

THE TECH

VOL. XXX. NO. 65

BOSTON, MASS., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1910

PRICE TWO CENTS

LYRIC COMPETITION COMMENCES TODAY

Stage Manager E. H. Schell Will Distribute List of Subjects This Afternoon.

MANY POSTER CANDIDATES.

Manager Woehling Gives Advice On Size and Appearance of Drawing Desired.

Every man who expects to write lyrics for this year's Tech Show should be sure and be present at the meeting of lyric writers in the Show office this afternoon and hear what Stage Manager E. H. Schell has to say on the subject. A complete list of subjects will be given out, together with some valuable hints of just what sort of lyrics are wanted. The competition will be closed on January 3, and it is therefore necessary that every man who expects to compete must start at the first gun shot. It is hoped by the stage manager that a number of men will at least try to write some lyrics so that Coach Sanger can have as large a variety to choose from as is possible. The subjects for lyrics are by far better than they have ever been before. It is, however, not necessary to stick to the assigned subjects entirely. A good lyric can be worked in.

The largest delegation on record entered the poster competition yesterday afternoon. Thirty-five men reported at the Show office, and by the time Manager Woehling had gone through his directions for the third time the men were packed into the little room like sardines. Mr. Woehling gave the following directions: The posters to be in two flat colors and black and white, and may be drawn either 20 x 40 inches, or 26½ x 42 inches. A space, exact size, to be left to the discretion of the artist, is to be left, preferably at the bottom for the insertion of the name of the theatre and the date. A few things were especially emphasized by Mr. Woehling. The poster must have life and vivacity, as it is to be used for advertising, not for an art gallery. He also said that the poster must be artistic as well as striking. If there are any other men who expect to draw posters they should leave a note at the "Cage" for H. L. Woehling at their earliest convenience.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Civil Engineering Meeting Will Be Held Thursday in Room 6, Lowell.

Owing to force of circumstances, the meeting of the Civil Engineering Society that was announced for this afternoon has been postponed until tomorrow. The place of gathering has also been changed, and the meeting will be held in Room 6, Lowell Building, at 4.15. The subject to be discussed is "The Principal Methods of Road Construction and Maintenance," and the lecturer will be Mr. F. C. Pillsbury, engineer for the Massachusetts Highway Commission. This State has always been a leader in the good roads movement, and the movement itself has grown to world-wide proportions. It is, therefore, very fitting that the civil engineers at the Institute should be informed on this subject by such an authority as Mr. Pillsbury.

There is quite a little business to be transacted at this meeting also.

(Continued on Page 3.)

VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM OPEN SEASON

Only Chance For Technology Men to Give Team a Send-Off.

CLOSE GAME PROBABLE.

Seconds Should Have a Comparatively Easy Time With the Winchester Team.

Eight o'clock tonight at the Gym; the opening of the season for the Varsity basketball team; Boston College to be the opponents; Seconds to play the Winchester Independents. This will be the real and only chance to give the team a send-off for their New York trip, as they leave early on Friday. The team is playing a good, fast game and will show some class at this, their first appearance, before the critical eyes of the Institute. The men will line up as given in The Tech yesterday, unless some unexpected injury should turn up. The forwards are shooting all the time and are not wasting any chances for a basket. There will, without doubt, be a very close race between Johnston and Palmer to see who will score the most baskets during the game, with Captain Parker running right on their heels. Johnston will have the star man of the college five to look after as well, but this will not phase him for a minute, for he can cover when it is necessary. The four backs are so closely tied for honors that it is hard to say who will start, but the odds are strong for Crocker and Darling. Whoever plays the guard positions, however, will be very capable of keeping their eye on the college forwards and preventing their scoring. The men have been on training table now for over two weeks and are in the best of condition. There is not a man on the squad who has anything the matter with him, and the management will not have any excuse of sickness to offer for a defeat or a low score. All that remains now is the necessity of support from the Institute, like that given to the hockey team at the Harvard game. With the stands full of cheering Tech men, Boston College will have a tough road to travel if they want to carry away a victory. The spirit of the fellows here has been aroused, as was demonstrated at the Arena, and the management feel confident that the backing given them tomorrow night will be just as strong and hearty, that a big crowd will show up at the Gym at 8 o'clock and make things interesting with their cheers.

