

## Birth Control Topic Of Talk Last Monday

**Dr. F. L. Good Outlines  
Catholic Opposition To  
Use Of Contraceptives**

Under the sponsorship of the Institute Catholic Club, Dr. Frederick L. Good, Chief of Staff of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Boston City Hospital, spoke in Huntington Hall last Monday on the subject of "Birth Control."

After pointing out the broad ramifications of the subject, which are allied with sex and sterilization among others, Dr. Good said he would confine himself mainly to the medical aspects of the subject. He then entered into a discussion of the Massachusetts laws on the dissemination of information about birth control. "It is an offense against morals if one performs a criminal abortion or gives information along the lines of helping one not to conceive when there has been sexual congress," he said as a brief paraphrase of the lengthy law.

The law, passed in 1879, has withstood numerous attempts to repeal it, and at all times the Roman Catholic Church has helped in every way to maintain it. As a Catholic, Dr. Good said that it was not true that the Church was the only group favoring the law, as the proponents of repeal claim. Most physicians are strongly opposed to birth control.

### Advocates Rhythm Theory

Stating that he felt there were times when it might be unsafe for a woman to have a baby because it jeopardized her health, he went on to show how such a woman could lead her married life in a natural way without becoming a mother. Any woman who does not wish to have children can avoid them and still lead a natural married life by simply following the "rhythm theory." About fifteen years ago it was discovered that ovulation, the throwing off of the egg by the female, occurs rhythmically, just thirteen days before each menstrual cycle.

Thus if a couple does not indulge in the marriage act at the time of ovulation, it is impossible for the woman to conceive. Without the use of contraceptives a man and wife can then avoid having children

## 5:15 Club To Hold Dance Tomorrow Open To All Students; Gala Features Planned

Tomorrow evening at 8:30 P.M., the 5:15 Club Room will be the scene of an informal dance dubbed the "Rejuvenated Record Rompus." The affair is being held in celebration of the recent painting of the club room. Admission will be fifty cents a couple and the dance is open to anyone, whether a 5:15 member or not.

According to Dance Chairman George J. Katz, '47, the dance will feature "gala refreshments and floral decorations to provide gaiety and merriment." Atmosphere will be enhanced by indirect lighting. Music will presumably be of the record variety.

The 5:15 Club really looks spic and span in its new coat of glossy green paint and its members will be proud to show it off to any guests that may come. Incidentally this is the only dance being held at Technology this week-end.

For the information of any new students, the 5:15 Club is located in the basement of Walker Memorial. Its membership originally consisted of commuters who took time out for a "short root beer" and a game of pinocle at 5:15 before starting the long trek home.

## THE TECH Inquires

This column endeavors to solicit student opinion upon timely questions. A reporter interviews students at random, in making his rounds about the Institute. Questions for this column may be submitted by readers.

Today's question: "Do you believe the Institute should reinstate compulsory physical training, in the form of compulsory participation in sports, for all freshmen?"

**John J. Mohr, '50, Course XVI,  
Barracks:**

"I don't think a year of compulsory physical training will help the situation at all. What would it accomplish? Nothing for the person already interested in athletics, and nothing for the person who dislikes athletics, and who therefore gets nothing out of participating in them. With time so limited, it should be up to the individual who wants athletics to participate in them when he has the time."

**Jules Sandock, '48, Course VI,  
Fraternity:**

"I think physical education by itself could be very beneficial. However, added to a fifty hour program, it is a little too much."

**David A. Eberly, '50, Course XVII,  
Commuter:**

"According to the platonic idea of education, every person should gain a knowledge of the sciences and the arts, and develop a sound and healthy physique. It is the responsibility of the educational institution to develop these things in the student. Technology disregards the latter entirely, leaving it up to individual initiative. Most students will not voluntarily devote time to developing high physical standards. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the Institute to introduce compulsory physical training."

**Jerry B. Lewi, '48, Course VI-A,  
Fraternity:**

"I feel the question is up to the person himself. I don't believe the freshmen should be made to take physical training against their will,"

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## Institute Comm. Outlaws Caucuses In Surprise Move; Holland Makes Statement Favoring Individualism

### Opponents Say Move 'Unenforceable', 'An Unreasonable Extension Of Power'

Large caucuses for the nomination of class officers were outlawed yesterday in a surprise move by the Institute Committee, at its regular weekly meeting. After vigorous debate, the motion, which was prepared by the Executive Committee, passed without dissenting votes.

As amended, the motion states that "any organized action, or attempts to organize action, for the nomination, promotion, or election of a candidate for any living group or activity shall be considered grounds for disqualification at the discretion of the Institute Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Elections Committee and the Executive Committee to bring such action to the attention of the Institute Committee."

Chairman Norman Holland, '47, stated that in the past it has been common practice for the fraternities and the dormitories to hold caucuses and nominate a small number of candidates. Opponents to the motion claimed the probable increase in the number of candidates would cause confusion among the voters. It was also charged that the phrase "living groups" was vague and that the entire rule was unenforceable.

Kenneth A. Marshall, '47, declared that no references in elections records or publicity will mention a candidate's living group, thus tending to eliminate voting blocs. Although opponents said that the motion constituted "an unreasonable extension of Institute Committee power," he stated that the action greatly increases democratic representation in the elections.

Other business handled by the Committee at the meeting included the approval of John E. Taft, '48, as chairman of the Class of 1948. Other elections approved include the three newly-elected freshman representatives on the Institute Committee, Richard G. Rorschach, Daniel C. Plummer, and Vinson R. Simpson, Jr., all '50.

