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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

- W. K. Taft '22 R. O. Ingalls '22

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1920

A STEP IN ADVANCE

It is too often the case in colleges that students are afraid to express their criticism of a course or professor.

For the past month the air has been rife with accusations by the students of radicalism on the part of certain members of the squandering staff. The situation was best summarized in a communication to THE TECH written by a man prominent in activities and who had the good of the Institute at heart. The details of his letter were taken up by the officers of the Managing Board at a joint conference with the head of the department and the writer of the letter.

The result of the conference was a statement issued by Professor Henry G. Pearson, head of the English Department. It was found that the writer of the communication had misunderstood the purposes underlying the statements to which the writer took exception. He has accordingly withdrawn the letter.

THE TECH believes that his action was highly commendable and that its own course in not publishing the letter was in accordance with the best principals of journalism. In view of the fact however that there will probably be other cases of misunderstanding we believe that Professor Pearson's plan will go far toward eliminating the unfortunate misapprehension that students with grievances cannot express them without danger to themselves.

"It having come to my notice that there is a misunderstanding of the purpose of some of the courses given by the Department of English and History, I take advantage of the columns of THE TECH to express the hope that men who have complaints to make will present them to me with the necessary evidence. They may be sure of a full and fair hearing; in case of disagreement the matter will be submitted to a third person acceptable to both sides. Whenever a complaint is found justified prompt measures will be taken to provide a remedy." (Signed) HENRY G. PEARSON.

WHERE IS THE BULLETIN BOARD COMMITTEE?

WHERE is the Bulletin Board Committee? How many of us know that there is such a sub-committee of the Institute Committee? There is no evidence whatever of its existence. If anyone wants to post a notice or poster he does so; if he forgets to have it down it hangs there, often by one tack, until some one more ambitious replaces it with one of his own. There is still to be found on one board a poster containing the news that "Mr. Frick was not Mr. Smith" and a fervent plea to the freshman class to contribute to the Endowment Fund. On the Civil Engineering bulletin board, a notice tells us that certain students in Hydraulic and Sanitary Engineering must make up their deficiencies before December 17, 1919. Worst of all, there is notice on the main bulletin board that anyone desiring space on that board should consult the chairman of the committee in room 310 Walker. As though anyone would bother to consult the chair-

COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor of THE TECH.

At a meeting of the Advisory Council held early in December the questions were raised by one of the members as to the residence liability of a student at Technology who had entered the Institute after having taken a degree from some other educational institution, also concerning an undergraduate who had transferred from another institute without having represented the latter in athletic competition, and finally in regard to a modification of existing rules allowing difference in standard for major and minor sports. The secretary was directed to secure information through correspondence with the representatives of a number of colleges and universities, and also with the officials of the various intercollegiate associations. I sent a letter stating our position together with a questionnaire form for filling out to forty representative colleges in the United States and including the entire New England group. At the time of writing some thirty of these have reported and the information thus secured was presented to the Advisory Council on Athletics as a report of progress at its last meeting on January 14, 1920. The result of the questionnaire which will not be seriously modified by the answers of the ten remaining colleges show the following points the colleges of first rank throughout the country provide for the exclusion from Varsity competition of freshmen or graduates of other institutions and of members of graduate departments. They require one year of residence following transference from other educational institutions both where the transfer results during a noninterrupted course of academic activity and also where the student's course of study has been interrupted. But two of the colleges possess different standards of eligibility for major and minor activities, so-called. Again the larger institutions specify three years as the limit of activity on the varsity teams of a student.

Some of the small institutions state that because of their limited enrollment in order to form a team for competition they could not bar freshmen nor adhere as rigorously to the eligibility rules as could larger institutions. Technology with its registration of 3000 students certainly cannot be regarded as belonging in this group. After a thorough discussion of the matter the Advisory Council on Athletics reached the following vote: "That the Advisory Council affirms its existing rules on residence eligibility." I am sending this communication to you in order that the student body may be informed first of the fact that the present ruling is enforced only after a thorough canvassing of the conditions in the Institute and conferring with a large number of sister institutions, and secondly that it declines to modify the rules as now standing basing their decision on the results of this somewhat exhaustive canvass of the rules of other institutions which show an entire harmony with the Technology rules.

