



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

VOL. 46 - No. 2

Our 61st Year

NOVEMBER, 1973

NOVEMBER MEETING

Philadelphia Section, American Society of Civil Engineers

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1973

Engineers' Club, 1317 Spruce Street, Philadelphia

Cocktails - 5:30

Dinner -- 6:30

Meeting - 7:30

SUBJECT:

EMBANKMENT CONSTRUCTION ON SOFT GROUND SPEAKER:

CHARLES C. LADD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology PROGRAM HOST:

RICHARD E. MABRY, Chairman, Soil Mechanics and Foundations Group

With the continuing expansion of our urban centers, engineers are increasingly planning and designing facilities to be built on marginal lands that typically pos-



Charles C. Ladd

sess unfavorable subsoil conditions. In order to economically and successfully build on these manginal lands, ingenious and technologically advanced foundation and building systems are frequently required.

Principal aspects of the foundation design, construction, and performance of highway embankments for two major interchanges will be presented. The first porject, located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, involved a soft, very sensitive marine clay for which a test embankment was purposely constructed to failure. The second project was located on tidal mud flats in Portland, Maine, and included a sand drain test section. An extensive program of field measurements was used to control

construction check design assumptions, and evaluate performance.

Dr. Charles C. Ladd is Professor of Civil Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. In addition to teaching and research activities at M.I.T. during the past fifteen years, Professor Ladd has been an active consultant on soils and foundation problems. He has authored numerous publications on soil behavior, soil stabilization, and foundation engineering, as well as having lectured at many universities, professional societies, and international conferences. Professor Ladd is a member of the ASCE, ASTM, NSPE, Highway Research Board, Boston Society of Civil Engineers, and is presently Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Department of Public Works, Concord, Massachusetts. In 1969, he was recipient of the ASCE Research Prize for his work on the strength of cohesive soils. Professor Ladd was born in Brooklyn, New York, and has received degrees from Bowdoin College and M.I.T.

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STUDENTS - Plan to attend for Dinner (Half Price) or meeting after Dinner

GAME NIGHT A Pleasant Evening

The crowd was small, but the enthusiasm was great as the Section celebrated the Third Annual Fall Social Game Night—"A Night at the Races," at the Engineers' Club, Friday evening, October 19, 1973. It was sponsored and arranged by the lovely ladies of the Women's Auxiliary. Audrey (Mrs. Will M.) Heiser, Game Night Chairman, and her hard-working committee are to be commended for their efforts in making the event a social — and financial — success in spite of the light turnout.

Hosts Alan Woodin and Dick Wexler, staff performers of Radio Station WPEN-FM again m.c.'d with comedy and quick-witted commentary. They fired challenging memory-testing questions at the audience to identify radio and television personalities, programs and technicalities of today and yester-year. Those who answered correctly were rewarded with delightful packaged goodies provided by Messrs. Woodin and Wexler.

Eight actual horse race films at a major Eastern track—in color—were projected on a screen at intervals, after the audience had placed bets on their winner selections, for cash prizes. The excitement was electric as women screeched and men coaxed their favorite stallions and fillies to take the lead.

There were, as always, many door prizes, baskets of cheer and miscellaneous gifts, snacks and coffee—all contributions of the Auxiliary members. Net proceeds of the event will be deposited, as in past years, in the Annette Estrada Award Fund.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

OCTOBER MEETING

The Press Views Public Works

The 1973-1974 season of monthly meetings of the Philadelphia Section, ASCE was inaugurated at the Engineers' Club on October 9, 1973. The meeting was attended by an elite audience of over 100 members and guests, including eminent past and present Philadelphia Public Works officials, consulting engineering firm principals, general and specialty building contractors, and officers of several professional, industrial and technical societies. The subject was: "Can Public Works Work: A View from the Press." The panel of speakers - three distinguished Philadelphia news media specialtists-were: Rolfe Neill, Editor, Philadelphia Daily News; Doug Bedell, Editorial Board, The Philadelphia Bulletin; and Miss Andrea Mitchell, City Hall Reporter for Station KYW-Radio, Program Host was Ira N. Pierce, Chief, Public Transportation Planning, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Pierce is Assistant Secretary of the Philadelphia Section. Robert O. Drange, Partner, Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff, presided at his first meeting as Section President.

