THE TECH

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L. Rosenstein 1910 .....Assoc. Editor

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Some twenty or more men have resigned positions during the present school year on account of the provisions of the Point System. The fact that so many men have resigned positions, not a few of which are coveted by the members of the student body, is significant. The fact that in hardly any case was there unnecessary delay or attempted evasion shows conclusively that the measure which has not yet had its second birthday has met with approval, despite the difficulties that are encountered in making the ratings. The action of the two men who knowingly and willingly violated the system is only made the more reprehensible; many of their closest colleagues had immediately given way to what they saw to be the best interests of the student body.

The Management of the Musical Clubs is not without its share of the blame, although the men themselves were aware that they were over points. The Clubs neglected to notify the proper committee that the men were singing; hence action was delayed until the matter became generally known throughout school.

The Class of 1912 will soon choose its Electoral Committee. This body is rated at five points, and exceptions are never made to the point system.

Dr. White has pointed out that although a students' infirmary is out of the question at present, such an addition will be very desirable when the Institutes moves to its new site. He characterizes a students' hospital as "an admirable object for endowment." An infirmary would without doubt work a great benefit to the whole student body and for this reason it would be well for the men of the Institute to consider whether they themselves cannot establish a hospital successfully. Although it is too early now to take any definite steps in this direction, it will be none too early when once the new site has been selected.

The amendment to the point system suggested in the communication from Mr. Cushman would hardly be feasible in practice. Societies would be in a state of upheaval after examinations, the Point System Committee would be worked to death finding out the latest records of each men in the Institute and, in fact, a great deal of labor would be entailed in order to allow a few men, most of whom would not take advantage of the opportunity, to take part in more student activities. The committee moreover has carefully studied the conditions here at the Institute and has formed a system which should be given a thorought trial.

An accompanying communication has caused The Tech to look deeper into the activities of the Civil Engineering Society. As a result, it became evident that although fully as much has been done as in previous years, there is among juniors and sophomores a feeling that the society offers entertainment rather for fourth year men and particularly those of the railroad option. The second term program will allay this discontent by bringing in these other sides. Moreover, more co-operation on both sides would certainly be better for all concerned—the society, its members, and the sleepy Tech. Both the calendar committee of the Institute Committee and The Tech, even with combined efforts, have found it practically impossible to get timely notification of events of almost every society. If these are sent in to The Tech and everyone is able to realize through articles in these colums that things are really being done that are very satisfactory, those who have been continually complaining about the mediocre program, The Tech included, will be very willing to give due credit.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of The Tech:—

Apropos of your editorial of the 14th, insts., regarding the dormancy of the pofessional societies, in which you state that "the program of the Civil Engineering Society has been far from satisfactory," it would seem to me that it is The Tech staff that has been sleeping and not our society. Up to the present time, we have had five meetings this year, including two dinners at the Union and an inspection trip of Grade Crossing Abolition Work. The minutes show that this is a larger number than in any previous year, and also is as mnny s your so-called "live societies" have held.

Our program committee is at present making arrangements for trips to see the signal system of the B. & M. R. R., the work on the new Cambridge subway, and numerous other points of engineering interest. Also they have already arranged for several lectures by prominent engineers; but it was deemed unwise to hold these during mid-year exams. or vacation.

It appears that this editorial was published merely to fill up space; but The Tech should endeavor to keep itself informed before it assumes the role of a critic of our society. Perhaps the error is due to the fact that your paper failed to publish the paid advertisements of our meetings, and your editors incorrectly assumed that they did not take place.

Will The Tech kindly correct its misstatements?

Very respectfully yours,
ISAAC HAUSMAN, '11,
Sec'y C. E. Society.

To the Editors of The Tech:—

Why not let men carry more than ten points provided their report shows all C's and P's, and restrict the low mark men to ten points.

LESTER D. CUSHMAN, 1911.

"I realize that most of the Institute's difficulties are due to its success and not to its failure, and I believe that a splendid future is assured to ..., if, at this critical stage of its history, it does not falter through lack of courage."—President's Report.

"The organizations in connection with the different courses of instructions encourage an interest in professional work, but it seems desirable that there should be some general society of upper-classmen, which has for its basis excellence in scholarship."—Report of the Dean.

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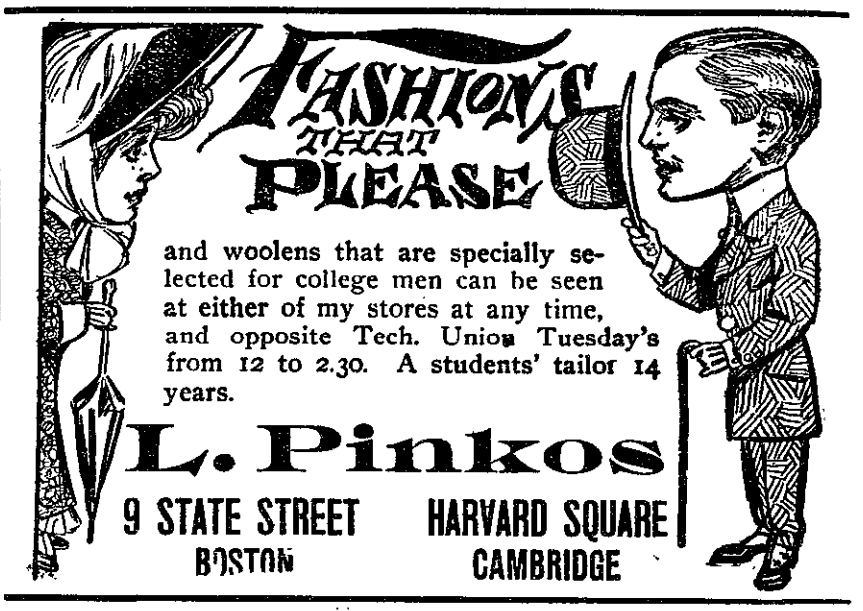

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