

## JUNIOR FRESHMEN DINE IN WALKER

Dean Burton, Coach Kanaly, Professor Pearson, Representing the Faculty, and Reid '18 Are Speakers

### FIFTY-FIVE PRESENT

The usual dinner which marks the advent of a new class at Technology was held last Thursday evening at six o'clock in the faculty dining room of the Walker Memorial, for the purpose of bringing the members of the entering class together that they might meet each other and at the same time acquire and harmonize themselves to the "Technology Spirit" much sooner than they possibly could otherwise. With this latter purpose ever in view the speakers of the evening devoted their remarks to the problems and perplexities which confront the average student upon entering the Institute, and gave to the new class the information, practically the same, but yet invaluable,—that all freshman classes have received at their first dinner. One precedent was broken by the new class, in that the dinner was held in the faculty dining room, for heretofore no class has enjoyed this privilege.

Coach Kanaly, the first speaker of the evening, briefly outlined the need of having such a course in physical training at the Institute as is now required of all freshmen. He also explained the numerous advantages in connection with daily life after graduation from the Institute derived from such a course, as well as from other branches of athletics, particularly track, which may be substituted for the regular gymnasium work.

Dean Burton, the next speaker, at the very outset, promised the new students that they have a sufficient number of exams and similar trials before them to quench any enthusiasm that might possess them as to the ease of the Institute curriculum; for although they have been admitted without examinations that does not signify that they will be similarly treated in the future. He pointed out that the very fact that they have entered without the regular requirements places upon them the responsibility of showing that they were worthy of the honor, for the eyes of the educational world are centered upon the attempt and its possible effect upon the high standards of scholarship maintained here. In offering a solution for this problem of keeping above the level, he suggested that they learn concentration when studying and that they should not neglect the exercise that is necessary to keep them in good physical condition. Dean Burton also gave a brief sketch of the history of the Institute and told of the men with whose lives the early annals of the Institute are connected, particularly Francis Amasa Walker and William Barton Rogers, and also of Runkle, Atkinson, Holman, and Nichols.

Kenneth Reid, '18, speaking as a representative of the undergraduates, told of the various activities which offer unprecedented opportunities for advancement to the new class and urged every member to try out for at least one activity in the competitions now in progress, as some diversion from the intense class room work is needed, and also much practical experience can be obtained by participation in activities. There are unusual advantages for advancement offered to the new freshmen, as many upperclassmen formerly active in all student affairs have withdrawn from the Institute to enter the service, and thus the responsibility for the continuance of these activities is placed upon the lower classes.

Professor H. C. Pearson next addressed the students from the point of view of the teacher, and declared that the teachers are not only willing but even anxious to know the men under them and that the new students should make it their business to find out something of the men who are to teach them.

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## FRESHMAN WRESTLING BOUTS ARE TO BE HELD IN CAF

Saturday Evening Will See First Year Championship Decided.

Wrestling bouts to decide the championship among the freshmen will be held in the Caf next Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. Between the semi-finals and the final an exhibition bout will take place between "Packy" Mearland of the 125 lb. class and "Gene" Smoley 135 lbs. of the Varsity team. The management promises this bout to be a "whirlwind."

The bouts are to be refereed by Mr. Gracey, who has been coaching the men and will be of the catch-and-can variety. No toe-holds, strangle-holds, full-nelsons or hammerlocks will be permitted. The bouts promise to be snappy and spectacular affairs of ten minutes' duration, and should be closely contested, for all but four men in each class have been eliminated in the preliminaries. The men to take part in the bouts are:

115 lb. class—W. P. Foster, H. M. Forbes, C. A. Johnson and Felsenthal.

125 lb. class—Acosta, Tucker, H. D. Moor Spalding.

135 lb. class—O. Buckner, J. Gordon, F. M. Rowell, F. H. Herman.

145 lb. class—F. H. Stose, W. K. Ramsey, R. C. Johnson, F. H. Whelan.

158 lb. class—H. Rosenfield, E. McDonald, G. Datro, M. J. Root.

Ladies and students holding student tax receipts, will be admitted free, the cost of admission will be 25 cents for all others.

## TECHNOLOGY MEN SAFE

### War Service Auxiliary Cabled Belfast and London

As a result of cabling to Red Cross officials at Belfast and London, word was received from Mr. Edgar Wells that no Technology man was aboard the "Tuscania," a United States troop transport which was recently torpedoed by a German submarine.

At the same time help was offered by the Technology War Service Auxiliary to the Red Cross in England. The answer was immediately returned expressing appreciation of the prompt offer to help on the part of Technology.

