

Class of 1930:

In the eight years since you were graduated, many changes have taken place--both in the personnel of our department and the physical equipment we have to work with. I wish all of you might drop in and get acquainted with our new men and see how we have developed our laboratories. I hope all of you have an opportunity to do this but in case you don't, these letters help you keep up on what we are doing. We are always interested in what you are doing and we hope you are as interested in us. Your interest, good will, and cooperation is one of our biggest assets.

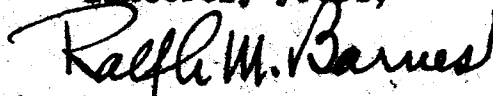
This year we are arranging to have our Management Conference on March 31. Last year's conference was so successful we decided to make it an annual affair. Last year we discussed the subjects of "Motion and Time Study" and "Wage Incentives"--this year the subjects are to be "Motion and Time Study," "The Styling of Products," and the "Stabilization of Employment." If any of you are interested in our program for this year, we will be glad to send you a printed copy.

For the first time we are going to offer summer courses in Industrial Engineering and Management. There will be a three-week course for men employed in industry and eight-week courses for students and instructors. If you want further information about these courses, we will send it.

I want to urge all of you to take the initiative in keeping us informed of your changes in positions and addresses. Very often we receive inquiries about experienced graduates but are very much handicapped in our recommendations because you have not kept us informed of your accomplishments and whereabouts. Any college or department is no better nor worse than the graduates it turns out. We are proud of our alumni and realize you are our best advertisements. In your many contacts, we hope your good work and encouraging words will interest many prospective engineers in the University of Iowa.

I send my personal regards and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely yours,



Ralph M. Barnes
Professor of Industrial Engineering.

March 6, 1939

J. K. Hamil and Members of the Class of 1930:

I hope this letter does not reach you too late to get into this year's publication of the "Bull Session". I would like very much to be able to meet all the members of your class personally, and talk over our experiences of the last few years. I know, however, that this is impossible, and I will look forward to your next publication.

As for myself, I am slugging along in about the same old fashion, trying to manage a Water Company and some 30,000 WPA workers in Iowa. Like most other people, I have had my spell of the flu, and I am just getting over its effects—I hope. That crazy bug does something to a fellow, and it seems like it takes a long time to get over it.

With kindest regards to you and the members of your class, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



April 12, 1939

To the Class of 1930:

Your letter notifying me that the time has arrived for me to contribute my lines to the yearly volume came all too soon. It seems but yesterday when I wrote last year's letter.

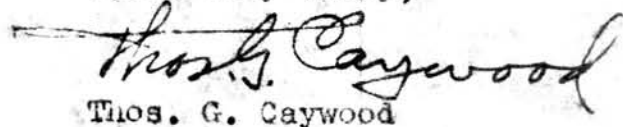
It has been very interesting to read these letters and note the interests of the boys as their years accumulate. Not particularly serious the first few years, they record the weight of their first born to the third decimal---an accuracy not tolerated in the steam laboratory.

We are teaching machine design in a much more interesting fashion than in your days, judging from the general class attitude. A few of the boys take some electrical work in this field and then take up positions in engineering offices.

The writer has strayed a bit from the strictly technical the past two years in serving on the city school board. This matter of serving in a public capacity is indeed a new experience. "Accuracy" is a term well understood and observed in engineering, but in some public affairs, a decimal point or the addition of a cypher is a small matter. The contrast has been interesting.

Awaiting the bundle of letters, I am

Yours very truly,


Thos. G. Caywood

THE NEXT LETTER WAS DIFFICULT TO READ IN THE ORIGINAL BLUEPRINT AND NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO READ IN THE DIGITAL COPY. A TRANSCRIPT, THEREFORE, WAS MADE FROM THE ORIGINAL AND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS THE LETTER IN QUESTION.

Feb. 21, 1939

Mr. J. K. Merrill
87 Leland Ave.
Leominster, Mass.

Dear Paull:

I was very happy to have your note, inquiring as to the well-being and whereabouts of the old shop going. As you know, about the time you graduated we moved into the new building. Since then there have been some rearranging of shelves and courses, and we have acquired a very small amount of new equipment. In general we are very comfortable in our new quarters.

Mr. Bowman, "Pat" to you and everybody else, is no different now than he was in 1918 when he joined our forces. The last few years, as befits his age, he has taken to a very earnest study of golf, and is said to be a most proficient performer. I would not know about that, being still too young for the game.

