

The Tech

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IT AIN'T EASY!

"How can you be so stupid?"
"Waal, it ain't easy."

The humor of this famous gag line, somehow seems to have faded considerably during the past week. The elections are over, and the American people have indicated their desire for a change. This is very natural and was to be expected. What was not expected, however, was that the so-called "enlightened" citizens of this country would make the identical mistakes they have made so many times in the past.

It is interesting to note the gradual change in the division of policy in Congress. At one time, Congressmen could be expected to vote according to their party's policies. It was party politics, pure and simple. Little by little, a change took place, and the division became not between the Democrats and the Republicans, but rather between the progressives and the reactionaries. The question of whether a Congressman is a Democrat or a Republican has lost its significance. Bills nowadays have a tendency to cut across party lines.

This would seem to be all very good, since it encourages the voter to cast his ballot for the man rather than the party. But the unfortunate story is that he doesn't. Although the situation in the government has changed, the outlook of the voter hasn't, with the result that in the eager zeal of the citizen to effect a change, he has voted into office several men and women who have been extremely detrimental to our country in the past, and who will undoubtedly continue to be detrimental in the future.

The unfortunate part of the situation lies in the fact that our international policy is so intimately bound up with our national policy. The consequences of having a bloc of reactionaries in Congress, therefore, are amplified into an extremely serious condition. Mistakes which affect the future peace and security of the United Nations are not easily condoned.

It wasn't easy for the American public to be so stupid, but somehow they managed it. The fault was not entirely that of the people, however, because in many cases, it was a choice of the lesser of two evils. Let us hope that the considerable progressive element in the Republican party will make such a good showing as to influence the nominators of the future in their choice.

DON'T KEEP IT TO YOURSELF!

Last week, at the regular meeting of the Institute Committee, plans were formulated for the revamping of the Student-Faculty Committee. Several suggestions were made which will enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the committee in the future.

This committee is set up for the express purpose of airing the students' gripes concerning the Institute to the faculty. In the past, the Student-Faculty Committee has been quite successful on a limited scale. In the future, we hope that more students will take advantage of the opportunity offered them. After all, the organization was created as a service to the students, and consequently its success depends upon how many students use it as a medium.

The limited amount of Techmen utilizing the committee in the past can be attributed to a general lack of knowledge on the subject. This will be remedied from now on by keeping the student body informed on its activities. We, therefore, urge any man who has any problems concerning the Institute or any suggestions for improvements in policy to take them to the Student-Faculty Committee, in the Walker Memorial Committee office. That's what they're there for.

Letters to the Editor

Editor, Walker Memorial

Dear Sir:

It was a great surprise to me to read two letters published in two successive issues of *The Tech* with such a politically partisan seasoning. The first letter could have been accepted as an appeal to get the voters to the polls on election day despite the writer's use of such questionable terminology as, "stump for liberal candidates," "mouldy Congressmen carrying out short-sighted, unprogressive legislation."

It is clear to anyone that has looked into the recent collective voting record of our Congress that there is a majority and a minority based on party lines. The bills of the majority are passed with the collective support of the majority party over the collective dissent of the minority with few exceptions.

If the leadership of the majority is leading the country as the individual voter thinks proper that voter supports the majority candidate. In order for a new leadership to be effective it must have the support of a majority party. Therefore, the individual voter must support the party or his chosen leadership.

The party that has been in control of Congress since 1930, is full of "vertical head-wagging" Congressmen who have supported the only legislation that has been passed since that date. The members of the minority have had little opportunity to pass any legislation that they have initiated without the support of the majority. It seems hardly possible that these "mouldy Congressmen" are "carrying out short-sighted, unprogressive legislation."

Sincerely,
Thomas A. Hood, '48

In the past decade, the division in Congress has not been so much between the lines of progressives or reactionaries. If the shoe fits, put it on. (Ed.)

Reviews & Previews

John Gabriel Borkman, by Henrik Ibsen, presented at the Colonial Theater by the American Repertory Theater as the third of three plays is an unfortunate third choice. The plot is too weak to match the quality of the acting.