The lineup:

Technology. Boston College.
Parker (Capt.) l. f. r. b. Halligan
Palmer, r. f. l. b. Heath
Johnston, c. c. Capt. Duggan
Crocker, l. b. r. f. Murphy
Darling, r. b. l. f. Churchwood

CHRISTMAS MEETING HELD BY WALKER CLUB

Gifts Presented and Poetry Read at Meeting in Hotel Victoria.

At the annual meeting of the Walker Club, held this year in the Hotel Victoria, five new members were initiated into the society by their giving talks on the various kinds of festivals held at this time of the year in different countries. Perhaps the most interesting description of the evening was that given by Mr. H. Lamy, who hails from France.

Each member had been requested (Continued on Page 3.)

E. E. SOCIETY HOLDS INTERESTING MEETING

Mr. Henry A. Morss Speaks On "Wire Manufacture"—Over 40 Members Present.

VALENTINE DINNER TO BE HELD.

Plans For a Joint Professional Societies' Dinner Were Fully Discussed.

Last evening Mr. Henry A. Morss, vice-president of the Simplex Electric Company, delivered a lecture before the Electrical Engineering Society upon the subject of "Wire Manufacture." The various processes and machines used in the manufacture of wire were explained by the use of stereopticon slides, and the lecture proved to be a most enjoyable one. Mr. Morss is an old Tech man, having graduated in the class of 1893. While here at the Institute he was actively interested in student activities and was prominently connected with the Electrical Engineering Society.

The Simplex Company is the largest firm manufacturing rubber-covered wire in the United States. Probably most people would be surprised to know that there are hundreds of different kinds of wire manufactured, but even in the short space of five months the Simplex Company handled 346 different varieties. No wire is drawn at the Simplex plant, but the three processes which they carry on are the tinning, insulating and then covering the wire to protect the insulation from harm.

The tinning of the wire is made necessary because of the fact that all rubber contains a certain percentage of sulphur, and were the wire not tinned before it was covered this sulphur would partially unite with the copper of the wire, thus corroding it.

At the meeting which preceded the lecture the matter was brought up of holding a joint society dinner (similar in some ways to that given by the Civil Engineering Society). This proved to be a most popular idea, and the motion was carried to hold such a dinner some time in April and have Mr. Frank J. Sprague address the societies. Mr. Sprague is a consulting engineer, and has practically agreed to speak here some time in April. His subject will probably be "The Transportation Problems in a Large City." This topic should be one that will appeal to the members of any of the professional societies here at Tech.

On February 14th the society is planning to hold a banquet, at which Mr. Valentine of the New England Telephone Company will be the speaker. As February 14th is St. Valentine's Day, it is planned to have certain "stunts" carried out at the dinner that will be suggestive of the day. Any members of the E. E. Society who can offer suggestions for these "stunts" are asked to leave them at the Cage for Mr. Dennison. The only reason for holding the meeting on this date is to offer an opportunity for some real original ideas and a good time is assured to all who attend the banquet.

Tomorrow afternoon and also on Thursday afternoon of this week, there will be an excursion over to Cambridge to visit the Simplex plant. Since the excursions follow directly after the lecture of last evening, the processes of wire manufacture should be more easily understood by the members of the society than would otherwise be the case.

After the lecture of last evening light refreshments were served.

GYM MEET DRAWS SMALL CROWD

Those Who Did Attend Saw Some Very Interesting Exhibitions.

TUMBLING CLOSELY CONTESTED.

W. D. Allen and B. Darrow Prove the Stars of the Evening's Performances.

The small crowd that turned out to witness the Gym meet last night was amply repaid for its pains, for every event that was run off proved of exceptional interest. The fact that a small number were present, however, threw some gloom on the affair, and Manager Allen was disappointed at the small amount of interest exhibited by the men of the Institute in this branch of athletics.

