



Publish throughout the school year, by the students of the MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Entered as second-class matter Sept. 16, 1911, at the Post Office at Boston, Mass., under the act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 19, 1918.

MANAGING BOARD: E. E. Kattwinkel '23 General Manager, W. G. Peirce, Jr. '24 Editor-in-Chief, C. H. Toll '23 Treasurer, Ingram Lee '24 Managing Editor, L. B. Leighton '24 Advertising Manager, E. M. Goldsmith '23 Chairman, Editorial Board, D. M. Schoenfeld '24 Circulation Manager, R. B. Bamford '24 Sporting Editor

In Charge of This Issue: P. K. Bates, E. H. Long, Monday, January 29, 1923

UNDEVELOPED TALENTS

AS near the first of February as possible, winter training for crew candidates will begin. Measured in terms of our already over-crowded hours, very little time remains for the student body as a whole, and particularly those members of it who believe that they possess undeveloped talents as oarsmen, to arrange to support the crew to their utmost.

Much is expected from the crew this year. For the first time it is competing as a member of the Intercollegiate Rowing Association and its success will go far toward advancing M. I. T. in the athletic world. Whether this desired success is attained or not depends solely upon the support accorded the crew by those who only stand and watch.

Crew is a sport which demands a large number of candidates; eighteen men, numerically sufficient for two complete crews are far from sufficient for two good crews. Consequently, to attract as many candidates as possible, the management has organized a boat club, membership in which is open to all men who have paid their student tax and an additional nominal fee to cover damage to shells caused by those who are curious to learn whether it is really as easy as they have been told to put their feet through the bottom. By this expedient, it is hoped to uncover many potential varsity candidates who have been hiding their light under a book.

The question of equipment is vital. To correct an erroneous impression—the number of shells does not determine the number of candidates which can be taken care of; rather does the number of candidates determine the shells which shall be provided for them.

And so the question of equipment as well as of the success of the crew itself returns to the one determining factor—student interest. Mr. Stevens, a former Harvard oarsman who is devoting much of his time to act in the capacity of head coach, receives nothing for his services. In light of his example, it is scarcely unreasonable to expect the student body, with so much more to be gained, to support the crew wholeheartedly and thus enable it to gain the athletic recognition due it.

OUR BRIDGE OF SIGHS

WHEN men die, they are buried; when trees die, they are chopped down. When bridges die, however, they are permitted to remain and be stumbled over. And so, Harvard Bridge still stands.

Congress decided that the old bridge should be replaced, about a year ago, and the decision was actually taken seriously by many. Into the State Legislature there was introduced a bill calling for the appropriation of \$7,000,000. Architects' plans were submitted of structures which might have led to heaven. And gullible autoists, to save the State some of the expense of destruction, began demolishing the rails. But the introduction of the bill was merely a waste of paper; the rails were promptly replaced.

There is now another bill before the Legislature, reducing the desired appropriation to \$4,000,000. Probably some sedate senator serenely will ask, "What's the matter with the old bridge," and the matter will be dropped again until a new bill will call for a few millions less. Bills may come and bills may go, but the bridge

seems to go on forever. Perhaps the continued existence of the structure is due to the veneration accorded to antiquity in this part of the country.

An instructor in the Military Science department once said "Be sure to use enough dynamite." And we believe that a pontoon bridge could easily be constructed over the Charles.

The World's Affairs

Jan. 27. The latest move by the French is to levy a 40 percent customs tax on coal leaving the Ruhr district. This plan which supplants French operation of the Ruhr industries, is to become effective today and within a short time it is expected to extend to all products leaving the occupied territory.

There has been no marked increase in the number of striking miners and coal is being mined at two-thirds of the nominal output. The railroad strike is fully effective except where French crews man the trains. Demonstrations against French occupation are occurring in all parts of Germany.

Jan. 27. American partisanship on the Ruhr question was denounced by Senator Reed of Pennsylvania in answer to the plea for Germany of Senator Owen of Oklahoma. Reed declared that America's stand was that of a neutral and that neither side should be favored.

Jan. 27. Senator France of Maryland has written to Senator Lodge, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, asking for action on his resolution authorizing the President to call a conference at Washington of all signatory powers of the 1899 Hague Convention. The purpose of the conference would be to promote the general welfare of the nations by securing greater cooperation among them.

