THE TECH

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R. H. Ranger 1911 .....Gen. Mgr.

News Board.

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BOSTON, MASS., MARCH 29, 1910.

The Tech takes pleasure in announcing the election of R. S. Rankin 1913 to the grade of Associate Editor, and S. E. Bates 1911, J. V. MacDonough 1912, and R. E. Wilson 1912, to the news staff.

At nearly all the large institutions in this country the best men in scientific work, graduates and upper classmen, are organized in some form of honor society. The aim of such a society is to encourage the best kind of scientific work namely, research; but membership in such a society is more than a reward for excellence in scholarship, it is a means whereby the ideals of the men are raised, and, through which the line of demarcation between technical school and trade-school becomes more distinct. It is a means whereby men of the same mental ability may meet each other in fraternal relations. The motto of Sigma Xi expresses the whole idea in the words "Fellows in Zealous Research."

The men of the Institute, and particularly the graduates who are engaged in purely scientific work, miss the association with men from other institutions because there is no chapter of some great national honor society. Membership in such a society and the associations which follow from it, cannot but aid a man in his work.

The objections to an Honor Society at the Institute nearly all fall under one of the following heads:

1. Overstudy on the part of some undergraduates would result.
2. A fair choice of members from the various courses would be impossible.
3. All other activities at the Institute would suffer.

On the whole, overstudy among undergraduates is rare; much more so than over-indulgence in trivialities; and anything which would lead to more of the right kind of interest in studies would of course benefit the Institute.

A fair choice of men worthy of the honor would not be so very difficult. Can a man attend his classes for a number of years and not reveal to classmates and instructors his attitude toward the work? It is this attitude, much more than the actual grades, which should determine a man's rank.

The aim of the Institute is to produce the best type of scientific men; and it is surely a matter of secondary importance whether a good Technique, Tech Show or Tech is produced. It is hardly likely that these activities will suffer; but if they really should suffer, and if an honor society would raise the scientific standards of the Institute, can any loyal Tech man hesitate in his choice?

The Elevated R. R. is going to make some changes at its Dudley St. Terminal, with a view to alleviating some of the disagreeable features which have occasioned so much complaint from patrons of the road. Plans have been drawn up by the road's engineers and will be submitted to the Transit Commission for approval. Additional platform accommodations and loading passengers from both sides of the car are the principal features.

GENERAL NEWS

TELEGRAPH NEWS OF THE MORNING.

WEATHER REPORT.

Washington, March 29, 1910.—Fair and warmer Tuesday, moderate to brisk southwest winds.

Boston, March 29.—U. S. Dist.-Atty. French has withdrawn his exceptions in the case of the United States against the Boston Elevated Railway Company and the Hugh Nawn Construction Company in the United States circuit court.

Mobile, Ala., March 28.—The local wireless telegraph office today received a despatch that Dr. Frederick A. Cook was not on board the freighter Abangarez, en route from Colon.

Baring, Mo., March 28.—Edward Payson Weston arrived here at 8 o'clock this morning. He is 10 days ahead of his schedule.

Chicago, March 28.—Football is once more in good standing at University of Chicago as the result of the changes made in the game at Saturday's meeting of the rules committee in New York. Owing to the new safety precautions Chicago is assured of its contests with Indiana, Purdue, Illinois, Minnesota, Northwestern, Cornell and Wisconsin.

New York, Mar. 29—Dr. Frederick A. Cook, who has been reported of late as "en route to New York" is, according to the latest rumor, at the home of his wife's sister, Mrs. Henry Harvey, at Pensuaken, Camden County, N. J.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Washington, March 29—As an expression of the appreciation of the Government of Panama for the good offices of the United States in obtaining an agreement between Costa Rica and Panama for the settlement of the boundary dispute between those countries, Dr. Belisario Porras of Panama tendered a luncheon to Secretary Knox and other officials of the State Department.

Washington, March 28—The Navy Department expects to score one of the greatest triumphs in wireless telegraphy when the scout cruisers Birmingham and Salem try to communicate over a distance of 3,000 miles with the new naval wireless station at Brank Rock, Mass.

Washington, March 29.—A caucus of the republicans of the house is to be called for next week to arrange the program of putting through that body the administration measures now pending in congress. This was agreed upon at the White House today.

FOREIGN.

Catania, March 29.—The eruption of Mt. Etna is subsiding. The lava is now flowing at the rate of only three yards an hour. Much snow fell late yesterday in the upper regions of the mountain.

London, March 29.—A telegram received today at the Colonial office from the governor of the Fiji Islands, says that a disastrous hurricane struck Suva, the capital, last Thursday, and that it is probable that the whole group suffered.

Cherbourg, March 29.—Marcel Dupin, said to be a dangerous anarchist, was arrested here when embarking on a steamship for New York.

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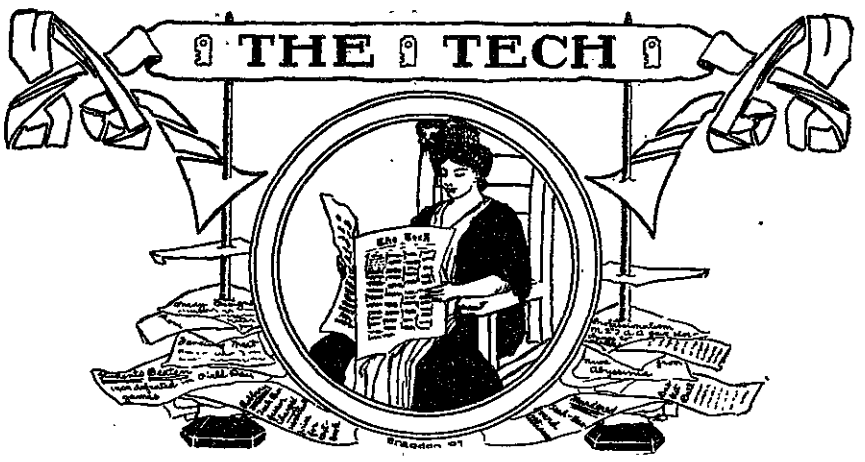

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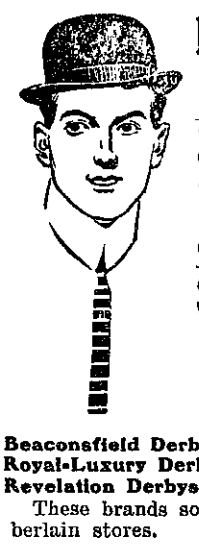

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