### M. I. T. MEN WHO ATTENDED SECOND R. O. T. C. CAMP

Through the courtesy of Rev. Arthur Rowtham of the military branch of the Y. M. C. A. at Chatahooga, a list of names of the men who attended the Second R. O. T. C. camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., during the months from September until November, has been received. The list displays the names of the following Technology men:

Charles E. Fleming, '08, Spartansburg, S. C., 3d Battery.

Everett St. John, '13, Philadelphia, 7th C. A. C.

George M. Roads, Jr., '10, Pottsville, Penn., 2nd Battery.

Sampel Lapham, Jr., '16, Charleston, S. C., 5th C. A. C.

Richard B. Cross, '13, Concord, Mass., 5th C. A. C.

### ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY TO HOLD SMOKER TOMORROW EVENING.

At the Architectural Society Smoker to be held Thursday, February 14, at 8 P. M., Professor Cram will talk on the "Ruined Cathedrals of France." His lecture will be illustrated by recent slides. The Society of Technology will be guests of the Architectural Society.

### BANJO CLUB.

There will be a rehearsal of the Banjo Club in the Caf tomorrow afternoon at 4:00 o'clock. Double fines are to be imposed on those members of the club not attending.

"The sacrifices we are exacting of the noble American boys who are going to the bloody fields of France for the lives and liberty of us who stay at home call to us with an irresistible appeal to support them with our most earnest efforts in the work we must do at home."—Secretary McAdoo.

## TECH SHOW 1918 SPEEDING UP WORK

Competitions to Begin at Once in the Stage Department and for the Drawing of Posters—and Scenery Painting.

### FIRST REHEARSAL FRIDAY

Following the recent mid-year examinations, Tech Show 1918 has again resumed work and is pushing forward to the utmost activities in the various departments allied with the show. The first large event of the second semester was held last Friday evening in the Walker Memorial when the undergraduates witnessed the Kommerz Smoker. At the time, the title of this year's performance, "Let'er Go," was announced.

Competitions in several of the departments are to be held immediately, and the second tomorrow, at which the first one beginning this afternoon time candidates are desired for the stage department and also for the drawing of posters.

At 5:00 o'clock this afternoon a freshmen competition in one of the principal departments of the Show, the stage department, will open. At that time it is desired that all candidates intending try out appear at the Tech Show office in the Activities Building. The competition is open to all members of the freshman class and the man eventually chosen will act as second assistant stage manager of Tech Show 1918. At the end of the year, if his work proves satisfactory, he will automatically advance to the position of first assistant manager, and the following year to that of stage manager.

This will be the last opportunity for the members of the class of 1921 to compete for places on the Show management and the only requirement is that the men have an elementary knowledge of music.

The second immediate competition will begin tomorrow afternoon at 5:00 o'clock when the candidates will be instructed in the kind of work required for Show posters.

The title of Tech Show 1918, "Let'er Go," should not be a difficult one to handle as it offers a broad field from which to draw upon for subject matter. It is not necessary for the candidate to be a student in Course IV since the competition is open to all undergraduates and the chances are excellent for any candidate possessing but a small degree of talent.

The try-outs and first rehearsal for those men who intend to compete for positions on the cast of the Show will be held Friday afternoon in the North Dining Room of the Walker Memorial. Coach Duncan has arranged to come up from New York at this time to test the ability of the candidates; and it is particularly desirable that all men who signed up at the Kommerz Smoker, and all others who wish to compete, be present at this rehearsal.

### SENIOR DANCE OPEN TO WHOLE SCHOOL

Owing to the fact that there are not enough Seniors at the Institute at present to support this dance, it has been decided by the committee to extend the invitation to the entire school.

The dance will be informal and will be held in the Walker Memorial as was formerly planned. It will start at 6:00 o'clock and will end at 11:00 o'clock, supper being served at 8:00 o'clock. Tickets will be on sale in the main lobby every day from 1.00 to 2.00 o'clock, at \$2 each.

### NOTICE

There will be an important meeting of all men writing lyrics or music for Tech Show, 1918, in the Show office at 5 o'clock today. Definite plans will be made for work to be done in the next few weeks in order to be ready for rehearsals.

## ALL-COLLEGE RALLY TO BE HELD IN THE BOSTON OPERA HOUSE

Affair Will Be Given This Saturday and Is To Take the Place of the Customary Reunions of Alumni

### TO SOUND DEPTH OF FEELING TO U. S.

In order to replace the customary reunions and banquets of the individual alumni associations of the various institutions throughout the country, the All-College Rally will be held at the Boston Opera House on the evening of Saturday, February 16, at 7.45 o'clock. It is to be primarily a mass meeting of the college men of Greater Boston and an occasion to demonstrate the depth of feeling toward country and college.