Jan. 27. A bill has been passed by the Senate ratifying the agreement to purchase the Cape Cod Canal by the Federal Government for \$11,500,000. The bill, which is now before the House is expected to promote coastwise transportation by lowering toll rates.

Jan. 27. The final plan arrived at by the British and American debt commissions in their recent conference has just been made public. The plan calls for payments lasting over a period of 62 years, with interest for the first 10 years at three percent, and three and one-half percent thereafter. Interest up to the time when the plan becomes effective would be at four and one-half percent. If the plan is accepted by the British government, it will be placed before Congress for approval.

Jan. 27. Eight national guardsmen of Fitchburg and Leominster were jailed today as a result of their conviction by court-martial for failure to attend drill. Their arrest is the first move in a statewide campaign to promote discipline in the militia. The sentences are in most cases four days.

Jan. 27. The Lausanne Conference today conceded the right of Turkey to do as she wished in the matter of concession in Turkey in the payment of reparations. A protocol issued to Turkey by the allies demanding that the Ottoman nation ask the advice of the debt commission was admitted to be an interference with Turkey's sovereign rights.

Jan. 27. The merger of the Bethlehem, Lackawanna and Midvale Steel companies was declared an unlawful action in restraint of trade by the federal trade commission today. A hearing on the case will be held March 16. Forty-six subsidiary companies are involved.

ENGINEERING MAGAZINE GOES ON SALE THURSDAY

On Thursday the Tech Engineering News will put its February issue on sale. Among the articles which will appear within its covers are: "What Is The Origin of The Earth?" by Professor W. F. Jones '09. "The Measurement of Personality and Intelligence," by Professor H. T. Moore. "Mechanics of Elasticity and Limitations of Hooke's Law," by C. A. P. Turner. "Heating Buildings by Fuel Oil," by C. A. Schellens '10, and A. T. Trowbridge '06.

NOTICES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

The night editor in charge of the next issue of THE TECH is P. R. Goldings '25, telephone Roxbury 1465-M. All matters concerning the issue should be referred to him.

Section leaders of the Class of 1926 will meet today in room 10-275 at five o'clock.

All transfer students interested in this year's Circus see Henry Davis in the Electrical Engineering Lab. The first meeting will be held Wednesday at 5 P. M. in the Faculty-Alumni room, Walker Memorial.

Caps and Gowns and Flappers

A Communication from a Recent Graduate

When first I read Mr. Ward's communication in THE TECH for January 26, I took it to be a satirical comment upon the traditional Tech egotism, and a reasonably able defence of the recent move in favor of civilized Graduation Exercises, caps and gowns, a little grass upon the—uh—campus, and a general revival of sanity in the minds of students, alumni and faculty members.

A second reading points the error. Although one paragraph seems for progress and the next against it, although the heart of the writer leads him whither his mind refuses to go, it seems reasonably probable that this junior partner of the Watch and Ward is of the reactionaries, whose amiable gesture, tossing logic and coherence to the winds, turns out to be a spasmodic and involuntary contortion. This burlesque is not burlesque, but a serious and high-minded putting of a query which asks to know whither we drift.

Now to me, the only surprising thing about the present agitation for decency at graduation time is that it has not occurred before. Why does Mr. Ward blame it on the flapper craze? What tenet of Mr. Ward's profession demands that the flapper be introduced into every discussion? Do the rules of the Amateur Letter-Writers-to-the-Newspapers leave no option? If not, I am sorry, I wish they did. This argumentative device is beginning to make me tired.

But I become something more than tired when in paragraph three, I hear Mr. Ward, speaking of his fellows, say: "They knew that to appear superior, they must first appear different." If that is really so, Mr. Ward has done us all a great disservice by his admission. It is deceitful and fraudulent to preach that one may legitimately appear superior, not by the complex and difficult process of actually being so, but by the simple device of rogues and scoundrels, of appearing so. Once it was the proud boast of Technology that her engineers were honorable above all things. Now, evidently, that boast is to be changed. They are to be, first of all, different.

I submit that there is a limit beyond which differentness should not go. An engineer too passionate in his desire for individuality is apt to span a chasm or tunnel the earth in a manner which will cause much time to elapse before he gets another job. All good engineers are rather slavish in the manner in which they follow the precedents of beam design. I do not see why, if we begin to observe a hitherto neglected propriety, we are going to sink into mediocrity.

