**COMMUNICATIONS**

Why cannot Tech have a college orchestra? Other colleges have one and the fellows who play get a good deal of fun out of it. If some violinist would start the movement, I am sure it would be a success, as I have heard a number express their willingness to join. Out of a school the size of Technology a good orchestra could be formed. I would like to hear the opinion of others on this matter.

Harold L. Robinson 1911.

With the winter concert less than three weeks away, the question naturally comes to mind as to whether anything has been done toward creating a new Tech song, either by writing new words for the "Stein Song," or by composing new music and words respectively. The subject they treat of.

A prize was offered last spring for the best verse or verses to the music of the Stein Song, and as no results worthy of award were submitted with the original time limit, the contest was extended to a later date, and finally allowed to run over into this fall. Since the opening of the Institute very little has been heard on the subject, and no official announcement has been made as to whether the competition has been abandoned or is still in progress.

The question of the fitness of the "Stein Song" was one which by its nature could never be definitely determined. Certain objections could always be raised to it in good faith by people of judgment, and could, and probably would, be pointed out or declared in such a manner as to make it appear that the subject is treated with the due respect and fellowship and beyond the mere academic exercise, has nothing to do with the demoralization of any kind. A third class declare that drink or no drink, it is far and away the best that ever has been or ever will be written, and that it is an ideal college song that Technology should be connected with.

As for the other songs we have, many are good, some very good, but there is none among them which one can imagine the praiseworthy Technology student to jump to his feet and cheer or work for his Alma Mater. To show the bad taste of an imaginary football team which claims its green to victory over Amherst, Brown, Dartmouth—where little else but Yale and Harvard as well,—only to be met at the side lines with the cold fact that it doesn't exist, and under present conditions is not likely to exist. Another banner in tuneful rhythm of the joys of wearing one's trousers on the long-suffering stones of Rogers steps a place not so popular since the opening of the Union, and only to be celebrated because it was about the only spot where our predecessors could put their boot on. Earlier tries to create a school spirit as practical as opposed to a single, some respectively and a strict limit on the amount of undergraduate activities in which a single student may engage.

Unhesitatingly the effect of this limiting regulation will be to relieve the public-spirited student from the necessity of attending his times with undue responsibilities, simply because no one else will undertake these; also it will retard the undergraduates of the undershirt-grabbing sort; but whether or not this plan, though based on the assumption that every man will probably perform his duties without dallying or taking part in affairs is not quite so certain. Students who come easily are not prized highly, this scheme will make it simple for the average man to obtain a position of some sort or other with comparatively little effort. Will a plan that one can slide into office put forth his very best in performing his duties or other work?

"The plan is manifestly an honest effort to relieve the few bournes of undergraduate responsibility; and indeed, the demoralizing effect pressure, which must be very great per head of population where the ordinance of the Propylaeum is so exacting as it is at M. I. T. Its success will be most interesting to colleges where the program of study is not so intense, but nevertheless where a few graduate offices sit up nights to accomplish work for a crew of drifters."

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