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All material for publication must be in the hands of the night editor by noon of the day previous to issue.

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

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 opinions expressed.

IN CHARGE THIS ISSUE

Charles B. Barton, Jr. '21 Edwin H. Koehler, Jr. '22

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1919

TECH SHOW COMPETITION

IN another column of this page is printed a communication received by the Editor during the course of the week attacking the lack of fairness displayed in the choice of men for the two parts but recently added to the cast of the Tech Show. Either the correspondent has written in total ignorance of the circumstances attending this choice, or in an unfortunate mood of prejudice against the entire system of competitive activities at Technology and against the Tech Show management in particular.

"Dixie" will not fail to appreciate his error when he reads that the two new parts were decided upon too late to be announced in the next issue of THE TECH. The management of Tech Show, the cast, the chorus did their best to spread the information that the try-outs were to be held the following afternoon for the two new parts. The Tech Show management assures us that the choice of the candidates for these parts was made in strict accordance with the purely competitive methods that were explained last term at the "Kommers' Smoker."

The Tech Show competitions are but one example of the spirit that has attended all such choice for positions in the activities at Technology. This competitive system is one that we may feel proud of because of the high standard it has maintained in our activities. This system is responsible for the fact that a great proportion of the undergraduate body is connected with some activity. Apparently many of us do not realize or properly evaluate the manifold opportunities that the Technology system offers. Let us promote confidence and good will in our student activities instead of invidious partiality and favoritism, without first investigating the facts.

WE wish to call the attention of the student body to the fact that all communications for publication in THE TECH must be signed by the real name of the writer. Neither the name nor initials will be published unless so desired.

On Wednesday, May 14, we published an editorial headed "Briefer Psychology." We wish to say that this editorial was not written by a member of THE TECH, but by Professor William James, author of "Principles of Psychology." We take this opportunity of apologizing to the author for not printing the article as a quotation from his book.

COMMUNICATIONS

To The Editor of THE TECH
Dear Sir:

Would you please oblige me by publishing the following communication at your earliest possible convenience.

Ever since I entered the Institute, in fact before I entered, I have known about Tech Show. It ranks among the

best in college theatricals, and justly so, for there is no denying that they always put across an extremely good show. They run everything on a competitive basis which is acknowledged the only fair way to doing things. Imagine my surprise therefore on reading in the last issue of THE TECH that two new parts had been added to this year Show, and without any try-outs—at least there has been

to my knowledge any announcements of any, either in THE TECH or on any of the Bulletin Boards—selected men for these parts. Is that doing things on a competitive basis? And yet next year at the Kommers Smoker some one will get up and announce that everyone has an equal chance to make TECH SHOW and that all the actors are selected only after try-outs which are open to the entire student body.

How any organization made up of educated gentlemen can be so narrow minded as to think that a man who comes from New York is the only man in the Institute, who can imitate a negro well enough to have a part in the Show, is more than I can see. Why not have a try-out and give some of the men who have been born and brought up in the South, and who must certainly know more about the ducky, his habits, superstitions, actions and speech, than a Yankee, a chance to make the Show? Do not think that I am trying to knock Mr. Philbrick, for I am not. He can imitate a negro better than most of the black face players on the stage, but if anyone thinks that the average vaudeville actor, is any good at impersonating a ducky, just let that deluded person take a trip through some of our Southern States this summer and go among the darkies in the fields, or in laboring gangs, and he will get a different idea.

Give everybody a chance is my motto, and my grievance. Don't think that I am down on TECH SHOW? on the contrary I am backing it to the best of my ability. I just want a hearing for some of my fellow Rebels. (Signed) Dixie.

To the Editor of THE TECH

Dear Sir: In the regular weekly military lecture to freshmen, delivered by Captain Brainard on Monday, May 12th, four to five p. m., several things were said, which seem to me to require attention.

The Captain announced that the lecture would be on "liaison." He then went on to say that those who recalled the dictionary definition of the word would expect an interesting lecture. This would, very naturally, strike the fancy of almost any group of nineteen year old boys. Throughout his lecture, Captain Brainard repeatedly made statements, some quite unconscious, but full of meaning to the students in the light of the opening sentence, some of them apparently with full appreciation of the interpretation which would be given them, made statements which I decline to put on paper. I wish it clearly understood, however, that these remarks would have no meaning except for the state of mind of the students, induced by previous remarks. The result of these allusions was so marked that it was impossible to preserve order during the first ten minutes of the lecture.