Listen, too, to Mr. Ward while he speaks of the "grim impressive austerity" of our graduation exercises. The present Class C high school ceremony, held upon a dingy campus, and attended by the graduates in their Kampus Kut spring suits and scuffed tan shoes is grim, perhaps, but it is not impressive and it is not austere. When Mr. Ward says Impressively Austere, he means Unforgettably Ugly. The impressive bad taste of these

circus-tent celebrations makes easy to understand the preference of some for the dispatch of the diploma to the Home Address by mail.

It may be, as Mr. Ward insinuates, a distinction to be graduated with the same ritual that is used by the Iowa State College of Taxidermy, or the International College of Photoplay Writing and Sub-Title Editing. It may me imitative and mediocre to try to wrap the last contacts of college life with the symbols of learning and knowledge, but I like to think it is not. When a thing is 'ugly, it takes a brave man to say that it is "different." Harvard University seems to be more worthy of imitation than Burdett College.

Of course, caps and gowns for students will not solve all our difficulties. Something has got to be done about the faculty. It is hard to tell just what. Years ago—say two—I attended, purely in an auditory capacity, my first Technology Graduation exercise. I went with a friend, and associate in a venture now past. The ceremonies made a deep impression upon him, as upon me, and during the reading of the theses abstracts, I caught him mumbling a verse which he later clarified for my benefit. He has refused his permission to have it quoted here, which is unfortunate, because if any one thing could shame the faculty into presenting better numbers and appearance at graduation, this quatrain could. Being silenced, however, I can do nothing in the way of missionary work save cry that something must be done.

Mr. Ward's comment upon our "ashcan campus" rebounds to the discredit of his argument. Our buildings are founded upon clamshells and tin cans, but their beauty well disguises this. If our education is founded upon the principles of the plumbing trade, let us admit it freely by abandoning altogether such symbols of the collegiate life as fraternities. Alma Mater songs, cooperative stores, (Continued on Page 3)

BRAIDED CORDS and COTTON TWINES



Trade Mark

Samson Cordage Works Boston, Mass.

Don't Throw Away Your Old SHOES

We Fix Them as Good as New By Goodyear Welt System

C. EMANUELE

84 Mass. Ave. at Commonwealth Ave. Phone Copley 2517-M

After Every Meal



Top off each meal with a bit of sweet in the form of WRIGLEY'S.

It satisfies the sweet tooth and aids digestion.

Pleasure and benefit combined.



The Best Business Career

Is what every ambitious senior is thinking about at the present time. Life insurance is one of the best, one of the most desirable, and one of the most satisfactory as a permanent calling.

In assets and volume of business, life insurance is one of the three leading businesses of this country, yet the field is comparatively under-developed. Only 7 per cent of the economic value of human life in the United States is covered by insurance. This gives an idea of the big field still to be worked, especially business insurance for firms and corporations.

As to remuneration: Reports of college graduates who have entered business indicate that life insurance is at the very top as a source of income. Now is the time for you to consider what you are going to do after graduation. If you are ambitious and willing to work hard and are interested to know about life insurance, address

Agency Department



Largest Fiduciary Institution in New England

AT THE THEATRES

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE: Chicago Opera Company.

COLONIAL: "The Bunch and Judy." Good stuff with the Astaires and the Dooleys.

COPLEY: "Irene Wycherley." Jewett Players, reviewed next issue.

HOLLIS: "Lightnin'." Dry humor of Nevada and divorce.

KEITH'S: California Ramblers lead the bill.

MAJESTIC: Francis White in vaudeville.

PARK: "Robin Hood." Douglas Fairbanks in humorous story of old England.

PLYMOUTH: "Just Married." Rather snappy story of a night on board ship.

ST. JAMES: "Stop Thief." Reviewed next issue.

SELWYN: "The Guilty One." Pauline Fredrick is making a great success.

SHUBERT: "Passing Show of 1922." Very peppy revue.

TREMONT: "Molly Darling." Jack Donahue does good dancing and fun making.

WILBUR: "The Bat." A mystery play of the best that has been going long enough to vote.

HERRICK Copley Sq.

Phones 2328 2329 2330 2331 Back Bay

ALWAYS THE BEST SEATS