

THE TECH

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THE TECH

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For the benefit of students THE TECH will be pleased to answer all questions and obtain all possible information pertaining to any department of the College.

Contributions are requested from all undergraduates, alumni, and officers of instruction. No anonymous manuscript can be accepted.

All communications with the Alumni Department should be addressed to the Alumni Editor.

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As Xmas date again draws neare,
Our thoughts from studdie flee,
To homes that now seeme e'en more deare
Since we are far awaye.
A respite seeke for one short weeke,
Anonce from lessons drie,
And merrie be, as it is meete
To celebrate thys date.

THE INADEQUACY OF THE GYM.

THE inadequacy of our "gym" to meet the requirements of a college with over fifteen hundred students has never been more apparent than this year. Five days during the week, from a hundred

to a hundred and fifty persons take exercise in the gym. between the hours of 3.30 and 6 P.M., most of them taking part in the class work. As there are two classes each day, one at four and the other at five o'clock, a large number of students are put through their work at the same time, and on finishing are crowded into the small shower-room containing but four hot showers. And, that perhaps a dozen have to share one shower among them is not the most unsatisfactory feature, for it usually happens that before half the class are accommodated, the water has taken on a temperature bordering on the freezing point, and the remaining half have either to screw up their courage and constitutions to the breaking point, or go without,—an alternative most certainly to be avoided under the circumstances, for more reasons than one.

THE NARROW COURSE OF STUDY AT THE INSTITUTE.

IT has long been the invariable custom of Tech men in general and of TECH Editors in particular to bewail and bemoan the narrow course of study provided by the Institute. Especially, when our work presses hard, when the intricacies of "Applied" become more than usually tortuous, and when the future is filled with "exams," looming up in our imagination like monstrous spectres; especially then, do we make these cries for the broadening influence of literature, the ennobling effects of art, and the beneficial training of economics. Ordinarily, we live along, perfectly contented to have chosen Tech instead of Harvard to be our Alma Mater; but when she, our fostering-mother, becomes exacting in her wants, and presses

hard her firm requirements, then do we gaze across the Charles, and watching all the busy devotees, long to enter in that pleasant group and bow down with them to their idol "Humanities."

Nevertheless, it is perfectly true that the average Tech man has almost no time for any studies outside his own professional branch; and, worse still, he becomes so absorbed in his special work, and his thoughts become so accustomed to running in a deep groove walled in by the intricate problems of his own chosen profession, that he soon loses all desire ever to broaden his ways of thinking. But just because of these difficulties, you Tech men should make redoubled efforts to improve the few opportunities of increasing your outside interests. Cease to regard your History, your English and your Political Economy, as evils necessary for your graduation, and go to those lectures with a determination to enjoy and profit by the work. And do try to cultivate a little more charity towards summer reading, like other clouds it has its silver lining. Finally, while we are in this self-assumed and easy role of public adviser, just one word more,— read the papers, keep awake and up with the times, learn to make your own opinions, know something about the tariff question, the trust problem, the Philippine issue, and the work in Civil Service Reform, or in a word— know all you will about your own special science, and all you can about all other things.

"Union" Dinner.

Notwithstanding the bad weather a good crowd attended the informal dinner at the "Union" last Saturday evening, Dec. 13, fifty-six men responding to the call for plates. The company was represented on the part of the Faculty by Mr. Wells, the Recorder, and by students of all four classes, Seniors and Freshmen predominating. A dinner was served

such as to bring forth much speculation as to whether the twenty-five cents per head could possibly have covered all expenses. If such were the case it is a pity we couldn't hold such reunions there every night. We know some, at least, who would accept all invitations. Part of the Tech orchestra was present and helped to greatly enliven the odd moments with some very good music. At the conclusion of the dinner a resolution was taken expressing thanks to President Pritchett for his interest in making such a student gathering possible at Tech. Long-stemmed clay pipes were then distributed and the clouds of smoke soon induced the best of good fellowship, while a self-appointed chorus gathered round the piano and made the hall ring with all the popular "stand-bys," not the least of which was the "Song of Tech." The gathering dispersed early, with the feeling that a new life was beginning at Tech, and that the time when Tech men would drop conventionality and "rub up" against each other as student to student and man to man is not so far distant.

A similar dinner will be served next Saturday, and all who wish to attend should leave their names with Mr. Derby in the President's office.

Cadet Hop.