I have brought the matter to your attention, first because I think that, to say the least, such occurrences are below the dignity of a lecture at Technology, and, at worst, may be a disgrace to the Institute and a menace to undergraduate morality, and second because THE TECH is the only instrument fitted to deal with the question. No thing can be done except by undergraduates, and it seems to me that the students' organ should take the lead. (Signed) D. M. P.

Editor of THE TECH

Dear Sir: I feel sure that I am not alone in viewing with apprehension the change in the quality of the student body as a whole in the past two years. That there is a change for the worse is an opinion which is held by many upper-classmen, and undoubtedly by those of the faculty who endeavor to keep in personal touch with the students.

If this feeling is justified, it is a matter of grave concern to all who are interested in the Institute. I believe that much of the justly acquired prestige which has in the past been conferred on a student at the Institute because of the fact that he was a "Tech. man" was because those qualities which are admired in and sought after by all college men were to be found in generous quantity in Institute men. These desirable qualities which must be possessed by all successful college men are high ideals of conduct, a superfine sense of honor, modesty and courtesy. In short the college man must be a gentleman in every sense of the word. Technology has always been on a par with the leading universities of a non-technical character, as regards the calibre of its personnel. This high reputation for men of college quality is one which the Institute cannot afford to lose. It vitally concerns every one of us to help keep up this reputation.

Freedom from restraint is perhaps a desirable thing, but the growing tendency to exact nothing of a student except that he pass his studies and to impose no conditions of conduct which he, as a Tech man, must live up to is dangerous. The increase in number of students should cause us to maintain the old standards with even greater zeal. New men must be made to feel that first of all a Tech man must be a gentleman and a man of honor. This

is not the case at present. A new man may conduct himself any way he pleases, and there is no force of student opinion to deter him. It behooves us all to think the situation over carefully and determine for ourselves whether we want the term "Tech man" to signify a man who has the desirable qualities which all college trained men are expected to have, or whether it shall mean simply a student in an engineering school. Harold Bugbee '20.

PUNCHE PROFS

The Editor of THE TECH

Many of those who have the interests of Technology at heart have called our pained attention to the prevalence of certain abuses which seem to have come into being,—now that the War is over and we are once more the possessors of our own,—contemporaneously with our taking over of the Walker Memorial, the Dormitories and the other buildings. We have been asked to shudder at the disgrace of Tech Night, the Rah-Rah spirit of Charles River Road, the illegitimate flag rush, and, more serious than these, the changing attitude of undergraduates towards study and towards dishonesty in examinations. It has been pointed out in explanation of some of these charges that Technology now for the first time has an opportunity to be a "college" with all the activities that the word implies; that the Rah-Rah type is only the first crude attempt of a misguided few to translate themselves into the new environment, and that Technology must be patient with these innovators until they work out their destinies.

When we consider it impartially, the Rah-Rah spirit is only a juvenile and mal-formed manifestation of so-called College Spirit. There are even some who defend it as such. Everyone knows that the best way to serve one's Alma Mater is by deed,—in activities; that the next best way is by word,—spoken, yelled or sung. A college cheer is a public and fearless pledge of loyalty, admirable on Tech Field, but out of place in the Park Street Subway. Very few Tech men would be guilty of such a blunder as this latter, but unfortunately a number of Tech men blunder by being noisy and offensive in less excusable ways—in ways designed for self-advertisement more than to the honor of the Institute. Then does College Spirit lose all appearance of loyalty and becomes Rah-Rahism. Rowdiness. But it should not be forgotten that the offenders are playing with a new toy, passing through a formative period, and that therefore public opinion should be lenient.

But the charges that Technology men are apeing not only the outward appearance of students of other colleges but their attitude towards work is more serious. If "college-bred" here is to have the conventional meaning Technology is losing its most valuable asset. There is no finer tradition at Technology than that of hard work honestly done. It is the tradition which has given to the Institute whatever reputation it has. Let us not lose it. Let us rather add to it something which disorganized Technology in Boston never could have to the same extent, the close association of individuals which sets up standards of unselfishness, of loyalty and of honesty which no man can ignore, which all men must honor. Let us by every means in our power foster the professional spirit which makes each engineer morally responsible to himself and to the community; let us utilize the opportunities which our comparative isolation given us for building up the community spirit. If these opportunities be lost and with them the old doctrine of work; if the Cambridge Technology is to throw away the chances which its new position gives it and lose the tradition which it brought across the Charles; if dishonesty in examinations is to go hand in hand with Tech Nights, trousers and banners of flannel, and the cheap, alcoholic, musical-comedy type of "college life"; let us shut up shop and move farther back from the river. May 19 '19. W. A. Crosby.

