

# THE TECH

VOL. XXX. NO. 110

BOSTON, MASS., SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1911

PRICE TWO CENTS

## CIVIL SOCIETY HEAR

ARTHUR L. PLYMPTON, '77

Very Interesting Talk on "Street Railway Work and Rail Problems"

DESCRIPTION OF DIFFERENT TROUBLES

Many little Details Given Which are of Great Value to Men going into the Subject Deeply.

Mr. Arthur L. Plympton, '77 addressed the C. E. Society Thursday afternoon on the subject "Street Railway Work and Rail Problems". He began with a short history of the girder rails at present used by the street cars in the streets. The first rail was like the usual T-rail now in common use, but had a little shoe welded on it at each tie in order to raise it sufficiently so that an eight inch paving block could be placed close against the rail. As it was very hard to get these shoes in line, and as they were apt to break off, a continuous rail, with an eight inch web was the next development. Then a guard was added on the inner side and gradually the rail came to have its present shape.

Mr. Plympton also spoke quite fully of the problem of locating two street car tracks in each of two intersecting streets, with connecting switches and curves, in such a way that the new large size cars would be able to pass each other. Small, accurately made, celluloid models are run around the curves on the plans, and thus it is possible to tell very easily what clearance there will be between cars which to work it out mathematically would be very complex. He showed blue prints of the track layouts at Columbus Ave. and Northampton St., and at Tremont and Northampton Sts. The new large cars are necessitating a wider track spacing on straight track as well as on curves; therefore all new or reconstructed track is being laid with five feet instead of the old four and one half feet between tracks. On Washington St. the tracks were reconstructed with only four and one half feet spacing, on account of the narrowness of the street, and as a result, no large cars can be safely run there.

He also spoke of the wearing of the rails in some sharp curves rails have to be replaced every three months. All rails wear away very rapidly at the joints, owing to the pounding effect of the car wheels, which dig a small groove in the ends of the rails very quickly. There are various methods of preventing this which are being tried, most of them consisting either of extra rigid fish plates or of some way of welding together the ends into a continuous rail. As a result of this added wearing at the ends, rails have to be replaced in a much shorter time than if they had a uniform wear. Often the centre of a rail that is taken out as almost as good as new while two or three feet at each end are worn out. Three fourths of the maintenance of way cost of street railways is for the replacement of rails. Thus, if this wearing at the ends could be decreased a great saving would be affected. The railways are willing to go to almost any initial expense, if by so doing they can diminish the large cost of maintenance. The next greatest wear results in giving a wavy surface to the wearing surfaces of the whole rail. Why a rail showed wear that way is unknown, although many theories are advanced. To remedy it the Boston Elevated is using a car fitted with blocks of emery or carborundum with which the rails are trued down to a straight surface with a sort of scrubbing action.

## CHOCOLATE SOLDIERS TAKE TECH BY STORM WITH MINSTREL SHOW IN HUNTINGTON HALL

Popular Songs and Quartette Numbers Together with Many Original Stunts Combine to Make a Most Enjoyable Entertainment.

(By Wm. J. Orchards.)

The Advance Agent made good—and The Chocolate Soldiers production was "a really, truly, honest to goodness minstrel show." True to the prediction made in these columns on Thursday:—

"The night was filled with music, And the cares which infested the day, Just folded their coats like hoboos, And as silently stole away."

From the time that the twenty-five dusky "gemmen" came on the stage with their opening "Hello! People Hello!" until the rousing M. I. T. cheer at the end closed the entertainment there was never an idle or a tiresome moment.

There were some defects, of course, but these were few and not of sufficient importance to cause the least hitch in the brilliant performance. Everyone entered into the spirit of the occasion, good will was everywhere rampant—and why should it not have been so? It was a Tech affair given by a group of spirited, "live" Tech men, for the benefit of a Tech organization, and rendered before a distinctively Tech audience.

The members of the faculty with their families were there; the Instructors and Assistants were there; the Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen were there; the janitors and errand boys were there; in fact every single individual connected with the Institute, who had a drop of live blood and could possibly come, was there.