The title was not designed as a frivolous alliteration. It was the deliberate invitation to a meaningful dialogue between the proponents of desperately needed public accommodations and improvements—and representatives of the most powerful and persuasive media through which that advocacy can receive public expression and exposure. It was intended to be an investigation and analysis by the press of the merits of key public works—either planned, in process of construction or completed in the Philadelphia Metropolitan area.

Having set the hypothesis, then, we may beg the questions: Can the press judge objectively the merits of the initiatives of public technological and political agencies toward the creation of a better physical, economic and socialogical environment for all? And can it truly reflect the community's attitudes and responses to these initiatives? The dialogue between audience and speakers addressed these penetrating questions.

The panel members spoke in "round-table" style, with Daily News Editor Rolfe Neill acting as moderator. He won the audience immediately with amusing quips and anecdotes. Bulletin editorialist Doug Bedell threw a swift punch in the discussion by quoting the comment of an otherwise well-informed woman at a recent Rotarian meeting: "Planners

and engineers are a bunch of bums!" This, in Mr. Bedell's opinion, reflects the obliquity of judgment of a large segment of the public regarding the concepts and purposes of public works. He discussed certain highway projects in Philadelphia (The Delaware Expressway as a principle example), and redevelopment housing; in which planned ingress and egress ramps, routes, architectural style and housing-unit concentrations, playgrounds and appurtenances often spawn emotional explosions of objections and fears by citizens that their homes, religious and communal buildings historical institutions modes of living would be demolished, inappropriately relocated, hopelessly debilitated or irretrievably altered by these developmental programs.

There is a trenchant, abiding need for communication with these people, admonished Mr. Bedell. The planners and builders must rationalize the public works in terms of the overall needs of the public welfare. Urban life no longer can be circumscribed within the confines of Victorian parochialism.

Mr. Neill asked Mr. Bedell if the editorial writer, before he composes his critique, visits the site, investigates the project, and talks to the community about it. Mr. Bedell replied that in very important projects such as the Society Hill area ramps proposed for I-95, as well as the below-grade section of the Delaware Expressway, he does considerable research. In this case he conferred for many hours with several planning agencies, including the prestigious Old Philadelphia Development Corporation, in order to familiarize himself with the proposals. In addition his more than fifteen years residency and professional background in this city have indoctrinated him in the ramifications of public works and the devices with which to monitor the nodes, vibrations and waves of community response. His editorial commentary, therefore is generally premised on first-hand knowledge, even though he does not necessarily visit every site. One would hope that all editorial writers would be so qualified

Miss Andrea Mitchell, popular KYW-Radio News Reporter, commented on community input, and communication between the public and City officials. She cited Mayor Rizzo's pledge that a community's prior acceptance of any project was an irrevocable requisite for City approval. She posed the question which must be implanted in all planners' consciousness: can a city progress and prosper on this basis? Planners and builders, advised Miss Mitchell, must be-

come sophisticated to the sentiments of the people's groups. Mayor Rizzo's doctrine cannot be universally fair because all community segments do not have equal voice in determining their fate. She gave examples. Philadelphia's Chinatown has little or no entree-for communication and representation — to City agencies. Their loud cries of dissent are usually rewarded only with sotto voce acknowledgements. There are others, however, which have the connections, and they are more benevolently served. It is vital, in Miss Mitchell's opinion, that engineers and planners establish lines of communication and intelligence directly with the communities. Liaison with the technical planning agencies, Commissions and Authorities is not enough.