The tumbling event was closely contested and aroused the keenest interest. S. W. Orr and J. W. Hinds tied for the first place after both had given very creditable exhibitions. The boxing event unfortunately could not be held, owing to the small number present. The wrestling was exceptionally good, the bout between R. Smythe-Martin and F. H. Busby being very exciting. N. T. McNeil and R. B. Kennard also put up a very interesting contest. The results follow:

Tumbling.

S. W. Orr and J. W. Hinds tied for first; H. L. Gardner second.

Human Wheelbarrow and Burden Race.

W. D. Allen and B. Darrow first; other contestants fell down.

High Horizontal Bar.

B. Darrow first; W. D. Allen second; P. A. Heroult third.

Side Horse.

H. S. Crocker first; S. J. Eynon second.

Parallel Bars.

H. S. Crocker first; W. D. Allen second; S. J. Eynon third.

Flying Rings.

B. Darrow first; P. A. Sada second; W. D. Allen third.

Club Swinging.

S. M. Baxter first; W. B. Denton second.

CALENDAR.

Wednesday.

4.00—Basketball Practice—Gym.
4.15—Gym Team Practice—Gym.
5.00—1914 Basketball—Gym.
5.30—Hockey Practice—Arena.
6.00—Catholic Club Dinner—Union.
7.45—Chemical Society Meeting—Union.

E. E. Excursion to Simplex Co., Cambridge.

8.00—Tech B. B. vs. Boston College—Gym.

8.00—Mining Engineering Society Meeting—31 Eng. A.

Thursday.

1.00—1914 Mass Meeting—H. H.
1.30—House Committee Meeting—Cage.

1.00—Mandolin Club—Union.

4.00—Glee Club Practice—Union.

4.15—Civil Engineering Society Meeting—6 Lowell.

4.15—Technique Board Meeting—Union.

4.15—Varsity Track Team—Gym.

4.15—1914 Track Team—Gym.

Friday.

4.00—Gym Team Practice—Gym.

5.00—1914 Basketball Practice—Gym.

5.00—Basketball Practice—Gym.

THE TECH

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1910.

The meeting of the Walker Club is but another expression of that continual desire on the part of the students to get in touch with their instructors in a social way. Everything which helps along this cause is certainly something that advances the real character of our Institute life. There are other gatherings of a similar sort, as for example those of the Cosmopolitan Club and of the course societies. There cannot be too many of them.

PAST AND FUTURE CHEMICAL PROBLEMS

Men in Chemistry Courses Hear Talk by Dr. William H. Nicholls.

Every year the chemists hear a series of talks by men eminent in their profession, and the first of these for this year was held yesterday afternoon. The speaker was Dr. William H. Nicholls, president of the General Chemical Company. He spoke on "Some Chemical Problems of the Past and in the Future" before a small though interested audience. He was introduced by Professor Talbot, who said that Dr. Nicholls was one of the moving spirits of the Chemical Congress to be held in America in 1912.

Dr. Nicholls began by saying that in all his many years of practical experience he had never yet met a Technology graduate who had failed to make good in life, which was more than he could say of men from other schools. This, in speaking of chemical work, is a very excellent standing to give Tech, since chemical engineering is yet only a few years old, and to maintain a place in the chemical world required originality and thorough training. As an example of the wonderful increases of chemical engineering, Dr. Nicholls spoke of sulphuric and acid manufacture, with which he has been intimately connected. He pointed that present day

methods are wholly different from the ones in use when he first entered the field, and that it was necessary to originate many processes and devices for the manufacture of the acid. Costly experiments opened up new fields to the manufacturer, which in turn needed perfecting, and often when seemingly perfected a new and better process was discovered. It is sometimes contended that American inventions are often not quite up to the foreign standard, but this cannot be true, for example, in Germany the American method of the contact process for sulphuric acid is rapidly displacing the German one.

