

# THE TECH

## DAILY

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PRICE ONE CENT

### TECH SHOW DINNER AT THE UNION TONIGHT

#### Coach Francis To Speak And Selection Of New Show Announced

According to all indications the Tech Show dinner will again break the record for the largest dinner of the year at the Union. Manager Wilson reports an unusually large sale of tickets by the heelers in the business department, and the list of speakers alone would warrant a large attendance.

Dudley Clapp 1910, general manager, will be the toastmaster for the evening, and will keep the ball of fun rolling merrily along. The management has been fortunate enough to get President Maclaurin to speak to those present, if he returns in time from a trip he is taking. This will be the first time that he has been to a Show dinner, but he expressed his hearty congratulations to the management on last year's performance, and said he hoped by all means to be at the first dinner this year. Prof. D. C. Jackson of the electrical engineering department is the other speaker from the faculty, and all may confidently look forward to an interesting and enjoyable talk from one who has always expressed himself as thoroughly in sympathy with the various student activities. It is not very often that the men are given the opportunity to hear one of the former general managers give some experiences of his day in the Show, but this year Mr. Emerson, general manager Tech Show 1904, will be at the dinner and will probably tell of the Show as he knew it. Managers Wilson, Greenleaf and Davis of the business, stage and publicity departments respectively will explain the objects and scope of their work, and the opportunities open to the men of different tastes. When the envelope containing the name of the winning author is opened he will be called upon to tell something of the plot and general scheme of Tech Show 1910.

Everybody that has ever come into connection with Mr. Francis in his work with the Show is looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to seeing him again tonight and hearing some stories that are always good. Mr. Francis will also probably tell the men about his end of the Show and the work of the cast and chorus.

The dinner is to begin promptly at six o'clock, so as to enable all men to be in time for the big celebration which is sure to occur after the Yale-Harvard game in the afternoon. Tickets may be purchased from any of the heelers in the business department, at the Cage, or from H. C. Davis 1911, or H. L. Woshling 1912.

### Y. M. C. A. MEETING

#### WHAT IS BOSTON-1915?

This question was asked continually before the opening of the Exposition across the way. The ponderous nature of the movement demanded a broad statement— which statement is now pictured within the walls of the Old Art Museum building. But the picture demands study. Have you time for this? Learn its meaning through one who is at the center of the activity. At 6.45 tomorrow night at the Union, comes your opportunity to hear a word of explanation. Dr. Walter Laidlaw, temporarily in charge of Boston—1915 volunteers, secretary of the Federated Churches of New York city, at the invitation of Tech, Christian Association will be there and will interpret the Exposition.

### INTERESTING ARTICLES BY TECH PROFESSORS

#### "English in a Scientific School" and "Chem. Lab. Construction" The Subjects

Three articles have recently been published in "Science" which should be of especial interest to Tech men. An article on "The Teaching of English in a Scientific School," by Prof. A. T. Robinson of the Institute staff, appeared in the issue of Nov. 12. Other recent issues contain an article by Prof. A. H. Gill, also of the Institute staff, entitled "Suggestion for the Construction of Chemical Laboratories," and one by Dr. N. A. Dubois, of the Case School of Applied Science, discussing "Teaching by the Lecture System."

In a school where exact sciences are fundamental, the teacher of English faces, in many ways, a special problem. Although the study of English would at first glance seem an unnecessary extra in a crowded curriculum like that at the Institute, yet the subject is really an important one. If taken up systematically, English composition may be made the basis of a logical cultivation of the thinking powers and the means of stimulating the powers of observation.

Nearly every engineering student entering the Institute, comes with strongly conceived prejudices against the study of English. The works prescribed as requirements for college preparation are in general by no means the best or most noble of the classics, and "literature," which he has taken like medicine in prescribed doses, appears to such a student dry, silly, or incomprehensible. Neither can he see any special need of the art of composition in his intended line of work.

The teacher, in combating these prejudices, has a delicate task. He must give the student's undeveloped mind respect for its own productions, and try to show him a rational aim in writing, and an attitude of mind, easily attainable, which will lead to success. At the same time he must remove, as far as possible, the embarrassment of his own too critical presence.

The first result may be attained largely by requiring the student at the outset to select his own subjects, as success can only come with topics about which he cares and knows. The too embarrassing personal criticism of the teacher may be largely removed by substituting correction by fellow-students. The class at large is, however, in most cases not a fit audience, as it seems to demand too much from the inexperienced writer. Individual critics chosen from among the students give better results. This plan cannot be followed exclusively, however, as while one's fellow-students are severe critics, they are not usually sympathetic, and due credit would often not be given. Correction on the part of the teacher must, to accomplish its purpose, be in a spirit of liberality and sympathy with the student's viewpoint. Criticism should be based on the idea that the student has failed to get the desired result in that he has not brought his arguments home conclusively to his reader. This will do much to create in the student the feeling that English composition is, after all, a practical art, useful to a great extent in the business of dealing with men, for which he is being trained. At present a much needed feature in English training at scientific schools is practice in the compilation of actual engineering reports.