### NOMINATIONS FOR PROM COMMITTEE

Nominations for the Junior Prom Committee will be received at the information office up to one o'clock Saturday. In order to receive consideration all nominations must be in at this time. Some members of the class were under the false impression that the elections were carried on without nominations, but this is not the case: The elections have been postponed and are to be held on Tuesday, February 21, 1918, one week from tomorrow.

## TECHNIQUE 1919

### Copy of Technique Offered as Prize for "Grinds"

In order to ferret out and publish a paramount collection of the vast humor, inert and active, about the Institute, Technique 1919 has opened a competition for material suitable for insertion in the "Grind" section of the Junior year book. The material submitted should be original and snappy, but clean. To the individual who has the largest amount of "copy" thus accepted the editors of Technique 1919 will present a copy of their book.

It is desirable that ideas, whether merely outlined or developed, be accompanied by thumb-nail sketches; together with suggestions for makeup, quality of illustrations in the department, and any other ideas that may present themselves. The kind of material particularly desired is that similar in nature to that appearing in the "Grind" sections of past Techniques, although entirely original suggestions are more acceptable as well as photographs and pictures. All material should in general concern conditions of Technology life.

All contributions must either be deposited at the Technique office or be mailed to the Grind Editor, D. C. Sanford, Jr., '19 at 44 The Fenway, Boston, on or before Tuesday, February 19.

### ORCHESTRA REHEARSALS.

There will be a rehearsal of the Technology Orchestra tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock in the Caf in Building 2. The plans for the work in connection with the Tech Show will be outlined and an idea of the type of music to be played at the performance will be presented. When the actual work for the show begins the rehearsals will be increased to two or three a week, according to the music to be orchestrated. At present the orchestra is composed of only twenty-five players; but the management expresses the hope that several of the upperclassmen and especially the junior freshmen will come out for this activity.

### JUNIOR FRESHMEN.

All junior freshmen desiring to compete for positions in the Circulation Department of THE TECH will report to the Circulation Manager at THE TECH office this afternoon from 4.30 to 5.30 o'clock. THE TECH office is in the Activities Building on Massachusetts Avenue.

Many colleges have pledged their support to the rally through either the secretary of their respective alumni associations or other officials. Circulars have been sent to the alumni of the following institutions: Amherst, Bates, Boston College, Boston University, Bowdoin, Brown, Colby, Cornell, Dartmouth, Georgetown, Hamilton, Harvard, Haverford, Holy Cross, Johns Hopkins, Lafayette, Lehigh, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New Hampshire State, Norwich University, Oberlin, Ohio State, Purdue, Princeton, Rochester University, Syracuse, Trinity, Tufts, University of Chicago, University of Illinois, University of Maine, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Pennsylvania, University of Vermont, Wesleyan, Western Reserve, Williams, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and Yale.

### Prominent Men to Speak

A number of well known and prominent men have been secured to address the gathering; among them are the Hon. James M. Beck, former Attorney-General of the United States, and a recognized authority on international law who has just returned from a mission to Europe and Mr. John R. Rathon, editor of the Providence Journal, whose activity in exposing the German Spy System has received justly deserved recognition. In addition to the speaking a military band of fifty pieces will render a musical program under the personal direction of Professor Leo R. Lewis of Tufts.

### Object Is to Support Union

The primary object of the rally is to aid in a substantial manner the American University Union of Europe of which Van R. Lansingh '08 is director. The work of the Union has been of great service to the American College man in the service in France and practically every American institution of learning is a member. In order to accumulate a sum of money for the Union the tickets to the rally will be priced at one dollar including the war tax, and may be had by sending the required amount to the secretaries of the various alumni associations. Any extra contribution for the Union will be accepted but there will be no soliciting at the rally. Requests for tickets are filled in the order received and if there are any left over they will be on sale at the door. There are to be no reserved seats and those who wish to sit together should meet before the rally and come early, for the motto will be, "First come, first served." The rally is to be a stag affair and those attending will dress informally.

### COMMITTEES IN CHARGE.

The following committees appointed by Chairman Louis E. Cadieux are to have charge of the Rally:

Executive Committee—Louis E. Cadieux, Amherst, chairman; Creed W. Fulton, Cornell, secretary; William V. Kellen, Brown; Benjamin Loring Young, Harvard; Daniel J. Triggs, Holy Cross; George S. Miller, Tufts; Howard W. Kendall, Wesleyan; Warner Marshall, Yale.