The following statement, made at last night's Institute Committee meeting by President Norman N. Holland, Jr., '47, expresses the feeling of the Institute Committee on the motion on student elections:

"It is hoped that this motion will eliminate large caucuses by the dorms and the frats thus opening class elections to more candidates. It puts the emphasis on individual activity to secure nominations."

## Dramashop Play Set for April 4, 5

### 'Busman's Honeymoon' At Peabody Playhouse

On April 4 and 5, the Dramashop will present "Busman's Honeymoon" as their next production. The Lord Peter Wimsey mystery by Dorothy L. Sayers will be presented at the Peabody Playhouse, 57 Charles Street, Boston, at 8:30 p.m.

Lord Peter and his bride arrive at their honeymoon cottage and find the recent owner dead. With the aid of several local characters, they attempt to find the murderer.

The cast of the play is as follows: Mr. Puffet, played by Robert L. Podell, '49; Bunter, Thomas G. Swallow, '48; Mrs. Ruddle, Gertrude Shint, '48; Harriet, Mrs. Ethel Bain; Miss Twiterton, Mary R. Gregory, '48; Frank Crutchley, Deane F. Flader, '47; Rev. Simon Goodacre, Martin Osman, '50; Mr. MacBride, William W. Fisk, '50; Constable Sellon, Robert H. Elliot, '50; Superintendent Kirk, Walter Cramens; George, Thomas B. Horgan, '50; Bill, Cameron Higgins, '50.

## T.C.A. Officers To Be Installed

### To Announce T.C.A.'s 'Man-of-the-Year'

At a luncheon in the Graduate House Campus Room tomorrow at 1:00 p.m., the Technology Christian Association will have its annual meeting and installation of officers.

Heads of the Technology Christian Association's numerous activities will make brief reports of their divisions work during the past year.

Percy Rolfe Ziegler, '50, Chairman of the T.C.A. Advisory Board, will install the newly-elected officers and Cabinet for the coming year. The Cabinet was appointed late last week by the incoming officers.

Announcement at the meeting will be made of the Executive Committee's choice of the "T.C.A. Man-of-the-Year." This man will be the member of the Cabinet who, in the eyes of the Executive Committee, has been of the most service to the Technology Christian Association in the past year.

The T.C.A. Advisory Board will be present at this installation meeting. Dean Everett M. Baker, new member of the Advisory Board, will deliver a short postprandial talk.

The following men are on the new T.C.A. cabinet: President, Frank A. Jones, Jr., '48; Vice-President, Robert R. Mott, '48; Secretary, Stanford A. Fingerhood, '48; Treasurer, William M. Oard, '48; Director of Boys' Work, Edward T. Miller, '49.

Also Freshman Camp, Fred C. Bailey, '49; Tech Cabin, John W. Lebourveau, G; Religious Action, O. Summers Hagerman, '49; Lecture Program, Jay M. Jennis, '48; Social Action, Charles W. Davis, '49, and John W. Barriger, '49; Conferences, Clifford C. Han, Jr.; Handbook, John W. Kunstader, '48; Marshall

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## MITVA Investigates Group Health Insurance

For the last eight weeks, a committee of the M.I.T. Veterans' Association has been investigating the possibility of obtaining group health and accident insurance for the families of married students at the Institute. As a part of its study, the committee is sending out a questionnaire to determine the amount of interest in the plan and the character of the group that wants this insurance.

Starting next week, letters and questionnaires will be sent to the 300 families in Westgate and Westgate west. All persons receiving these questionnaires are requested to complete them and mail them to "M.I.T.V.A., Box V, M.I.T.—Insurance Committee Only" through the school mail system, whether they are interested in the plan or not.

## Absolutely No Reason To Fear Russia, Says Professor Struik

By TOM HILTON, '49

"The United States must unite in friendship with Russia," said Professor Dirk J. Struik last Friday afternoon in an address to the MITVA in Faculty Lounge. "I say this not because I have lost any sleep worrying about the Soviet Union, but because the future of the world depends on American-Russian friendship."

After this introduction, Professor Struik went on to comment on the change in sentiments towards the Soviet by the American people. Polls indicate that in America there has been a growing antipathy for Russia. Why? Said Professor Struik: "Because America has abandoned the Roosevelt tradition. With the death of Roosevelt America forgot the enlightened foresight and humanitarianism of Roosevelt." Actually the skepticism towards Russia is without reason, he said; when Russia is viewed in the light of American interests there is no cause for fear.

What is Russia doing? According to Struik, internally Russia is completely occupied trying to rebuild her ravaged land. "There is no talk of war among the people," he said. "The average Russian thinks just as the average American does. Religiously, the Russian has beliefs identical to the American's. That is, he believes in the separation of the church and the state." And politically, "like the average American the Russian harbors a belief in the dignity of man. Racial prejudice is being abolished in Russia."

Very caustically Professor Struik commented on the American press. "They have missed the real significance of Russian news," he said. "The dramatic rise of socialism in the U.S.S.R. was never reported. Actually the full speeches by Russian officials are clear and logical—not ridiculous as they are reported to be. Pravda gives much better write-ups of American speeches."

Whereas internally the Russians reconstruct their country, "externally they only fight fascism—wherever it appears," said Professor Struik. "This they have done despite the blundering assistance given to the Fascists by the United States. In Greece, Italy, Albania—all over Europe—Russia is, and has, attempted to eradicate the remains of the Hitler regime." The estates of the Junkers and the monopolists that supported Hitler have been confiscated "for the only way to uproot the Fascists is to destroy their economic well-being." As for the actions of the Americans in their zone, Professor Struik said: "The Americans have awarded estates to the Junkers."