Many of Ibsen's plays were revolutionary theater at the time they were written. He wrote of subjects, such as the emancipation of women, that no one else would touch. The acting parts were all deep and brooding character studies of people living in an abnormal social condition. In short, they were what would today be called "problem plays." As a result, Ibsen's plays often were excellent to read, but were ineffective on the stage.

John Gabriel Borkman is such a play. The plot is melodrama. At the start of the play, Borkman, his wife, and her sister, Ella Renheim, haven't spoken to each other for eight years. They only do so now because Ella Renheim is dying. She returns to the happy home to try to persuade her sister's son, Erhart Borkman, to live with her until she dies. His mother has been grooming him for a mission—getting the Borkman family out of the mess Erhart's father got it in. The father wants Erhart to work with him. Instead of any of these, Erhart goes off with a Mrs. Wilkins to live his own life. Like clockwork the father dies of a heart attack, and the two sisters clasp hands in friendship over the dead man's body.

Though this play has plenty of character studies, it lacks the driving social theme that might have made it remarkable. The actors push against nothing. Margaret Webster is excellent as the cold, unrelenting Mrs. Borkman. Victor Jory is every inch a hard-headed robber baron who understands only the language of power.

"The Tech" Surveys Transportation; Interviews Owners Of Ancient Autos

Five years of war have created a transportation problem throughout the country and Technology is no exception. Parked around the Institute are a number of wrecks that carry Techmen to and fro, also hither and yon. Determined to find out what makes these cars run, we set out to interview the owners.

The colorful 1930 Studebaker parked opposite the dorms belongs to John E. Maxfield, '47. He bought it last April for \$30 (where can you get a car for \$30 today?) from another Technology student. Since then he's taken it to his home across the continent and back. Although it didn't have a major breakdown, during one day of the nine-day return trip it suffered no less than twenty flat tires. The wooden spokes of the rear wheels also had the nasty habit of shearing off. To remedy this unhealthy situation, Maxfield has just installed the rear end of an International Truck on which he will mount up-to-date spokeless wheels.

David W. Vollmer, '50, is the owner of Mabel, a 1927 model T Ford. He claims that he named the car Mabel so that when he tries to start it he can sing the well known song, "Turn Over Mabel." Equipped with the model T version of automatic shifting, Mabel lacks a clutch. Pressing on the proper pedal tightens one of a set of canvas bands which acts as the transmission and clutch. David picked up Mabel for \$80 and drove her to Technology from his home in Albany, New York. She looks rather gaudy with her yellow stripes but after twenty years, senility is setting in.

The Oldest Car

The oldest automobile at Technology is a 1921 Dodge Brothers. Robert C. Dean, '49, the owner, asserts that it is the highest car in Boston, standing seven feet high

barefoot. Dean got the car from his great uncle who had bought for over \$2,000. It is in almost perfect condition since it was his uncle's custom not to drive faster than eight miles per hour and the car has not been used since 1930.

The engine is a four-cylinder Dodge with a self-starter. In many ways the car behaves like any other up-to-date model. The gear shift pattern, however, is inverted from the usual one. Dean had to order special thirty-four inch tires from the Firestone Rubber Company, the only company that will make the Special features of the car, which was custom built, are two flow valves and a movable steering wheel to permit a fat man to enter. Dean claims the Dodge has greater visibility than a 1947 Studebaker.

John M. Verdi, '49, is building a new body for his 1929 Oakland "American Six," a General Motors automobile. A course XVI motor, Verdi has installed a special exhaust and a drive shaft. He got fourteen miles to the gallon forty miles per hour.

W. John Levidahl, '48, owns a 1925 Chrysler with an unusual scheme. It's silver, gray, black, and red. He got it through a used business he ran in Chicago. He thinks it's better than many new models. The car has a four-cylinder Chrysler engine, hydraulic brakes and a radio, not original equipment of course.

Chug! Chug! Chug!

We couldn't get an interview with the owner of the Stanley Steamer vintage 1926, parked near the entrance to building four, but snooped around and got some information on it. Under the hood is not an engine but something that looks like a big pot. This is known as the boiler. The water, heated by a kerosene flame, takes a five minutes to build up pressure.

