

THE TECH

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Friday, February 26, 1909.

The Tech believes the following letter by Prof. C. E. A. Winslow of the biological department appearing in Science of February 19, to be worthy the attention of all Tech men:

"To the Editor of Science: I note in Science of January 29 a quotation from a Boston newspaper in regard to 'Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology'; and it seems desirable that certain erroneous impressions conveyed therein should be corrected.

"The important misconception in the article in question is implied in the statement: 'It seems probable that the taking from the Institute by Harvard of two of its leading professors will bring up again the question of a consolidation or an alliance between these two educational institutions.' This is not only not probable; it is entirely unthinkable, to those acquainted with the true situation. The opposition of the faculty and alumni of the Institute to this plan is founded on good and substantial reasons, which are too generally understood and respected to be questioned again.

"The Technology faculty and alumni did not oppose the proposed alliance from mere pride in the achievements of the institute, or from any narrow fear that it would lose its individual reputation. They simply recognized that Harvard and Technology represent different and incompatible educational ideals. Harvard's ideal is that of graduate scientific school following a college course based on the elective system. This, so far as engineering goes, is an interesting and promising experiment and one to which Technology can cheerfully contribute two of her honored sons. Technology herself, however, stands for a different ideal, for a combination, from the beginning, of a broad scientific training with the elements of liberal culture, in a four years' course, laid along the lines of a carefully balanced group system of studies. This ideal has not been fully realized; few ideals ever are; yet the influx of doubt and questioning which seems to have engulfed the world of higher education, the record of what the Institute has actually accomplished stands out as one of the clear and positive achievements of the last half century.

"I almost apologize for calling attention to another sentence in the quotation: 'The Institute, on the other hand, is handicapped by an improper location and insufficient funds to compete successfully against Harvard.'

"The readers of Science ought to be assured that while Technology needs, and would gladly receive gifts for its growing work, it has so far been able to make both ends meet without serious difficulty. The new President, Professor MacLaurin, experienced in education on three continents, comes to the Institute with complete enthusiasm for its special ideals. A body of eight thousand alumni and past students stand ready for loyal service. The Institute is now contemplating a move from its

present location, which it will soon outgrow, to a new and ample one where a group of buildings worthy of its dignity will be erected. 'The Old Technology, with its old traditions and its old ideals, new built on a new site,' as acting President Noyes recently phrased it, will not 'compete against Harvard'; but it will welcome the McKay school of applied science as a worthy ally in the great war against ignorance that we are all waging together."

C. E. A. WINSLOW

"Tech men waste too much time studying." It sounds well in theory, but—it don't work out in practice.

LITCHFIELD ON TRIP

I. W. Litchfield 1885, editor of the Technology Review, has been making an extended trip through the middle west attending the several alumni meetings recently held. Mr. Litchfield spoke at meetings of the Pittsburg, Washington, Chicago and Detroit alumni. He will return to Boston on Monday.

LOWELL LECTURES

(Continued from page 1.)

the sun. Meanwhile we should have lived through a period as of madness and this climax would come as a mer-iful deliverance to us. After this event the sun would be removed to an indefinite distance and the earth would continue to rotate around the new star instead of the sun as formerly.

An event of this kind, though mathematically possible, Prof. Lowell remarked would happen only as rarely as to cause us small worry for some time to come.

Thos. F. Galvin

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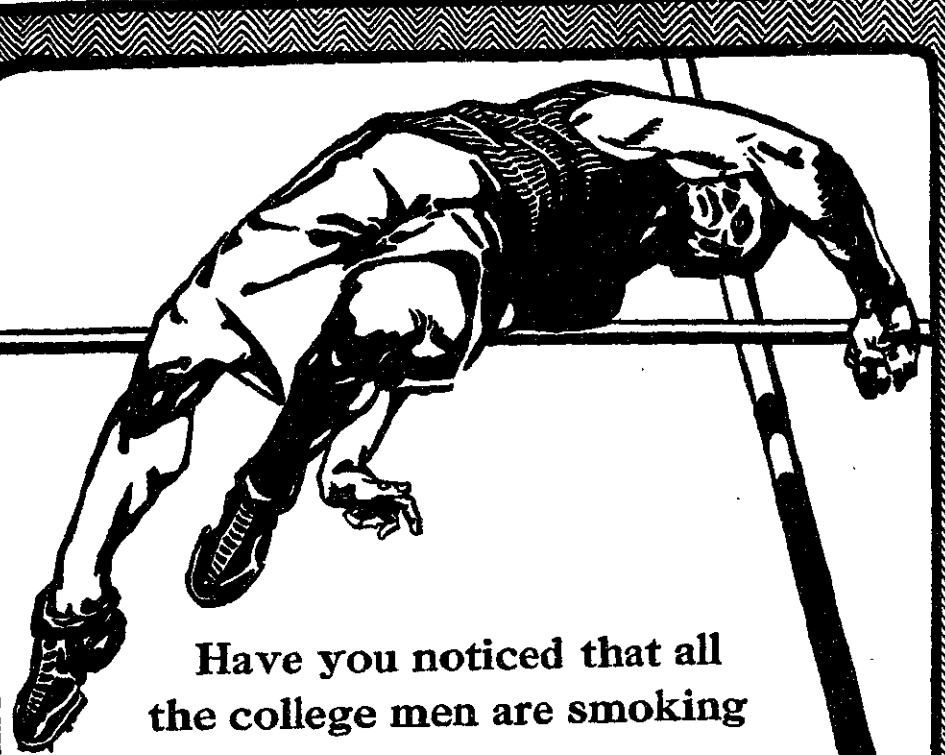
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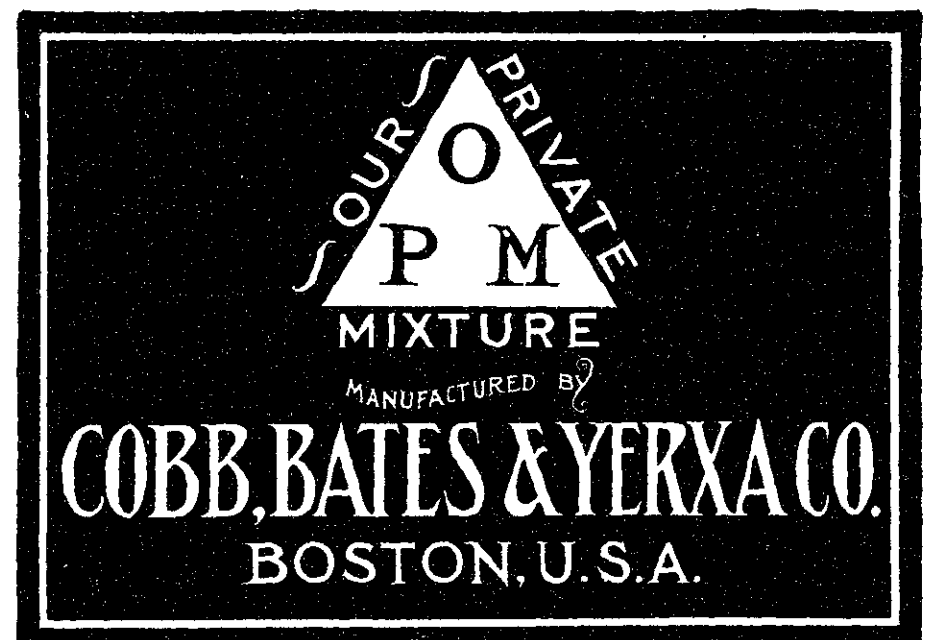
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