THE TECH

Published daily, except Sunday, during the college year by students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Entered as second-class matter, Sept. 29, 1909, at the post office at Boston, Mass., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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Office 42 Trinity Place.
Telephone, Back Bay 2184.

All communications should be addressed to the proper departments.

Subscriptions $1.50 per year in advance. Single copies 1 cent.

Subscriptions within the Boston Postal District and outside of the United States must be accompanied by postage at the rate of one cent a copy.

Printed by Puritan Linotype, Boston, Mass.

BOSTON, MASS., MARCH 17, 1910.

Are the relations between faculty and students just right? Have the two bodies interests in common when it comes down to the last analysis? Do they appreciate each other's standpoint?

To a greater and greater extent the two have been drifting along until now it is almost unreservedly true that the two only come together at classes. While it is true that this is the most important place for such relations, and while it is also true that we come here largely with the intention of getting the ability to comprehend the various forms of engineering or science, we also come for another purpose—to be molded into real men.

The class-room cannot alone accomplish this aim. Our teachers must be our leaders in the progress of society as a living problem, as well as our leaders in the interpretation of work of past and present engineers.

There is no way in which to go at this problem; it must come as the integration of the effects of many different methods. All of these have been tried in a haphazard fashion, but with no regular sequence or definite idea of development.

Many instructors have attempted this duty of suggestive inspiration by giving impromptu "sermons" whenever the spirit happened to move them sufficiently in the class-room. This method is good enough for a starter, but it is finished, over, and forgotten before it has really gotten under way.

It does but very little good for a speaker to get up and exhort to greater efforts a crowd of twenty-five or fifty whom he is but very slightly acquainted with. The result can only be accomplished by small groups of students gathered around one member of the faculty or instructing staff. This can be done at smokers and club rooms, but best of all, at gatherings in the homes of the instructors.

Now-a-days, the fellow who goes to a professors house does so with great dread, first because he does not feel in his proper plac, and second, because he has some sort of a hazy notion that he is doing someting that will be not well taken by those of his fellow students who may think he is gaining some unwarranted advantage.

A regular plan must be adopted to meet this situation. The ice should be broken by having a smoker, with possibly no speakers, as a regular Friday Evening Entertainment for students and instructors. The Institute Committee has taken up the suggestion on this matter and has already appointed a committee to look into the matter and see whether it is feasible or not. The idea of this affair should be to make it as informal as possible and to see that the instructors get together with a bunch of students whom they may be more or less acquainted with, and then to let both find that there is something they have in common outside of the mere class-room interests.

Still, this step should never be taken with an idea that it is an end in itself: it is merely a means of leting the faculty know that there is a real hankering on the part of the students to learn their personality. That is where the great difference comes between correspondence schools and Tech.

The next step is plainly up to the faculty. They must take it upon themselves to show the students that they are really wanted by not giving nice, indefinite invitations, but specific ones. These small groups should get together not once in the school year, but frequently. The first time just clears the ground, those following bring out both sides.

This small group idea is far from being a new one, but it is also far from being an idea that has been given the proper development. Those who have and are attempting to bridge the gap by this method may rest assured that their efforts are far from futile, but it must be a general custom to be really effective in developing men able to advance humant interests after they leave the Institute.

COMMUNICATION

Editors 'The Tech,"

Gentlemen:—In the issue of March 14th it was announced that there would be no more weekly dinners of T. C. A. It should have been stated that on account of T. C. A.'s observation of Holy Week there would be no dinners until March 30. Beginning with March 30 these dinners will be held as usual every Wednesday until further notice.

J. V. MASON, Graduate Sec'y.

GENERAL NEWS

TELEGRAPH NEWS OF THE MORNING.

WEATHER REPORT.

Forecast for Boston and vicinity—Fair and slightly warmer; light westerly winds.

Boston, March 17.—The Boston Society of Civil Engineers opened their sixty-second annual meeting at noon yesterday in the Boston City Club. The business session was attended by one hundred and fifty. The annual dinner was held at 2.30 o'clock.

Newport, R. I., Mrch 17.—Prof. Morris Hicky Morgan, long time professor of classical philology at Harvard University, died yesterday in Newport, R. I. He was recovering from an attack of pneumonia, and suffered a sudden ttack of heart failure.

Boston, March 17.—That the annual spring influx of returning tourists and immigrants is about to start is shown by the number of passengers now on their way from foreign ports to Boston, for on five trans-Atlantic liners from widely different ports and all destined to Boston, which will arrive here between March 17 and 24, are 3373 passengers.

Providence, March 17.—In the senate yesterday Rhode Island sent the woman suffrage bill into oblivion by a vote of 33 to 3. The bill provided the right of women to vote for President and Vice-President only.

Cincinnati, March 17.—Only by advancing wages can the coal mine opertors of the country avert a strike of union miners April 1st, according to developments before the special convention of the United Mine Workers of America here, yesterday. The session was brief, but the leaders of the men intimated plainly that more money must be paid to the 300,000 workmen involved or no new wage agreement will be signed.

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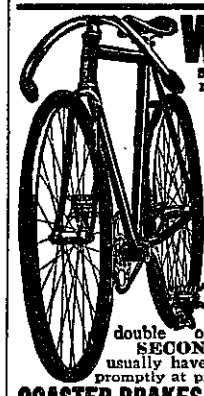

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