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SENIORS HOLD BIG BANQUET

(Continued from page 2)

good thing to try to pass along, so for-
tunately we are not going to have to
do it this evening. As you know, when
President Rogers founded the Institute
of Technology he began an educational
ideal which was entirely new, that of
combining theory and practice; of com-
bining training in science with train-
ing in high ideals. Science injected
with high ideals brings good citizen-
ship.

"We have had ample opportunity. I
am sure, in working to get the ideal
of science. That is what we are here
for. In the four years we have been
here we have been unconsciously ab-
sorbing the ideals that go with these
at the Institute, but at few other
technical schools. The reason that I am
glad that we haven't got to pass along
any second hand information is that we
can get those ideals concretely pre-
sented by President Maclaurin, who
has consented to tell us about them.
President Maclaurin." (Great applause.)

PRESIDENT MACLAURIN TALKS

"Mr. President and Gentlemen: There
has been more than one reference tonight
made to the advantages of presence of
mind, and I want to say that it re-
quires unusual presence of mind for me
to address such an audience as this,
but I was schooled in the doctrine that
a man ought to be equal to every oc-
casion.

"Now my tutor, or rather the Dean
of my college, when I was an under-
graduate, went by the name of Pres-
ence-of-Mind Smith. He was a member
of the Church, was held in high repute,
yet in the community he was only
known by that name, and the reason
for the name is found in this story.

"It appears that he and a man
named Jones went out together on the
Thames. Somehow or other the boat
was upset, and Jones was drowned. In
discussing the accident Smith said that
Jones fell out, and grabbed hold of the
boat, and he was drowned, and added,
'And I would have been drowned too
if I hadn't had the presence of mind
to knock him over the head with the
boat oar.' That was the hard school
in which I was brought up (Laughter),
and so I am ready to face such an
audience now.

"My secretary has been worried
about this dinner for several days, be-
cause she says, 'There has been a long
stream of anxious and apparently sin-
cere young men coming in to inquire
what you are going to talk about, and
apparently you don't know.' I confessed
that I hadn't the slightest idea what
I was going to talk about until I came
here. After all that has been said, and
so admirably, there is really nothing
for me to do but to make a few com-
ments on what others have expressed.

"Mr. Ford, I think it was, said, and
Mr. Munroe backed him up in the sug-
gestion that it was the correct thing
on this occasion, to tell men that they
were the greatest class ever. Now the
only peculiarity about my position is
that I can truthfully say that you are
the best looking, have the finest abili-
ties, and are the most promising Sen-
ior class that ever I have met at their
Senior Banquet. (Applause.) And I have
never been before at a Senior Banquet.
(Laughter and uproarious applause.)

"You are in at the beginning of what
is sometimes called the 'New Technol-
ogy,' which is, indeed, a distinction
that you can never shake off. It has
its drawbacks, however. Fifty years
from now when you're coming back to
what will then be called the 'Old Tech-
nology,' the younger men will point to
you with respect and reverence, as an-
tiquarian specimens, and you will per-
haps find it difficult to restrain the dig-
nity of demeanor that will be proper
for the occasion. It will be a serious
drawback, but that will be the only
way in which it will be serious. It
will be a stimulating thought to all of
you that you have been in at the be-
ginning of this new development of a
very old institution, and have taken a
share, and a not unimportant share,
in shaping the destinies of this 'New
Technology.' But you may not be
looking ahead so far as the 50 years
vista that I refer to. Maybe, as Mr.
Munroe has wisely suggested, you
should be thinking of the great oppor-
tunities that are going to be presented
to you less than a year from now
when he and I have signed your di-
plomas.

Present Opportunities Unique

"As he has said, the opportunities
are going to unquestionably be unique.
No serious person can fail to recognize
that there never was a time in the
history of the world when men trained,
as you have been trained, will have
just such opportunities. If you fail
the fault will not be in your stars,
but in yourselves, and because of that
we don't think you will fail in your
work.