The Freshman Cadet Corps gave their annual "Hop" last Friday evening. To an outsider it would seem that the brilliant uniforms of the visiting officers overshadowed the plain, but decidedly appropriate one of Tech, but it was not so, for preference was shown to the Freshmen hosts, and they were given a very enjoyable time.

The reception began at eight o'clock. Mrs. Pritchett, Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Moore were the Matrons.

Captain Barry was floor director, with Captains Wetterer and Simpson as assistants. The dance lasted from eight-thirty until one,

with a short intermission about ten for refreshments.

All voted that dance one of the most successful freshmen parties ever held. Now that the "Cadet Hop" is fully re-established again, let us hope it has come to stay.

Senior "Smoker."

The "Smoker" of the Senior Class last Monday evening at the Tech Union was as enthusiastic a meeting as one could wish to see. On account of being out of town Dr. Pritchett was unable to attend, but Dr. Wendell and Professor Clifford were there and both helped to make the time pass rapidly. After the speeches refreshments were served and the remainder of the evening was spent in chatting and singing. Mr. A. E. Lang gave a banjo selection, which was a unique exhibition of musical calisthenics. A number of clever local parodies on popular songs were very indicative of the energetic manner in which the student body have taken hold of the song-book.

In short the "Smoker" was just such a meeting as best promotes good fellowship.

Junior Dinner.

The Class of '04 held their annual dinner last Thursday evening at the Tech Union.

After the dinner, which the hundred and one men present seemed to enjoy, Pres. P. M. Smith called the class to order and introduced the toast-master, H. V. Doherty. Mr. Doherty then addressed the class for a few moments, and introduced the first speaker of the evening, Mr. M. L. Emerson, who responded to the toast, "To our Class." After giving a very interesting speech, Mr. Emerson proposed the following toast: "The Class of '04 and Dr. Pritchett, our most honored member."

The toast-master then introduced the following speakers, who responded to these toasts: M. G. B. Harrington, "Our College Graduates"; Professor Clifford, "Tact and Consideration"; Mr. G. E. Atkins, "'04 Technique"; Mr. G. A. Curtis, "Athletics"; and Mr. Blackstein, who gave a very interesting speech.

This concluded the regular speeches, and the remainder of the evening was passed in singing and story-telling.

Electrical Engineering Society.

At the Electrical Engineering Society "Smoker" on the 10th, Professor Hollis of Harvard spoke on the life of one of Germany's leaders in electrical science, Werner Von Siemens, of the firm of Siemens & Halske. He brought out the resourcefulness of that able character in a very entertaining manner. A short business session was also held at which Mr. Eaton and Mr. Endres reported for the committee appointed to confer with the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The Society voted to accept the invitation to hold joint meetings with local branch A. I. E. E. for the discussion of electrical subjects. Members will be provided beforehand with printed copies of all papers which are read at these meetings, thus enabling them to inform themselves on the topic under consideration.

M. I. T. Fencing Association.

The M. I. T. Fencing Association held a meeting Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 16, at which it drew up a permanent constitution and by-laws. H. M. Leh, '04, was chosen (temporary) captain, and R. O. Marsh, '05, manager for the coming year. The association is strictly a "Tech" affair, open to all students, and in no sense a private club. Its purposes are to provide a means by which those anxious to learn fencing, but at present, knowing

nothing about it, can be accommodated as well as those already more or less proficient in the use of the foil. Lessons in fencing are given under the management of the association by Professor Fournon, one of the best known fencing masters in the vicinity of Boston. The dues of the association are \$1.00 per year, and the fees 50 cents per lesson, taken as often as convenient (provided that at least nine lessons be taken per school term to insure a certain standard in the association). From the members of this association a team of six, including three substitutes, will be chosen by competition to represent the Institute in matches with outside colleges, notably Harvard. Applications to membership in the association should be made to either Captain Leh, Manager Marsh or indirectly through Professor Fournon, 90 St. Botolph Street.

Communications.

The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents.

THE TECH, BOSTON, MASS.

One of the function of the House Committee for our new social rooms is to co-operate with the classes and professional societies in decorating them. The rooms have been intentionally left devoid of decorations in order that the students may take it upon themselves to furnish what they want. A suggestion for a simple way to do this is as follows: Let each class appropriate a certain amount for a fund for the purpose of decorating these rooms. Each class will have its own fund, but there should be active co-operation between classes. Also let each professional society and any other associations which may use the rooms appropriate an amount for a fund to be similarly used.

