

THE TECH

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PRICE THREE CENTS

ENFORCEMENT OF PURE FOOD LAWS

**A. G. Woodman Speaks Before
Chemists on Government
Work in this Line**

FORTY CASES TRIED

**Means Adopted by Manufacturers
to Evade the Federal
Government**

Pure food laws were discussed in an interesting manner at a meeting of the Chemical Society, Monday, by A. G. Woodman, S.B., instructor in sanitary food analysis and special agent to the Boston pure food laboratory. Mr. Woodman spoke first of the origin of the food laws. At first there were only state laws, which were so different that large companies were obliged to vary their products to conform with the regulations of the different states in which they were to sell. In some states the appropriations were inadequate to carry out the analyses and enforce the rulings so that they became practically useless. The first federal law provided for the analysis of all imports and prosecution for adulteration. These were evaded by bringing in articles and adulterants in separate containers properly labelled and mixing them after they had passed the customs house.

Thus it was found necessary to have a federal law which would apply to all food products sold in the country and the result was the act of Congress of June 30, 1906. This allows the use of but two preservatives, and these only in certain cases and in quantities not exceeding one-tenth of one per cent. Any adulterant must be specified on the label, and adulteration is defined as adding anything which lowers the grade of the product or anything which is cheaper. Mr. Woodman explained that the common impression that most adulterants were injurious was entirely erroneous and this was true only in one case out of a hundred.

The many ways in which manufacturers evade these laws is surprising. One baking powder company advertises that the bread, pastry, etc., made with its product, will contain no alum, which is quite true as the alum in it will be changed to aluminum hydroxide in the baking. Butter which is made from old butter, purified, deodorized, and made up into pats, must be marked "renovated," so the manufacturers advertise "the only butter which is guaranteed pure by the government a purified butter at a reasonable price; see the name 'renovated.'" Azue spring water advertises "First in the government list of spring waters," omitting to state that it is an alphabetical list.

Mr. Woodman mentioned some of the cases the government has taken up. Cream of Wheat was obliged to change the statement on the package that it is "almost pure gluten," since it contains but 14 per cent. Holland Rusks have on the package in large type, "Made in Holland" and have been obliged to add, although in diminutive letters, "Michigan." S. S. Pierce was obliged to label properly their Swiss honey, which contained 75 per cent. cane sugar and 25 per cent. glucose.

The government has received much criticism for the small results it seems to have accomplished, by those who do not realize the immense amount of work involved in getting the laboratories started. Forty cases have already been tried, all of which have resulted in a victory for the government, and 100 more are being tried. Twenty laboratories are being established all over the United States. There is a good chance for chemists, if they do their work properly, as the government recognizes faithful work.

The date for the next meeting of the society has not yet been announced, but a good speaker is promised.

RATIFIES ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT

**Corporation at Meeting
Approves Selection
of Maclaurin**

NOYES IS OPTIMISTIC

**Says Technology has a Brilliant
Future and Maclaurin can
Best Develop it**

At a special meeting of the Corporation, held Monday afternoon, the appointment of Dr. Richard Cockburn Maclaurin, of Columbia, to the presidency of the Institute was unanimously confirmed.

After the meeting, when asked for a further statement in regard to the new appointment, Professor Noyes said: "I haven't much to add to what has been said already. I more than ever convinced that the Institute is extremely fortunate in securing the services of Professor Maclaurin. I was especially pleased to see, from the interview published in the Sunday Herald ten days ago, that he is heartily in sympathy with our form of education and with the emphasis we lay on general studies, and that he is desirous of promoting all the more important developments which faculty, alumni, and undergraduates believe essential to the full attainment of the aims of the Institute; such as removal to a new site not too remote from the city where the Institute can be rebuilt upon an ample scale with every modern facility, better provision for our student life through some form of dormitory, and continuance and extension of the existing system of athletics while avoiding the extremes to which frequent intercollegiate contests lead. I was also glad to see that he expresses full confidence that the Institute will obtain the necessary financial support from the community, and trust that he will be able to do much to impress the conservative members of our Corporation with this feeling. I believe such confidence is fully warranted, and that, if a bold policy be pursued, the needed support will certainly be secured."

"Though it is perhaps of little general interest, I would like to take this occasion to say a few words as to my retirement from the presidency; for the statements that have been made in regard to my desire to be relieved from it have, I fear, given the erroneous impressions that I underappreciate the privileges and opportunities which the position affords and that I have found its duties burdensome or uncongenial. On the contrary, I consider that the presidency of the Institute is one of the most important—at this time perhaps the most important college presidency in the country; and that the presidency of any educational institution that has before it large possibilities of development is one of the greatest and most attractive opportunities for service which our American life offers. Since to this belief is added a strong sentiment of attachment to the Institute produced by twenty-five years' connection with it and by a hearty belief in its methods, I have no hesitation in saying that I would rather be President of the Institute than to hold any other position in the country, provided I felt myself well fitted to fulfil the duties of the place. I have, however, clearly recognized that this would not be for the true interests of the Institute; for it needs at its head a man with a larger working capacity, with a greater aptitude for the public and social sides of the work, and with certain other important qualities more highly developed. I shall therefore retire from the office with much personal regret, but with the fullest conviction that this step is best for the Institute and for myself. In doing so, I most cordially congratulate Professor Maclaurin on the splendid opportunities which the position opens to him."