Mr. Ekstrand has passed the retirement age and consequently is only working part time, in the pattern shop. He has had several severe sick spells in the past few years and may be a little frailer than he was, but he looks to me just the same as ever.

Mr. Fielding has purchased a 10-acre place in Corralville, and is fixing things up in his spare time. He intends to produce a breed of hens that will out do that celebrated critter that led the electric light-bulb, and incidentally provide a home in which he can take his ease like an English squire, when retirement time rolls around.

You asked about "Bill", the fountraven. Didn't you mean Joe Kusick? I think he was in the foundry when you were a freshman. He left here about 1922 and has been living in California. He came back here a couple of years ago, for an operation at the University Hospital. He was here a few weeks and then went back to California. Nobody has heard from him since. He was just the same old Joe that everybody remembers. While he might not have been classed as a gentleman and a scholar, he was a colorful character and one not easily forgotten.

I haven't much to report for myself. A little grayer, a little baldier, and I am sorry to admit, a little more portly. Our work goes on much the same as ever. In the last year or so we have been working on molded plastics, which seem to interest the boys very much. For the Mecca exhibition, now held in May, when the high school kids of the state are here for the Music Festival, we have been getting out a molded plastic button as a souvenir, which seems to please them a lot.

I had to look up the alumni list to find out that you left here in 1930. It did not surprise me so long as nine years brings a lot of changes, but I hope it has brought nothing but good luck to all of your plans, and that the future years will be equally kind to you.

Yours very truly,

Alvin G. Bowen
Alvin G. Bowen

The State University of Iowa
Iowa City
College of Engineering

Department of Mechanical
Engineering

Feb. 21, 1939

Mr. J.K. Hamil
67 Moreland Ave.
Leominster, Mass.

Dear Hamil,

I was very happy to have your note inquiring as to the welfare and whereabouts of the old shop gang. As you know, about the time you graduated we moved into the new building. Since then there have been some rearrangements of schedule and courses, and we have acquired a very small amount of new equipment. In general we are very comfortable in our new quarters.

Mr. Putman, "Put" to you and everybody else, is no different now than he was in 1918 when he joined our forces. The last few years, as befits his age, he has taken up a very earnest study of golf, and is said to be a most proficient performer. I would not know about that, being still too young for the game.

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I had to look up the alumni list to find out that you left here in 1930. It did not seem so long ago. Nine years brings a lot of changes, but I hope it has brought nothing but good luck to all of your class, and that the future years will be equally kind to you.

Yours very truly,
[signed]
A.V. O'Brien

321 C Street, South-west
Ardmore, Oklahoma
March 17, 1939

Dear Classmates:

Another year has complete its span in this vale of tears, and I am not only still working for the same company, but even living in the same house, which is almost a record for me. In two more days I will have reached my 36th annual milestone, and so generous are the rewards of a life of unrelenting virtue that I still feel 26, and act 16.

1938 was very good to me and I have the very best of reasons for expecting '39 to be still better.

I still have the same five states for my territory, but I have them producing so nicely now that within the year I may be able to get my territory reduced to the states of Texas and Oklahoma in the very capable hands of a state distributor with whom I merely spend an occasional week. My own work will then be mainly confined to Texas alone. This will allow me a little time for fishing and for meditation upon the deeper issues of life, both of which pastimes I have been forced to neglect these last two years. In fact, I have neglected the latter almost 36 years now. Sometimes I envy those of you who forge steadily ahead by earnest, conscientious, and industrious application of the abilities with which nature endowed you. It must be comforting to look back on such a career. In my own case, I am so lazy that I have to depend on advancing spasmodically by a series of coups, instead of by sustained effort.

I was fortunate this year in that my schedule just happened to take me to New Orleans just the day before Mardi Gras started and detained me there until after it had ended. (I arrange all my own schedules).

It is a wonderful age in which we are living. Lennox is now producing entirely automatic heating plants of greater beauty than the grand piano of grandmother's day, and I presume each of you has equal reason to be proud of his company. I note that du Pont, especially, is doing its bit to make the world a better place in which to live by discovering a substance from which ladies' hose can be made three times as sheer as silk ones.

Having told all the news, I must now go and write my boss about what an inadequate salary I am receiving.