An instructor in architecture is giving the matter of decorations his personal attention and he will materially aid the students in this work.

By conferring with any members of the House Committee, committees from the classes and societies will be fully informed of what is being done. It may be mentioned here that an effort is being made to move some of the things in the Trophy Room to the new rooms.

Yours truly,
LAWRENCE H. UNDERWOOD, '03,
Chairman.

Athletic Contest.

The second series of events in the "All-round Athletic Contest" came off last Tuesday at the gymnasium. The events were: putting the 16 lb.-shot, and standing high jump. In the shot put, 1 point was given for every 6 inches over 20 feet, and in the standing high jump, 1 point for every inch over 3 feet. The shot put was won by the following men: L. U. Fuller, '05, 32 feet, 3 inches; J. C. Baker, '04, 31 feet, 3 inches; and J. W. Williams, '06, 30 feet, 8 inches. The standing high jump was won by R. D. Farrington, '05, 4 feet, 5 inches; O. R. Adams, '06, 4 feet, 5 inches. Five men were tied for third place with a jump of 4 feet, 4 inches. The highest men in the contest are as follows: J. W. Williams, '06, 56 1-2; J. C. Baker, '04, and O. R. Adams, '06, 55 1-2; L. U. Fuller, '05, 54 1-2; C. L. Homer, '04, 52 1-2; D. K. Keller, '04 and G. R. Guernsey, '06, 50; D. D. Mohler, '03, 48 1-2; H. S. Kendall, '04, 45 1-2; C. R. Haynes, '04, 45; W. C. Turner, '05, 44 1-2; H. L. Williams, '06, 43 1-2.

CALENDAR.

THURSDAY, 18.

8 P.M. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SOCIETY
Smoker at Tech Union. Free to members.

FRIDAY, DEC. 19.

2 P.M. Address by Mayor Higginson, Huntington Hall. (See page 105.)

6.30 P.M. AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY at Tech Union.

7 P.M. WALKER CLUB DINNER at Tech Union.

7.30-10 P.M. RECEPTION TO FRESHMEN by the Dean and Committee of Advisers at the Technology Club, 83 Newbury Street.

SATURDAY, DEC. 20.

6.30 P.M. GENERAL DINNER at Tech Union. Those expecting to attend, leave names at President's office.

TUESDAY, DEC. 30.

4.10 P.M. Y. M. C. A. MEETING, 11 Pierce Building.
8 P.M. NAVAL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY at Tech Union.

The Dire Ease of a Saint.

BY R. LOBE EIGHTS.

Once upon a time there dwelt in the land of Prep's a fair and valiant young knight yclept Sir Face Superficial. Now this same Sir Face had heard from many returned adventurers of a most beautiful and charming Princess who held her court in a far country, and who would promise to give herself in marriage to the knight who would brave all dangers in seeking her. The Princess was of the Royal House of Knowledge, and her name was Bachelor of Science Degree.

Sir Face determined that he would win for himself this most beautiful and charming of all fair ladies, and with such an end in view armed himself to the teeth with his sturdy weapon, Fountain Pen, and accompanied by his Squire, Prep. Ideas, he traveled until he came to the Court of the Princess B.S. He learned that if he was to merit the lady he must that day fight in the Great Fall Tournament. Undaunted and filled with hope, he rode into the Subject Lists, in full Tabular View of all the Conflicts, and charged valiantly every Course and Section of the Field. At length all had succumbed to his unwonted prowess, except one adversary alone, Attendance Card. The Battle was hard fought, and it would have gone ill for our Knight had he not remembered to invoke Divine aid from the two goddesses, Petition and Section Slip, who straightway heard his prayer and furnished him with renewed strength, so that he was able to overcome his antagonist and claim the hand of B.S.

