

CHRONICLE OF DEVELOPMENTS

1843-44—

Council of Education, Bengal decides on opening a Civil Engineering class and a Professorship in Civil Engineering is created in Hindu College, Calcutta.

1848, August 29—

Lord Dalhousie recommends to the Court of Directors of the East India Company the establishment of Engineering Class at each of the Presidencies.

1854, May 2—

Court of Directors approve the proposal for the establishment of a separate Engineering College at Calcutta.

1854, July 19—

Creation of the State Department of Public Instruction.

1856, February 12—

Government of India finally approves the constitution and establishment of a Civil Engineering College at Calcutta. Foundation of a great Institution for Engineers is laid.

September 15—

Lieut. E. C. S. Williams is appointed the first Principal of the College.

1856, November 24—

The College is opened in premises Nos. 9, 10 and 11, Writers' Buildings and named, Calcutta Civil Engineering College.

1857, January 24—

Foundation of Calcutta University. Faculty of Civil Engineering is formed.

April 8—

Regulation for the Degree in Master of Civil Engineering settled by the Faculty.

May 2—

Calcutta Civil Engineering College affiliated to the Calcutta University.

1857—

'Forbes Foundation Scholarship' introduced.

1858—

First Survey Camp at Ranigunj.

1859—

Major G. Chesney, Principal.*

1860—

Degree of Licentiate in Civil Engineering (L.C.E.) introduced.

1861—

Major W. E. Warrand, Principal.

First batch of students in theoretical part of the L.C.E. Degree Examination appears.

1862—

Major J. G. Medley, Principal.*

1863, February—

Lieut. G. H. Hills, Principal.*

1863, June—

Mr. T. Martin, Principal.

1864—

J. Sutcliffe, Principal.

First Degree Examination of Bachelor in Civil Engineering (B.C.E.) held.

November—

Temporary end of the separate existence and amalgamation of the Civil Engineering College with the Presidency College.

1865, July 15—

Presidency College, Civil Engineering Department affiliated to the Calcutta University.

1877—

Mr. C. H. Tawney, Principal.

1878—

A 'committee' appointed for the purpose, recommends removal of the Engineering Department from the Presidency College.

1879, December 15—

Government decides to shift the Engineering classes to a new site.

1880—

Workshops of the Public Works Department at Sibpur get attached to the College for practical training of the students.

Apprentice Department of the college formed with 80 Apprentices of the Government Workshops at Dehri-on-Sone, transferred to Sibpur.

April 1—

Govt. Engineering College affiliated to the Calcutta University.

April 5—

Civil Engineering Department moves to the premises of the Bishop's College at Sibpur and redesignated "Government Engineering College, Howrah", with Mr. S. F. Downing, as Principal.

October 15,—

Visiting Lectureship introduced in the College. First Visiting Lecturer Mr. Dejoux.

December 28—

Board of Visitors appointed.

1881, April 25—

First Students' strike.

August 3—

'Chapel' attached to the college to be treated as a Government Institution.

November 22—

Control of the college with students (as distinguished from the Workshops) transferred from the Public Works Department to the Education Department.

1881-82

System of appointing Monitors for the Engineer classes introduced.

1883-84—

First examination in Engineering (F.E.) introduced from 1st August 1883. Examination held the same year.

L.C.E. abolished and L.E. (License in Engineering) introduced. Examination held in 1884.

Degree of B.C.E. replaced by B.E. (Bachelor in Engineering) at the same time.

1884, December 13—

Government declares Indian students eligible for "guaranteed appointments" under the Public Works Department.

1886—

First B. E. examination held.

1886-87—

Construction of "Downing House" completed—1st Students' Hostel.

1887, May 18—

College redesignated "Civil Engineering College, Sibpore."

1889—

College becomes a wholly residential Institution.

May—

Arrangement for a Hospital made and the Central Hall of "Downing House" temporarily converted for the purpose.

September—

All appointments in the Upper Subordinate Grade of the Public Works Department reserved for Graduates of the College.

1892—

J. S. Slater, Principal.

1894, September—

Training of Artisan Apprentices introduced.

1896—

Electric lighting installation completed.

1897, April—

Workshops finally transferred to the Education Department.

1898, June—

Agricultural classes opened.

1902—

100-ton Buckton Testing Machine, first of its kind in India, installed.

1903—

First Magazine, "Shibpur College Patrika" published.

1904—

Mr. B. Heaton, Principal.

March—

Inauguration of the new Electric Power Plant by Sir Andrew Fraser, the then Lieut.-Governor of Bengal.

July—

Rules for the "Special Mess Fund" approved.

1905-06—

Ranchi Removal Scheme initiated.

1906, February—

Mining classes opened.

March—

First examination in Engineering changed to "Intermediate Examination in Engineering (I.E.) License in Engineering abolished. Degree of Doctor in Engineering substituted for Master of Engineering.

1907—

Motor Mechanics classes started.

1908, March—

Joint Technical Examination Board formed.

October—

Sanction received to start a Telegraph Training Class.

1908-09—

Agricultural classes finally closed.

1910—

Dying classes opened.