According to Professor Struik, the most clear cut case of Russia's international altruism is the Trieste case. The Russians demanded a democratic government for Trieste with complete autonomy, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech—complete democracy. But the British proposed a sort of protectorate. Eventually Molotov advocated a compromise. "The final result was a government less demo-

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## Prom Committee Invites Chaperons

### Tickets Are Sold Out; 450 Couples Expected

Chaperons for the Sophomore Promenade of March 28 and 29 were announced this week by Donald L. Botway, '49, chairman of the committee. Although it is two weeks away the Prom is already a sellout, with over 450 couples expected to attend.

Invitations to the Prom have been extended to Dean and Mrs. Everett M. Baker, Professor and Mrs. Leicester F. Hamilton, Dean and Mrs. Thomas P. Pitre, Dr and Mrs. James R. Killian, Dean and Mrs. Thomas K. Sherwood, Dean and Mrs. George R. Harrison, Professor and Mrs. B. Alden Thresher, Professor and Mrs. Albert A. Schaefer, and Professor Avery A. Ashdown.

The Prom weekend is divided into two major events, the formal dance on Friday evening, March 28, and the informal "Turnerarundscovich" the following evening. The formal will be held at the Hotel Bradford to the music of Claude Thornhill and his orchestra. Hal Reeves will be featured at the Saturday night party, to take place in Morss Hall of Walker Memorial. For complete details of the latter affair, see next week's The Tech.

Members of the Prom Committee, in addition to Botway, include James K. Berman, Louis Bucalo, Richard T. Burke, Ira Dyer, Barbara R. Feeny, Ronald L. Greene, Warren J. King, Paul D. McNaughton, Charles E. Smith, Jr., and Frank J. Ughetta, all of the class of 1949.

# The Tech



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## GREATER REPRESENTATION: A CURE FOR APATHY

For a long time, now, Technology has been one of the relatively few schools in the country which could boast of not only a student government but one which ran all activities with no supervision from the administration or the faculty. The heart of this student government is the Institute Committee, a group of undergraduates, some of whom are activity leaders and the remainder being elected by their respective classes by democratic means. This system functioned reasonably well until the war years; after the war, however, the system showed no indications of returning to its former efficiency and to stimulate any real interest among the students in its elections or in its activities. Obviously something must be wrong either with the student body, the system itself, or perhaps both.

In considering first the student body, it is of course true that there is a high percentage of older men, some married, most with other interests. A large part of this group contributes greatly to the inertia of the undergraduates, but they do not, by far, constitute the majority. Why is it, then, that the greater portion of that remaining majority is as inert and disinterested as most of the older veterans? The fault may not lie wholly with them. It is not without the realm of possibility that the system itself is to blame for this general attitude of apathy.

As a rule, a person will feel apathetic and disinterested when he feels that his say in a situation has little significance and that all will go on in the same rut no matter what he does. It is our belief that this condition is the principal cause of the inertia so prevalent in our student body today. It is our further contention that if the student can be made to feel that his opinion and vote will count for something and carry some weight in the shaping of policy then his interest will be aroused and he will take an active part in undergraduate life by voting in elections and keep in contact with his representative.

The essence of the problem lies in the question, "Is the Institute Committee an organization truly representative of the student body, and how much say does the student have in the shaping of its policies?" We believe that as it stands now, the Institute Committee is decidedly **not** representing the student body, and that the average student has little, if any, influence in the activities of that organization. Hence, the resultant disinterest.

In the current structure, of the 32 men on Institute Committee, only 12 are class representatives (the president plus two men elected from each class), remaining 20 being activity leaders, who can in no way be construed as representing the students. What is even more important, however, is that the Executive Committee of the Institute Committee, the body which acts as the steering committee, where most of the legislation is originated, is composed of the Senior Class President, the Chairmen of the Budget Committee and Walker Memorial Committee, plus three members elected from the Institute Committee itself. Thus, it can be seen that there is **no direct representation** for the students on the committee which holds the reins of power.

A remedy for this situation must be found, and the sooner, the better. What we propose, then, is this: that the number of representatives from each class be increased to, say five, so that they hold a balance of power with the activity leaders. Furthermore, and what is more important, we propose that one of these five from each class sit on the Executive Committee, so that there will be four class representatives plus the President of the Senior Class, and the two Chairmen of the Budget and Walker Committees. In this way, these class representatives will have a direct say in the policies of this important governing body. Only after this is accomplished, will the average student feel that by casting his ballot for his representative, he will be actively determining the future policies of the Institute Committee, which ultimately affect himself.

## N.S.O.

About a year ago in Prague, Czechoslovakia, the International Union of Students held its first meeting. The organization is a federation of national student groups from many countries, and at that time predominantly European. For the United States, twenty-five independent observers representing several U. S. colleges, the Y.M.C.A. and similar groups were in attendance.

Upon their return to the states, this group of Americans, obviously impressed by the conference, invited representatives from every American college and from other youth groups to a conference in Chicago. There, they told their fellow-students what they had seen and what was being done by national student organizations in Europe.

The advantages of having and belonging to a national student organization were clearly pointed out. Such a group could, for example, prevent the commercialization of college sports, a feat that seems impossible of accomplishment by any individual college. A national students' federation could help to prevent such incidents as the ousting of President Rainey of Texas University, or could fight a bill like the one in the Massachusetts Legislature that would tax colleges that admitted more than a certain percentage of out-of-state students. Such an organization could be powerful enough to back inexpensive student tours of Europe, and would have funds at its disposal to provide scholarships and grants-in-aid to needy students. These and many similar deeds could be achieved by such an organization as was under discussion at Chicago.

The Technology committee for the proposed National Students' Organization was approved by the Institute Committee two weeks ago. This N.S.O. committee is scheduling meetings to tell the Institute about last summer's conference and to get more students interested in the idea. More concretely, it plans to send delegates from Technology to a second conference this summer which will again be held in Chicago. If enough enthusiasm is evidenced, an American National Students' Organization will definitely be established at that time.

