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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1917

UP TO THE CORPORATION

IN REGARD to the financing of the Undergraduate Association it is gratifying to learn that the alumni find favor with the plan of taxation proposed by the Ways and Means Committee, the nub of the criticism the graduates desire to offer being that more regard be given to dependability in the fixity of the disbursements and to therefore make the addition to the tuition fee at least seven dollars as against six dollars and twenty-five cents, which latter is the Ways and Means estimate.

One reason why the plan should be given support is that its adoption will mean that every registered student will have an equal right to share with his brethren in all the privileges the Institute will soon be in a position to offer. At this time only a weak minority attend the athletic meets; but few besides the fraternity men feel the impulse that makes for the payment of class dues and the casting of a truly representative vote at class elections.

The plan is one which will afford a smooth-running student organization. If accepted it will do away with many of the unsatisfactory details of student government. One point which is all-important is, of course, the maintenance of Walker Memorial. Whatever the method of supporting this social center, it should be so arranged that every student may enjoy all the privileges it will include.

The amount of the tax is small in comparison with value receivable: the method of assessment is simple and will reach every student. We are in hearty accord with the idea of such a levy which will make the disinterested student alive to his responsibilities.

ANOTHER COMING SPORT

TENNIS enthusiasts are to hold a meeting tonight to formulate plans to ask the Institute for land and tennis courts.

First of all pains should be taken to ascertain the actual number of men interested in tennis and how much such courts would be used if constructed. It is noticeable that the ice rink built for the hockey team has not been used to any great extent and it would be useless for the Institute to put in tennis courts if they were to be neglected in a similar manner.

Tennis courts would be a great addition to the campus and the responsibility rests with the men directly interested in tennis to make the courts a reality and a success.

COMMENT

Technology's Mobilization

The will to help the nation in its time of need has been evident everywhere among our colleges and universities, but the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is ready both with the will and the way. The moment President Wilson terminated relations with Germany, Dr. Maclaurin, the head of the Institute, offered to the Government the services of the entire instructing staff and of all the laboratories. This meant not an offer to mobilize, to commence to begin the preparedness of Technology. The instructing staff of the Institute is always mobilized. To an extent not equalled anywhere else in the world, its laboratories are equipped and coordinated, and every problem of war as it is conducted today comes at some point into the laboratory.

Yet Technology is something more than its faculty, or rather it has been made more by that faculty. There is the great body of alumni, its individuals highly trained in the several branches which the foresight of Technology realized would require development. Long ago it had established its course in naval architecture. Every man available to help build a greater United States navy has had his final schooling at the Institute. Twenty-five years ago the school began to prepare for the need of the trained engineer in health and sanitation, and Professor Sedgwick's graduates are today leaders in the work of conserving from disease more lives than are likely to be lost in battle.

And even this great army is in a sense mobilized. Technology began long ago to make a "census of the brains of the alumni." It has asked of every man who has once been a student in the Institute to state what are his capabilities and his condition, and what he can bet do for his country in time of need. All this information has been or necessity kept in confidence, but its value will therefore prove all the more forceful. Among the undergraduates, and by their own initiative, a similar census has been nearly completed among the men now students at Technology. The takers of this census have carefully considered not only what the student can do, but also what things are really available for him to do. Behind this special preparedness there is the military training which for more than fifty years has been required of every freshman under the instruction of a regular army officer. The summer engineering camps, conducted for a score of years, have given students practice in engineering on a commercial scale which should stand them in almost as good stead for military purposes. The instructors and upperclassmen have had, indeed, a special engineering corps, recognized by the Government and with an army officer for its teacher. This whole great system of training and coordination means that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is mobilized and ready, both for the industrial struggle which will follow peace, and for any call to national service in a graver emergency.

—Boston Transcript.

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