As a contrast to Miss Mitchell's thesis, Mr. Neill reminisced about how the master advocate and agitator of public works — New York City's famous, and controversial, Robert Moses expedited projects by getting them started in the field before the people, even knew what was going on Public hearings be damned! was the credo of this irrepressible activist. (Continued)

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When the discussion was opened to questions from the floor, several comments of audience participants focused on the relationship - or the lack of it - of the press to the needs and problems of the community. The news media were broadly reproved for their insensitivity and generally passive commentary on major public works issues. If this proposition is accurate, a logical corollary conclusion would be that the press may indeed reflect, with benevolence, the public's responses and attitudes toward changes in their physical environment and modes of living caused by public works. But should they not also advocate with vigor those projects which are universally acclaimed by technological artisans as essential to the public

The reporters defended themselves on the ground that their time, energy and expertise are subject to myriad demands, Mr. Bedell pointed out that certain "vested interest" communities can kill many improvements by their influence on City officials, by delaying and divisive tactics and "loud-mouthing" of inordinate waves of protest. Against these obstacles, the press' advocacy may be powerless.

Former Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter was in the audience, and he defended the Robert Moses method as articulated in the latter's book: "Public Works is Dangerous Business," Well seasoned himself by more than four decades of public works service in the City of Philadelphia - in the frustrations of an administrator, Mr. Baxter pointed out that the controversy over public works is not new. Nor is the Moses Method exclusive to New York City. Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway would not have been built were it not for the forceful enterprise of dynamic individuals and groups. Public improvements, he added, cannot be achieved without pain to somebody.

Several other members of the audience, prominent in the field, lamented their non-fulfillments because their projects were enmeshed in the quagmire of organized community obstructionism, political "inopportunism" — and often, to be sure, news media vacillation, inconsistency, ignorance or indifference.

The panel responded to this latter imputation by declaring that frequently it is the vacillation of planning agencies themselves that causes not only delay, but eventual demise of many worthy and necessary public works projects.

One regrets that the restrictions of time confined the scope of the dialogue. The forum would have benefited enormously from the many penetrating questions and comments which were not presented, and the discussions of them by our distinguished journalists who barely had time to develop more than sketchy outlines of their seasoned opinions and theses. High praise is extended to Program Host Ira Pierce who arranged this splendid meeting.

PHILA. SECTION ENDORSES DIGIOIA FOR DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR

At its September 11, 1973 meeting, the Section's Board of Directors unanimously endorsed Dr. Anthony M. Di-Gioia as the nominee for National ASCE Director, District 4, to take office for the term October, 1974 to October, 1977. He would succeed John E. McCall whose term expires next year. Dr. DiGioia is the Pittsburgh Section's candidate and the Philadelphia Section is glad to cooperate with its fellow Section in advocating his nomination by the Section membership when they receive their ballots from New York Headquarters.

Dr. DiGioia is President of General Analytics, Inc., Monroeville, Pa. He specializes in soil mechanics and foundation engineering, urban engineering and land-use planning. He has had wide experience in design of water supply projects industrial sludge retention dams, and the development of large and small industrial and commercial sites. He received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1960. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania and is listed in Outstanding Young Men in America -1968 and Who's Who in the East-1966. Dr. DiGioia is 39 years old and resides in Pittsburgh with his wife and their seven children.

YOUNGER MEMBER PUBLICATIONS SOUGHT

The ASCE Committee on Younger Member Publications is looking for articles to publish in the Younger Viewpoint column of CIVIL ENGINEERING magazine. Although this column is a very effective medium for expressing ideas, concerns or gripes, the Committee has experienced difficulty in obtaining contributions. (In the past articles by Philadelphia Section Associate Member Forum members have appeared.

Please send your articles, on the subject of your choice, to: W. Allen Marr, Jr., Room 1-343, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

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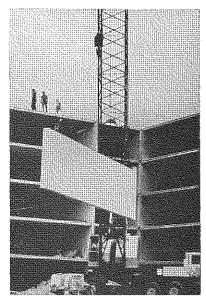


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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Samuel T. Hudson, Philadelphia industrial and civic leader, and President of the Delaware Valley Council, received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters recently from Combs College of Music. Hudson is Board Chairman and President of J. E. Brenneman Co., contracting engineers. He was cited for his contribution to the advancement of the Delaware Valley area. He was Delaware Valley Engineer-of-the-Year in 1971.

