

## THE TECH

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Monday, November 18, 1907.

### A FARCE.

An important meeting of the Institute Committee will be held today in the Trophy Room. This meeting will be important because officers of the committee are to be elected. Otherwise, the meeting would not be important if previous Institute Committees are to be taken as examples.

The Institute Committee is one of the most ideal of student organizations. Among its theoretical functions are: first, to bring about reforms in the conduct of student activities; second, to ask the Faculty for reforms in methods of instruction and methods of administration in dealing with the student; and third, to investigate abuses that have any connection whatsoever with the student. There are other functions that might be enumerated, but it would be a useless task, for in the practical workings of this ideal committee, the mentioned functions are never fulfilled.

Practically, the Institute Committee is a most honorable body, places on which are to be striven for politically or otherwise. There must be an exceeding striving before a man becomes a member, for there is never striving for anything after the election. This last statement is not wholly true, for each member of the Institute Committee seems to strive to stop definite action, to prevent any suggestion of reform.

A very prominent member of the Institute Committee said last year, "The Institute Committee has one important meeting in the year. It goes to the photographer to get its picture taken for 'Technique.'" Another said, "The members of the Institute Committee would rather pay fines than attend meetings."

Yet this same committee, if a live organization, could do an immense amount of good for the student body of the Institute. Numerous matters arise that should be taken up by this body.

This fall the following matters have been mentioned:

A little law and order in regard to posters in the Institute buildings.

Better control over class elections to prevent such scandalous statements as have arisen from the recent 1911 elections.

Abolition of that college custom, "Field Night."

A suggestion to the Faculty that the gaps between the first and second years, and second and third years be made less apparent to students in certain courses.

Better sanitation in the Rogers building.

Whether the Co-operative Society at the Institute compares in co-operation with, say, the Harvard Co-op, and whether an improvement could not be made over the present system.

More uniform note paper in the requirements for the various courses.

A certainty of fairness in the competitions for places in various student activities.

The need of giving lectures to the Freshmen surveying fully the work in the various courses, these lectures to give the new man a comprehensive idea of value of his different studies.

The need of the "atelier" spirit in other courses than Architecture.

An investigation in certain courses, in which many students fail, to ascertain whether the instruction is adequate preparation for the examinations given.

An investigation of certain costly text books that have become ancient or antique.

Need of a point system on drawings in the Architectural Course.

Why there have been no Convocations.

Why there have been no Kommers.

There are many others if the members of the Institute Committee take the trouble to listen to the complaints of the students and even of the Faculty, for that body is powerless to bring about certain reforms in the conduct of student enterprises.

### FENCING MANAGER.

With regard to the election of a manager for the Fencing Team it may be well to remember that last year a competition for that position was in progress. In the competition one man did all the work for the Fencing Team. He put up posters, attended to arrangements and did everything that there was to be done. Mr. Place, the present manager confirms this and the captain of the team recognized him throughout the season as assistant manager.

The man referred to is Shaffer, 1909, and he undoubtedly deserves the position. It would seem that under the circumstances there can be no question as to what course the Athletic Association should take.

### JUNIOR DINNER (Continued from page 1.)

scraps, and have not yet begun to worry about their degrees." He spoke of Technique as the Institute's best advertisement in the prep schools, drawing obvious conclusions as to its needs. Then he took up the show. This is likewise an important affair and its effect on the public must be considered. Two years ago a play was presented which represented the current tendencies of the stage, but not the ideal of a clean college play, and this told on the reputation of Technology, especially in its social life.

R. H. Allen was next introduced, and sang some very amusing ditties. Professors Dewey and Passano spoke, and Robinson sang some gypsy songs.

### INSTRUCTOR'S ATTENTION CALLED.

#### Communication.

The Editor of THE TECH:—

May I please, through your columns, call the attention of any member of the instructing staff not reached by the club notice, to the Dinner of the Instructor's Club on Tuesday evening, Nov. 19, in the Union at 6.30? Prof. Jaggard will speak, after the dinner, on "The Technology Excursion to the Aleutian Islands."

As the annual business meeting precedes Prof. Jaggard's talk, this evening is an occasion especially appropriate for the attendance of all assistants and instructors who desire to become members for the ensuing year. H. L. SEAVER.

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