Instead of the usual dials dash-board has such things as steam pressure gauge, fuel pressure gauge and water level indicator. There are valves under the hood, in front of the running board and in other unusual places. When running, the steamer makes little noise except for a chug sound, very much like a locomotive.

We also noticed in the parking lot a Pierce and an Essex "Six Six" but we didn't interview owners. Charles P. Wurth, comes from Luxembourg, has a 1893 Benz owned by his grandfather which he expects to have shipped to the United States in several months for the purpose of selling it. Happy—whoops—motoring!

man about tech

... the convocation exercises held recently in the great court reminded us of a tale we heard of at a similar exercise at duke university some time ago. it seems that the chaplain who was present to deliver the main address started his talk by taking the letter d, which he declared stood for devotion, and expounding for a full hour and a half on the virtues of that great attribute. . . .

... next, the preacher took the letter u, and proceeded to discuss unity for a full two hours. the audience squirmed uncomfortably in their seats, but the chaplain droned on. he talked for one hour and ten minutes on knowledge, of course) and the underclassmen began to mutter under their breaths. . . .

... at last the clergyman finished with e, and the liberated students, exhausted from the ecclesiastical filibuster, slowly poured out of the large auditorium. all, that is, except for one lone freshman up in the balcony, who was still on his knees praying vigorously. . . .

... the janitor, cleaning up after the exercises, noticed the lad and called out, "hey, son, the chaplain's all through. you can go home now." . . .

... the little freshman looked up, a tired but happy expression on his face. "no, not yet," he replied, "i'm thanking god i didn't go to the massachusetts institute of technology!" . . .

... it would be a fine idea if the current hit south america, take it away, were played periodically at the u.n. conferences. we are sure that the continual repetition of aye, aye, aye would have some effect in combatting the ever present threat of the veto. . . .

... now that the vallant crimson eleven has lost its first tussle of the season, we can see no further objection to renaming the bridge, technology bridge. the tech offers its heartfelt appreciation to mighty rutgers. . . .

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Institute's Future Plans Are Theme of Technique

"M.I.T. Present and Future" will be the theme of the 1947 Technique, now being molded into shape in the staff offices on the third floor of Walker Memorial. The layout already has been decided upon, and follows closely President Karl T. Compton's recent report to the Corporation.

The new yearbook will include many features that have been absent in the last few issues because of wartime restrictions. The book will be larger in size, and is expected to contain a higher degree of workmanship than was possible in recent editions. It is expected to be ready for sale by early May.

The 1946 edition will be on sale in Building 10 in the near future, for those who have not yet had an opportunity to purchase one.

Musical Clubs Plan Season's Concerts

Barbara R. Feeney, '49, this week was chosen the new leader of the Technology Women's Glee Club which now boasts 100 members. The club is planning a concert with the Men's Glee Club and the Technology Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday, December 18.

The first Men's Glee Club concert will be held on Saturday, November 23, at Bradford Junior College in Haverhill, Massachusetts.

On Friday, December 6, the first M.I.T. Symphony Orchestra concert will be held at Rindge Tech Auditorium. The first Men's Glee Club concert open to Technology will be held with Westbrook Junior College from Portland, Maine, on January 18. Tickets for these concerts will go on sale in the near future.

AWAY FROM THE GRIND

This headline was recently seen in the Radcliffe News: Radcliffe Woman Spends Summer in Searching for Prehistoric Man. Things must be pretty tough around Harvard. I wonder if she tried the Harvard Yard.

"Undergraduate students contemplating marriage are herewith reminded that it is necessary to obtain permission of the dean of the school in which they are registered if they wish to continue as students at Yale. This permission must be obtained twenty days in advance, and the request for permission must be accompanied by the written consent of the parents on each side."

Students of Manhattan College were reprimanded in their school paper *The Manhattan Quadrangle* with the following announcement.