COMPETITION FOR TECH SHOW POSTER

**Artists Meet This Afternoon
at Four in Show
Office**

TEN DOLLAR PRIZE

**Few Men Out for the Advertising
Management and More
Wanted**

A prize of ten dollars has been offered this year, as usual, for the best poster for the new Tech Show play, "That Pill Grim." The poster is to contain the words "Tech Show," and the title of the play. It is to be 11x24 inches, but the drawing must be 22x48 inches. Two colors and black are to be used and the poster will be printed on white cardboard.

This is the eleventh annual show and of the posters for the ten shows already held, three were drawn by students and the other seven by professionals. The three student posters were drawn in the last four years and are "The Chemical Maid," and the last two, "William, Willie and Bill," and "Over the Garden Wall." As everything else about the Show is done by students,



Last Year's Poster

the book, music, lyrics, acting, and management, it would be too bad if it would be necessary to resort to professional work for the poster.

There is absolutely no need to go outside the Institute for talent in this line, as evidenced by Technique and architectural work and it is hoped that everyone with any ability in this line will come out and try. Candidates will meet in the Show office, Room B, the Union at 4 o'clock today.

Clarence J. Brown 1909, advertising manager of last year's production, has consented to meet the men and give them an idea of what is wanted and to assist the management in judging the competition. If anyone is unable to attend the meeting this afternoon he should see or address the advertising manager, Dudley Clapp 1910.

Competition for the management is still open and the advertising department is much in need of men, particularly freshmen. Men who wish to try for this department should meet in the Show office, Wednesday or Friday of this week, at 4 o'clock, or communicate with the advertising manager.

NOYES PUBLISHES TALK ON TEACHING

**Principles of Instruction Are
Discussed in Pamphlet
Just Issued**

VALUE OF PROBLEMS

**Practical Side of Work Emphasized
Stress Laid on Conception
of Main Principles**

Dr. Noyes has put into print "A Talk on Teaching," given at the close of last year to the members of the instructing staff. In it he gives what should be the methods used to develop the best kind of a scientist or engineer.

Power and not knowledge should be the aim. The Institute must turn out men who can do things. That is, men that can not only execute, but originate methods for solving the day's problems. Knowledge is of secondary importance—it is only a means toward an end.

He says that it is a mistake to give the student more than he can assimilate. The proper understanding of the cardinal points should not be sacrificed for the mere accumulation of knowledge. To overcome this tendency, Dr. Noyes wishes that competent authors would write text books that contain only facts and principles that can be properly taught in the time allowed.

One of the greatest faults in present day education is the imperfect correlation of the different subjects of instruction. This would best be accomplished by having the instructors keep in touch with the other work outside of their one special line.

In regard to the development of manual skill, the acting president thinks that, although its acquisition is important, the time taken in securing it should be reduced.

Problem solving is particularly emphasized, since the methods involved are closely allied to those used in actual service. Therefore, the student should get the power to handle this work accurately and economically. In teaching this, the lecture system has its only excuse for existence in the fact that it is economical. He advises problem work, done at assigned hours, under the guidance of the instructor.

Since correct solutions are the tests the world goes by, they should be the test of the progress of the student. Dr. Noyes says that this test of the ability to handle problems connected with the subject rather than the amount of knowledge, often crammed, should replace and eliminate the nerve-racking final examinations now used.

UNION THANKSGIVING

The management of the Union is planning to provide a good time for students remaining in Boston over the Thanksgiving recess, by serving an old-fashioned Thanksgiving dinner, from 1 to 2 P. M., on Thanksgiving Day.

No pains are being spared on the part of the management to make the affair a success and all that is needed is the cooperation of the students. The dinner will be table d'hote, price 35 cents.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25.

1:00 P. M.—1911 basketball men meet in 27 Rogers.

4:00 P. M.—Show Poster meeting at Show office, Room B, in Union.

THURSDAY, NOV. 26.

1:00 P. M. to 2:00 P. M.—Old-fashioned Thanksgiving Dinner at the Union.

FRIDAY, NOV. 27.

4:00 P. M.—Candidates for Assistant Advertising Manager of Show meet at Show office.

4:15 P. M.—Glee, Banjo, and Mandolin Club rehearsals.

6:15 P. M.—Bible Class meets at Union.