Very truly yours, (Signed) Allan Winter Rowe.

To the Editor of THE TECH:— We have read with a good deal of interest, some approbation, and considerable amusement the criticism of "Reader" in your last issue, concerning Voo-Doo. Our interest was caused by the fact that, as a Technology Activity, earnestly trying to please Tech men, and to represent the school to a certain extent to the outside world, we sincerely invite criticism of any feature of our publication. This comique is the property of every Tech man, and each is asked to cooperate with us in making the paper a success in so far as he can. Our approbation of this letter arose

man before posting a notice! As though the chairman could ever be found in room 310, which he has not occupied this year!

We understand that the Point System is being revised and will soon be again put into force. Chairmen of sub-committees have hitherto been credited from three to eight points. If the Bulletin Board Committee is to be rated upon the work that it does, will we resort to decimals or to fractions? Or should the present members of the committee be given negative indices to denote that they are worse than useless since they fill the places of men who might accomplish something?

THE VOO DOO REPLIES

IN our last issue there appeared a communication attacking the Voo Doo staff, a letter which is answered by the editor-in-chief in this issue. While the reply does not meet the issue squarely, there is much to be said for the Voo Doo. "A Reader" is abusive without being constructive in his criticism. The Voo Doo is laboring under unusual difficulties this year; it is comparatively new activity supported by a totally insufficient staff. The writer would do well to offer his time and talent to help improve the paper. His communication was especially ill-timed, since the general opinion of the student body is that, in spite of the two repeated jokes, last month's Voo Doo was a distinct improvement on the previous issues of the year, and on most of the issues of previous years.

from the fact that we realize that part of this criticism was justly deserved, and we accept it gratefully.

Our amusement, however, springs from an entirely different source. We read this letter several times, each time with a slightly different feeling. On the first perusal we fancied it savored strongly of Wellesley speaking through Tech's mouth, but since when have spokesmen replaced spokeswomen? The next time we had vague fitting visions of long hair and beards, Ellis Island, and Russia, but this is not compatible with prudishness, so this idea was dismissed. Then a horrible thought presented itself; is it possible that we are having a relapse to the old days of black capes, stiff hats, canes, and stern faces? Phosphorus forbid! What then is the incentive for such a letter? After a board-meeting at which careful thought was given to this we have reduced our diagnosis of "Reader's" symptoms to one of two diseases, either probably fatal to one of his disposition. He may have sent an uncensored copy of the "Puritan Number" to his maiden aunt and had his allowance cut off; or this same number may have through some sad circumstance been the undoing of an affaire du coeur. Would "Reader" be kind enough to advise us in the next issue of THE TECH whether our diagnosis is correct or not? (Signed) Richard J. Spitz, Editor in Chief.

NOTICES

For Undergraduates

Saxophone Player Wanted—A man is needed to play a B-flat saxophone for the Combined Musical Clubs. Instrument may be seen at Savages. Further details may be obtained at the Musical Clubs' office in Walker.

New Class Started—A second section in Spanish L81 is now scheduled for Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 4.00 in room 2-143, beginning Friday, January 23. Those who have conflicts with the original section are requested by Professor Langley to report to him immediately at room 2-165.

Tea Served to Students—The Emma Rogers Room will be open as heretofore to the Instructing Staff and to all students every day after 2.30. Tea will be served informally from 4.30 until 6.00 every Tuesday, ladies from the different departments acting as hostesses. On Tuesday, January 27, the hostesses will be from the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering.

Undergraduate Checks—Hereafter checks drawn on the M. I. T. Undergraduate Association account (combined activities account) will be signed on Mondays only in room 303, Walker Memorial between 4.00 and 5.30 o'clock. Checks may, however, be sent in by mail for signing at any time. They should be accompanied by a stamped return envelope.

Registration Photographs—The attention of students is called to the fact that some have not as yet completed their registration because of failure to file the identification photographs. Provision is made at the Technology Branch for having these photographs taken. New students may have until February 15 to file these photographs described on the registration material.

Gym Meet Postponed—The handicap gym meet that was to have been held last Wednesday afternoon was postponed due to the order of the Institute Committee to suspend all activities until Monday. It has not been definitely settled when the meet will be held.



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