We feel that a National Students' Organization would be a good thing for college students and for America. If today's students learn to face the national and international issues that confront them and will unite to act together on these issues, these same students, in later years, will be in a better position to shape the destinies of our nation. All Techmen interested in becoming the founders of this worthwhile organization should attend the committee meetings, lend their ideas, and vote for the Technology delegates to the coming Chicago conference.

## Letters to the Editor

Managing Board, The Tech  
Walker Memorial  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

I would like to thank you very much for the preview, as it were, of this issue's editorial, and the opportunity you have given me to express my opinion. The editorial policy that you have been following, that of reevaluating the accepted standards and situations, is to be commended. Many excellent innovations and revisions can result from such a systematic consideration of the status quo, if handled skillfully.

You are suggesting that to the present group of class officers, two more representatives to the Institute Committee be added and that every class president be made **ex officio** a member of the Executive Committee of that body. The proposal is an interesting one, and as far as I know, unprecedented, which is all the more reason to give it the carefullest consideration.

In theory, at least, the Institute Committee is made up in such a way that every student has at least one authorized representative. Each class A activity has one delegate and each class, three, the President and two Institute Committee Representatives. But theory is a far cry from practice. To suppose that a Congressman can represent accurately the opinions of his 300,000 constituents is folly. The situation described in your editorial is one common to all republican forms of government. Yet, to suppose that five men can do an appreciably better job than three in representing the opinions of their six-hundred-odd classmates is also sound in theory, but also fallible in practice.

Nevertheless, the Institute Committee can claim true representation, for any student may appear at one of its meetings and speak his piece, and, in fact, is cordially invited to do so. Some of the most valuable suggestions of the present year were received in this way. New outlooks are presented, and fresh viewpoints are obtained, which act as a check on any rash decisions, and is a far more accurate way of representing the students than the one suggested in the editorial.

Such an addition to the ranks of the Institute Committee would make the organization even more unwieldy than it already is. Under the present system, there are thirty-two members, and if eight more were added, it would become even more difficult than it now is to accomplish anything at meetings. If the governing body itself became any more ponderous the natural result would be the concentration of more power in the hands of its Executive Committee. Already there is a widespread feeling that too much already rests in the hands of this body.

The Executive Committee, as it now stands, is composed of the President, the Chairmen of the Walker Memorial and Budget Committees, and a Vice-President, Secretary, and Member-at-Large who are elected from the Institute Committee by its members. At present, the Executive Committee is usually made up almost entirely of seniors, who, I think it fair to assume, are well versed in every phase of undergraduate life, and hence are capable of understanding any situation that might arise. Under the proposed plan, this body would be harnessed by a group of class representatives whose knowledge might not be so comprehensive. In addition, it is common knowledge that class elections among the lower classes are often accompanied by a good deal of log-rolling, but when the senior year is reached, elections are carried on in a somewhat higher plane. Thus, the plan advocated may do more harm than good to the principle of representation.

It should be remembered in any discussion of representation that the Institute Committee is not and never was intended to be student government in the true sense of the word. There are no courts to try student offenders, or any attempts to set up rules of conduct for the

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## Birth Control

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if they do not want them. He said that the Roman Catholic Church has never said that a married couple must have children and that the use of the rhythm theory should be the answer to the whole problem of birth control.

Recently the Planned Parenthood League, he pointed out, published figures that showed, among couples using seventeen different kinds of contraceptives, that the devices were 97.2% effective in preventing conception. Thus the contraceptives were only .2% more effective than the rhythm theory in avoiding children.

## Survey of College Graduates

In recent years surveys have been made of graduates of various colleges, including Radcliffe, Wellesley, Simmons, Harvard, and Technology, to find out how many children they have had. Results showed that they were not having even enough children to keep the population stable. Meanwhile people in the lower-income, uneducated classes have very large families. It would seem that the upper classes were using birth control, to the great detriment of the country as a whole.

## Tech Inquires

(Continued from Page 1)

but they should be made to realize that they should participate in sports for their own good."

Philip R. Jonsson, '47, Course VIII, Fraternity

"I'd favor compulsory sports for the first semester only. A student's habits, that will follow him through four years of college, are largely formed during this period. Some physical exercise is certainly necessary for good health, and the early formation of the sport habit. It can't help but be beneficial."

Natalie J. Adelman, '50, Course XVII-A, Commuter

"Anybody who is interested in sports should be able to find time to participate in them. There should not be compulsory sports because there is not enough time for the average student. This applies especially to all those taking military training. As far as the coeds are concerned, they can take care of themselves."

## T.C.A.

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Dick, '48; Ralph E. Segel, '48; Arnold S. Judson, '47; Harold L. Abroms, '48; John M. Cook, '49; Benjamin J. Brettler, '48; Donald A. Sillers, Jr., '49; Robert L. Stevens, '49; Harold E. Rorschach, Jr., '50; Projector Service, R. Langdon Wales, '48; Blotter, William F. Cassidy, '49; John L. French, '48; Book Exchange, James M. Orr, '48; R. Clay Burchill, '50; Social Affairs, Paul E. Weamer, '49; Advisory Board Solicitations, Robert C. Tweit, '50; David K. Hardin; Advisory Board Receipts, Robert T. Andrew, '49; Arthur C. Savoth, '50; Information, Michael J. Fitzmorris, Jr., '50; Ticket Service, A. Bromley Muller, '49; Phillip A. Koehring, '49; Foreign Students, Robert H. Welsch, '49; Room Registry, John C. Conzett, '50; Boys' Work Committee, Edward T. Miller, '49; Ephraim M. Sparrow, '49; Charles M. Jordan, '49; and Harold E. Rorschach, Jr.