The opening chorus started promptly at eight-fifteen announcing the arrival of the "Chocolate Soldiers". Then followed in rapid succession several musical numbers with jokes of all shades and color mixed in between. True some of the jokes were born in the Ark, but even the worst of them caused a laugh.

"Lovey Joe", made immortal by "Denny" at the recent Hook-night, was sung by Mr. Odell, the chorus being sung by the assembly. He had to repeat it and at the close of his encore contributed some real good jokes extracted no doubt from the "Chocolate Soldiers Joke Book, by H. I. Pearl."

Then Mr. Robinson sang an original and unique parody intitled "They Want Us to Quit Making Noise". This song "hit" the recent publicity given to the movement toward abolishing the "We Are Happy" yell, and in the chorus the naughty and objectionable word was very evident and audible.

Mr. Richardson, of Banjo Club fame, at this point contributed a Banjo solo, and was followed by Mr. Crowley and the famous Quartette composed of Messrs. Crowley, Odell, Swenson, and Robinson, who sang "Meet Me Tonight in Dreamland". When they arrived at "Dreamland" last night, they were surely greeted, for nobody could resist that tuneful appeal.

The frivolous Mr. Thompson at this point sang "Put Your Arms Around Me Honey" and he sang it so well that sure enough his "Honey", in the person of Mr. Fuller did come and embrace him.

After another array of jokes, Mr. Eicher sang "Travel, Travel, Little Star" and was followed by Mr. Kebbon singing "That Barber-shop Chord." The Quartette here rendered another "touching ballad", to use the words of the interlocutor Mr. Sloan, this time singing Ingram's "All That I Ask is Love" with Mr. Crowley singing the solo part.

At this point the hit of the evening, was sung by Mr. Pearl, it being a parody entitled "Any Little Site" and dealing with the recent rumors relative to the Institute moving to some new location.

The Quartette again delighted the audience by singing "Winter", Mr. Swenson singing the verse and the whole assembly joining in on the second chorus.

Mr. Seligman sang in proper minstrel show style "The Belle of the Barber's Ball" and was followed by Mr. O'Farrell, who played a brace of guitar solos showing remarkable technique and mastery of that instrument.

The redoubtable Mr. Thompson, stepped once more into the limelight singing the famous "Stop, Stop, Stop", and giving a side splitting monologue between the verses.

Mr. Bent sang the last regular solo of the evening. It was "Sugar Moon" and made a decided hit.

"The finale for this evening will be a Pianologue by Mr. Denison" announced the interlocutor—and it surely was a grand finale. Denison's fame is too well known to dwell long upon it but even the versatile Rev. O. B., out did himself last night. Denison's stunt alone was well worth the price of admission and it was one long continued roar of laughter. His takeoff of a Moving Picture Show and his playing of one tune in so many different ways, showed well his ability, but when he played the piano with one hand and leaning over, played the bells with the other hand, the house yelled with delight. Such stunts as that of Denison's are possibly to be seen in some of our high class play houses but it is safe to say, that not many in the audience had ever before seen such a remarkably clever performance at the piano.

At the close of Mr. Denison's Pianologue, the chorus swung into "Good Night! People, Good Night." and closed with a rousing M. I. T.

Everybody admitted that the evening had been a most pleasant one, and Mr. Holman I. Pearl was complimented and congratulated by everyone. He was the manager, coach, business agent, "Advance Agent" and so forth all rolled into one. He was the leader of the whole affair, the man to show credit for the tremendous success of last night is due and the "lives" man in all that group of "live" men.

Long will the memory of the "Chocolate Soldiers" dwell in the minds of those who were fortunate enough to see them last night.

