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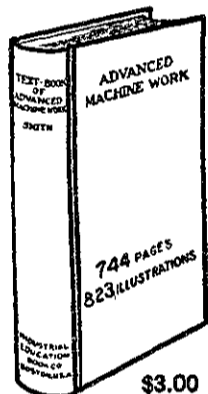
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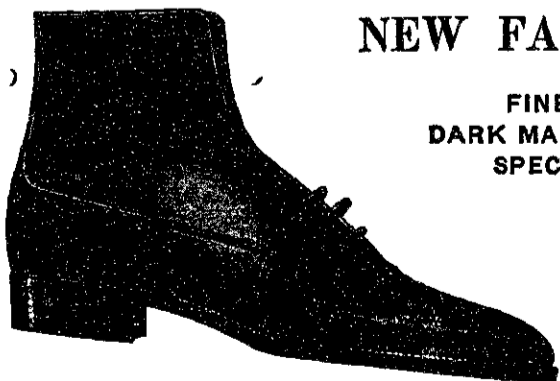
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WALKER LONG PLANNED

The movement for the erection of a memorial to the memory of President Walker was first started in 1898. At that time the rapidly growing Institute felt the need of a suitable place for the physical training of its students, and a committee was organized to obtain funds from the alumni for a gymnasium building to be dedicated to Francis Amasa Walker.

At first it was the intention of the committee to raise a hundred thousand dollars, but when it was learned that the Institute was going to move to Cambridge, the fund required was raised to half a million, so that a building might be erected that would house not only a gymnasium but also dining rooms and student offices and be in keeping with the plans of the architect. This fund was raised through the generosity of the alumni and the final plans were drawn up by Mr. W. W. Bosworth '89, and accepted in December, 1915. The cornerstone was laid during the Dedication and Reunion of 1916, and it was expected that the building would be formally opened in September, 1917.

Francis Amasa Walker graduated from Amherst College in 1860, and when the Civil War broke out the following year he enlisted with the 15th Massachusetts Volunteers. He served with distinction during the first years of the war, and for "gallant and meritorious services" at the battle of Chancellorsville he received the brevets of colonel and brigadier-general. He was taken prisoner in 1864. After the war General Walker made a brilliant record as Director of the Ninth and Tenth Cencuses, and in 1873 became Professor of Economics at the Sheffield Scientific School, from which position he was called in 1881 to the presidency of the Institute.

Under President Walker's administration the Institute grew from a struggling technical school to a great scientific university. His courage, energy, and particularly his sincere enthusiasm endeared him to the students and faculty alike, and the Technology spirit of today is largely the result of his influence.

Just previous to the date set upon for the opening of the Walker Memorial, Secretary of the Navy Daniels paid a great tribute to the work of Technology by establishing at the Institute the first school of naval aviation. Four days were allowed the Institute to prepare quarters for the naval detachment. It was then decided that no more fitting dedication could be given the memorial

than to open to the service of the government which General Walker had served so loyally in both war and peace, and when, during August, 1917, the building was finally completed, it was turned over to accommodate the student officers of the Navy.

The building houses a great dining room and ball room, the largest in Greater Boston, besides several smaller grill rooms and refectories. There is a large gymnasium on the top floor surrounded by locker rooms and numerous handball courts and offices for different student activities, and there are several lounge rooms, bowling alleys, a pool room, and a rifle range. There is also a reading room with several hundred volumes upon both professional and non-professional subjects. Every book has pasted inside the front cover a handsome bookplate designed by Professor H. W. Gardner '94 of the Department of Architecture. The design was built around a photograph of the bronze bust of President Walker that formerly stood in the corridor of the Rogers Building.

For years the undergraduates have looked forward to the completion of the Walker Memorial. Particularly during the war, when student life was so greatly handicapped by the lack of adequate meeting places, the activities being quartered in little chicken-wire coops in the basement of the main buildings. This made the need of a building felt.

The administration of the entire building was to be left to the students, and it was to be devoted solely to the accommodation of the student body. The opportunity to use the building for a greater purpose, however, was appreciated by the undergraduates, and they gladly gave up the memorial to house the Naval students. The students were permitted to use the dining halls at certain hours, the great hall was occasionally opened for dances, dinners and meetings, and the use of the rifle range was permitted.

No more fitting tribute could have been paid to the memory of General Walker than to dedicate the building to the services of his country, and the Walker Memorial will be venerated by future undergraduates all the more because of the services it has rendered.

When the war was ended the government discontinued the Naval Aviation School and the Walker Memorial was turned back to the Institute. It is now being used as it was originally intended to have been used and is in complete charge of the undergraduate students.

SPIRITISM IS SUBJECT OF FATHER CORRIGAN'S TALK

The Catholic Club heard the Reverend Jones I. Corrigan S. J., the Reverend William P. McNamara, Dean Burton, and Mr. O'Neill of the faculty at their dinner in Walker Memorial last Tuesday night.

Father Corrigan, who was the principal speaker, gave a very instructive talk on "Spiritism." He first explained that a large part of spiritism consists of slight-of-hand tricks and gave some rather amusing cases where the frauds had been discovered. He went on to say that many of the remaining cases are explained in psychology as the workings of the subconscious mind.

At the business meeting which followed, the Constitution was adopted with the understanding that the articles referring to the election of officers and to the name of the organization would be altered and voted on at a later meeting. It was decided that a formal dance would be held at the Hotel Somerset April 30.

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The Church Chapel 7:30 P.M.

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FUTURE IS GOOD FOR AMERICAN ENGINEERS

The American Association of Engineers was organized by a group of Chicago engineers in 1915. On June 14, of that year, it was incorporated, but not for pecuniary profit, under the laws of the State of Illinois.

The National type and scope of an organization like this could not possibly be named better than the American Association of Engineers. Almost from its inception its growth has been phenomenal for an organization of this kind. Its existence has been justified by a steady increase of membership to the present 8,122. Societies are in every state in the Union, Europe, Asia and South America.

The A. A. E. has increased in membership, from the few originators who started it five years ago to the present membership which almost equals that of the four so-called technical societies, namely the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the American Institute of Metallurgical and Mining Engineering. These societies have been in existence for fifty years.

The A. A. E. will eventually be the leading engineering society because it does not endeavor to depreciate the other four technical societies but it strives to place engineering in its rightful place. Many positions in Washington, which are held by politicians, should be held by engineers. The A. A. E. is at present trying to get President Wilson to appoint an engineer on the Inter-State Commerce Commission but has not succeeded as yet. Its next move will be to have all Government engineering activities now controlled by different members of the Cabinet to be placed under the control of a Secretary of Engineering who shall be appointed in the same way as the rest of the members of the Cabinet.

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