Sincerely,

Larry Allen

Larry Allen

119 Vine Street,
Waterloo, Iowa.

Dear Gang,

1938, like all other years made her bow, was here and gone in a very short time. But no other year has been more enjoyable or more hectic. There were several factors which made it enjoyable; my work here with John Deere Tractor was interesting; I traveled more and saw more of the country than in any one other year, and last, but by far not the least, to make it enjoyable I married the "Only Girl".

Yes, after all these years of holding out and perhaps a bit boastfully reminding you that I was still my own boss in all things, I was married Oct. 1st and now am just as sorry for Rocklin and any others who are still in single harness as I formerly was for my married friends.

I am still with the Experimental Department, and what with the ever increasing number of uses of tractors for specialized work and the increasing number of models being furnished the trade, my work is interesting and heavy. The tractor industry is also beginning to realize that our work is not finished by simply putting a tractor on the market and saying - "There it is, you can use it as best you can", but instead tools are being fitted and tested for use with it to give a well balanced complete working unit. This means close cooperation with other plants manufacturing tools that are adaptable for use with the various models.

I mentioned traveling considerably; the two most interesting trips were one into Texas for the company where I spent several weeks in Houston on special test work. I Haven't decided as yet though why they wanted to take some of that country away from the Mexicans. The other trip was my vacation and wedding trip to New Orleans and other places of interest down the Mississippi River. If any of you are interested or enjoy antiques and antiquity, I'm sure a few days in New Orleans would be enjoyable. There are also many things there of interest in an engineering sense, such as the river levees, footings for buildings, the preservation of houses almost two centuries old, and then, of course, the Huey P. Long Bridge across the Mississippi.

I had fully intended to attend Home-Coming last fall, but press of work delayed my vacation to such an extent that Home-Coming came right in the middle so that I read the results of the game in New Orleans. However, we'll try to do better this year and hope to see some of you there.

If any of you happen through Waterloo, let me know and we'll get together for one of those good old "Mechanical Sessions".

Best wishes to you all,

[signed in pencil "Bergie"]

21470 Aster Court
Grosse Ile, Michigan
March 23, 1939

Dear Gang,

Well, here it is time for another Bull Session and I find myself numbered among the stragglers. I think I have a good excuse, however, as I am now known among my intimates as "Pappy" Clark, having become a proud father of a baby girl February 11, 1939, and am just now regaining my equilibrium. I am a little bit slower than Allen and Davis, but bear in mind the story of the tortoise and the hare and do not count me out of the race yet - in case you fellows think you are leading the Stork Derby.

In connection with my work, things haven't changed much during the past year. I am still at Trenton Channel Power House doing experimental work for the Production Department.

One of the biggest problems in our pulverized fuel plant at present is disposing of the ashes of combustion. During the 14 years Trenton Channel Plant has been in operation, the fly ash, which is 80 per cent of the total ash or 120 tons per day, was pumped to marsh land on the plant grounds. However, as this land is about filled, other methods of ash disposal have to be found. Several years ago The Edison Company started some experimental work in making ash block from lime, resin and fly ash and were very successful. These blocks have been used extensively in our new company buildings for inside partitions, ~~walls~~ and outside wall above the ground level. However, it's very hard for a public utility to go into the block making business and to date we haven't disposed of much ash by this method.

Studies are being made in several different parts of the country to determine whether fly ash can be used as an admixture for rubber, cement, asphalt and several other materials. So far these studies have shown that it mixes very well with cement, gives a puzzolan action, and that a smaller amount of cement can be used with a resulting stronger concrete. A large amount has also been mixed with asphalt in Detroit and used as a road surfacer with very good results.

The limiting factor, however, in using fly ash as an admixture is the carbon content as it should be below 6 per cent. My work during the past year has consisted mostly in finding a way to reduce our present 9 per cent carbon content below the required 6 per cent. We approached this problem by studying the effect of coal fineness on the amount of carbon in the ash.

To do this, we used several different types of coal with various grindability factors, ground them to three different finenesses and then burned them in the boiler. So far our findings have shown that the fineness of the coal has little effect on the amount of carbon in the ash. Our next step is to change the design of the burners, so that we get a better mixing action in the furnace, thus burning more carbon and leaving less in the ash.