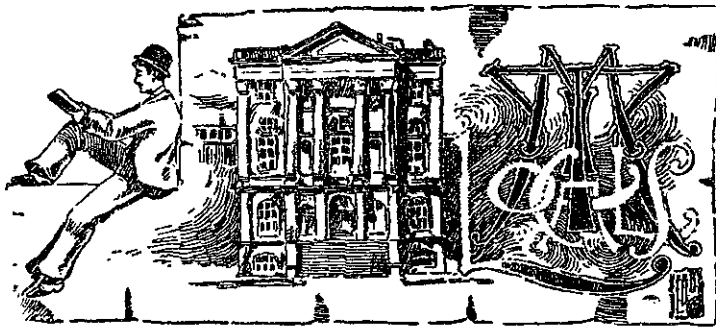
He was much alarmed to learn that the Princess had a most terrible father, King Faculty, from whom he must solicit the hand of the daughter. In order to reach the Palace where the King had his abode, he was obliged to ascend a steep and rugged hill, named Scientific German. This he did on his good horse "Trot," and arriving at the top saw the Stately Castle in the distance. A guard sprang into the path and seized him, saying that he could go no further without paying the toll "Tuition," and consenting to wear the Badge of the Corporal of the Ancient and Honorable Order of Military Science, to which Sir Face reluctantly consented. Thus equipped he felt ready for any adventure, and, indeed, he did not have to wait long, for as soon as he had left the Guard he saw a large number of Furious and Angry beasts guarding the gate of the Castle grounds. He perceived among them the great boar, Physics, the

bloodhounds, Analyt and Calculus, and a strange creature with four quadrants, called Descrip, which lived upon the co-ordinate plane below, and which bore the legend "Lines" or "Linus" upon its collar. There was also a horrible Nightmare, "Applied," which so terrified our gallant hero that he turned from the pursuing monsters and fled into a neighboring forest for protection. Here he rested and partook of a small "loaf" that he had brought with him. The place was pleasant, and its name Idleness. But soon a messenger came from the King to say that the Knight was expected at the castle, but that he must first capture a precious and valuable prize from the Monster, Exam's — who dwelt at the end of the Year on the other side of a bog called "Cram," in which many a valiant knight had sunk exhausted — cram-buried. Sir Face being, withal, fond of Ease, and not liking the looks of the Bog, decided to go round it, although there was a large sign warning him of danger. He continued along the "bluff," for such it was, until all at once he came up behind the dragon, as it lay sleeping. Thinking easily to gain the prize without disturbing the monster, and seeing several objects of wonderful beauty, C's, P's, etc., but of which he did not know the meaning, and one especially, an FF, which lay at a distance from the dragon, and easy to reach, he picked this up and straightway bore it to the gate of the Palace. Here, however, he was met by a loud Formal Report, and a servant in waiting, named Harry the Hardhearted, told him that his cowardice and folly had been discovered and that there was no chance for such as he.

So he gave up his suit of B. S. and returning to the world became a Rich and Ignorant Man.

Attention.

Major H. L. Higginson will address the students and Instructing Staff on Friday, Dec. 19, at 2 P.M. in Huntington Hall. President Pritchett wishes a large attendance, as there are some important announcements to be made. All exercises scheduled for 2 P.M. will be postponed a half hour.



EDITOR'S NOTE.—Owing to the pressure of his work, Mr. Eastman has resigned from "The Tech" Board. Mr. Pendergast was chosen Editor-in-Chief, with Mr. G. B. Perkins as assistant.

The paper was handicapped this week on account of the fire at our printers, the Puritan Press, who are in the Estes Building, and the strike of engravers.

Rev. Herbert S. Johnson of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church addressed the Y. M. C. A. meet on Tuesday last. A male quartette added much to the interest of the service.

THE TECH has arranged to keep its exchanges from other colleges in the general Library, where they will benefit all. This arrangement starts after the recess.

The senior members of the Song-book editors as elected by the committee are: W. P. Cross and W. J. Bay. Those elected Tuesday by the Junior class are R. A. Wentworth and R. Hazeltine.

The Western Passenger Association has sent to the Institute blanks to be used by students to apply for reduction in rates on railroads to and from home during the Christmas vacation. These may be obtained at the Registrar's Office. This association comprises only roads west of Chicago.

At a meeting of the Exeter Club last Monday, the following officers were elected: President, W. F. Currier, '03; first vice-president, P. E. Hinckly '05; second vice-president, H. N. Cross, '04; and secretary and treasurer, L. E. Robbe, '05. They also voted to have a dinner at the Tech Union the first week after Christmas vacation.

A meeting of the Chemical Society, at which Dr. Henry Fay presided, was held last Thursday in 24 Walker, for the election of officers. The ballot resulted as follows: President, M. H. Clark, V., '03; vice-president, A. D. Smith, V., '04; secretary, W. H. Whitcomb, V., '03; treasurer, C. F. Sammet, V., '03. The elected member of the Executive Committee is F. A. Olmstead, X., '03.

