

The Tech

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Although communications may be published unsigned if so requested, the name of the writer must in every case be submitted to the editor. The Tech assumes no responsibility, however, for the facts as stated nor for the opinions expressed.

The Editor-in-Chief is always responsible for the opinions expressed in the editorial columns, and the Managing Editor for the matter which appears in the news columns.

Contributions for The Lounger and The Tack should be addressed specifically to them at the office of The Tech.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1916

"ALLER ANFANG IST SCHWER"

THE translation of a striking German proverb which drives home one of the most insistent truths of life is that "the first step is all the difficulty." When the New Technology was opened in September most of the laboratories were in a chaotic state; the dormitories were uncompleted; a student meeting place was imagined but not realized; most of the activities had neither house nor home. Truly it was a hard beginning for the bewildered students. The Indiana limestone presented cold walls which made the future engineers feel insignificant when they were enclosed by the same. There was no warm sentiment for the great empty spaces that greeted one at every turn. The place did not exhibit an open-arm attitude. It was too big.

But the debris has, in the main, been cleared away, and with it some of the spirit of hopelessness that was written on the face of many during the first few weeks. The first year men have felt the pulse of the Spirit of Technology—the upper classmen have found the big scale a tremendous advantage over the former cramped quarters of Rogers or Engineering A. The whole outlook from the student point of view has brightened as the new and unusual has gradually become the familiar and commonplace.

The difficult beginning is almost to be spoken of in the past tense. The laboratories are running practically on schedule; the dormitories have become tenanted with a populace that is enthused over the quarters; lounging rooms have been provided for meeting places and the Walker Memorial bids fair to be opened in the spring; the activities have become acclimated to their makeshift offices, and all work goes on apace.

We have settled down. The newness is wearing off and instead of the sentiment of aloofness, the feeling is now one of firm friendship with surroundings and work. The trials of becoming accustomed to new conditions are over.

LAST EVENING

"SMITH HALL" contains five hundred and twenty-two seats. Standing Room should have been at a premium at the gathering last evening held in honor of the founder of the Institute, William Barton Rogers, but vacant seats were to be observed. This apparent neglect is far from encouraging. Do those who love Technology have no time to give due honor and tribute to the memory of the man who is responsible for a great educational advance?

Twenty per cent of the registered number of students is hardly a fair representation to bear testimony of our homage to "the great man who laid down the creeds which hold to this minute." To be sure, what the audience lacked in numbers was made up in genuine enthusiasm. The profound interest evinced by the four hundred odd present in following the eulogies delivered by the speakers, is a forecast of the extent to which this yearly event will be carried in future years.

Over eight hundred gathered in the Union a year ago. Next year the number should be increased to at least a thousand, when the Walker Memorial will be an incentive for more students to remain at the Institute for the occasion.



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CALENDAR SYSTEM

Calendars Will Be Placed Outside Caf and in Room 1-190

The Walker Memorial Committee has again established the Calendar System, which was used successfully at the Institute formerly. The committee has arranged for Calendars to be placed in the corridor outside the Caf and in the Institute Committee Room, 1-190. Representatives of the societies can then consult the Calendars to find available dates and rooms for their meetings. Blanks for room reservations and a box for their deposit will be placed near at hand. The assignments of rooms will appear on the Calendar within twenty-four hours after the receipt of properly filled out blanks and applicants will be expected to consult the Calendar at this time.

To avoid any confusion which might result from this system the following rules have been drawn up:

"Requests for reservations must be handed in not less than two days before the date of the meeting.

"If a meeting is to consist of a dinner, or if refreshments are to be served, reservations should be made for at least one half an hour before the scheduled time of the meeting.

"As far as possible the committees for the arrangement of the various activities should try to choose dates on which no other event of importance is to occur.

"In case of conflict the committee will use judgment as to the assignment of rooms, or will endeavor to have one of the societies change its date.

"Each recognized activity or society in the Institute is requested to hand in at the cage at the Caf as soon as possible a list of the officers so that this list may be posted with the calendar."

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