

THE TECH

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WHY AN INSTITUTE COMMITTEE

"This organization hereby gives authority to the Institute Committee to enforce any measure which the latter may deem advisable."

Is this clause too broad?

The heads of all the activities at the Institute have received a letter from the Institute Committee asking the activities to pass on the above amendment to their respective constitutions. If that organization happens to be a class, the following clause is also put forward for adoption. "Every activity elected or appointed by the class of 19—shall comply with all the rulings of the Institute Committee."

Numerous suggestions have been brought forward by the various organizations with an idea of limiting this clause. Inasmuch as entirely different groups are asked to pass on these clauses, and inasmuch as each will have its particular idea of how it should be arranged the result will be to get no two similar actions by anyone, and the Institute Committee will be as much up against it as it has been up to date in all of its efforts to do good for the student body.

WHAT IT REALLY MEANS.

The essence of the request of the Committee for the passage of these two measures is a request for its very existence. The question is, are the most representative members of the various interests to be given the right to represent their interests in the matters that are for the advancement of those interests and of the whole Institute? It is hard to conceive of a Committee organized as this one is running away with its responsibilities.

There may be some question of the need of any committee to have such broad interests. It can be easily shown that there is much to be done by naming, as has been done in these columns before, a few of the objects that might be achieved by an Institute Committee with real powers.

A Point System that is a Point System in fact as well as theory.

A proper adjustment of the time claimed by activities and by studies.

A Reorganized Co-operative Society that would compare favorably with similar societies at other institutions.

More uniformity in the actual requirements of the various courses.

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Investigations in various courses in which many students fail, to determine whether the instruction is adequate preparation for the examinations given.

A certainty of fairness in the competitions for the various student activities.

The arrangement of programs of events in such a manner that unnecessary conflicts will be avoided.

An investigation of the present school year calendar.

The betterment of the relations between faculty and students so that they can more nearly approach each other in level, inside and outside of the class room.

REPRESENTATION.

There is only one group of interests at the Institute that is not properly represented, and these are the activities which have no representatives on the Committee. They should be provided for. The following suggestion is made for a ruling by the Institute Committee:

"Every activity with or without direct representation on the Institute Committee shall have the right to ask for a reconsideration of a measure affecting them at a meeting of the Institute Committee at which they shall have representative who shall present their side of the case."

This would take care of those who had no authorized representation or who were not properly represented at a meeting. Those organizations who are already represented on the Committee should not bother with this latter suggestion, but those without representation should accept the provisions of the Committee only on condition that the Institute Committee make a definite ruling to the effect of the above.

ACTIVITY.

The Institute Committee has been accused of inactivity from time immemorial; but the real cause is the fact that they have had no authority. It is hard to conceive of this Committee so elected running away with its power, because, whatever may be laid down, it rules by the consent of the governed. If it did not, the members know that as other legislators, they would find others occupying their positions. Give them the power; leave it to them how to use it; and the ends will justify the means.

1912-1913, you believe in supporting your classmates in every event where class supremacy is to be decided, don't you? If you don't take part, you want to cheer and encourage your class to victory.

Saturday at 2.30 comes the first underclass track meet. Both classes will have representatives in all the events and a lively interest prevails among the men who are to take active part in the meet.

At the other underclass contests there has been a lack of attendance on the part of representatives of the lower classes in the ranks of the spectators. Get out, Freshmen and Sophs, and give your classmates hearty support.

Pittsburg, Feb. 24—Andrew Carnegie has offered \$25,000 for the first of the pupils of the Carnegie School of Technology in this city who will produce a heavier-than-air machine that will fly and will be of some commercial value.

It has been known for some time that the former steel king was taking a great interest in aerial navigation.

The details of the offer will not be made public until the next visit of Mr. Carnegie.

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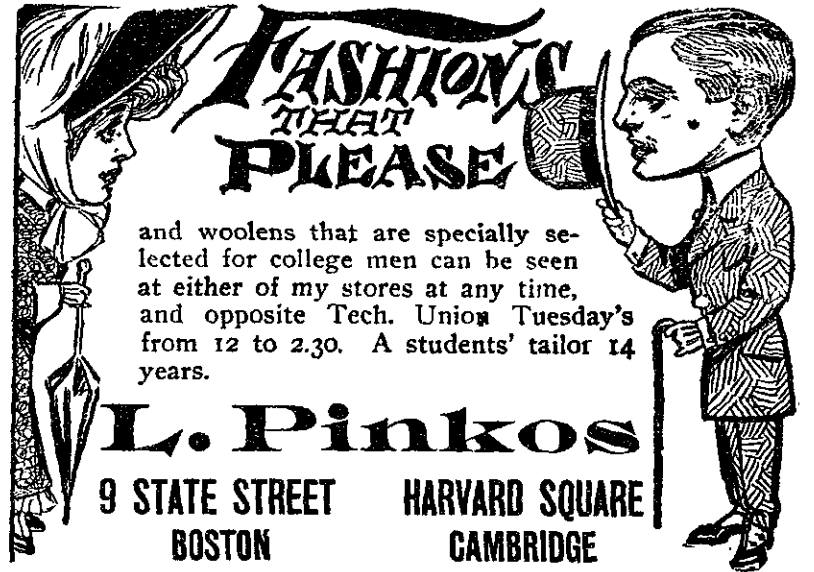
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