Practical instruction in Surveying for pleaders sanctioned.

February—

First Governing Body constituted.

July—

Motor Mechanics classes abolished.

1911, November—

University affiliation in B. E. Degree in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Mining granted.

1912-13—

Classification of books in Library by Dewey's system completed.

1916, February—

"Hunger-strike" by the students for better messing arrangements.

August—

Dying classes finally closed.

1917-18—

College visited by Calcutta University Commission. Sanitary Commissioner Submits Report.

1918, July—

Ranchi Removal Scheme abandoned. Government decides to retain the college at its present site.

1919, February—

A 'Committee' under Chairmanship of Sir R. N. Mookerjee formed to reorganise the Departments of the College.

February 12—

Name of the College changed to "Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur."

March—

New Water Supply Scheme completed.

1921—

Board of Control for Apprenticeship created.

New Turrent Clock presented by Sir R. N. Mookerjee.

Sewerage Scheme completed.

March 24—

College redesignated, "Bengal Engineering College."

November 29—

Departments of the college reorganised. Upper Subordinate classes abolished.

1922—

Mr. T. H. Richardson, Principal.

July 5—

Associateship course in Mechanical Engineering introduced.

1923—
First Diploma Examination in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering held.

1924—
Waterworks completed.
'Guaranteed appointment' in I.S.E. abolished.

1925—
Activated Sludge Plant completed.

November—
Telegraph Training classes discontinued.

1928, November—
Mr. A. Macdonald, Principal.

1929, March—
Mining classes closed.

1930, July 18—
B. E. Degree in Mechanical Engineering sanctioned.

1935-36—
Degree course in Electrical Engineering introduced.

1936, Nov. 2—
Mr. R. Wolfenden, Principal.

1938, May—
5 posts of Visiting Lecturers created.

August 18—
Mr. C. V. Miller, Principal.*

1939, Sept. 21—
Dr. A. H. Pandya, First Indian Principal.

November 6—
Degree course in Metallurgy introduced.

1941, February—
War Technicians Training Scheme started.

1943, April 2—
Mr. C. V. Miller, Principal.*

1945, February 21—
"Committee for the Development of Higher Engineering and Technical Education in Bengal" formed.

April—
Mr. N. N. Sen, Principal.

May 19—
Committee for the Development submits Report, embodying (a) an Immediate Plan, and (b) a Five-year Plan for development of the college.

1945, June—
War Technicians Training Scheme finally wound up.

August 18—
Birth of the Bengal Engineering College Alumni Congress.

1945-46—
Work with 'Immediate Plan' started.
New Department of Humanities opened.

1946, January 8—
Government accepted the recommendations contained in the Immediate Plan.

May—
First Admission Test under the New Rules held.

July—
Session changed from November to July.

November 25—
New Regulations of the Calcutta University in

Degree examination of Engineering adopted by the Government.

December—
Electric Supply Scheme remodelled. Arrangement made with Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation.

1947-48—
Immediate Plan fully implemented.
Department of Applied Mechanics opened.
N. C. C. Training introduced.
First two Girl-students admitted.

1947, February—
University examination under New Regulations held.

August 13—
Chapel finally made over to the college.

August 15—
First Independence Celebration performed.
Dr. P. C. Ghosh, then Chief Minister of West Bengal present.

1948, May 28—
A New Department of Training started.

November 9—
'Five-year Plan' sanctioned by Government and given effect to in session 1948-49.

1949, January 5—
Dr. S. R. Sengupta, Principal.

January 17—
Dr. S. Radhakrishnan as Chairman of University Commission visits the college.

December 81—
Construction of Building under the Plan started.

1949-50—
Degree courses in Architecture and the Post-Graduate Diploma in Town and Regional Planning introduced.

1950, February 5—
Foundation stone of the Administrative Block laid by Dr. B. C. Roy, Chief Minister of West Bengal.

June 10—
College office shifted to the new building.

July 1—
Sibpur Polytechnic started.

1951—
"Institute Building and Sports Pavilion Fund" and 'B. E. College Poor Fund' later renamed 'Students Aid Fund' created.

May 30—
Orphan Training Scheme started.

August 25—
Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, Governor of West Bengal visits the college.

1952, December 25—
Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India, visits the college.

1952-53—
Post-Graduate Certificate course in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering introduced.
'Five-year Plan' of the college completed.

1953, January 20—

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Nobel Laureate visits.

April 24—

Regulations for the Degree of Master of Engineering in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Metallurgical Engineering approved by the University.

May 27—

'Reviewing Committee' appointed.

1954, March 12—

Dr. S. R. Sengupta leaves on deputation and Mr. R. G. P. S. Fairbairn takes his place as Principal.

1954-55—

Interchange of staff under the auspices of Technical Co-operation Administration, U.S.A. 6 Guest Professors join.

1955-56—

Regulations for the Degree of D.Phil. in Engineering framed by the University.

1956—

Degree course in Mining Engineering introduced.

May 15—

Mr. A. C. Roy, Principal.

November 23—

College completes one hundred years.

December 25-31—

Centenary Celebrations of the college.

*Officiating.