

Labor Market Opens Its Doors To Engineer Grads

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — There's good news for those entering the engineering field. The slump that hit the job market in the late 1960s is disappearing because of an improved economy and a drop in the number of graduating engineers.

But the combined forces are contributing to a shortage of engineers that may become serious in several years.

A survey by the College Placement Council shows that recruiting of graduating engineers is in-

creasing 27 per cent this year over 1972, which in turn showed an improvement over the previous year. Dr. Frank Endicott, professor emeritus of education at Northwestern University, predicted a 42 per cent increase in job openings for engineering graduates.

"A survey of the graduating class of 1972 indicated rather clearly that the bottom had been reached and we're on the up-

swing," said John Alden, director of manpower activities for the Engineer's Joint Council in New York, a federation of 36 engineering societies.

But for how long if the number of graduating engineers continues to drop?

When the job market tightened at the end of the 1960s, high school students were discouraged from embarking on engineering programs. Since then, enrollment

in engineering programs has dropped to the point that many graduates will have their choice of five or six jobs.

The situation is not expected to change soon.

Elmer Easton, dean of the College of Engineering at Rutgers University, said 43,000 engineers were graduated throughout the nation last year, but this figure would drop to 32,000 in four years, based on current enrollment in

engineering schools. "But the Bureau of Labor Statistics is estimating a demand for about 48,000 engineers a year," he said. "You can see we're heading for trouble."

Alden said that, of the one million engineers in the nation, about 10,000—or one per cent—were out of work, down from a high several years ago of 25,000 engineers unable to find jobs.

"We're back on a roller-coaster

cycle and heading for future shortages unless the economic picture changes," he said. "The classes now in school are abnormally small."

Alden said national enrollment was down this year 14 per cent from September 1971, which was down 16 per cent from the previous September.

Easton said one indication of the increased demand for engineers was the average salary lev-

el. It reached a high of more than \$900 per month last year, he said, and would be at least that high for the June 1973 graduates.

A survey by the College Placement Council of Bethlehem, Pa., indicates the average salary for engineers in chemical fields was \$949 per month for last June's graduates, up \$21 from the previous year, and first year engineers in other fields received similar increases.

Senate Votes To Honor LBJ

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate passed a resolution Tuesday to name the government's manned spacecraft control center in Houston, Tex., in honor of Lyndon B. Johnson.

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Tex., sponsor of the resolution, said the late President deserves the honor more than any other man since his administration covered the entire Gemini orbital flight program and the first eight launches in the Apollo moon landing program.

The resolution now goes to the House.

Bulletin Board

TONIGHT

Phi Alpha Theta presents Dorman H. Winfrey, Director of the Texas State Library in Room 226, Library Conference Suite at 7:30. He will speak on "The Texas State Library-Resources and Services."

Police Relations Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Senate Office.

Black Awareness Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 2C of the Memorial Student Center to discuss the recent record dance and progress of Black Experience III.

The Class of '73 will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 3A of the MSC. All interested seniors are urged to attend.

Student Chapter National Association of Home Builders will meet at 8:00 p.m. in the Architecture Auditorium. There will be election of officers and Dr. Robert Bradley will speak.

Young Republicans will discuss plans to attend the state convention in March at 7:30 p.m. at 1106 Tanglewood South Apartments, 1619 Puryear.

THURSDAY

A&M Scholastic Service will hold registration for its free tutoring service at the MSC, Academic Building and library between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

La Leche League will meet at 1201 Foster Ave., in Bev Kirk's home at 8 p.m. Anyone interested in breastfeeding is invited to attend. For further information call 846-1393.

Cepheid Variable Science Fiction Committee will hold an auction at 7:30 p.m. in room 3D, MSC.

Panhandle Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Room 303, Physics Building. Money raising projects will be planned.

Eagle Pass Hometown Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Lounge B of the MSC.

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