"Mr. Munroe gave us a very inter-
esting story about the man in Maine.
The only point in which I should not
concur at first was his apparent de-
scription of a 'Tech' man as being
'manure.' At first the thought seemed
to be a little repellant, but on think-
ing it over I thought possibly it wasn't
after all. We are used to looking
things squarely in the face; not being
afraid of names that may mislead.
'Tech' men have got to learn, as Mr.
Munroe said, that the great thing in
the world is to be useful, far more im-
portant, far more stimulating to the
individual; far more satisfying to be
useful than to be ornamental. And I
presume 'manure' is a useful agent, a
fertilizing agent, in bringing about new
developments, so we hope, in the high-
est sense, that the 'Tech' men will be
the 'manure' of the future, really stimu-
lating to a great new development.

"Then, as Mr. Ford told you, you
are not looking quite so far ahead as
that, but until the time to which I
have referred, there will still be a
good many days and weeks and months
before you will get those coveted
sheepskins, and doubtless you are
thinking of what is going to happen in
those intervening weeks. There are
some unpleasant things, some neces-
sary evils to be coped with. In the
interim the Faculty has, somehow or
other, got to be brought to a frame of
mind to 'see you as you see yourselves,'
but as they generally do so, don't
worry at this stage of the game. But
there are other things that you will be
thinking of in these few months, be-
sides merely satisfying the require-
ments, meeting the requirements of the
Faculty; and that is the influence that
you are going to exert on the 'Tech' of
today, and inferentially, on the 'Tech'
of the future. Others have said, and
I repeat it, that yours is, in this re-
spect, a quite unique opportunity.
There are new conditions that this so-
called 'New Tech' has to meet, and you
more than any others, have the oppor-
tunity of shaping those conditions
to great ends, and produce great re-
sults in the future. I needn't tell you,
because you are experienced enough to
know that the influence of the Senior
on the underclassmen is almost im-
measurable. And we all hope that the
fine influence that the class of 1917 has
radiated and exerted on the underclass-
men will be continued, to leaven, and
have a permanent and beneficial result
for all time.

"Now I cannot leave you without
just one more word, and it must not
be more than one or two at most, and
I want to say that the world, the seri-
ously minded section of the world, is
looking today, far more than ever, to
men, not necessarily 'Tech' men, but
men with similar training, to solve the
peculiar problems of the world. Mu-
has been happening for a great many
years to bring home the thought to
men, the fundamental fact, that what
we call science, progress and principles,
methods, are at the very basis, the
most, if not all, the basis of human
advancement. That is being recog-
nized far more vividly, far more com-
pletely, during the last year or two
through the stimulating influence of
this horrible war than ever before. It
is the scientifically minded man that is
going to be probably the most power-
ful factor in the shaping of human
destiny in the generations which are
to come. Serious minded men, all over
the country, are looking to men trained
in the way you are trained to revolu-
tionize society in so far as revolution
is desirable, and to modify, improve,
and make the human lot steadily bet-
ter.

"Mr. Smith" Is Watching

"Not the least important of the
many men who are watching with in-
terest what you young fellows are do-
ing, or are going to do, is a man who
doubtless will continue to be referred
to throughout your lives, and for ages
to come, as one of the greatest bene-
factors of 'Tech,' the mysterious
MR. SMITH. You all know who he is,

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L. C. Prior, Managing Director

so I need not refer to him by any other
name. I walked with Mr. Smith
through all the laboratories of 'Tech'
within the last few days, and nobody
recognized him. That is one of the
most interesting experiences of my
time at Technology.

"I had a letter from Mr. Smith yester-
day from which I thought I might
quote a single sentence, merely as evi-
dence of what the thoughts of a man
such as he are about 'Tech.' It ex-
presses the idea that I have endeav-
ored to express at greater length than
in a single sentence, meaning much
from a man who has shown that he
has thought about 'Technology' in the
most practical way. This is what he
says in a letter to me with reference
to his gift:

"I naturally feel great satisfaction
in being instrumental in helping you
and your College at 'Technology' to
carry out the far-reaching plans for
the development of the plans for the
institution you have laid down. I feel
thus because I recognize very strongly,
or because I have a conviction very
strongly, that the progress of this
country is to be affected greatly by the
men who are turned out by the Massa-
chusetts Institute of Technology."
"Members of the Class of 1917, we
of the Faculty and the Corporation
hope and believe that you will not dis-
appoint the expectations of Mr.
Smith." (Applause.)