The Sunday afternoon gathering at the Tech Union was not so well attended as the first one, probably due to the poor weather. Mr. Charles F. Dole, of Jamaica Plain, gave an interesting address on "Success." Those present had a very enjoyable time, and the "gatherings" will be continued. It is not intended to make these religious meetings, but only social gatherings where the students can meet each other.

More men are needed for the Technology Orchestra. Previous experience in orchestra work is unnecessary. We want everybody who plays any orchestral instrument to come out and try for it at least. There is only one rehearsal a week, and no great demands upon time are made. The instruments especially needed are cornets, horns and trombones. A good trap drummer is also wanted. Orchestra rehearsals are held on Tuesdays of each week, in Room 13, Engineering B, at 4 P.M.

Dean Shaler of the Lawrence Scientific School will give eight lectures to the students in General Geology in Huntington Hall, on Mondays and Thursdays in January, at four o'clock. These lectures will take the place of those scheduled on the tabular view for Monday at nine and Wednesday at two.

Attendance at the *first four* lectures is required of all students registered for this course.

Students in general are invited to these lectures.

The first reception given to a section of the Freshman Class by the Dean and Committee of Advisers at the Technology Club was very successful, nearly two hundred responding to the invitation. The Dean made a brief address of welcome, urging the men to find their Advisers and discuss informally with them the selection of a course, and informing the guests that the rooms were theirs for the evening. Many of the men met their Advisers for the first time, and the main purpose of the reception was thus effected. Refreshments were on the tables throughout the evening. It is encouraging to note that the efforts of the Dean and Advisers to meet and help the Freshmen are so readily reciprocated.

A meeting of the Senior Class was held at one o'clock on Wednesday in Huntington Hall. On the motion of Mr. Underwood, who is chairman of the House Committee for the new Tech Union, an appropriation of ten dollars was voted for the decoration of the new rooms over the Mechanical Laboratories. It was voted that the class meet on New Year's Eve over the shops for a Smoker, and that they adjourn at twelve o'clock to the steps of the Roger's Building to see the old year out in the customary way, with cheers and songs. The Board of Directors will take charge of this Smoker. The matter of wearing caps and gowns on Class Day was mentioned, but no definite action was taken. Mr. Crosby made a report of the work of the Portfolio Committee. Hearn is the Class Photographer, and all sittings must be had before Feb. 21.

The '04 Class meeting on last Thursday was one of the best meetings ever held by the class. On the reading of the treasurer's report an assessment of 50 cents was levied on each member for the first term. J. C. Baker and B. Blume were elected to represent the class on the co-operative society. It was also decided to have the class photograph retaken.

The following are the representatives of the various courses to the 1904 Sub-Institute Committee: I., Currier Lang, chair, II., I. C. Baker., III., W. B. Boggs, IV., A. W. Richards, V., A. C. Downes, VI., C. B. Williams, VIII., H. T. Kalmus, IX., D. K. Keller, X., A. C. Willard, XIII., G. H. Powell.

The Corporation of the Institute at its recent meeting made two appointments which are of unusual interest. Mr. Elihu Thomson of Lynn was elected non-resident professor of applied electricity, and Mr. Percival Lowell, director of the Lowell Observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona, was elected non-resident professor of astronomy.

Both these gentlemen are members of the Corporation, and Mr. Thomson has been among the list of lecturers for the past year.

These gentlemen, while not accepting the full work of a member of the Faculty, will give courses of lectures in their chosen subjects at such times as may be found most advisable. Mr. Lowell will give for the present year a series of six lectures on general astronomy.

The Class of '05 held a meeting in Room 22, Walker Building, Friday, Dec. 12, at 1 P.M. It was decided to postpone the first class dinner until after the holidays, when a series of dinners and smoke-talks would be started. The question of adopting a class pipe was referred to a committee appointed by the class president. The class treasurer reported that the class still owed over a hundred dollars on last year's debt, and that subscriptions were being asked, though as yet but thirty men had paid their dues up to date. A request to provide the class football team with sweaters was discussed, but no action was taken.

President Turner appointed F. M. Carhart, W. B. D. Motter and Waldso Turner to act on the cane and pipe committee.