"Class-conscious freshmen and Sophomores will have to refrain from painting their respective class numerals on the rocks and sidewalks around the campus. One or two spots were customarily used for scrawling the numbers in bright Kelly green paint, but the thing got completely out of hand. College authorities were of the opinion that so much gaudy green paint tended to over-balance the normal restful dark reds, ivy green and white color scheme for which the college was planned.

T.C.A. Prepares Drive for Funds

December Date Is Set; \$6000 Needed for Year

At a recent meeting of the staff, presided over by Robert B. Hildebrand, '47, the Technology Christian Association's drive committee laid plans for its annual campaign for funds, to be conducted this year from December 2 to 6.

The budget, which every year is met by voluntary contributions, amounts to \$6000 this year, according to Mr. Wallace M. Ross, T.C.A. General Secretary. This includes \$1200 spent for Freshman Camp, and numerous other expenditures covering the various worth-while activities of the T.C.A.

Final preparations will be made at a dinner meeting of all the solicitors, to be held Tuesday evening, November 26, in Pritchett Hall in Walker Memorial. The speakers will be Professor F. Alexander Magoun of the department of Economics, and Miss Giovanni Ribet of Italy, who will explain the purposes of the World Student Service Fund.

The actual drive is scheduled to start Monday evening, December 2, when all of the fraternities, dormitories, and other housing units will be solicited. A vigorous publicity campaign is planned, under the direction of Harold E. Rorschach, Jr., '49. The drive committee consists of eighteen persons, each assigned a definite phase of the campaign, so that no organization or group at Technology will be overlooked.

Three Dormitory Dances Scheduled

Thanksgiving, X-mas Affairs Being Planned

The Dormitory Dance Committee has announced that it will sponsor three dances at Morss Hall within the next three months.

Robert P. Abelson, '48, chairman of the committee revealed that the first of the dances will be the Turkey Trot to be held on Friday, November 29, from 8.30 P. M. to 12.30 P. M. Music for the affair will be supplied by the Tech-tonians. The dance will be informal, with no entertainment, bowling or decorations. "Just dancing—and refreshments," said Abelson. Tickets at \$1.80 will go on sale on Tuesday, November 19, in the Burton room and in Building 10 between 11.00 A. M. and 2.00 P. M. If necessary they will also be sold on the following day.

The second of the dances will be the formal Christmas Dance to be held on Saturday, December 14, from 8.00 P. M. to 12.00 P. M. Bert Edwards' band will play. The price of tickets for the Christmas Dance will be \$2.40. The third dance, the January Jump, will take place on Friday, January 11, 1947. Details of this affair have not been released as yet.

Atomic Energy

(Continued from Page 1)

century." "During this period from 1700 to 1900, the entire field of classical physics and chemistry was investigated."

After the 19th century, Dr. Woodward stated, Science went through another revolution, which has also caused great changes in our social, political and economic life. The important scientific discoveries have occurred in the field of atomic physics and nuclear physics. Dr. Woodward went on to say, "Our present ideas of economics, etc., grew out of industrialization that accompanied our scientific revolution number I. I think that it is highly probable that we will find it necessary to evolve new political concepts to accompany our scientific revolution number II." Just as our present-day industrialization has made the world aware of our first scientific revolution, so has the destruction of Nagasaki told it of our second revolution.