Attendance Committee—George S. Miller, Tufts, chairman; Miles Greenwood, Bates; H. L. Perry, Boston University; George B. Bullock, Brown; F. G. Getchell, Colby; Charles Jackson, Harvard; A. H. Davis, Lehigh; Dr. E.

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# The Tech

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### IN CHARGE THIS ISSUE

Albert Kruse '20 R. H. Smithwick '21

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1918

### PATRIOTIC OR UNPATRIOTIC?

OF late, there has been some criticism of students for remaining at their studies instead of entering military service. In fact, this criticism has become so firmly entrenched in the minds of many of the students that they believe themselves to be unpatriotic in remaining at school; some of them have even stated that they feel inferior or ashamed every time they meet a man in the national uniform. Is this feeling justified or not?

The War Department has repeatedly advised college students to continue their studies, and has gone so far as to exempt temporarily men in certain branches of training. By this action Secretary Baker has recognized the extreme importance of uninterrupted education in such a crisis as the present, and has emphasized the fact that an engineering student is best serving his country by satisfactorily completing his course. This does not mean, however, that any student is justified in doing just enough work to keep on the right side of the danger line in his studies; on the contrary, he should undertake all the work he can, and then work diligently and tirelessly to accomplish that work. This is a time when every man must assume more than his share of burden, and students are no exception to the rule. If a student is doing his best in school and in utilizing his spare time to good advantage, he has no reason for feeling unpatriotic. If, however, he is conducting himself in the same easy-going manner as in non-war times, he deserves to be criticised; he should either adopt a more strenuous program or enter military service. This is no time for "slackers," and a man who attempts to hide his lack of patriotism under the guise of a student is as much to be despised as a man in business who evades military service. On the other hand, a student who pursues his course with increasing zeal is as much to be commended as any man in the National service.

### VALUABLE GRAY MATTER AND THE MUNICIPAL DEATH TRAP.

BY way of referring to an old subject, the traffic conditions on Massachusetts Avenue have not improved in the slightest; in fact, they are worse. A man's life is worth little when crossing the street, and the best-intentioned of men sometimes find it necessary to do this. Massachusetts Avenue, just north of the Harvard Bridge, is little more than a municipal death-trap maintained by the City of Cambridge.

It is popularly conceded that Technology men, after they have left the Institute, are a benefit to their respective communities. Hence, while they are in the nucleus, they should be safeguarded. It is the duty of Cambridge to rectify the dangers of this steady stream of traffic, not only to the benefit of Technology undergraduates, but also to protect the welfare of her own citizens.

What benefit it a man to gain knowledge, if he lose it under the wheels of a passing car?

Registration is completed. The hours of waiting in line are fond memories. Nine months more and most of us will be back in another of those zig-zag turning and twisting lines, leaning against anything at hand, watching many a new-comer slip in ahead of us, and finally with only ten more minutes and we would be registered, an Institute officer comes around and says that registration is closed till two o'clock. Two hours in line wasted with the bright prospect of several more spent in the same manner.

It seems that at an institute like Technology some system might be worked out whereby men could register with little or no wait. It is ridiculous that one man should give out the registration material for over six hundred men. How many would welcome a change in the present method?

It is a pity that some men at the Institute haven't enough pride in the appearance of the inside of the buildings to stop throwing their cigarette butts on the corridor floors.



The Question Box has been inaugurated for SERVICE. So many questions have arisen, and so many doubts have been expressed among both the student body and the Alumni about the relations of Technology and Technologists to the war, that the WAR TIME TECH has deemed it advisable to establish a medium for clearing up these difficulties. It is strongly desired that neither the Alumni nor the undergraduates will hesitate to send in any questions that concern them directly or any that they think will be of benefit to Technology in common.

Address all inquiries to The Question Box Editor, The Tech. The name of the questioner will be withheld from publication, but each letter must be signed.

The Question Box is for YOU personally. Be sure you use it!

Editor of the Question Box, The Tech.

Dear Sir:

I am a junior freshman and would like to know what student activities are open to men of our class. Will you please tell me, and also state whether freshmen are allowed to compete for the athletic teams of the Institute?