## Struik

(Continued from Page 1)

cratic than that proposed by the Russians," said Professor Struik.

"Thus," said Professor Struik, "the main issue today is democracy versus fascism, and Russia has consistently defended democracy." In opposing the formation of popular movements—which may or may not contain Communists, said Struik—America is forgetting "the Ethan Allens and Sam Adames of our history. We betray the memory of the American Revolution." We are acting as the British did after the first World War when they suppressed the popular governments of Europe and paved the way for Hitler, he said. "We are making ourselves the most hated people in the world."

What is the only alternative for the United States? Concluded the speaker: "We must make terms with Russia. There are no funda-

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### Alpha Chi Sigma Chooses 38 Men As New Pledges

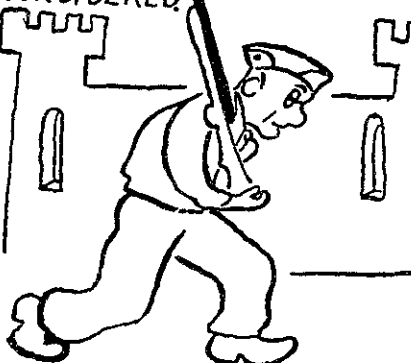
Alpha Chi Sigma, the national honorary chemical society, held its annual initiations this Wednesday, March 12, in Room 6-321. The list of new pledges is the largest which has been admitted since the war. A banquet will be held tomorrow.

The new members are Jan M. Hoegfeldt, '49; Frederic M. Richards, '48; Edward Chalmers, Jr., '48; Kenneth B. Wiberg, '49; Marshall E. Baker, '49; Gilbert P. Monet, G; Henry H. Kohl, '49; Robert W. Decker, '49; Edmund M. Bevington, '49; Henry H. Rachford, G; George A. Freund, '49; Richard C. Berry, '48; Richard H. Jones, '49; Joseph S. Baker, Jr., '49; John M. Wilson, '48; Frank E. French, Jr., G; Burton B. Crocker, G; George Brown, G. Also Gerald G. Hatch, G; Robert R. Heikes, '49; John K. Beasley, G; Rodolfo F. Barrera, '49; Edward A. Mullery, '48; Frank J. Iskra, '48; William Haddon, Jr., '49; Paul B. Sawyer, '49; William H. Revoir, '49; Clare J. Johnson, Jr., '48; David D. Dudley, '49; George W. Rengstorff, G; Alfredo Lana-Sarrata, '49; Robert J. Kallad, G; Edward J. Lanpher, '49; Lathan H. Collins, Jr., '48; Harold Conroy, '48; William J. Raich, '49; James H. McMahon, Inst.; and Richard Curry, G.

### P.T. OR NOT P.T.

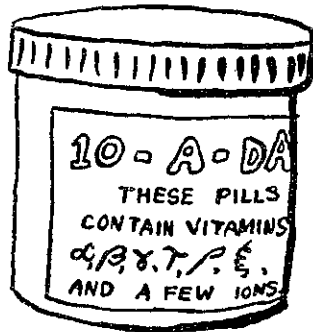
BY DAVE GROSSMAN

COMPULSORY PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR FRESHMEN IS BEING SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED.



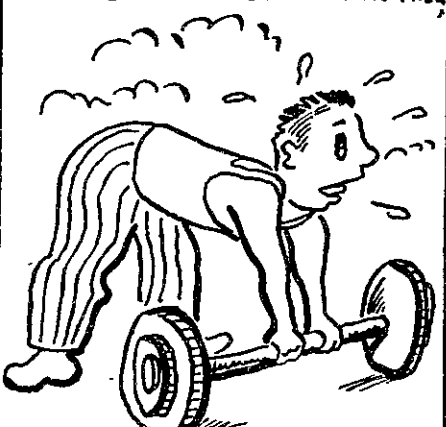
FOR OUR MONEY, IT'LL NEVER REPLACE ROTC.

PERHAPS THE PLAN IS A LITTLE RASH...



WOULDN'T VITAMIN PILLS IN WALKER ACHIEVE THE SAME EFFECT.

AS ONE DUMBBELL TO ANOTHER



MOST FRESHMEN WILL BE AGAINST IT.

ANYWAY, IF TECHMEN HAD ANY MORE MUSCLES-



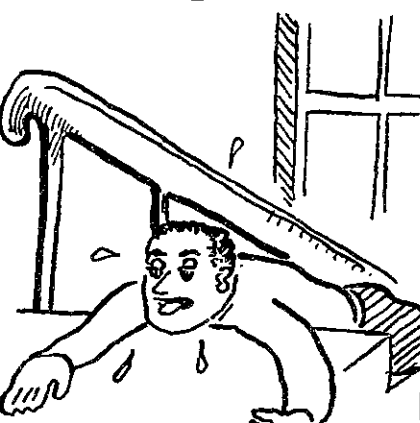
PEOPLE WOULD BE FRIGHTENED BY THEM.

WE DON'T SUPPOSE CO-EDS WILL BE INCLUDED-



THIS ISN'T SARGENT, IS IT?

AS FOR US...



WE GET ENOUGH EXERCISE JUST CLIMBING STAIRS.

### Public Rel. Comm. Holds Competition

6 Members To Be Picked From Thirty Applicants

Approximately 30 students have entered a competition for membership in the newly-formed Public Relations Committee. From among these, six members, including at least one Junior and one Sophomore will be chosen. At a meeting for the candidates Kenneth S. Brock, '48, outlined the aims and history of the Committee. The chief purpose of the Committee is to publicize student activities outside of the Institute.

