

# THE TECH

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Friday, April 9, 1909

Although the present fencing season has been one of the best the Institute has ever had, the sport itself is one of the deadest of the dead activities here at Technology. That it has survived to the present day has been due largely to the interest taken by an energetic coach. Of the three men on this year's team, two are seniors and the third has definitely decided not to fence next season. The team next year must, then, be made up of green men unless some good fencers enter next fall. To

count on such a possibility is a poor plan to say the least.

Few take enough interest to go to the various meets; very few go out for the team. Is it worth while to spend money for such a sport when, even now, the student body must be canvassed that one of the fastest relay teams Tech has ever had may go on to Philadelphia to run in the Pennsylvania relay carnival?

Technology has, for a considerable period of years, followed the policy of eliminating sports that have proved failures through lack of support. The idea has always been to maintain only those activities that the men can and do enjoy. Activities that do not fulfill such conditions are detrimental to those that do. It has been proven satisfactorily that fencing is one of those that does not fulfill such conditions, and it should therefore for the good of the Institute be definitely abandoned.

Moreover, let such a step be taken now when the final season of the Technology fencing team may be likened to the fabled death song of the swan rather than delay for a year or so when the simile of the dying groans of a poisoned dog would perhaps be more appropriate.

Still we hear criticisms of the point system and of the dining room directed to the moon. Such vaporous mutterings do no good and a great deal of harm. The world in general can do nothing to remedy defects, in the point system or in the management of the dining room. That task is up to the committees, and the way to make your kick effective is to put it up to the proper committee by dropping it in the proper box in the Union.

Tech and Dartmouth will not meet on the track tomorrow, as has been supposed, the Dartmouth men for some reason being unable to meet Technology.

## TENNIS COMPETITION

Spring tennis will be started next week with the new scheme for competition for the varsity team. A list of probably the ten best tennis players in the Institute has been posted. These men have been arranged in order of their supposed ability and any man may challenge the man next above him for the latter's position, while any player in the Institute may challenge the tenth man.

In this way it is hoped that a fair basis may be arrived at for naming the men who shall represent Technology in the Intercollegiate competition. All matches must be played off within a week of the challenge or the person challenged must default his position in the list. All men challenging should notify Capt. T. B. Parker 1911, to the effect.

The official list of the ten men in the order of their ability is as follows:

1, F. W. Covill 1911; 2, T. B. Parker 1911; 3, J. Scheuer 1910; 4, M. K. Sweet 1910; 5, P. M. Wentworth 1910; 6, H. P. Farrington 1910; 7, T. B. Whittemore 1910; 8, A. J. Barnes 1910; 9, L. W. Pritchett 1909; 10, J. W. Nickerson 1909.

## GRADUATE GETS PLACE

Mayor Haussling of Newark, N. J., has selected as one of the two engineers who is to pass upon the report of the advisory committee on docks and meadow reclamation, Henry S. Adams 1887. For seven years Mr. Adams was city engineer of Cambridge, Mass., and for two years after that he was assistant engineer of Middlesex County. Since 1893 he has been engaged in private work. He has made plans and superintended the erection of docks, wharves and bulkheads, filled flats and designed and improved harbors. He had charge of the engineering work of the development of the harbor of Ponce, Porto Rico, and of the making of the surveys and designs for the harbors of Nome, Alaska, and Boca del Tora, in Central America. He has designed harbors in Buzzard's Bay, Vineyard Sound, and at Lynn, Mass.

## COMPETITIVE DRILL

Next Wednesday afternoon the M. I. T. battalion holds its interscholastic prize drill. This is popularly known as the championship drill of New England, and is open to all high and preparatory schools which have military drill. Each competing school sends a team of three men. Medals are offered for first and second places, and a cup for the winning school. At present over a dozen schools have entered teams, and more are expected before Wednesday. The competition will be based on the manual of arms and facings. The schools turn out some unusual teams, and as the competitors include the pick of New England, they will be well worth watching.

## TYPHOID REPORT

Professor William T. Sedgwick, head of the biological department of the Institute, a member of the advisory board of the hygienic laboratory of the United States Marine hospital Service, is making investigations on typhoid fever in Washington. Its continuance in that city in spite of sanitary precautions that have been taken, has been one of the mysteries of medicine in that district, and the full report of the commission is looked forward to as a valuable contribution to the literature of the disease.

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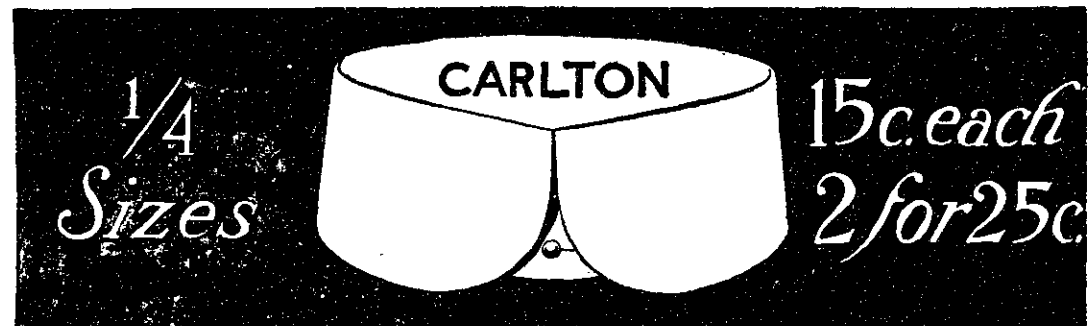
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