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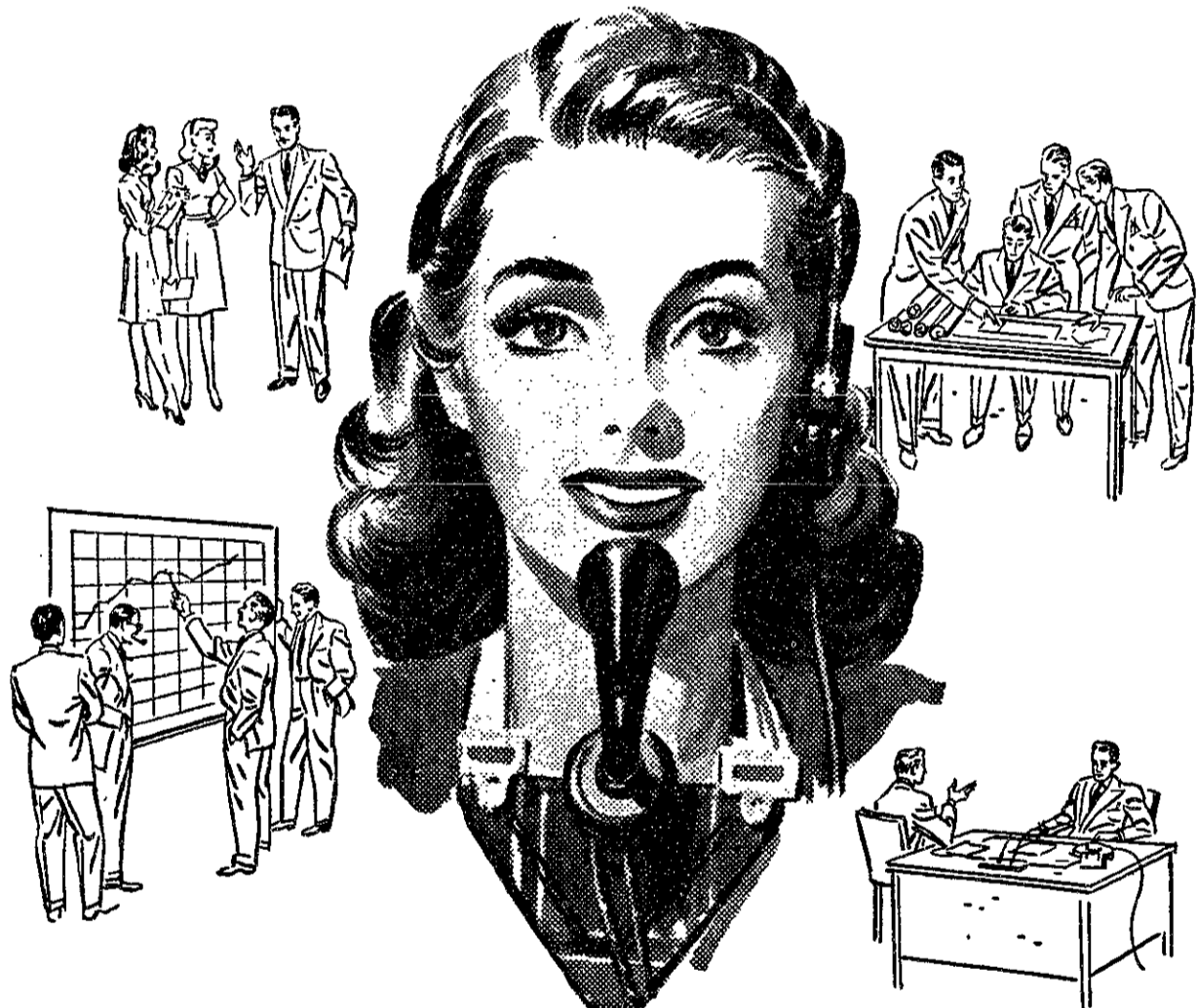
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TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Board of WMIT Has Been Chosen

Dormitories Polled On Favorite Type Programs

Radio Station WMIT is still struggling to get on the air, but the staff are meeting with many obstacles. Though no definite date has been set for the beginning of broadcasting, a managing board was chosen and all branches of the organization are hard at work.

The personnel of the board is as follows: Station manager, Henry Koerner, '47; Business manager, Paul F. Ely, Jr., '47; Advertising manager, Jack C. Page, '47; Engineering manager, Michael T. Rosar, '47; and Program manager, Harold Jacobson, '47. Under the supervision of an announcer from a local station, voice trials were held Wednesday, and engineering tests have been under way for a week.

Last Monday the station conducted a poll among the prospective listeners in the dormitories to learn what types of programs are preferred and what the best listening hours are. With the results all tabulated, the most-wanted kinds of programs are classical music, with swing, campus news, and jazz following in that order. As for the hours, Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 8:00 to 12:00 P.M. led all others and the station will probably broadcast at those times.