Faculty Remembrances

Following President Maclaurin's ad-
dress, President DeBell announced that
in consideration of the Christmas season
the Dinner Committee had decided that
it was impossible to present each mem-
ber of the class with a gift, but that
naturally they had decided to extend
this courtesy to the guests of the even-
ing.

Amidst rounds of applause, he pro-
ffered Professor Pearson a sure means of
obtaining reports—a pop-gun. In the
absence of Professor Spofford, Professor
Breed, representing Courses I and
XI, was tendered a book guaranteed to
be "both civil and sanitary." Follow-
ing his usual custom, Professor Breed
told of an attempted use of a book
"with gilt edges" written by Professor
Allen. A "token of steam" was handed
Professor Miller, who promised to add
the miniature engine "to the equip-
ment." Course III was presented with
"the pick of the class" and Professor
Hofman promised to diligently search
the package of toothpicks for THE
PICK of the Class.

Being unable to attend, Professor
Lawrence and the Architectural Depart-
ment were represented by Professor Ev-
erett, who gladly accepted the "frieze
machine" which the Committee had pro-
cured with difficulty. Bursar Ford drew
a manikin intended to represent a mi-
niture "Caf." For Course V Professor
Talbot obtained an "economic pink" of
the paper variety. He replied with a
story about himself and how one man
recognized him by this identification.
The story was as roundly applauded as
when he told it four years before at
1917's freshman banquet.

In the midst of the confusion Profes-
sor Jackson had retired and was unable
to receive "something shocking" for the
Electricals. It was also found neces-
sary to hold the Course VII gift for later
presentation. Professor Cross ex-
pected to send Professor Derr, but as
the department was unrepresented, Pres-

ident DeBell was compelled to twirl a
"replica of the little red bawl" about
his own finger. Being a Course X man
DeBell was "easy" on Doctor Walker
and gave him a new specimen from the
records of the Department, a chemical
(fire) engine.

Professor Lindgren for Geology re-
ceived a paddle, the "piece of oar" not
being at hand. Professor Peabody was
tendered a vessel of type "sailing on
seas charted by Peabody's Steam Ta-
bles."

Vote Memorial to "Blackie"

Professor Vogel received a "bottle of
P's" for the coming examinations. His
speech of acceptance gave a note of sor-
row to the evening by recalling the re-
cent loss "not only to the Modern Lan-
guage Department but Technology it-
self." The 250 men present rose togeth-
er for a full minute in silent respect
to the memory of Mr. Blackstein. Un-
animously 1917 decided to place a me-
morial to him in the New Technology.

As a memory of parameters Doctor
Tyler received from the class two
steins, each holding 500 cc of air, a
"pair-of-metric steins." He explained
his satisfaction at receiving the first
useful gift of the evening and asked if
there was "any particular reason why
Professor Pearson was not compelled to
make a speech." Aided by applause and
an impromptu cheering section Profes-
sor Pearson rose and explained that he
thought he was supposed to talk with
his present in the future.

Major Cole was aided in his traffic
campaign by a respectable red lantern.
He told one of his famous stories about
his undergraduate days at "the Point."
Due to the Christmas toy rush the pur-
chase of an aeroplane for the Aeronau-
tical Department was impossible and
Mr. Klein received a balloon to assist
in the attainment of his ambitions. He
said that he felt it would surely rise
higher than any designed by the de-
partment. Mr. Munroe was aided by a
copy of "Seven Keys to Baldpate."

President Maclaurin was presented
with a wallet and into the pail was
poured \$375 in gold, enough to cost Mr.
Smith \$625 on his "5 to 3" basis, and
making the Class of 1917 Fund of a
thousand dollars to the New Technol-
ogy. As proof of his intended use of the
pail President Maclaurin carried the
gold in it when he left the Lenox.