DEAN BURTON IN FAVOR OF HONORARY SOCIETY

Establishment of Sigma Xi Unsuccessfully Attempted Three Years Ago

Three years ago an agitation of a few students and some of the faculty very nearly resulted in a chapter of Sigma Xi being established at the Institute. However, the matter was dropped largely on the lack of interest of the upper classes. Nevertheless, some of the men express their desire for the establishment of such a society. Their interest is the result of an insufficient knowledge of what Sigma Xi really stands for, and what it actually promotes. If our upper classmen had been more thoroughly informed of the advantages to be obtained by having a chapter here, they would have shown more interest; and that this interest will be converted into an intense desire by men who associate with graduates of other colleges and are more clearly aware of the advantages that such a society would promote. This is the situation in the case of every college except the Institute, and in particular Dean Burton in his last semi-annual report to the President expressed the desire of all the classes to have a chapter at any institution.

However, the matter has since been brought before the president and the council; and by granting the privileges and immunities that such a society will promote this. The advantages of such a society are summed up in the conviction of men who must in the future devote their time and energy to scholarly attainments, and their effect is very encouraging to the earnest student.

Many classical college and many of the scientific universities (including our beloved alma mater, as well as others) have such societies. The vast majority of these organizations are specifically scientific. The Sigma Xi is the only one that has a general characteristic and the only one that has the largest number of members, and the only one that has been established at the Institute.

This society was founded in 1876, and its purpose was to promote the advancement of science by meeting for the discussion of scientific matters as may be deemed desirable by a majority of the members.

The following, and no others, are eligible to active membership in this order:

1. Any professor or instructor of this institution who has shown noteworthy ability in scholarship in such subjects as have, during their college course, been of special promise of future advancement in science.

2. Any resident graduate who has shown noteworthy ability in scholarship in the subjects taught in the laboratories of this Institute.

3. Any undergraduate in the fourth year who has shown noteworthy ability in scholarship in the subjects taught in the laboratories of this Institute.

The following, and no others, are eligible to honorary membership in this order:

1. Any professor or instructor of this institution who has shown noteworthy ability in scholarship in such subjects as have, during their college course, been of special promise of future advancement in science.

2. Any professor or instructor of this institution who has been carried on in the laboratories of the Institute by Mr. M. T. Jones, Jr., an assistant in the research laboratory, under the direction of Prof. Walker.

The program for the entire meeting will be opened on Dec. 22, but the following events have been announced:

On Monday, Address of welcome in Huntington Hall. Announcement of the organization of the several sections. Addresses to the separate societies by vice-presidents. The following Monday at 1:30 P.M., the President of this institution, Dr. David Stover, president, of Lehigh University, and the other presidents of the several sections will address their respective vice-presidents.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Invitations to the several sections to visit at their respective places of abode.

The great event of the week is the annual meeting of the Society, to be held on Dec. 22. At this meeting, the officers of the several sections will report on the progress of their work, and the results of the election of new members. The officers of the society will also address the general meeting, and the results of the election of new members will be announced.

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