'88. W. T. Keough, II., was elected a member of the Boston School Committee on a ticket indorsed by all the contesting parties.

'90. Burdett Moody, I., is in charge of the surveying department of the Homestake Mining Company at Leadville, S. D.

'98. L. J. Seidensticker, V., married Miss Edith Emma Rice of Cambridge, Dec. 15.

'99. C. A. Watrous, IV., is constructing engineer for the G. A. Fuller Company of New York.

'00. S. B. Elbert, III., is now with the North Western Developing Company of Rollinsville, Col. He was formerly a partner with A. C. Dart, Jr.

'00. R. W. Balcomb, V., is now studying Physical Chemistry at the University of Breslau.

'00. A. L. Hamilton, III., is with the Warclark Wire Company of Elizabeth, N. J.

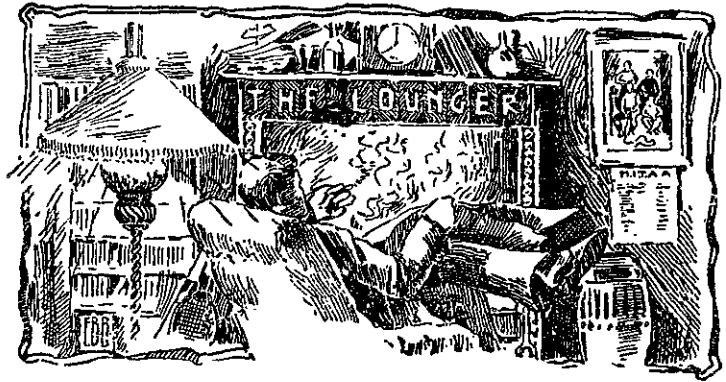
'01. F. K. Mitchell is insurance inspector for the New England Insurance Association, with headquarters in Boston.

'02. Paul E. Chalifoux, ex-'02, is with the J. S. Chalifoux & Co., wholesale dry-goods dealers, in Birmingham, Ga.

'02. F. G. Lane, II., is with the B. F. Sturdevant Blower Company of Boston.

'02. H. B. Pond, I., is with the American Bridge Company at Hartford, Conn.

LOST: From the Tech Gym, on the afternoon of Field Day, a pair of cymbals belonging to Johnston, '06. Any information in regard to them will be gratefully received. The cymbals are worth about fifteen dollars.



The days go by, approaching Christmas as a limit, and yet there is no cessation in our labors. Even our minutes of relaxation are filled with conscious thought. THE LOUNGER goes to his morning tasks in a street car, and his eye wanders weakly, protestingly from the ground-glass sign: "No obnoxious or otherwise intoxicated person will be allowed to ride on this car, unless he does so at his own risk," to the many examples of modern poetic masterpieces, all embodying the inspiring idea: "Use 'Pessima,' it is the best."

And now there falls upon THE LOUNGER's lazy retina the image of a beautiful woman reclining comfortably upon a moon, and underneath,—THE LOUNGER's lethargy is broken,—oh, wonderful discovery,—four magic words, balm for the soul of the overworked and crowded student, fit phrase to express the long-felt need of the Tech grind, in short, the much-desired motto for M. I. T.: "Work while you sleep."

A discovery such as this is indeed a boon, but is all the more blissful, as THE LOUNGER himself is the discoverer. No cares can weigh him down in his triumph. He leaves the car while it is yet in motion, and leaves it backward, with that disregard of all laws of gravity, resolution of forces and momentum, which a newsboy alone can command, and, rushing up Rogers's steps, faces with intrepidity that New World incarnation of the released spirits of Scylla and Charybdis,—to wit, the double set of swinging doors which make the entrance to our Alma Mater perilous,—passes through unscathed, and unconcerned that the door he let fly has swept a gentle coded from the map, and mounting the stairs to the Tech office, proceeds to spread himself joyously, when, woe betide! he is accosted with a new and overwhelming problem. He is acquainted with the fact that there is a Tech Kommersraum, or whatnot, which has recently come into existence over the — er — that is, pardon, the Mechanical Lavatories,—and, furthermore, that this apartment, having no adequate appellation, must be dubbed. That it should be called by so inconspicuous a name as the "Tech Union" would be lamentably prosaic. Consider: "North Union," "South Union," "Tech Union," "Woman's Christian Temperance Union." How is a bewildered Freshman to know which to patronize?