In Sanger's letter last year, he spoke of the wild rides he and Hardwick took at Iowa City. I don't know whether Sanger has tamed down or not, but I occasionally hear that Hardwick still goes on his. Hardwick is working on farm lines in the Overhead Lines Department and the last I heard of him, he was stationed at Standish, Michigan. In case anyone wishes to get in touch with him, write to The Detroit Edison Company 2000 Second Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Well, I guess I had better sign off until next year.

Yours truly,

C. H. Clark

du Pont "Cellophane"
Richmond, Virginia
June 16, 1939

Dear Gang,

Well I've given up hope of ever hearing from some of the letters so I'm going to finish up the 1938 edition and send it off.

I've had a rather hectic time getting it done. When the first plea for letters went out we were still in Massachusetts, the Cradle of Liberty. But what with skiing and extra work at the plant it dragged along. Then three days after I received Mr. Keller's letter I came down with the flu-"that crazy bug", and was in bed for a week. The next week we were moved to Richmond, Va., and I've taken over the Industrial Engineering work in the "Cellophane" plant. Nice plant, new work, new town-I've been busy!

Most of the letters are in however, and you fellows did a grand job of responding--or should I say corresponding. I didn't give up those that didn't answer. I sent inquiries to their local Police Departments were they were last heard from. I located one that way, Weiskercher. Then I knew a friend whose sister works for Detroit Edison who gave me the low-down on Hardwick but I could never get a rise out of him. He's in charge of a branch department in Overhead Lines in Standish, Michigan. He's still single. I couldn't get the dope on Mouglin, McLarney or Eige. Anyone knowing their whereabouts, please write to the next class secretary. And having drawn names from those who haven't yet had the job, I find that Mr. K. W. Sanger, that man in the wild and wooley west, Toppinish, Washington, is elected.

Next year being our tenth anniversary should call for something special. I'd like to see a picture of each man attached to their letter next year. Not just an application photo but a full length snap so we can check up on O'Brien's portliness, or anybody elses waistline that may be showing the effects of those tavern visits. Those with families could include them. For myself, I'd like to see what you all look like after ten years. How about it? Then, too, next year is the year to go back and I'm going to try to make it. I'd sure like to see some of the rest of you there too.

Mr. Barnes contributed the photo for the front, for which we all thank him. It is an actual photograph of the new mechanical laboratory. You will probably recall that the architects drawing appeared on our 1931 issue.

Mr. O'Brien has given a good resume of the shop gang. His mention of moulded plastics interested me because that has been part of my work the past three years, making moulded plastic combs, and other articles. We made some excellent strides in the art. Also designed and built lots of automatic machines, Mr. Caywood. Now it's "Cellophane". This plant employs about 3300 and is the most modern of the three duPont "Cellophane" and "Rayon" plants. It has a capacity of about 30 million pounds of "Cellophane" a year, and all the materials are on as big a scale. Some job. There is lots of Chemical Engineering in this job by the looks of things so far. Most every problem, chemical or mechanical, requires the same approach, however.

I took two night school courses in Harvard this last year, but didn't get my credit because I had the flu and couldn't take the final exams. I took a course in Cost Accounting and one in Logic. I think Logic would be a good course to include with engineering. How about it Mr. Croft?

Well, I must stop and get this to the blueprinter. I hope this next year will be kind to all of you. If anyone gets near Richmond, be sure to give me a ring at duPont "Cellophane".

Cordially yours,

Hamil

JKH/r

Albany, Illinois
April 8, 1939

Dear Classmates:

Another year has rolled around and I'm late as usual with my letter.

J. K. was very kind in taking the editor's job off my hands this year. I really don't have time, as I'm out and in the office so much and the blue print facilities are not so hot here. I actually was ashamed of the "looks" of last year's edition, but it had the dope and after all that is what counts. Thanks a lot gang for cooperating and for your fine contributions. I did my best to make it one hundred percent, but I guess some of the old gang has been lost forever.

I'm still with the Illinois Division of Highways, much to my surprise, and not long ago I received a promotion, with the title of "Acting" District Planning Engineer. I hope to have the "Acting" removed before long. We have ten counties in northwestern Illinois belonging to our district, and I have charge of all the mapping, traffic surveys, etc., for these ten counties.

Our district engineer of design, M. M. Memler, and our County Roads Engineer, George Fries, are both Iowa grads. We have several Ames boys in the office too. (Remember the Ames shuffle?)

I'm still single, but I'm afraid I won't be able to say that the next time I write.