Section Past-Director M. Charles Nugent, formerly Administrative Engineer, Bridge Division, Phila. Dept. of Streets, has been appointed as staff specialist of the New Jersey Heavy and Highway Construction Industry Advancement Fund (CIAF), which fosters statewide programs aimed at improving the construction industry's capability to serve better the people of the State. Mr. Nugent has assumed responsibilities as CIAF's Director of Engineering. He joins the Fund after 15 years' service with the Dept. of Streets Bridge Division.

The Phila, Section extends its best wishes for success to Charlie in his new position.

Past President Richard Z. Zimmermann, Jr., announces the opening of offices for the practice of consulting structural engineering, reports, construction estimates and inspection, investigations and engineering appraisals—in the Phila. National Bank Building. Phone: (215) 563-2570.

After a voluntary and amicable separation from his former employer of many years, Day & Zimmerman, Inc., last June, Dick took a good portion of the summer off for sailing his sloop along the coasts of Rhode Island and Maine. He continues his part-time teaching at the Community College of Philadelphia, and he has also, a close working associate arrangement with the well-known Philadelphia consulting firm of Louis T. Klauder & Associates as their Structural Engineer on special projects.

IT'S DUES PAYING TIME!

You have received your 1973-1974 dues bill. Please remit your checks as soon as possible. Avail yourself of the advantages of Active membership and help your Phila. Section to meet its financial needs and professional obligations.

KAHN TO SPEAK ON ISRAEL

At 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday, November 14 at the Engineers' Club, Israel's Consul to the U. S. for Tourism, Zvi Dagan, is scheduled to brief local engineers, architects and planners, their families and friends, on late details regarding what to see and do while visiting the modern state of Israel.

The event, which will include color slides, commentary, and contemporary Israeli entertainment, will feature an address by Louis I. Kahn, noted Philadelphia architect who will discuss the City of Jerusalem.

It is co-sponsored by the Association of Engineers and Architects of Israel, which is planning its Third World Congress in Tel Aviv on December 15-23, 1973.

Open bar and light refreshments will be served; there is no admission charge. However, attendees should call El Israel Airlines in Philadelphia at LO 3-8011, ask for Tsafi and advise of their attendance.

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ASSOCIATE MEMBER FORUM NEWS

Membership Drive

Several new members have been enlisted since the initiation of the AMLO (Associate Member Liaison Officer) program. Many other potential members may still be found within your organization. Why not introduce them to your AMLO and bring them in.

Meeting Attendance

Last month's Section meeting was well attended by Associate Members, working both in center city and in the outlying areas. If you can't make dinner, come for the meeting; it starts at 7:30 and ends around 9:00.

Fellowships and Scholarships

An important announcement appears on page 154 of CIVIL ENGINEERING, September, 1973. The ASCE has funds available for continuing formal education at both the under-graduate and graduate levels. Study may be in any aspect of civil engineering with specialty grants for hydraulics and structures. Refer to the indicated reference for details; hurry because December 1st is the deadline for certain applications.

Luncheon Meeting

The Associate Member Forum is planning to schedule one or two luncheon meetings this season. We are presently looking for topics. If you have any suggestions which would be of interest to associate members, please give them to your AMLO or send them to Joseph Syrnick in care of the ASCE/Engineers Club.

Student Chapter Programs

A recent survey of Student Chapter activities revealed the most popular topics of student interest dealt with opportunities in consulting and federal civil service. Also high on the list were conservation versus development engineers and the urban crisis, professionalism, engineers and the public interest (last month's Section meeting topic) and relevance of advanced education to future careers in engineering. And as always, social functions had the largest attendance. In general the best programs were those in which it was known that the speaker had a film or slides on some engineering spectacular. Student engineers, it seems, want programs which explore practical applications of the technology they are studying.

SECTION MEMBERS ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Phila. Water Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino, prominent Phila. Section member and Past Director and Secretary, recently served as Co-Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the International Association of Water Pollution Research (IAWPR) workshop on: "Instrumentation, Control and Automation for Wastewater Treatment Systems," which was held in London on September 17-20, 1973, and a special visit to a plant in Paris on September 21. Over 150 representative specialists from 26 countries participated.