Fletcher P. Martin Speaks For Hillel

"Race Relations in the South" will be the theme of an address to be presented by Fletcher P. Martin on Wednesday, November 13, in Faculty Lounge of Walker Memorial at 5:00 P.M. The lecture will be conducted by the Hillel Foundation at Technology. Mr. Martin, at present a Neiman Fellow at Harvard, is city editor of the Louisville, Kentucky, Defender.

The formation of a Zionist group at the Institute as part of the Hillel structure and also within the framework of the nation-wide I.Z.F.A. will take place on Monday, November 18, 1946, at 5:05 P.M. in Tyler Lounge. Current Zionist issues will be discussed at this meeting and all those interested are invited to participate.

Fraternities

(Continued from Page 1)

its 57 members in adjoining houses.

Other large fraternities at Technology, from whom we have heard, include Pi Lambda Phi, who reports 60 members and Kappa Sigma, Alpha Tau Omega, and Sigma Chi with better than 50 members each.

Have Taken 150 Pledges

The fraternities in general have taken a long range view of the situation by continuing to take pledges into their houses despite the overcrowded situation in order to preserve a well-balanced membership as far as the various classes are concerned. This will cause the overcrowded conditions to taper off over a period of a couple of years rather than to end suddenly.

All in all, the fraternities have pledged approximately 150 men. In line with the rushing program in normal times, these men are almost exclusively of the class of 1950.

Here's Tech—Student Interests Enlarged By Lec. Series Comm.

Mainly as a cause of the nature of instruction given at the Institute, Technology students tend to accentuate strictly scientific interests and give a secondary role to matters which lie outside the technological range. The Lecture Series Committee has as its prospectus the dedication to bring to the Institute speakers who will promote thought along non-technical lines.

Included in this category are lectures in the fields of politics, the arts, religion and philosophy. With an eye to presenting the best exposure of a given topic, the Committee selects its speakers not for political opinions held, but for knowledge of the subject and speaking know-how. The lectures presented are designed to cover live issues, in which there is considerable interest. A general exposure of the given situation is first presented and only then are the intricacies of it discussed.

Reactivated Last Spring

The Lecture Series Committee was renovated last spring, after having been dormant during the war years. During that term, several lectures were presented, with the accent being placed on speakers who were available at the Institute. A more comprehensive plan is scheduled for this term as well as for the coming Spring term.

One of the outstanding difficulties

encountered in presenting lectures at Technology is time. The only possible hour is from 5 to 6 P.M., because many students have classes until five. Since this is a very late hour, lectures can only be held for one hour. This poses an acute problem in procuring out-of-town speakers, who are not inclined to travel any appreciable distance merely to speak for this comparatively short time. A second difficulty is space; not that there are insufficient rooms around the Institute, but that there is really no room designed for non-scientific general lectures.

No Large Lecture Halls

Another point here is the fact that it is impossible to bring speakers of great note to the Institute since there is no lecture hall that will hold more than 400 persons. The Committee anticipates that these last named difficulties will be remedied with the construction of the new library.

The Committee is open to and welcomes suggestions regarding the procurement of speakers. Also, there is room for interested persons who wish to take an active part in policy forming and administrative work. Those who are interested should contact Ephraim M. Sparrow, '48, in the dormitories or Robert G. Davis in Room 2-180.

A.I.E.E. Sponsors Lecture By Hazen

Professor Harold L. Hazen, head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, will be presented by the student branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, in a talk to be given on Wednesday, November 13, at 5:00 P.M., in Room 10-250. Prof. Hazen's topic will be "Tomorrow's Electrical Engineering." As an indication of trends, some of the new work now under way in research and development laboratories will be described. Prof. Hazen will also discuss the relation of this work to the training of future electrical engineers.

The A.I.E.E. is also planning a trip to the General Electric Plant in West Lynn, on Monday, November 18. The purpose of this trip is to inspect the entire plant in general, with particular attention being paid to the manufacture of high-precision electrical meters and other instruments.

A.E.S.