Haven't seen any of the boys of late, except Gene Utterback, who stops in Dixon quite often. He's still salesman for Westinghouse Electric, out of Chicago. He was my "ace" gum totter when I was Corporal of the 1st squad, 1st platoon, company "A" of the Iowa R.O.T.C. Engineers. I've forgotten all I knew about that, but if things don't quiet down we may have a chance to learn it over again.

When it comes to letter writing, I'm not there, so I'll have to say the best of luck and health to all of you, and see you again next year.

Your Classmate,

Dick Lyons
Dick Lyons.

216 Liberty Drive S.E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
April 9, 1939.

Dear Classmates:

Halleluia! The "Blarney Stone" has been found. You fellows remember during your undergraduate days that at times this venerable rock was mentioned. It was supposed to have had some connection with the annual induction ceremonies of the "Knights of Saint Patric", the forerunner of Mecca. As the story goes, the stone was buried by an early class of engineers. Rather complicated instructions for locating its resting place had been left. For some reason these directions were lost and the identity of those who took part in the interment of the rock was unknown. This was the story the undergraduate heard at some time during his college career. Most of them looked at it as something of a myth. According to the Class of 1939 it is decidedly not so. The present Senior Class was able to contact one of the men who officiated at the burial of the "Blarney Stone." From him the approximate hiding place was learned, and after much digging it was unearthed.

This event was disclosed in a talk given by a representative of the Senior Class at the '39 Mecca week Smoker. The actual location was not made very plain but one would suspect that the "Blarney Stone" has lain all these years under that old exhibit in the room on the lower floor of the engineering building. That room to the right of the door used to reach the old power plant that stood where the new Mechanical Laboratories are now located.

Physically the "Blarney Stone" is much like a sandstone building block; of regular dimensions, about eighteen inches long, twelve inches wide, and five inches thick. This is an approximate description based on a glance taken at the Smoker.

The "Blarney Stone" was presented by the Senior Class to the Juniors as a tangible part of Mecca. It is planned that it will become a permanent tradition of this yearly celebration. The idea is that each year the Senior Class shall bury the stone, leaving complicated but accurate directions for finding its resting place. These instructions will be conveyed to the Senior Class of the following year. During Mecca Week the rock will be searched out and unearthed with suitable ceremony. The details are sketchy but it is easy to see what a good idea it is. The publicity

value of the Annual search, the finding of the stone, and its secretive hiding will be a big help in strengthening the position of Mecca Week as a part of the traditions of the University. The boys should be congratulated. However, they had better do a good job of hiding. There are always the Laws, you know.

On my annual pilgrimage to Iowa City seeking inspiration for this letter, I spent most of an afternoon talking to Mary and Norma. We talked about the present past and future, a very enjoyable couple of hours. At the Smoker my acquaintance with Dean Dawson was renewed. I, also talked with Professors Croft and Barnes and others of the faculty. They all seemed glad to greet an old grad and certainly made my visit a pleasant one. No one of you should miss an opportunity to visit the old school, it is certainly worth while.

The Mecca celebration this year consisted of the Smoker a Dance and a Banquet, the show being a part of the latter. It still is an internal affair with the exception of the dance. Although it is not as impressive a celebration as we enjoyed the ideal of Mecca is still preserved. From the sentiments voiced at the Smoker some time in the near future it may again be presented on a larger scale. I'm sure you all join in hoping that rivalry between two campus groups will not make it necessary to curtail Mecca activities again.

Sincerely,

Mark Plumly

Mark Plumly.

3227 Jennings St.
Sioux City, Iowa
March 1, 1939

Dear Classmates:

It is purely coincidence that I write this yearly letter to the "Bull Session" on the first of March, the windy month.

From the looks of things a few weeks back, we would now be writing an obituary for our Engineering College, referring of course, to the recent attempt on the part of some of our over-zealous tax saving state legislators who were interested and determined to join our Engineering College with that of Ames and locate it there. For the present, I understand that this legislative Bill has been killed. However, from the history of this particular action it seems to have had many lives. It may attempt to live again and if it does, I hope all of you fellows will exert enough pressure through your friends and relatives in this state to see that it is killed until it really is dead.

My business life during the past year has changed little. We manufactured my air conditioning units in Fremont, Nebraska, and in spite of the absence of any real hot weather, kept a few people busy.