The competition consists of three parts: a questionnaire, a theme, and a personal interview. The questionnaire serves the purpose of presenting the background of the applicant, and the personal interviews will be handled by the five present members. The themes are to illustrate the candidate's ability to write a good news release or publicity program. Names of successful candidates will be announced in two weeks.

### Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

student body. The Institute Committee's function is to regulate the organized student activities. Thus, it is found that the student activities should have more representation than the classes for, usually, a class as such is relatively inactive and performs little or no activity as a class. Notable exceptions are the Junior Prom and Senior Week, but even in these cases, special committees are elected to carry them through. A class is for all intents and purposes only a chronological grouping. It would be downright unfair to set up a system in which an inactive and ineffective group controls the activities of an active one.

In conclusion, let me say that this is but one man's opinion, and that there are undoubtedly aspects of the proposal that have not yet been discussed, and would do well to be brought out. This column and the Institute Committee itself will, I am sure, welcome other opinions on this subject.

Very truly yours,  
Norman N. Holland, '47  
Pres., Institute Committee  
Pres., Class of '47

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**LOST AND FOUND**  
Lost — Bulova, watertight wrist watch with steel expansion band. Lost at Grad House. Reward.  
Ed Cohen, Building 22, P.O. 568.

LOST—Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1947, Dec-Trig slide rule in a tan leather case. Serial number 700135. Last seen in Room 24-007. Reward \$5.00.  
Dick Mehan, Building 22, P.O. 128.

**N. S. O.**  
The Technology Committee for the National Students' Organization is holding its third meeting this Thurs., Mar. 20, at 5:00 P.M. in Tyler Lounge. This is YOUR committee! Come and support it.

### Struik

(Continued from Page 2)

mental differences between the U. S. and Russia."

Q: What about Russian expansion?

A: It's small compared to Russia under the Tzarist Regime. Soviet expansion is mainly a legend.

Q: What about Eisler, who was convicted of being a Russian agent?

Passionately, Struik asserted that there was no evidence against him. "He was a German Anti-Nazi. The charge was all concocted by the Rankin Committee. A fraud!"

Q: What is the difference between Russian communism and fascism?"

A: There are no similarities. For one thing communism stands for the withering away of the state; fascism stands for the glorification of the state.

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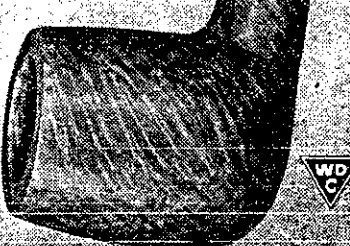
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# Tech Fencers Meet Yale Tonight

## Two Undefeated Teams In East Coast Tangle; B.U. Beaten on March 8

By FRANK HEILENDAY, JR., '48

Two top fencing teams of the East will clash tonight in Walker Gym at 8:00 P.M. as Coach Joe Levis' experts will attempt to break the undefeated record of Yale University. After a year's inactivity, the Tech fencers surprised Ivy League members by taking victories over the best of Harvard, Princeton, and Cornell in the last few weeks, and thereby maintaining one of the two undefeated college records of this season. Yale is the other holder of this honor.

In preparation for this top meet of the year, Tech polished off a weak Boston University team 19½ to 7½ at Walker last Saturday. John Weil, ace with the foil and epee, won all his engagements of the afternoon to hand the Beavers a clear five point margin over Terriers from across the river. Dick Seaman easily mastered his B.U. rivals in four of his encounters, while Capt. Mario Abbate found little difficulty in winning two of his meets, giving Tech ½ point in an unusual double touch in the epee events. The saber, wielded by Stanley Smith, Graham Sterling, Jack Tofani, and Ed Schickli, proved again to be the downfall of B.U. as the meet ended, giving Tech the largest margin of victory so far this season.

**Coach Levis Olympic Fencer**  
"Tonight Tech will meet the toughest opponent of the year and the boys will have to give everything to beat Yale," Coach Levis stated. The coach, known as Joe to his boys, was National Champion of the United States five times, the last year of his reign being in 1939. Levis was a member of the Olympic Team representing the United States in 1928, two years after he held the Intercollegiate Championships while attending Tech.

In an interview, Coach Levis stated that this is the best team he

has yet coached at Tech and praised the three men who have held the major burden of carrying victory for the Beavers. In both the foil and epee, Weil, Seaman, and Capt. Abbate have consistently excelled in outwitting their opponents and earning top places in both these events—this despite the fact that many reserves exist and most schools usually have three different men specializing in each event.

Abbate, while only a Sophomore, has earned this high rating on the team by perfect form in his encounters, a natural gift of ease, and a surprising rush which he has often exhibited to score a quick touch in the foil. Weil, a Junior, possesses the best record of the team and seems to win his meets mainly by his calmness and quick headwork on the mat. His height and great reach also has aided him with the foil and epee. Seaman is serving his last year on the team and has the smoothest technique of all the squad with his lightning thrust and repose in his chosen events.

**Saber Requires Other Technique**  
The saber, fundamentally a cutting instrument, requires a different style than the quick touches of the foil and epee. In this weapon, Tech has four experts in Smith, who recently converted to the saber for the competition against Yale tonight, Tofani, who has participated in all the meets this season with amazing success, Sterling and Schickli.

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### Beaver Key Wants To Keep Tourneys Would Conduct Program Under Athletic Director

Members of the Beaver Key Society expressed a unanimous desire to have their organization keep its role in running intra-mural sports at the Institute at the society's latest meeting held last Tuesday night in Faculty Lounge. The members felt that Beaver Key could fit in well under the new Institute Director of Athletics who is also to be in charge of intra-mural sports.