Yours respectfully,

E. C.

All the activities except the TECHNIQUE are open to freshmen competition, and THE TECH and TECHNOLOGY MONTHLY are holding special competitions for the junior freshman. Those desiring to try out for THE TECH should meet at that office at 1:05 Wednesday, Feb. 13. If you do not hear of this meeting in time to attend, drop around any time this week. If you wish to compete for a position on the MONTHLY, call at the MONTHLY office any time this week and leave your schedule.

Freshmen are allowed to compete for the athletic teams.



California—A bear story on basketball prospects is out,—although there is probably more truth than fiction to the reports that Coach Christie will have to build up an absolutely new five, with only Foster, a substitute guard, back from last year's team.

Michigan—The "Michigan Daily" reports that a large number of students were called from or left that university in November to enter various branches of government service. Of those who left voluntarily, the aviation corps seemed to take the most, while the naval reserve proved the next most popular.

Miami—The sophomore hop held last Friday at Miami followed the general plan of war economy in social affairs which has been suggested. "Eats" were dispensed with, and the decorations were conspicuous by their absence, but good music was provided and the "Miami Student" relates that everyone had a "reg'lar" time.

Cornell—Several hundred applicants are being examined at Ithaca today and tomorrow to select fifty-two for the third training camp for officers. The colonel, two majors, four captains, and two lieutenants of the university regiment are among the applicants; if they are accepted, as they most likely will be, the military organization at Cornell will be rather hard hit.

Wisconsin—A loyalty pledge is being circulated by students at Wisconsin to furnish a concrete answer to certain queries of student sentiment. The pledge in substance, includes the statement that the singer is in complete sympathy with the government in its aim and prosecution of the war, that he will report any evidence of treason to the proper authorities, and that he will not listen to any arguments against the stand of the nation without openly refuting them.

Princeton—All informal teams will be abandoned and regular varsity teams will be entered henceforth in intercollegiate sports. Such is the decision of the board of athletic control, on account of the remarkably poor results that have been at Princeton but also at other eastern universities.

Wisconsin—Over 160 tons of coal have been saved during the University's first week under the new fuel conservation plan. Heat has been cut off from the Gymnasium, Lathrop hall, and several of the agricultural buildings with the result that a daily saving of almost thirty tons has been effected.

Missouri—A wood-chopping "bee" was held last week near Columbia in an

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effort to save coal by using wood for fuel. Over 600 persons attended, including a large number of students and faculty members. Sixty-five farmers supplied the sleds and trucks for hauling the cutters and their spoil. The wood was cut from the Ashland gravel, a large public tract.

Columbia—Definite word has been received of the landing at a French port of the Columbia ambulance units, officially known as U. S. A. Ambulance Service Sections 575, 576, 577. The sections, encamped since early last summer, sailed several weeks ago and their arrival has been unofficially reported before. The units are composed entirely of Columbia men.

California—The junior class day report, just made public, shows a profit of \$430 for the 1919 treasury. "Junior Day" at California includes the annual farce and the prom in the evening. The lack of interest shown at so many other universities this year does not seem to have injured dramatics and social affairs at California, for the total receipts from the two functions were \$1370.

McGill—Combined skating and dancing parties have proven a popular innovation at Montreal this winter. The effort to save coal by using wood for campus rink affords a splendid skating surface for the first half of the evening, while "Tony," a campus character who dispenses sweet grind-organ melodies, supplies the music. Later on the crowd

assembles in the campus dance hall for a half-dozen numbers. The affairs have been given under the auspices of the student council.

Yale—The "militarists" and the "anties" have clashed over the time which should be given to military instruction at New Haven next term. Dr. Albert Fitch, field inspector for the War Council of the American Red Cross just returned from a two-month tour of France, has taken issue with the editorial policy of the Yale News advocating that more time be given to the R. O. C. T. activities, which are already claiming two hours daily from every student. Dr. Fitch maintains that the curriculum should be put first to prepare men for duty as American citizens; that military training can come when the men enter the service.

Iowa—The Daily Iowan has a long list of Iowa faculty men in military service. Several are in the aviation service, one already having seen active service in Italy.

Nebraska—Dean Stout of the College of Engineering has entered the army as a Major in the ordnance department. His place will be filled by Prof. O. J. Ferguson of the department of electrical engineering.

Boston—For the first time in years, Boston University is to be represented in a college athletic league. A hockey

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**JUNIOR FRESHMEN DINE**

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He also stated that the men should have a definite purpose in view in attending the Institute, and in answer to the hypothetical question which he put before them as to why they were here pointed out that the ever increasing demand from Europe for technically trained men to rebuild roads and keep them in condition, construct railway lines, as well as maintain them and to perform various tasks in connection with the work of the armies has drained the supply of engineers in the United States. It is to meet these great needs at home as well as abroad that the Institute is admitting the new class, thereby speeding up the machinery of education, and performing a great patriotic duty.