The cast follows:—

Donald E. Bent, 1912.  
Edmund G. Brown, 1912.  
Lloyd C. Cooley, 1911.  
T. Edward Crowley, 1912.  
Phillip W. Dalrymple, 1912.  
Orville B. Denison, 1912.  
Ralph H. Doane, 1911.  
Archibald Eicher, 1912.  
Joseph C. Fuller, 1911.  
Harold E. Kebbon, 1912.  
George C. Kenney, 1912.  
Laurene G. Odell, 1912.  
Leon R. O'Farrell, 1914.  
Holman I. Pearl, 1912.  
Richard H. Ranger, 1911.  
Wallace D. Richardson, 1912.  
Kenneth C. Robinson, 1911.  
Erwin H. Schell, 1912.  
Nathaniel S. Seeley, 1911.  
Wellesley J. Seligman, 1912.  
Vernon G. Sloan, 1912.  
Guy H. Swenson, 1912.  
Charles F. Thompson, 1914.  
Alexander W. Yereance, 1912.

## HARE AND HOUNDS LAY

TRIAL THIS AFTERNOON

They Love the Country But Oh This Boston Scenery

DON YOUR BEST ANDS HOW UP

All Cross Country Men Will Run from Gym Today. Kanaly Runs with the Squad and Gives Valuable Advice

Since the suburbs have not yet recovered from the wintry weather and the plastic mud lies deeply spread o'er hill and dale throughout the surrounding towns, the Hare and Hounds will again have to confine their chase to the streets of Boston. The men have been hoping to get out of the city for the first time to day and really run in the open fields, but it was found that they were in such unsettled condition that it would be necessary to put it off for at least another week.

The men have a few advantages, however, in running in the city, for although the scenery may not be as natural, it surely has more life; in a way it might be said to almost reciprocate the admiration which the men could not help but have for it. Man appears in a costume which sets him off in the best possible light, and the interest which the students of the various art, music and oratory schools around town take in the hares or the hounds is very apparent. Last week's run seemed to show that the Freshman Hounds were wise to these good things and the Sophomores were not but things will be different this week. Coach Kanaly is running with the men and his personal advice to the fellows while on the run is of great value, and should bring out more men than were there last week.

The squad will leave the Gym. at three-thirty and run over the same course that they did last week. The pace will be easy and everybody will be able to keep up without difficulty. Come out to-day and stretch yourself; you will be surprised to see how much better you will feel afterwards. Three-thirty to-day at the Gym.

## CALENDAR

Saturday, Mar. 18

3.30—Hare and Hounds Run.—Gym.  
3.30—Orchestra Rehearsal.—Union.

Monday, Mar. 20

1.00—1911 Class Mtg.—  
1.00—Tech Board Mtg.—Union.  
4.15—Technique Electoral Com. Mtg.—27 R.  
4.15—1914 Cross Country.—Gym.  
5.00—Technique Board Mtg.—Union.  
—Musical Clubs Concert.—Gym.

Tuesday, Mar. 21

1.30—Tech News Board Mtg.—Union.  
1.30—Union Com. Mtg.—Dean's Office.  
4.15—M. I. T. A. A. Mtg.—Room A—Union.  
4.15—1914 Cross Country.—Gym.

Wednesday Mar 22

4.15—1914 Cross Country.—Gym.

Thursday, Mar. 23

4.15—1914 Cross Country.—Gym.  
5.00—Technique Board Mtg.—Union.  
4.30—Orchestra Rehearsal.—Union.

# THE TECH

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A. L. Myers, 1911... Managing Editor.

H. W. Hall, 1912..... Business Manager.  
A. T. Gibson, 1913..... Circulation Mgr.

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M. Paris, 1914..... Institute.

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A. W. Mudge, 1914... S. M. Ginsburg 1914

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E. C. Taylor, 1914..... Photographer.

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FRIDAY MARCH 17, 1911

In the absence of any Christian Association work carried on directly by the T. C. A. this year, the call of the Boston Y. M. C. A. for instructors in their social work should carry a personal appeal to those men who are interested in this phase of Association work. There is need of more men to help in the teaching of English vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar to adult classes in the different foreign settlements of greater Boston.