Admitting that the Beaver Key tournaments held during the last couple of years were not in the best tradition of the society, the members present felt sure that with the society's increased membership and given better athletic facilities as planned, its intra-college sports program could be greatly improved and enhanced. Since Beaver Key has much experience in running intra-mural sports and has men willing to schedule and especially to referee games, it was thought that the society would be ideally adapted to run the proposed sports program.

After the introduction of the new members and reading of the constitution, new officers were elected. George K. Parmelee, '48, was elected president of the Society.

### Thompson, Clifford Awarded Berths On All-Star Team

Ed Thompson and Jack Clifford, two of the finest hockey players in Technology history, were honored this week by selection to the B.C.-B.U. dominated New England Hockey League All-Star Team. Thompson, Tech's high scorer and an outstanding team player as well as an individual star, was the only player on the first team who did not play for either B.U. or B.C.; Clifford was one of the two from the "other" colleges on the second team.

Both players have been the backbone of the scoring this year and the Thompson-Clifford combination has become famous in the league. Their combined play was outstanding and their individual accomplishments—Thompson's stick handling and expert passing; Clifford's "cannon ball" shots and fine defensive play brought the Beaver sextet to its best season in Beaver history.

Goalie Adams was given honorable mention, beaten only by the goalies of the two Boston teams.

### Swimmers Rout W.P.I. Tankmen Set New Mark

**N. E. Championships At Williams College Climax Swim Season**

Worcester Polytechnic Institute's swimmers fell victim to the low end of a lopsided score last Saturday afternoon as the Technology tankmen, copping first places in every event and smashing one relay record, rolled to a 60-15 triumph at Worcester, Mass.

Another victory was chalked up to the M.I.T. forces on Saturday when the freshman swimming team scored a 37-29 win over St. Georges, at Middletown, R. I.

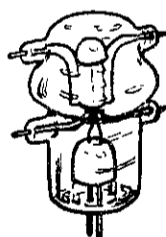
Climaxing the 1946-47 swimming season, the New England Intercollegiate swimming meet will be staged this afternoon and tomorrow afternoon at Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., with entries from twelve colleges competing. Tech is entering a nearly complete team, including a freshman 400-yard relay team. The frosh relay,

(Continued on Page 5)

## Sports Schedule

**TODAY**  
Swimming at Williams College  
New England Intercollegiate  
**Fencing**—Walker Memorial  
Yale University, 8:00 P.M.  
**Wrestling**—at Tufts College  
New England Intercollegiate  
2:00 and 7:00 P.M.  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 15**  
Rifle—M.I.T. Rifle Range  
Bowdoin, 1:00 P.M.  
Track—at Brown University  
**Fencing**—at Brown University  
**Wrestling**—at Tufts College  
Intercollegiate Finals  
Swimming—at Williams College  
Intercollegiate Finals

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## Grapplers Enter Intercollegiates

### All-Tech Competition To Begin On March 18

Cousens Gym at Tufts College in Medford, Mass., will be the scene today of the New England Intercollegiate Wrestling Tournament, with more than a score of schools entering teams. The wrestling will be divided over two days, with the activities starting this afternoon starting at 2:00 P.M. and again in the evening at 7:00 P.M. The Saturday matches will begin at 2:00 P.M.

An eight man Tech aggregation will enter in the intercollegiates, consisting of Joe Deputa, 121 lb. class; Charles Knodel, 128 lb. class; Gene Deval, 136 lb. class; John Tillet, 145 lb. class; Wilbur Haggerty, 155 lb. class; Whit Mauzy, 165 lb. class; Les Ackerman, 175 lb. class, and Walt Masnik in the unlimited class. Coach George Myerson and Manager Bob Van Ravensway both predict that the Beavers should place at least 5 men in the finals.

The season's record shows the grapplers with a 2-2 record. The two wins were taken over Brown and Tufts, with the two losses at the hands of Harvard and Amherst. All in all, the record is not too bad for the sport which was reinstated only this December 10.

## Swimming

(Continued from Page 4)

selected on the basis of time trials Wednesday afternoon, will consist of Carl Mellin, Frank Conlin, Bob Pelletier, and Bob Edgar.

The preliminaries of the intercollegiate meet will be conducted this afternoon and evening, while the finals are slated for 2:00 P.M. Saturday.

A new 60-foot-pool Technology record was established last weekend as the 400-yard relay team overpowered the W.P.I. quartet to ring up a time of 3 minutes, 47.0 seconds.

The Beaver swimmers carried off all other honors as every first place fell into Tech hands. The 300-yard medley relay team of Ben Dann, Henry Morgan, and Reg Stoops set the initial impetus to the rout, winning the opening event with a time of 3 minutes, 23.8 seconds.

Paul Hurlbut eclipsed Haltunnen, of Worcester Polytechnic, to take first place for Technology in the 220 freestyle. Knifing through the water at his usual unbeatable pace, Jim Leonard captured the number one position in the 60-yard freestyle. Olson, of W.P.I., and Stoops, of Tech, were second and third respectively.

Technology's Ed Cote and Ziggy Unuvar took the top spots in the diving event. Victory in the 100-yard freestyle went to Ted Thomas, who negotiated the course in one minute flat. John Searle, Beaver swimmer, was second, with Olson, of W.P.I., third.

Individual laurels in the 150-yard backstroke went to John McCabe as he finished 1 minute, 47.2 seconds after the starting gun. Dick Pitler copped second place, with Bowen, of the opposition, in third. Finishing in 2:46.4, Henry Morgan came off with another first-place honor for the Tech tankmen. Worcester's Kahn and Schupp finished in the second and third spots. Coming through to finish 5 minutes and 35.0 seconds after leaving the starting block, Bill Russell garnered the winning notch in the 400-yard freestyle. Technology's Dave Kellom was second, Haltunnen, of Worcester Polytechnic, third.