The workshop allowed for detailed coverage of specific control systems for individual unit processes such as activated sludge, primary sedimentation, anaerobic digestion, chlorination, etc. The workshop also went into great detail concerning quality and quantity sensors. Sensors that are available now, as well as those that will be needed in the future, were discussed. Since many plants are now using computers for direct digital control the workshop also covered specific aspects of computer control.

The workshop convention was started by IAWPR in Vienna in 1971 and was so successful that three specialized Conferences followed in 1972, one in London, and two in southern cities of the United States.

In addition to Commissioner Guarino, other Phila. Water Department participants in the workshop were: Kenneth J. Zitomer, Phila Section ASCE Director and Deputy Commissioner of Engineering; Michael D. Nelson, Acting Chief, Water Pollution Control Division; a member of the Phila Section Associate Member Forum; and Peter D'Amelio, Instrumentation Technician.

Co-sponsors for the important event were the Institute of Public Health Engineers and the Institute of Water Pollution Control.

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

The Phila. Section has had several requests from the various Student Chapters of ASCE in the Philadelphia area for speakers at Student Chapter meetings. We would like to compile such a listing for their use from among the membership for this worthwhile cause.

If you are interested please forward your name, address and phone number along with the approximate title (or titles) of your proposed talk to Robert M. Koerner, Assoc. Prof. of Civil Engineering, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

ZWOYER ARTICLE FOCUSES ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The October, 1973 issue of CIVIL ENGINEERING magazine features a report from ASCE Executive Director Eugene Zwoyer on: "ASCE Concern with Professional Conduct." The article is particularly timely because of several recent instances involving alleged unethical conduct by civil engineers. Mr. Zwoyer considers that it would be useful to review ASCE procedures for handling Professional Conduct Cases involving members of the Society, as well as ways in which the Local Sections can make important contributions toward strengthening ethical standards.

The report reviews the ASCE Code of Ethics; the 1971 Board of Direction guidelines for members who wish to make contributions to political parties or individual candidates for public office; and makes recommendations for action by the members and Sections individually or collectively to strengthen the standards of professional conduct.

ADVERTISE IN THE NEWS!!

THE NEWS invites Section member consulting firms, and commercial and industrial companies to advertise in our monthly newsletter. With a base distribution of over 1600 copies each month, THE NEWS is read by countless additional practicing engineers, construction contractors, building materials suppliers and manufacturers, engineering and technical educators, etc. We welcome display ads or professional cards at the following rates:

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Please direct inquiries to the recently appointed Advertising Manager noted below.

Advertising Manager Appointed

President Drange announces the appointment of Joseph M. Cervone as Chairman of the Publications Business Affairs Committee of the Phila. Section. Mr. Cervone is associated with Mr. Drange's firm, Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff, located at 551 Lancaster Ave., Haverford, Pa. 19041. Phone: (215) LA 5-7170.

THE NEWS cordially welcomes Mr. Cervone as its Advertising Manager and is pleased to add his name to its masthead.

TRENTON BRANCH

The November meeting of the Trenton Branch of the Philadelphia Section will be as follows:

Date:

November 20, 1973

Subject:

."The New Jersey Sports & Exhibition Complex—Hackensack Meadowlands"

Speaker:

Mr. Robert M. Parsky, Architect and Planner, for Ewing Cole Erdman & Eubank/Clauss & Nolan, Princeton, New Jersey

The meeting will be held at Glendale Tavern, 48 New Hillcrest Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey. The Glendale is located near the junction of Parkside and Pennington Avenues in Ewing Township, New Jersey. Fellowship hour starts at 6:00 P.M., dinner at 6:30 P.M. and the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Philadelphia Section members, wives, and guests are cordially invited to attend. A free dinner is given away to one lucky person. and in addition, all Princeton University Student Chapter members in attendance will have one-half the meal cost paid for by the Trenton Branch, For reservations please call Secretary-Treasurer Ronald B. Rulon at (609) 883-9500, Extension 265. Those unable to attend dinner will be most welcome to join the group for the speaker's presentation.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The November Luncheon-Meeting of the Philadelphia Section Women's Auxiliary will be held at the Engineers' Club on Wednesday, November 14, 1973 at 12:00 noon. Mrs. Mary E. Winter, Graphologist, will give a lecture and demonstration on the interesting subject of handwriting analysis.