There were about fifty-five members of the entering class present with R. W. Van Kirk, '18, presiding. Tech songs were sung between the courses, with Earl Collins, '1, accompanying on the piano. At the conclusion to the evening's entertainment the Stein Song was sung, the new men having been told during the course of the evening of the tradition connected with the Stein Song, the name of Frederick Field Bullard, '87, and the custom of Tech men to stand up when it played.

**ALL-COLLEGE RALLY**

(Continued from page 1)

W. Gaynor, Norwich; Merle G. Summers, Ohio State; W. P. Hosmer, Princeton; A. L. Evans, Syracuse; J. R. Shearer, Trinity; L. W. Marsh, University of Illinois; A. E. Lewis, University of Vermont; A. O. Weld, Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Decorations Committee—Daniel T. Triggs, Holy Cross, chairman; Ray D. Hunting, Amherst; E. T. Foote, Cornell; Donald G. Robbins, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; C. S. Scott, Wesleyan.

Finance Committee—Warner Marshal, Yale, chairman; E. J. Fegan, Georgetown; Fay Simmons, Middlebury; E. R. Hurst, University of Michigan; H. C. Bever, University of Pennsylvania; Fred R. Hurst, Williams.

Programme Committee—Benjamin Loring Young, Harvard, chairman; T. D. Lavelle, Boston College; E. C. Adams, Boston College; Osua Clark, Dartmouth; Herbert Dana, Massachusetts Agricultural College; Harry E. Sutton, University of Maine.

Publicity Committee—Howard W. Kendall, Wesleyan, chairman; J. C. Minot, Bowdoin; J. Ernest King, Williams.

Reception Committee—William V. Kellen, Brown; Hon. Charles A. DeCoursey, Georgetown; Francis R. Hart, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Bliss Perry, Williams.

**COLLEGE NOTES**

(Continued from page 2)

seven is to be entered in the annual tournament against the Massachusetts Tech and Tufts teams.

Oklahoma—Peet, honorary senior society, contrary to the usual custom, will pledge its men before the end of this semester. Only two of the ten men elected last spring are in the university this year and both of these are awaiting calls in the aviation service.

Grinell—Due to the fact that the faculty neglected to choose a suitable name for the new dormitory just completed at Grinell, a name, which from present appearances will last as long as the walls stand, has been chosen for the undergraduates,—namely—“Hell.”

Washington—Ross Williams, varsity quarterback, has been elected to captain the 1918 football team at Washington. The 1917 season was his first as a varsity man and his immediate rise to the position of the most important cog in the machine is evidence of his natural aptitude to the most valuable player on the squad.

Princeton—An interesting comparison has recently been made by the Daily Princetonian, showing the relative interest shown by the four classes now in college in both major and minor sports. In the four major sports, the present sophomores have turned out 380 candidates and the juniors are second with 332 aspirants. The senior and freshman classes follow in that order.

**WHAT DO YOU KNOW?**

The college student or graduate is often considered, especially by those who have had less close connection

with such a seat of learning, as one to whom knowledge in all its branches and phases is a natural attribute. Recently in a discussion between several men, only one of whom was a college man, the subject of geography came in for a few remarks. As a test of his knowledge of United States geography one of the group was asked to name all the states that touch on the Mississippi River. After a brave attempt, he was forced to give up and in defending himself from the stigma of ignorance exclaimed, “That is a pretty hard question for a man who has been out of school as long as I have. Why, I’ll wager that some college men couldn’t answer that question!”

On the face of it, the remark sounds ludicrous. But how much truth there is in it. How easily that man would have won his wager. It is doubtful if one man out of ten could correctly and confidently answer that simple question. And how many millions of other questions, requiring even less comfort, could be asked with a similar result. Do you know what is meant by an embargo? Do you understand the system of thrift stamps? Do you know what a smileage book is? Do you know who the Bolsheviki are? Pick up any current paper and those terms will stare you in the face. Many a man within these classic halls never even sees them, or at least, seeing, gets no impression from them. But that same man can rattle off a faultless definition of entropy, of phagocytosis, of a coulomb or whatnot, with little effort.

“Ah, yes,” you admit, drawing yourself up to your full height, and buttoning your coat tight across your chest, “but I am a specialist. I am an engineer, not a dictionary.” Granted, but will you not admit a tendency to carry specialism to extremes? “Rough on Rats” is no less efficacious because it also exterminates mice. You are being trained as an engineer, but the world will accept you as a thoroughly educated man, or in the full sense that the word connotes, “a college man,” and if you fail to meet his expectations he will class you as a “dub” and your college as a “dump.”