The future of the chemical industries are particularly bright. Future engineers should have a thorough training in chemistry, should be conversant with the properties of substances, and acquainted with mineralogy. There are many questions yet to be solved in the domain of chemistry, among which Dr. Nicholls mentioned the making of fertilizers, the obtaining of phosphorous, nitrogen and potassium for them from some hitherto unutilized source. The transformation of great quantities of kerosene to some form more easily employed, as in motors, was also spoken of. Other questions were: obtaining aluminum from some other source than bauxite, the obtaining directly of pure copper, and a more lasting method of galvanization of iron than the present one.

In conclusion Dr. Nicholls said that the practice of chemistry offered an ever increasing field, and was a most excellent occupation. However, a man not suited to it should not attempt to follow it, as there are chemical engineers now of first-class calibre who must be competed with. Finally, he said that a man should like his work, and engage in it for love of it rather than solely for money. Professor Talbot thanked the speaker for his interesting talk, and hoped that it might prove fruitful.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY LECTURE TONIGHT

Mr. George W. Rolfe Will Talk to Members On "Sugar Analysis."

This evening, at 7:45, there will be a most interesting lecture held in the Tech Union by the Chemical Society. Mr. George W. Rolfe, one of the instructors in the Chemical Department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be the speaker of the evening. Mr. Rolfe is an authority upon the subject of sugar analysis, and has studied the subject quite thoroughly in the South.

All members of the Chemical Department are invited to attend this meeting.

GRAHAME-WHITE'S NEW AEROPLANE EXHIBITED

Air-Craft Built by the Burgess Company of Marblehead Is Completed.

FIRST ONE TO BE FINISHED.

Noted English Aviator Has Decided to Submit It to British War Office.

The Burgess Company and E. Curtis have issued invitations to persons interested in aeroplanes, announcing that the first of the seven aeroplanes which the company is building for Grahame-White is finished and on exhibition. The plane can be inspected any day this week until Friday, when it is to be shipped to England. Grahame-White wishes to submit it to the British War Office.

The machine is a biplane, designed primarily to carry only the aviator, but is supplied with a second seat so that a light passenger can be carried. It is to have a seven-cylinder Gnome motor of the type used by Grahame-White at the Harvard-Boston meet. The spread is 28 feet and the length 32 feet 6 inches, while the surface is approximately 325 square feet. The distance between the planes is 4 feet 10 inches.

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THE RELIABLE REPEATERS

**SOCIETY OF ARTS
HOLDS MEETING**

**Profs. Jaggar and Spofford Give
Lecture On "The Costa
Rican Earthquake."**

Professors Spofford and Jaggar addressed the Society of Arts at the regular meeting held in Huntington Hall last evening. The subject was "The Earthquake of May 4 at Carthage." President Maclaurin introduced Professor Spofford, who read a paper on the earthquake in Carthage, Central America, as seen from a civil engineer's point of view. Slides showing many buildings before and after the earthquake were presented, and the advantages and disadvantages of different types of construction were dwelt upon at length.

As there were no steel-frame or reinforced concrete buildings in Carthage no data could be obtained as to their behavior under these conditions, but from observations of the buildings, Professor Spofford has reached the conclusion that wooden frame buildings are best suited to these regions. Brick does not stand the shock very well, while adobe offers no resistance against earthquake shocks. Adobe is simply dried and baked mud, and has no tensile strength, even though the walls be very thick.

Professor Jaggar then showed the geologist's point of view. Several views of volcanoes, most of them extinct, were shown to illustrate his remarks.

He also spoke of the new observation station to be established at Honolulu. It will be fully equipped with the latest forms of seismographs, pyrometers, etc., and will probably be under the direction of men connected with the Institute.

Funds were contributed by Andrew Carnegie, the Alumni and by the merchants of Honolulu, who have pledged themselves to contribute the sum of \$5000 a year for the period of 5 years.

Attempts will be made to measure the heat of the boiling lava by means of a new pyrometer specially constructed for the purpose. Plans have been made for the observatory building by a professor in the Architectural Department. The one favored by Professor Jaggar is round, with a parabolic roof, and is constructed entirely of reinforced concrete. Experiments by the Japanese government have shown this form of roof to be best adapted to regions subject to earthquakes.

