The NATIONAL COLLEGE for HEATING, VENTILATING, REFRIGERATION and FAN ENGINEERING

1948 GETTING STARTED
D. G. Lewis Appointed Head of New National College

THE National College of Heating and Ventilating, Refrigeration and Fan Engineering began on September 13th with full-time day courses in heating and ventilating, refrigeration and fan engineering. A total of 85 students had been enrolled for courses up to August 31st. In addition, evening classes in heating and ventilating engineering are provided and part-time day courses for operatives in the industry.

The Ministry of Education has appointed Mr. D. G. Lewis, M.I.H.E., to be head of the College. Mr. Lewis is well known throughout the industry, having latterly been connected with Richard Crittall & Co., Ltd.

Mr. Hugh Bell, a lecturer in heating and ventilating engineering, and Mr. G. L. H. Bird, a lecturer in refrigeration until recently on the staff of the Borough Polytechnic, are appointed lecturers in these subjects on the College staff. Mr. R. H. Young, of Woods of Colchester, is in charge of the fan engineering course, and Mr. E. W. Shaw, who has been the heating and ventilating specialist on the staff of the Birmingham Central Technical College, has been appointed as an additional lecturer in this subject.

Mr. J. Cowan, who has been responsible for the operation of courses at the Borough Polytechnic, S.E., has also been transferred to the staff of the College.

NATIONAL COLLEGE FOR HEATING AND VENTILATING, REFRIGERATION AND FAN ENGINEERING

The College opened at the Borough Polytechnic, London, on September 13th, 1945, when 84 students began full-time courses in heating and ventilating (65 students), refrigeration (12 students) and fan engineering (seven students). The part-time day and evening courses began on September 27th, but so far it has been found possible to offer courses of this kind only to heating and ventilating engineers. The difficulties of organisation and accommodation have prevented the provision of courses of a similar kind for those in refrigeration and fan manufacturing industries, but it is hoped they will be overcome by next session.

The part-time day classes are for operative students in the industry who wish to take the City and Guilds examinations in heating and ventilating engineering practice. There are 76 students in attendance taking up to the fifth year of the course. The evening classes consist of a two-year course for draughtsmen who are not able to take the full-time course, but wish to sit for the Associate membership examination of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. The standard of entry to the course is that of the ordinary national certificate in mechanical engineering, and there are 45 students in attendance.

The College has made an excellent start, with more than 200 students taking advantage of its facilities. It is however, most unfortunate that illness has deprived the services of two key members of the staff in its first term of operation. Mr. D. G. Lewis, who was appointed Head of the College by the Minister of Education, was taken ill at the beginning of September and was not able to begin his duties until later in that month. After he attended for a few days he suffered a relapse and, as a result, was not able to start work again until November 1st.

Mr. R. H. Young, who joined the staff in July as the engineering specialist, unfortunately spent the period before the opening of the College in advising on the acquisition of suitable equipment and in visiting many firms in the London area to establish contacts and acquaint himself with the special requirements of the fan manufacturers. He began with his first full-time courses on September 13th, but on October 14th he went home with a bad cold, which subsequently developed into pneumonia and pleurisy. He has been admitted to hospital for special treatment, and it is hoped he will make a speedy recovery, but it is certain his absence will extend over some months.

As a temporary measure to ensure that the students receive the necessary specialist instruction, the governors, with the full co-operation of the Fan Manufacturers’ Association, will endeavour to obtain the part-time services of fan engineers employed in the industry.

All this has caused a very heavy burden to fall on the shoulders of the remaining members of the staff of the College, and the governors have therefore appointed temporarily Mr. B. G. Lawrence who, after leaving the Royal Air Force, passed successfully through the full-time course in heating and ventilating engineering which ended in April last, and afterwards was a draughtsman on the staff of Richard Crittall & Co.

Among the governors’ plans for the near future are the provision of a fan engineering laboratory and a hostel for students. With regard to the former, it is hoped this will be available for use within months, and the Fan Manufacturers’ Association is very active in its help with the provision of suitable equipment. Until the laboratory is available, the students will receive their practical instruction in the laboratories of a number of fan manufacturing firms in the London area. This has been made possible by the generous co-operation of the firms concerned.