And how is one to acquire this mass of information that will enable him to justify his reputation? By practical experience, by personal contact with well informed persons, by keeping eyes and ears always on the alert, yes; but most and best of all by reading. And reading what? It would be impossible to read or remember the smallest fraction of all that has been written of the really worth while. Besides, there is not time. The collateral reading given as assignments in many courses is more than enough to occupy every spare moment.

Consider the newspaper, and the magazine press. Granted that as literature they are of little value, being but a collection of meaningless facts thrown together by a writer who is often ill-informed and frequently sensational. But what a wonderful mirror of modern life, of the world’s passing affairs, of tomorrow’s history our press constitutes. It is indispensable to modern life. Yet, how very few ever read lower than the headlines. If your instructor in mathematics were to assign you reading in the Literary Digest, for example, you would probably be deeply insulted. Nor is it likely that he will, for that is not part of his contract. He is there to teach you mathematics, not to “educate” you. “Education” is too big a job for one man. It is up to the individual himself to co-operate.

The ideal reader is the one who devotes to the texts only the time he judges necessary to the achievement of a knowledge of his work, a knowledge which is generally in direct proportion to his estimate of the practicability of the subject. His other reading is extraneous and general, being along the lines laid out by his peculiar temperament.

**THRIFT STAMPS**

The following article concerning the Thrift Stamps which the United States government is offering for sale at the present time was clipped from a recent Bulletin issued by the Treasury Department.

The machinery by which the purchase of a Thrift Stamp or a War Savings Stamp is to be made as easy and convenient as the purchase of a spool of thread or a pound of nails, in every community in the United States is rapidly being established. Already, 185,000 War Savings Stamp Agencies have been established and by the close of January this number will have been increased by 350,000.

In addition to these agencies there will be 1,000,000 “sales stations,” which do not receive direct authorization to make the sales from the Secretary of the Treasury, but obtain their stamps from unauthorized agents and sell them over their counters, at their cashiers’ windows, and other places.

Fifty thousand post offices now have War Savings Stamps on sale and 0,000 banks and 8,000 individual firms and corporations have been appointed as agents. Nine thousand interstate corporations having places of business in several States will constitute 115,000 additional agencies.

An intensive campaign is now on for the establishing for War Savings societies, which can be organized by 10 or more persons in any community, schools, club, church, factory or office and can be affiliated with the National War Savings Committee at Washington upon application.

**TURN CASH INTO GUN FIRE**

We fought and won the Spanish war with 150,000 soldiers and \$200,000,000 bond issue. In men under arms we now have ten times that number. We issued ten times that amount of bonds

in the first Liberty loan. We are proposing to spend and loan to the allies in the first fiscal year of the war \$19,000,000,000. From now until the end of this fiscal year the treasury anticipates needing \$300,000,000 a week—that is, the treasury has got to fight financially a Spanish war every four days. That indicates a money measure of the size of this work, but that is not the real measure. We have just seen that one might have plenty of money, but an empty coal bin. In just the same way the government can have plenty of money, but an unequipped army. This army cannot be equipped as modern warfare demands, of the man power of the country is at the same time called upon to produce all of our ordinary comforts and luxuries. It is as plain as two and two that all of us must make personal sacrifices, must give up comforts and luxuries, even necessary expenditures that can be postponed, if there is to be labor and material enough to equip the army in time for it to fight while it will do some good to have it fight.

In war the only effort that is of any value is that which is ultimately translated into gun fire on the field of battle. The gun fire that will win this war cannot be delivered until all America recognizes individual responsibility, until the whole people join in the effort by giving up things that they can do without, so that the labor that would have been employed in making those things can do work that will ultimately result in gun fire. The government has offered the opportunity to translate at once every one’s personal patriotism into the sort of help that will win the war. Forego buying something that is unnecessary; loan the money you would have used to the government by buying \$5 war savings certificates. You will thus have released labor, you will have given credit to the government, you will have acquired the best security in the world, a United States government bond.

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**OUR WAR AIMS**

“What we demand in this war, therefore, is nothing peculiar to ourselves. It is that the world be made fit and safe to live in; and particularly that it be made safe for every peace-loving nation which, like our own, wishes to live its own life, determine its own institutions, be assured of justice and fair dealing by the other peoples of the world as against force and selfish aggression. All the peoples of the world are in effect partners in this interest, and for our own part we see very clearly that unless justice be done to others it will not be done to us. The program of the world’s peace, therefore, is our program.”—President Wilson’s Message of January 8.

