

THE TECH

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Monday, December 7, 1908.

Awaking at last from a long, deep sleep, the Society of Arts announces its new plans with an assurance of success that is to be heartily commended. The admirable course of talks which has been arranged cannot fail to be appreciated, and it is quite worth a little effort on your part to start in by hearing Mr. Miller and Mr. Youngman tonight, in the opening talk of the series. Don't miss any.

Do we want a baseball team which shall represent Technology? Yes! if through the enthusiastic support of all undergraduates and hard work on the part of the candidates, we produce a nine which can cope favorably with the teams of other colleges of recognized standing. No!—if a few lovers of the game with half-baked energy are to worry through an unsuccessful season with neighboring preparatory schools and weak colleges.

If varsity baseball is to receive the backing of only those few who answered the call for a mass meeting on Friday it would be better dropped and the surplus energy which is gasping for an outlet be directed toward a more consistent support of those sports already established.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of The Tech:
 Several weeks ago the Institute Committee announced that the sophomore class could not have class pipes. There is a question in my mind as to where the Institute Committee obtained the authority to make such a statement.

Some of the students of the Institute think that it is the custom for only the class winning Field Day to get class pipes. So far as I can ascertain, there has been only one other class that lost Field Day both years. Customs are not formed by the example of one body. Repetition is very necessary. Since one class failed to win Field Day either time, and perhaps did not get pipes, it does not follow that succeeding classes losing both Field Days are bound to suffer the loss of class pipes. So far as I have been able to ascertain, the custom of having class pipes originated in Tech as it originated in other institutions of learning. The students who smoked decided to have pipes with class numerals, regardless of whether there existed anything of the nature of Field Day. They obtained class pipes, simply because their attachment to their class led them to and perhaps, because they hoped to have some class relic after their class had broken up at graduation.

It will certainly seem a shame if this sophomore class allows itself to be bluffed by a few students, who have not the authority to do so. This class can have its pipes and can smoke them on Rogers steps to its heart contentment.

Now I come to a vital question. Who gave the Institute Committee authority to exist? So far as I can

ascertain, this committee derived its authority to exist from itself, only. If any member of this committee is asked, "What is the Institute Committee?" he will answer with this sentence of big words: "It is the student Governing Board." This statement is not true. To be a student governing board it must have authority from the student body. This authority has never been given to this committee. Each class sending several members to this committee does not give it any authority, whatever. Bringing these fellows together makes a body which will do, what the Institute Committee has done, namely, anything that will create a sensation.

I am heartily in favor of having a student governing board, but I am in favor first of giving authority to a board of students to govern the student body. I believe such a body should have the power to look after the interests and activities of the Institute, common, only, to the four classes. It should have no dictatorial power over any of the classes.

To bring this question of "What the Institute Committee is, and what it can do?" to an everlasting close, I suggest that each class have a meeting and appoint committees to draw up a constitution for a student governing board. This constitution should tell what the board is, what it can do, what it cannot do, etc. After these committees have drawn up this constitution, it should be submitted to each class for amendment and ratification.

I firmly believe that if this governing board is organized in such a manner, there will never be the slightest doubt as to what the board is and what its powers are. The Institute could well be proud of such a board.

Sincerely,
 F. M. Heidelberg 1909.

FERGUSON TO SPEAK

Thursday evening, Dec. 10, the Electrical Engineering Society will hold its second dinner of the term. The society will be addressed by President Ferguson, of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and by members connected with the department.

The basketball game with Boston College, scheduled for Wednesday night, has been cancelled. The college team has just been organized and would stand but little show against the fast Institute five.

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