This work is valuable both to the instructed and to the instructor and is extremely interesting. It is broadening work which should appeal strongly to the embryo engineer on account of the insight thereby gained into the character and habits of the foreign population. It is from these classes that many of the men are drawn to fill the construction gangs and labor camps which play such a vital part in many a young engineer's experience. Moreover, the teaching of a class of men not thoroughly conversant with our own native tongue, promotes the ability to think clearly and to convey that thought most lucidly to the students mind. This training is also invaluable to the engineer, who is often called upon to give a concise and clear report upon some subject of engineering. Thus, from the purely personal and selfish viewpoint, this form of Association work is of great practical value as training for the engineer.

From the broader, more general view point, the value of this work can not be questioned. Such co-operation of man and man to give to the foreigner the elementary foundation necessary to the making of a competent American citizen cannot be too highly appreciated. The value of this work to the foreign student himself is quite evident to the man who has witnessed one of these classes in action.

We earnestly hope, that more Tech men will become actively engaged in this form of Association work which so greatly benefits both instructor and student.

## COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of *The Tech*.

A short time ago the Bulletin Board Committee received a complaint from one of the organizations, that has been doing a large amount of advertising, concerning the taking of one of their posters from the bulletin board in the Union. This theft occurred five days before the event was scheduled to take place, and the management had to make another sign at the expense of much time and trouble. A few days later the Prom Committee found that one of their most attractive posters had been stolen. Both of the posters were valuable ones, especially the latter which was hand painted, and was one of the best seen on the boards for a long time. Of course it is almost impossible to find who the thief is for a fellow who is dishonorable enough to steal certainly will not confess. A similar thing happened at Tufts a few days ago when several of the students were caught taking a poster from the girls' dormitory. Such a thing may be excused there, but when a fellow gets in Tech it is hoped and expected that he will leave such childish actions out of his curriculum. It is not the first time that posters have been stolen from Tech bulletin boards, but it will be the last time if every student co-operates with the committee and takes it upon himself to see that it is stopped.

Chairman, Bulletin Board Committee.

## COMMUNICATION

Editor of the *Tech*:

I would like to call the attention of the student body through your columns, to the disappearance of one of the Prom posters from the bulletin board in the Union. It would be bad enough to take the result of several hours work of a member of the Prom. Comm., but in this case the poster was executed by an artist friend of one of the members, and was made as a personal favor. It took a good deal of thought and ability to design the production and it would seem as though the students should have enough respect both for the Prom and the Institute not to meddle with announcements and posters on the bulletin boards. The particular design to which I refer was that of a dancing girl lighting by means of an ornamental lantern the word "PROM". The color scheme was green and yellow upon a gray background. This is not the first time that posters have been stolen from the bulletin boards but I sincerely hope it will be the last. The man who hinders the purposes of Institute activities by such an act, has no place here. The theft of this poster is an indication of an entirely wrong spirit, and one that should not appear at Technology.

Prom Comm.

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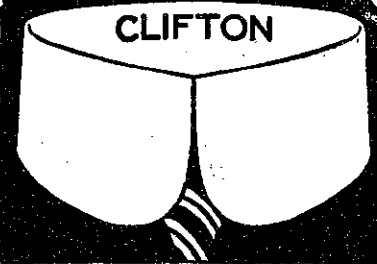
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WORK AMONG LITHUANIANS

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In the social settlement work carried on by the Boston Y. M. C. A., several Tech men are actively engaged in teaching English to adult classes in some of the foreign sections of the city. W. W. Warne 1911 and Hamilton Merrill 1912 were the first Tech men to take up this work, holding classes two evenings a week at the Lithuanian Club in South Boston.

The men became actively interested in the work through a demonstration of the method of instruction used by the Association. To this demonstration were invited a number of Tech men, of whom the following were present: Merle Randall, Grad., W. W. Warner, 1911., E. E. Fales, 1911, John Hall, 1912; G. M. Keith 1912, Hamilton Merrill 1912, G. R. Thayer 1913. They went at the invitation of Messrs. David M. Chagorn and Eben Shute, who are in charge of the social work carried on by the Boston Y. M. C. A.