BETA THETA PI HOLDS SMOKER

The fifth annual Beta Theta Pi smoker was held last Tuesday evening at their house on Bay State Road. The usual refreshments were served. Entertainment was furnished by dark-town musicians and about two hundred men were present.

VOO DOO OUT JUNIOR WEEK

The last issue of the VOO DOO this year will be given to the public during Junior Week. To satisfy the clamorings of the army of readers, it will contain caricatures of all the events of that momentous week.

Alumni Notes

WALTER HUMPHREYS '97, the registrar of the Institute, was elected secretary of the Boston English High School Association at a recent meeting of that organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Berresford Reynolds of Winchester announced at a tea at their home the engagement of their daughter, Dorothy to THEODORE FOSTER HOBSON '20 of Lowell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hobson, Bobson of the class of 1920 of Technology, is a graduate of the Harvard Ensign School.

Announcement was made last Wednesday of the engagement of Miss Sylvia Whiting, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis C. Whiting of 60 Burroughs street, Jamaica plain, to T. ROBERTSON WARD. Miss Whiting, who is a grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Morse, is a member of the 1918-19 Sewing Circle. She was presented last December at a large tea given by Mr. and Mrs. Morse at their home in Jamaica Plain. Ward, who graduated from Hotchkiss School in 1915, is now completing a course in architecture at the Institute.

ENSIGN F. M. FOWLER of Salem, Mass., was killed in the fall of a sea-plane into Pensacola Bay. Ensign Francis Malcolm Fowler was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Fowler, living at 16 Shore avenue. He was born in Newburyport, April 9, 1897, and came to this city when two years old. He was graduated from the Salem High school, and in 1914 enlisted in Battery D, 1st Massachusetts Field Artillery and served on the Mexican border. Returning home he was employed as draughtsman at the Burgess plant at Marblehead. When this country entered the war he became an instructor at the Institute. In October, 1917, he enlisted in the Naval Aviation Corps, but continued as instructor and student at Technology until April, 1918, when he graduated with the highest honors. He was assigned to construction work in Washington, D. C., and later transferred to Akron, O. Last January he was assigned to the Aviation training station at Pensacola.

WIRELESS SOCIETY MEETING

A half past seven tonight, the important and long-postponed meeting of the Radio Society will be held in the Walker Memorial. Mr. O. M. Andrews, who was to speak, has been suddenly called out of town, and so will be unable to attend the meeting. However, Professor W. S. Franklin has very kindly agreed to speak on the subject "Simple Hookups of the Audion Receiver." Also, Lieutenant Murray will give a short talk, demonstrating some of the apparatus belonging to the society.

It is announced that the radio station by the power house will be ready to begin operation this week, so at the meeting tonight men will be selected to take charge of the station various nights of the week. Moreover, it is rumored that through the military authorities in the R. O. T. C., permission will be granted to operate a sending station.

E. E.'s TO DINE AND WELCOME BACK PROFESSOR JACKSON

The dinner to be given by the Electrical Engineering Society to welcome Professor Jackson back from France will be held at Riverbank Court on Friday, June 6. Those desiring tickets must sign up on the list posted on the bulletin of room 10-203. This is the last meeting of the society this season and those in charge promise a good time to those who attend. A small fee is to be charged and the remainder is to be paid from the treasury of the club.

BROCKMANN WINS TITLE

Captain Brockmann of the tennis team won the New England Intercollegiate tennis championship by defeating his team-mate William Barron '20, in three sets. The score of the sets 6-4, 6-4, 6-3, shows that Barron fought hard to keep his opponent from winning the much coveted title. The outcome of the play-off was not unexpected by tennis followers at the Institute, as Brockmann has defeated Barron in all of the practice matches during the present season.

INTERFRATERNITY BASEBALL

A tie in Interfraternity baseball due to the fact that Sigma Chi Alpha Epsilon defeated Sigma Chi on Friday by a score of 3-2, has temporarily held up the finals. At present, Phi Beta Epsilon, Kappa Sigma, and Beta Theta Pi are at the heads of their respective leagues, and only the Beacon League remains unsettled.