Under the leadership of President Robert Seaman, the Gliding Club of the Student Branch of the Aeronautical Engineering Society has made complete plans to buy a glider for delivery in about two weeks. Since the group has all necessary equipment, including a power-takeoff winch, storage space, and the use of the Plymouth Airport, they will be able to start flying as soon as the plane arrives. The sailplane will be put on exhibition in the lobby of Building 10 as soon as possible and the club will hold a smoker at that time to acquaint all prospective members with the plans. At the present, meetings are being held every Wednesday at 5:00 P.M. in Room 1-150.

MATH SOCIETY

With "Non-Differentiable Equa-

tions" as his subject, Mr. Gordon Raisbeck addressed the Technology Mathematical Society on Wednesday, October 30, 1946, at 5:00 P.M. in Room 2-147. Mr. Raisbeck demonstrated, as the title of his lecture implies, various equations which cannot be differentiated.

An announcement was made of a contest for freshmen members. Non-freshmen members may submit any mathematical questions which pertain to high school subjects.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY

The Technology Chemical Society held its first meeting of the fall term last Wednesday, October 30. Professor Cope spoke on the changes in the Chemistry Department and the new laboratories, equipment, and personnel.

Meetings of the Chemistry Society will be held twice monthly; the next one will be on Wednesday, November 13.

PHYSICS SOCIETY

Professor John C. Slater, head of the department of Physics, spoke on "Opportunities in Physics," before the first meeting of the year of the Technology Physics Society, held Wednesday, October 30, at 5:00 P.M., in Room 4-231. Joseph J. Devaney, '47, president of the Society, announced that elections of officers will take place at the next meeting.

Freshmen Themes Receive Slashing By "Green Ladies"

In case anyone has noticed freshmen looking greener this term than per usual, don't jump to conclusions and blame it on too much of Walker's food. It might be due to the color of their corrected English themes reflecting on their faces, since these themes are usually returned to our unfortunate first-termers packed with pretty green notations—the handiwork of the now notorious "green ladies."

To get things rolling, let's introduce ourselves to the "green ladies." They are not the ogres that freshmen might think, but two very personable young women whose names are Helen Rogers and Evelyn Brady. Their job is the thankless one of correcting grammatical errors in all E11 and E12 papers. Somehow they got into the habit of using a green pencil for their sadistic slashings and thus, the gruesome nickname.

When asked how come they chose the color they did, the girls were stumped, until Helen (since we've come this far already, we might as well get chummy and use first names) came up with the answer that green looked good on them. Being that she was wearing a cute green creation at the time of the interview, we can attest to the veracity of this statement. While we're on the subject of Helen, we might as well add that she has a soft southern accent, but before your ardor rises too much, we might add that both girls are happily married.

Professor Norbert Weiner once told the girls that their's was a "soul-destroying job," and that they probably read more bad literature than anyone on earth. Don't laugh, fella—look back at a few of your E11 and E12 papers and see if you still think they're the literary masterpieces they once were. However, one consolation is that the writings of our first term geni make wonderful conversation for the girls when they're out. Helen's friends always want to know what "the little dears" are writing about now, and Evelyn's hubby loves to read them.

As to the themes, the "green ladies" say that the boys seem to have "vivid imaginations" and that some read like a high school freshie's paper. This should take you guys down a peg. Most of the fellows always seem to be having coincidences. As an example, one budding genius wrote that he had his appendix removed on December 7, the year before Pearl Harbor, so now he can never forget the date he had his appendix taken out. This really requires no comment, but only a Harvard transfer student would be capable of writing such a masterful piece of "intelligentsia."

Medica Gives

To Offer Protection

The Medical Society is offering to offer influenza (A and B) to members and wish it. Because of shortages of epidemic disease prevention requirements, who wishes to name at the before Friday either in person or that you him.

Immunity injection of comes effective and lasts for injections will December in ment at the later. Reactions sore arm and usually mild. be sensitive to take the vaccine no charge for

Junior Pr

(Continued)

fore no exception brought.

Dan

Meanwhile for the gala next Friday the main b Statler to t Lopez and hi has been a weeks now.

It was for most of the have been redemption been complete night. Furt attending the yet received for the dan sent to the h to secure the the committ

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