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MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1916

**BACK TO CHILDHOOD**

ONCE again the insipid and childish practice of property maltreatment comes to notice and is serious enough for concerted preventative action on the part of the student body. The grooved chair-arms, the penciled walls, and the splintered desks of the former buildings gave vivid examples of the extent to which the irresponsibility was carried. And the degraded youth with the misguided artistic temperament who perpetrated the blue crayon work on one of the stairways in our new quarters is a forerunner of that type that those who take proper pride in their surroundings should obliterate at the outset. Further than that, if the built-in telephone booths are to be decorated with petty verses and hodge-podge scribbling, seemingly it would be possible for the Institute Committee to provide a writing tablet attached to the phone for the use of the forgetful ones.

At any rate, should the unmitigated nuisance of defacement continue, The Tech will be moved to publish a list of the names and initials found written or cut upon Institute property, and asks the co-operation of all who have brought to their notice examples of such damage.

**CONGRATULATORY**

THE success of the Winter Concert was a deserved tribute to the managers of the Combined Musical Clubs in charge of the affair. The advance to the bigger scale was well acclaimed by the supporters of this one of the Institute's major activities, as evidenced by the number of enthusiastic music and dance lovers who crowded the Somerset ball room on the night of the event. The efficient committee that animated the Concert is to be complimented.

**WIRELESS SOCIETY TO MEET**

Radio Inspector Gawler Will Speak to Members

The meeting of the Wireless Society, which was scheduled for last Thursday, was postponed to this Thursday, on account of the many activities that were held last week and to the inability at the last moment to procure a speaker. As it was announced before, Radio Inspector Gawler will give a talk on his personal experiences in Mexico with the American troops.

There have been many disappointing delays in getting an operating room, but the prospects now are favorable, and it will probably be in the new Service Building.

At the meeting plans for the installation of the apparatus will be discussed and men designing the panel, which is to be 18 inches x 24 inches, will be asked to submit their projects. All men who have plans for placing the antennae on the Power House stack, during the vacation are requested to

hand them to Secretary H. P. Geisler. For later details see the Wednesday issue of The Tech.

**COMMUNICATION**

Ten days ago I placed in the reserved section of the general reading room, three volumes of the "Sherlock Holmes" stories by A. Conan Doyle. These volumes were on a shelf marked with a notice stating that they were not to be taken from the room. They were, moreover, intended solely for the use of the second year English sections which are studying the short story.

Today I find that two of these volumes are missing, and that there is no record at the delivery desk to show where they have gone.

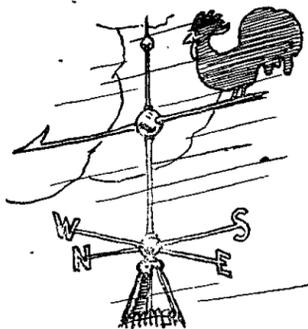
There can hardly be any question of mistake in regard to these books, for they do not belong to the Institute but are my personal property and contain my book plate.

As the second year English classes need these volumes, I will ask the gentleman who took them to be kind enough to return them at once.

WINWARD PRESCOTT.  
 December 16.



With the late advent of a real assignment of "weather" and the conversion of the Institute environs into the pathless wastes they were before our invasion, The Lounger turns a conspectuary eye toward the fast-misting window and indulges in a sigh of pity for those whom Fate and inevitable winter find in the new Dormitories. Those classic words, "so near and yet so far," have known no more tragic interpretation than that given by the hard-bitten inhabitants to their adjacency of exile. Each morning, The Lounger is told, the way of the Dorm-dweller lies along a clay washout strewn with shellpits:



but at night comes the true horror, when the treacherous footing, rendered yet more deadly by the indirect lighting system and by the specious covering of snow, lure the hapless swimmer to a muddy grave. Throughout the long night the hollow thud of signal on the wall is heard, as the inhabitants, despairing of ever communicating with anybody by means of the impervious telephones, take the method of the Abbe Faria to converse at least with their next-door neighbors. The provision chiefly characteristic of these abodes—the locking apart and with different master keys of the various sections so that evening visiting is reduced to a blockade-running minimum—The Lounger can only ascribe to a solocitous desire to keep separate the luxuriant forms of music which Institute life fosters into bloom. At any rate the precaution delays if not prevents a concert between flute, clarinet, bagpipes, harmonica and phonograph; the thought of which combination of wind instruments with wound ones, makes The Lounger stir uneasily in his deepest dreams.

**TRAIL CONFERENCE AT BOSTON**

The Institute was well represented at the Trail Conference in Boston last Friday, Dr. Tyler taking the initiative during the business meeting, and Mr. John Ritchie, Jr., being one of the speakers. The Trail Conference was made up of representatives from six states and about twenty tramping organizations, the object of the meeting being to bring the organizations into closer co-operation and in this way to make a beginning towards standardizing trail work.



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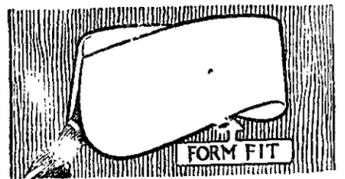
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