After a dinner at the Boston City Club, the men were conducted by Mr. Shute to the rooms of the Lithuanian Club in South Boston. Here they were cordially received by the members and the Lithuanians present divided into classes in pronunciation and vocabulary and English grammar, while the local orchestra furnished music from an adjoining room.

Mr. Shute personally led the class in vocabulary and pronunciation, and very ably demonstrated the effectiveness of the system used by the Y. M. C. A. This system is peculiar in several aspects. Considerable of the success of the lesson depends upon the acting of the instructor. The instructor reads a sentence and illustrates it by acting it out. The class repeats the sentence after him several times and grasps the meaning by the visible portrayal of the sentence. In this way, no knowledge of the foreign tongue is required on the part of the instructor. On the contrary, success depends rather upon his ingenuity and persistence than upon his linguistic powers.

The effectiveness of this system, aroused considerable enthusiasm among the Tech men present, with the result that the class was divided into two sections and placed in charge of the two men, who volunteered to give up two evenings a week to the work.

It is expected that more Tech men will soon take up similar work in other foreign sections of greater Boston, and it is to be hoped, that our expectations are not misplaced. Any Tech man, who may be interested may learn more in detail of this work from any of the Tech men at the demonstration, or may learn directly from the directors of the social work of the City Association. Mr. Claghorn and Mr. Shute of the Boston Y. M. C. A., will be glad to give any further information to anyone who may be interested in this form of Association work.

Harvard has issued invitations to the aero clubs of the different universities and colleges of the country to take part in the big intercollegiate gliding meet which is to be held at Boston this June. Six of the aero clubs have signified their intention of competing and several others have the matter under consideration.

The trustees of Columbia University have proposed to add a new degree to those already granted by the university. This will be the degree of LL.D., and will be awarded to all law school men securing an LL.B., who spend an additional year in the study at the university. This new honor will be somewhat similar to the Ph. D., and will be awarded for work in certain broader studies in public law, legal history and jurisprudence.

Pennsylvania has 35 baseball games scheduled for this spring.

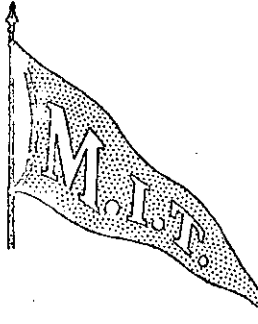
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Exercise in Forging for Course II, Sections 2 and 3, and in Chipping and Filing for Section 1, will begin on Friday, March 24th.

Exercise in Chipping and Filing for Course XIII will begin on Thursday, March 23rd.

Walter Humphreys,  
Registrar.

Copy of Bulletin Notice.

March 16, 1911.

The list of candidates for graduation the present year has been presented to the Faculty, and all persons whose names are on it have been notified individually. The list cannot now be changed except by vote of the Faculty, and any student expecting to be recommended for the degree the present year should consult me if he has not been notified that his name is on the list.

A. L. Merrill,  
Secretary.

TECH BUSINESS STAFF

A. L. Meyers will take charge of the advertising department for the special issue. Report to him and get your assignments.

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BASS BALL GAMES

All applications for use of the Field for BaseBall Games must be made to Major F. H. Briggs, 22 High St., stating the date, hour and teams, that will contest.

**IMPORTANT ORCHESTRA MEETING TODAY**

Will Be Held in Union at 2. Full Attendance Urged.

At half past two o'clock this afternoon, the orchestra will hold a very important business meeting and rehearsal in the Union. Attendance will be taken, and every man is urgently requested to be present as several affairs which need immediate attention will be discussed. When the business is finished the regular rehearsal will be held so that the meeting will be doubly important.

DRAWING DEPARTMENT

Week of March 20.  
**Descriptive Geometry**  
This work will cover Problem 22.

**Mechanical Drawing**  
Work on the bicycle sprockets and chain will be continued.

NOTICE, 1911.

Ballots for Class Day Committee are now ready to be called for at the Cage. Polls close at the Cage at 4 P. M., Wednesday, March 22. Vote Now.

H. F. Dollier,  
Clerk.

Keep Up-to-Date  
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