According to Dr. Dubois, in his article, the lecture system is, under existing conditions, undoubtedly the best one for the teaching of most sciences, provided

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### MR. LOUIS BRANDEIS SPEAKS AT UNION

#### Workingmen's Insurance Dis- cussed--Small But Inter- ested Crowd Present

Last night but a small crowd of men was present at the Union to enjoy the pleasing personality and interesting lecture of Mr. Louis Brandeis.

Gorton James 1910, introduced Mr. Brandeis as the man who defended the State of Oregon before the Supreme Court of the United States when the validity of the Oregon female labor law was being tested. Mr. Brandeis is well known as a lawyer and economist. He formerly lectured at the Institute, giving the course now conducted by Mr. Albers.

Mr. Brandeis chose for his subject a question which, because of the broadness of its application may be ranked as the most important economic subject under discussion today. The insurance of the working man against the contingencies of life has become an absolute necessity in Europe, and is reaching the same stage in America. Mr. Brandeis first discussed the European and English methods of dealing with this difficult problem. The German system consists of a compulsory insurance-fund to which the employer, the employee, and the state contribute equally. From this fund old-age pensions, accident and sickness insurances are paid. The method has worked admirably, and has not only resulted in the alleviation of much suffering, due to unpreventable contingencies, but has actually resulted in a reduction of the number of accidents which incapacitate the laborer.

The English system of old-age pension places the responsibility of providing for the veterans of industry upon all the tax-payers. The government has undertaken to pay to each man, over seventy years old, and without an income of at least \$50 per year, a weekly sum of \$1.25. The burden thus placed upon the government is already perfectly enormous, and may be considered as unlimited if the same system is properly developed along other lines of insurance. Meeting this enormous burden is the hardest question which parliament has to solve.

Turning from Europe to America, Mr. Brandeis pointed out that this all-important question had received no consideration here until very recently. The subject has, of course, not been as pressing in the United States, because our population is younger on the average than that of the European countries. But it is high time that we were considering this matter if we wish to avoid the terrible conditions of pauperism which have forced the matter to an issue in England.

The American laborer is no more able to provide against early accident or death than is his European brother; nor can he provide against old age and superannuation. It was pointed out that the city of Boston is annually paying the sum of \$200,000 to men who have grown old in the service and are now unable to attend to their duties properly. If these men were retired it would mean for them misery and poverty. Evidently they cannot be turned out, and there is no provision for their retirement.

Neither the vigorous compulsory German system, nor the burdensome English one is applicable to American conditions. The problem with us is being solved in a number of ways. Probably one of the best of these methods is

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### INTERCOLLEGIATE CROSS- COUNTRY THIS MORNING

#### Cornell Favorite For First Place But Other Teams Are Confident

All the cross-country teams arrived in town last night ready for their great race, and each team was confident of winning, though some said their men were not in the best of condition.

The ten colleges entered in the meet are Technology, Harvard, Yale, Pennsylvania, Cornell, Syracuse, Princeton, Dartmouth, Columbia and Michigan. Of these entries, Cornell enters the field with the best chance of winning. Technology, Yale, Pennsylvania and Syracuse have even chances for second place.

Harvard has shown up so poorly throughout the year's work that their team could hardly be a factor in the race.

Princeton and Dartmouth have teams entered, but in the case of Princeton, the team is without practice, and in the case of Dartmouth, the team is without experience.

Coach Kanaly has put a great amount of work into the cross-country training, and with such new and inexperienced material as he had, the team is doing remarkable work.

Full account of the race in Monday's Tech.

### GYM. TEAM MEETS

#### W. D. Allen 1911 Chosen Capt. R. M. Jacoby 1910 Mgr.

At its first meeting this afternoon the Gym team elected officers and made plans for the coming year.

W. D. Allen 1911, was chosen captain, in the failure of the return of R. C. Jacobs 1910, elected last spring. R. M. Jacoby 1910 was elected manager.

The first meet, which comes in the middle of December, will be in the form of an exhibition. A meet with Columbia in February is planned and also one later with Amherst. Since Columbia was the Intercollegiate champion last year, the meet in February is sure to be of especial interest.

Anyone capable is eligible for the exhibition meet coming before Christmas. Training has begun and several good men are out, among them: B. Darrow 1910, G. Haque 1910, W. Schofield 1910, R. N. Doble 1912, A. G. Herrschoff 1912, H. S. Gott 1910, W. D. Allen 1911, H. O. Maxwell 1912 and S. H. Seelye 1912.

On the horizontal bar and on the parallel bars the men are showing up excellently. However, men are needed who are experienced with the horse and also those who can tumble. It is realized that there is no incentive to giving the time beside the love of the work. The team hopes that the Athletic Association will recognize the existence of the Gym team and, as is the case in other colleges, assume jurisdiction and grant such insignia as a TGT to the winner of first place in any intercollegiate match.

#### CALENDAR.

Saturday, November 20.

10:30 A. M.—Cross Country.

6:00 P. M.—Show Kommers.

Sunday, November 21.

6:45 P. M.—Y. M. C. A. at Union.