The suitability of Honolulu for the observatory was well illustrated by a map which shows the place entirely surrounded by volcanic regions. Starting from Unalaska down the western coast of North and South America, and up the western coast of Asia, are most of the active volcanoes of the present time.

As practically no land intervenes between these regions and Honolulu, the place is admirably suited for the purposes of observation and investigation. It is hoped that much valuable data may be collected in this way.

After the paper had been read President Maclaurin thanked the speakers in the name of the society, and routine business was then transacted.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Over twenty men have been proposed for membership, and their names will be acted on Thursday. Owing to the resignation of Mr. S. E. Bates, and the non-return to the Institute this year of Mr. A. B. Appleton, there are now vacancies in the offices of vice-president and member of Executive Committee. These vacancies will be filled by election Thursday. Information regarding the new pins will also be given.

(Continued from Page 1.)

to bring gifts for two other members, and these were presented with a short poem. Much mirth was caused by the lyrics.

After this a large birthday cake was brought in and set before Professor Arlo Bates. The evening was one of the best good-fellowship, and everyone present was filled with true Christmas spirit.

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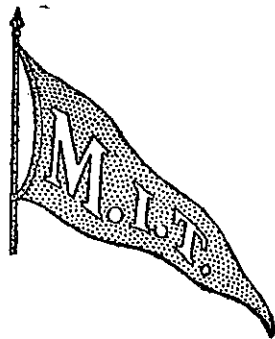
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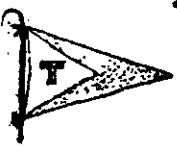
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NOTICE.
 December 19, 1910.
 The exercises of the Institute will be suspended on Saturday, December 24th, and during the following week. By vote of the Faculty instructors are requested to send to the Dean the names of all students who are absent from exercises on Friday, December 23rd, and on Monday, January 2nd.
 A. L. MERRILL, Secretary.

NOTICE.
 A meeting of those who expect to write Lyrics for this year's Tech Show will be held in the Show office, Room B, Union, Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. (64-2t)

163 HUNTINGTON AVE, SUITE TWO—2, 3 and 5 room furnished suites, also side room and one room at \$1.50 per week. (64-7t)

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO C. E. SOCIETY MEMBERS.
 The meeting scheduled for Wednesday afternoon at 4.15 will be held **THURSDAY** at 4.15, in 6 Lowell. (65-2t)

LOST.
 At mid-winter dance, a black silk watch fob, with gold locket attached, with monogram S. W. M. Finder please leave at Cage. (64-1t)

NOTICE.
 The following articles of clothing have been left in my office and are still unclaimed:
 One black overcoat, left in Lowell Building, November 16th (apparently the property of a Freshman from San Francisco).
 One light coat, left at the Cage September 30th.
 Two caps, left in Lowell Building November 16th.
 One raincoat, left in the Rogers Building.
 One pair of spectacles.
 I shall be glad to have the owners call at my office and identify their property.
 Yours very truly,
MAURICE R. SCHARFF,
 President's Assistant.
 December 7, 1910.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.
First Year—Choice of Course.

Circulars in regard to the Choice of Course were sent to all first year students with the report of standing for the second five weeks. Cards will be distributed among first year students at some Chemistry exercise, and they are to be returned with a provisional Choice of Course indicated on them. This choice is not binding, but students are earnestly asked to consult with their parents and their instructors at once in order that this provisional choice may be made within the next two weeks.
WALTER HUMPHREYS,
 Registrar.

FIRST YEAR.
 Conferences in regard to the choice of courses will be arranged for the latter part of this term. The first conference will be by Professor Talbot, in Room 6, Lowell Building, Thursday, December 22nd, at 1 P. M. He will speak especially for Courses V and X. Conferences with the heads of other departments will be held immediately after the Christmas recess.
ALFRED E. BURTON, Dean.
 December 19, 1910.

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