

*Agricultural Engineering
on the Prairie:
Illinois Style*

A HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING,
1921-1997

H. PAUL BATEMAN

WILLIAM A. FOSTER

BENJAMIN A. JONES, JR.

WALTER D. LEMBKE

Agricultural Engineering on the Prairie: Illinois Style

Authors: H. Paul Bateman, William A. Foster, Benjamin A. Jones Jr., and Walter D. Lembke

The emphasis given to various topics varies due to the impressions conveyed by the many contributors. In the interest of brevity it has not been possible to discuss all the important events that have occurred over the years. However, the information presented was selected to give important examples to show the progress of the department.

Editor and Producer: Chris Scherer, Scherer Communications, Urbana, IL.

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sional careers. His students went on to success in private industry, public agencies, academia, and as entrepreneurs.

He was a Fellow, a Deere Medalist, and a president of American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE).

Frank B. Lanham was the second head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering serving from 1955 to 1978. During his tenure, he made many important contributions to the Colleges of Agriculture and Engineering and to the University of Illinois. Dr. Lanham was instrumental in establishing the doctoral program in agricultural engineering in 1964, served as chair of the University Senate Conference, a member of the Faculty Advisory Committee, and was a member of the University Athletic Association Board of Directors.

Students were important to Dr. Lanham as evidenced by his dedication to both the undergraduate and graduate teaching programs. His greatest joys as a department head were the achievements of students. High standards of academic and professional performance were his quest, and he was an exceptional model for students and faculty alike.

At the time of his death in 1978, he was serving as immediate past president of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and was a Fellow of that organization. During his career he also held administrative positions in the American Society for Engineering Education, the Engineers' Council for Professional Development, and the Engineers' Joint Council. He also held memberships in the Association for Cooperation in Engineering and the Soil Conservation Society of America. Among his many recognitions was the Massey-Ferguson Education Award presented by ASAE in 1974.

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