“We have reached the time in our national life when no loyal citizen in the country can afford to spend a dollar for wasteful luxuries. Such an expenditure resolves itself into a disloyal act.”—Cardinal Gibbons.

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**Technology Men in War Service**  
 The Tech wishes to print the names of Technology men in War Service, whether in a military or industrial capacity, together with the branch of such service with which they have allied themselves. Notification of any corrections or changes in the information given in this column will be appreciated. Address any information of this character to the Managing Editor, The Tech, Massachusetts avenue, Cambridge, Mass.

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**FAGS**  
 By Corporal Jack Turner.  
 What tobacco really means to a soldier has been voiced in more poetry—good, bad and indifferent, but always heartfelt—than almost any other object of the war. Here is a poem from the British army which became so popular abroad that it has been reprinted and widely distributed.  
 When the cold is making ice cream of the marrow of your bones,  
 When you're shaking like a jelly and your feet are dead as stones,  
 When your clothes and boots and blankets, and your rifle and your kit  
 Are soaked from Hell to Breakfast, and the dugout where you sit  
 Is leaking like a basket, and upon the muddy floor  
 The water lies in filthy pools, six inches deep or more;  
 Tho' life seems cold and mis'erable and all the world is wet,  
 You'll always get thro' somehow if you've got a cigarette.  
 When you're lying in a listening post,  
 "way out beyond the wire,  
 While a blasted Hun, behind a gun, is doing rapid fire;  
 When the bullets whine above your head and sputter on the ground,  
 When your eyes are strained for ev'ry move, your ears for ev'ry sound—  
 You'd bet your life a Hun patrol is prowling somewhere near;  
 A shiver runs along your spine that's very much like fear;  
 You'll stick it to a finish—but I'll make a little bet,  
 You'd feel a whole lot better if you had a cigarette.  
 When Fritz is starting something, and his guns are on the bust,  
 When the parapet goes up in chunks, and settles in the dust,  
 When the roly-poly "rum-jar" comes a-wobbling thro' the air,  
 Till it lands upon a dugout—and the dugout isn't there,  
 When the air is full of dust, and smoke and scraps of steel and noise,  
 And you think you're booked for golden crowns and other Heavenly joys,  
 When your nerves are all a-tremble, and our brain is all a-fret—  
 It isn't half so hopeless if you've got a cigarette.  
 When you're waiting for the whistle, and your foot is on the step,  
 You bluff yourself it's lots of fun, and all the time you're hep  
 To the fact that you may stop one 'fore you've gone a dozen feet,  
 And you wonder what it feels like, and your thoughts are far from sweet,  
 Then you think about a little grave, with R. I. P. on top;  
 And you know you've got to go across—altho' you'd like to stop;  
 When your backbone's limp as water,

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 Here is a protest of a German soldier, an eye-witness of the slaughter of Russian soldiers:  
 "It was frightful, heartrending, as these masses of human beings were driven to destruction. Above the terrible thunder of the cannon could be heard the heartrending cries of the Russians: 'O Prussians! O Prussians!'—but there was no mercy. Our captain had ordered: 'The whole lot must die; so rapid fire.'  
 It is only because our French and British allies have held the line that such horrors have not been witnessed in New England.  
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and you're bathed in icy sweat,  
 Why, you'll feel a lot 'more cheerful if you puff your cigarette.  
 Then when you've got a good one and the stretcher bearers come  
 And patch you up with strings, and splints, and bandages, and gum;  
 When you think you've got a million wounds and fifty thousand breaks,  
 And your body's just a blasted sack, packed full of pains and aches;  
 Then you feel you've reached the finish, and you're sure your number's up,  
 And you feel as weak as Belgian beer, and helps sas a pup—  
 But you know that you're not down and out, that life's worth living yet,  
 When some old war-wise Red Cross guy slips you a cigarette.  
 We can do without MacConachies, and Bully, and hard tack,  
 When Fritzie's curtain fire keeps the

ration parties back,  
 We can do without our greatacoats and our socks, and shirts and shoes,  
 We might almost—tho' I doubt it—go along without our booze;  
 We can do without, "K. R. & O." and "Military Law,"  
 We can beat the ancient Israelites at making tricks, sans straw;  
 We can do without a lot of things, and still win out, you bet,  
 But I'd hate to think of soldiering without a cigarette.  
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