Section members' wives and their guests are cordially invited to attend this meeting and all future ones (as announced in THE NEWS). They are also invited to join the Auxiliary. Prospective members may call Mrs. Richard E. (Mary) Wisniewski, Membership Chairman, Phone: (215) OR 6-3821; or contact her at the luncheon-meetings.

RESOLVE TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS THIS YEAR!

TECHNICAL GROUP ACIVITIES

Transportation and Urban Development Group

November Luncheon Meeting: Thursday, November 15, 1973, Engineers' Club, 12:00 Noon.

SUBJECT:

Designing a Major, Multi-Level Downtown Station Complex for the Proposed Commutor Rail Network Connection at Market Street East.

GUEST SPEAKER:

SIMON M. LANGBERG, Architect and Studio Manager, Day & Zimmermann Associates, Philadelphia.



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Simon M. Langberg received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Penna. in 1948 and has been engaged in

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STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

Villanova — Very Busy October

The October schedule developed into one of the most active monthly schedules in Villanova ASCE history. The expanded program lured sizeable numbers of underclassmen into the ASCE ranks.

The month's activities commenced with the October 2nd meeting featuring Mr. Alan Richter of Sanders and Thomas, who informatively spoke to the attending membership of his firm's first major foreign project, the Dahomey Bridge and Dam project. Besides a good student and faculty attendance, Phila. Section Vice Pres. Al Quinn and his wife honored us by their attendance.

Thanks to the allowance granted by the National ASCE headquarters and by Villanova University, **Dr. Lynch**, Faculty Advisor, **Ben Ventresca**, Chapter President, and **Charles Imbrogno**, Chapter Treasurer, were able to attend the Student Advisory Personnel Conference held in Pittsburgh on October 5. The trip proved to be both worthwhile and encouraging.

On October 15, Joseph Corcoran of the Villanova Career Development Center, E. R. Johnston of DuPont, Ellis Serdikoff of PennDOT, and Daniel Wessell of Urban Engineering spoke as a panel to the senior Civil Engineers concerning job applications and interviews. This timely meeting was definitely beneficial since most seniors are usually uncertain of what to expect from an interview as well as what is expected of them.

Again, on the evening of October 29, the Student Chapter sponsored another professional meeting. Builder J. Leon Altemose was guest speaker. His presentation, dealing with his present situation with regards to labor, was extremely interesting and thought-provoking. His reputation as well as the urgency of his topic were well reflected by the attendance.

This year, the National Annual Environmental Conference was held in New York City. This proximity as well as student interest in numerous seminars being given generated the drive toward success for this semester's ASCE field trip. In total, 60 students and the ASCE faculty Advisor attended. Field trips such as this are a vital part of the Villanova. Student Chapter's attempt to compliment the civil engineering education offered at Villanova.

This year, the ASCE has turned a great deal of effort towards assisting freshmen engineers. The freshman year is an extremely crucial and demanding one since the freshman is projected into college life and basically programmed with general sciences and math to form the foundation for this future education. The ASCE has initiated a Student Assistance Program through which each interested freshman is assigned a senior C.E. who will help him in his transition and with his studies. The need for such a program was verified by the large freshman response.

Looking ahead, November will continue in the path of October with a professional meeting on Wednesday, November 14 at 8:30 P.M. The topic is Ethics in Engineering. Also, November will see a great deal of social activity and athletic events.

Villanova and Drexel Picnic

The ASCE Student Chapters from Villanova and Drexel Universities will have a joint picnic and football game(s) on Saturday, November 17, 1973 at 12:00 noon on the Villanova Campus at Mendel Field. Interested members are invited to attend.

Other Student Chapters (or Clubs) wishing to organize joint meetings (social, athletic, or technical) are encouraged to do so. Contact can be made through the Faculty Advisor or Department Chairman if the student officers are not known.

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