The hostel is likely to be a longer job, for although premises are in view and negotiations are taking place, a considerable amount of adaptation and renovation will have to be done and this will take time. Provided all goes smoothly, however, a hostel may be available for students attending the next courses.
Luncheon Marks First Meeting of National College Governors

The first meeting of the Governing Body of the National College of Heating and Ventilating, Refrigration and Fan Engineering was held on January 20th at the Borough Polytechnic, London, and was preceded by a luncheon to celebrate this auspicious event.

The Board comprises the following, the majority of whom were present:

Chairman—Mr. Hubert A. Secretan, O.B.E., M.A.
Representing the Heating & Ventilating Industry—Mr. J. W. L. Beven, M.I.H.V.E. M.I.E.; Mr. W. L. Swain, M.I.M.E., M.I.H.V.E.; Mr. L. Copeland Watts, A.C.G.I., M.I.M.E.; Mr. F. R. L. White, M.I.H.V.E.
Representing the Refrigeration Industry—Mr. A. Nicol, Mr. E. G. Batt, Mr. J. C. Taylor, Mr. C. M. Brain.
Representing the Fan Manufacturing Industry—Mr. G. L. Coppin, Mr. F. D. Meul, Mr. D. S. Woodley, Mr. M. Geoffrey Woods.
National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers and General Metalworkers—Mr. L. H. Nicklin.
Trades Union Congress—Mr. V. Wyman and Mr. E. J. Turner.
Governing Body of Borough Polytechnic—Mr. D. Clifford Highton, M.A.; Mr. J. W. Coeling, M.Sc.(Tech), A.M.I.M.E.; Mr. F. Griffiths Woolard, B.Sc., D.L., J.P.;
Mrs. M. Ormerod, B.A.
London County Council—Mr. J. J. Keen and one to be appointed.
University of London—Mr. W. C. Peck, M.Sc., F.R.C.S.
Department of Scientific Research—Mr. I. G. Evans, M.A., B.Sc.
Assessor from the Scottish Education Department—Mr. M. R. Gidini, M.E.
Assessor from the Ministry of Education—Mr. J. B. M. Hay, H.M.I.
Director of College—Dr. D. F. Ingall, F.R.C.S., F.Inst.P., Hon.L.I.H.V.E.
Clerk to the Governors—Mr. F. J. Packer, A.C.I.S., A.M.I.M.E.

Mr. D. Clifford Highton welcomed the guests, and Mr. Hubert A. Secretan, Chairman of the National College, after thanking Mr. Highton "for enabling us to meet in this informal way," gave a brief résumé of the work which had been necessary during the last 2½ years to bring the College into existence. (An article on this subject was published by us in May, 1947—pages 476 to 479.)

Mr. Secretan was followed by Mr. F. Bray, of the Ministry of Education, who said he would like to thank the Governors for the splendid way they had co-operated in helping to establish that National College. Sincere thanks were also due to the heating and ventilating industry for their generosity in allowing a neutral chairman to be appointed. It was up to the industry to ensure that students were released to attend the College. He closed his speech by expressing appreciation of the way the Principal, Dr. Ingall, had striven to bring the College into being, and added "We all owe a great deal to his persistence."

Picture Supplement on Page 349.
National College Debut

Those photographs were specially taken for this journal at the luncheon held on the occasion of the first meeting of the Governors of the National College of Heating and Ventilating, Refrigeration and Fan Engineering, reported on page 323 of this issue.

1. Left to right: Mr. C. M. Brain (refrigeration representative), Mr. D. S. Woodley and Mr. C. L. Copping (fans), Mr. Andrew Nicol (refrigeration), Mr. F. D. Moul (fans), Mr. E. G. Baitt and Mr. J. C. Taylor (refrigeration).

2. Left to right: Mr. W. L. Swain, Mr. L. Copeland Watts and Mr. F. R. L. White (heating and ventilating), Mr. L. H. Nicklin (N.U. of Operative H. and D. Engs. and General Metal Workers), Mr. J. W. L. Beaven (h, and v).

3. Mrs. M. Ormerod (Governor, Borough Polytechnic), Dr. D. H. Ingall (Principal), Mr. H. A. Secretan (Chairman).