Freshman winners in the St. Georges meet were Bob Edgar, 40-yard freestyle; Bob Pelletier, 100-yard breaststroke; Frank Conlin, 100-yard freestyle; the 180-yard medley relay team of Phil Alden, Bob Pelletier, and Stew Scott; and the 160-yard relay team of Dave Sutter, Frank Conlin, Bob Meisel, and Bob Edgar.

## SOCCER RALLY WEDNESDAY

A rally will be held on Wednesday, March 19, in Room 3-270 to usher in the spring training for the Tech soccer team. The meeting will see the election of a captain to replace Tom Cummings who is to graduate this August. The regular Soccer season begins in the fall.

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## Tech Relay Men In Second Place In Garden Meet

### Brown Track Meet

### Held at Providence

### Tomorrow Afternoon

Last Saturday night, March 8, the last major indoor track meet of the season—the New York Knights of Columbus games—was held in Madison Square Garden. The Tech mile relay team placed second to Georgetown University while beating Yale in one of the intercollegiate mile relay races held to support the feature races.

The three teams started on the 49th Avenue side of the Garden with Yale on the pole, James Prigoff of Tech in the second lane, with Georgetown on the outside. The three leadoff men battled furiously for the lead and by running a 52.8 second quarter mile Prigoff was able to secure second place behind Yale. With Robert Baldwin covering his quarter in 54 seconds, Tech dropped to third place. But Harold Ingraham thrilled the crowd by a superb 51.2 second run of his relay leg. He passed Yale and was only a yard behind Georgetown as Douglas Vitagliano took over for the Beavers. But Georgetown had Sausa, one of the country's better quarter milers, running anchor, and Vitagliano in spite of a good 52 second dash could only come within two feet of Georgetown. Yale finished 20 yards behind Tech, whose time for the mile distance was 3.30.0.

### Team Spirit

When leaving the Hotel Lincoln for the Garden prior to the meet, the team's concentration on their coming race was amply showed by the following incident. After the manager as usual had made sure that all the runners had their spiked shoes with them, it was discovered in the hotel elevator that Ingraham had totally forgotten to put on his street shoes and was standing in his stockings. This situation, however, was soon remedied.

### Brown Meet This Saturday

In connection with the Rhode Island State High School Championships, an indoor track meet between Brown and Tech will be held at Providence this Saturday at 2:00 P.M. Tech will try to offset Brown's collection of star track men with a large number of second and third places in addition to a few first places in the running events.

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# Du Pont Digest

Items of Interest to Students of Science and Engineering

## The Synthesis of Nylon



Chemists of original nylon research team honor memory of Dr. Carothers at the dedication. They are: J. W. Hill, Ph. D., M. I. T. '28; H. B. Dykstra, Ph. D. Ohio State '27; G. J. Berchet, Ph. D. Colorado '29; J. E. Kirby, Ph. D. Iowa State '29; E. W. Spanagel, Ph. D. McGill '33; D. D. Coffman, Ph. D. Illinois '30; and F. J. Van Natta, Ph. D. Michigan '28. Dr. Carothers received his Ph. D. from Illinois in 1924.

Recently the Nylon Research Laboratory near Wilmington was dedicated as "The Carothers Research Laboratory," in honor of the late Wallace Hume Carothers and his classical researches on the structure of polymers, the mechanism of polymerization, and the invention of nylon.

In 1928, a group of chemists under Carothers began a study of polycondensation which led eventually to the discovery of nylon. The project was part of a program of fundamental research to discover scientific facts which might be of eventual value in laying a foundation for applied research.

As the first point of attack, they chose the condensation of dibasic acids with glycols and reaction materials which would preclude the formation of rings. They obtained linear polymers of molecular weights between 2300 and 5000.

### Molecular Weights Increased

After two years, a significant advance in linear polymer preparation was achieved. Through the use of the molecular still, it was possible to obtain materials of molecular weights between 10,000 and 25,000, which, when molten, could be drawn into filaments.

More important, the cooled superpolyester filaments could be further drawn into fibers several times their

original length and thereby acquired luster, tensile strength, elasticity, pliability, and toughness much greater than the initial polymer. In contrast with ordinary textile fibers, their tensile strength was unchanged by wetting.

The striking properties of the fibers aroused the hope of finding a commercial fiber from some type of linear superpolymer. Investigation showed, however, that fibers from the polyesters were too-low melting and too soluble for textile purposes. Mixed polyester-polyamides were also not of interest in this category.

### Research on Fibers

The possibility of a commercial fiber development seemed remote, but the intuition that frequently accompanies research genius prevailed, and Carothers was encouraged to direct his research on superpolymers specifically toward spinnable fibers. A polyamide from 9-aminonanoic acid gave a fiber of 195°C. melting point, equal in strength to silk, and clearly indicated the possibility of obtaining a material for fibers of commercial utility.

In 1935, the superpolymer from hexamethylene diamine and adipic acid was first synthesized. It melted at 263°C., was insoluble in common solvents,



Dr. Wallace Hume Carothers

1896-1937, was the first organic chemist in industry to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences. During his short scientific career he made contributions that have greatly enriched American life.

tough, elastic and had the best balance of properties and manufacturing costs of any of the polyamides then known. A third period of research covered commercial development. The task was enormous, and to reduce to a minimum the "time between the test tube and the counter" a large force of some of the most competent chemists, physicists, chemical and mechanical engineers available was assigned to the project. The story of the manufacture of nylon will be told next month.

### Questions College Men ask about working with Du Pont

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