Since the air conditioning business is seasonable, as I informed you in my last letter, I operate the Tractorsaw Company, which during the winter time is in full operation here in Sioux City, making power take-off tractor log saws for Bergies tractor, as well as others. Tractorsaws, which keep me busy, men employed, and the banker satisfied, have enjoyed a moderate amount of success in this country from a sales standpoint. Its use is spreading and we have shipped some as far off as New Zealand. Sale of Tractorsaws, as you can see, is limited however, to places where there are tractors and timber.

I don't know under what classification of engineering this work of mine could be listed-if any. In attempting to make a living and keep the ball rolling, I have to work like hell and worry as much. So far I haven't added the worries of married life to those that I already have.

It is surprising how you fellows have spread out and located in distant points. I particularly envy Allen down South, and Davis in the Philippines, when these cold winter days in Iowa come around. Of course in the summer time I make my own weather with my air conditioning unit.

This year I promised myself my first vacation since graduation. It now looks as though it is just another New Years resolution. I had hoped to make either the East or West coast World's Fair, but can see no way to doing it now. However, if you fellows are passing through Fremont or Sioux City, (each in season), when going to either of the two World's Fairs, take a few minutes off of that gas pedal and stop in.

With best wishes for your good health and prosperity, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Isadore Jay Rocklin

27 North E St.,
Toppenish, Wash.,
March 25, 1939.

Gentlemen:

Now that the weather has moderated somewhat I can come out of hibernation and write that "Bull Sessdon" letter that Hamil asked for a month or so ago.

The above statement with regards to the weather might lead you to believe that we have just come through a very severe winter which is not exactly true. Our lowest temperature this winter was ten degrees above zero and I think the mercury dropped that low only twice. But it is true that the last week has seen quite a moderation, with a high for the week of 81 degrees. Our springs are just nice enough that some of the Coast League ball clubs usually spend their spring training period here in the valley.

As for my auto-biography for the past year, I can't think of a less interesting subject about which to write. Business has gone on just about as usual, although considerably slower than last year; my private life has been mostly a matter of eating and sleeping; in fact, I think the whole thing can be fairly well summed up as follows: "Another year has passed".

My one interesting experience during the year has been the formation of a duck club and developing a pond over which to shoot. Last fall seven of us here in Toppenish acquired the hunting rights on an eighty lying along Toppenish Creek a few miles west of town. There was a small pot hole on the place and we had fair shooting for the first few days of the season but the water kept falling as the season progressed and a cold snap finally put an end to the shooting by freezing what little water was left. The layout appeared to have possibilities, though, so we decided to do a little engineering --mostly with shovels--in an effort to increase the size of our pond. Our first step was to burn the tules off the place which we accomplished quite satisfactorily, burning not only our own but several other pieces in that vicinity. Fortunately, no harm was done. We then did some damming on the creek, dug one ditch and cleaned out another, and found we had increased the size of the pond about six times what it had been. And, to add to our satisfaction, the ducks have already started making their home on the pond. There is still plenty of work to be done but we now feel quite certain the venture will be a success. We are only sorry that we did not get started earlier and put the thing through as a WPA Project.

Hoping the rest of the letters are better reading than this one, I remain

Sincerely yours,
K. W. Sanger
K. W. Sanger

1118 West 83 Street,
Los Angeles, California,
April 13, 1939

Mr. James K. Hamil,
Du Pont "Cellophane" Company,
Richmond, Virginia,

Dear J. K.:

I have before me your card to the Police Department of Granville, Iowa. Of course, the head of the department there is a very personal friend of mine, so he forwarded your card to me.

You see I have been writing a letter for the 1932 Mech's each year and sort of lost track of the 30's. However, I certainly would like to hear about all of you. If you save a copy for me and name the price, I will oblige immediately.

Now to enlighten you in regard to my whereabouts. I have been here in California for the past six years, and have been employed at the Welbilt Body Company, a special body manufacturing plant, for the past four and one half years, in capacity of engineer. (chief engineer for the past two years). Due to the fact that all our bodies are made to specification and the designs change continually it is quite a fascinating industry.

I will put you at ease as to my marital status, for I am still single, and can say I enjoy the freedom. My folks have been living out here for the past ten years and I live with them. So if any of the gang should happen to get to this part of the country, I would certainly like to have them get in touch with me. I have been thinking with the increase in manufacturing in this city I may even see some of the boys employed here, but so far haven't heard of anyone.

Let me know regarding the class letter. Wishing you and yours the best of luck, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Kuchner