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In Charge of This Issue

J. R. Ramsey, Jr. W. W. Dullely

Wednesday, February 7, 1923

THE TEST

TOMORROW being the day when the Seniors are to finally decide the Cap and Gown question, some observations might not be amiss. There has been sufficient discussion of this question in the past few days for every Senior to be well acquainted with its history, hence it need not be recounted here. But there has also been a great deal of irrelevant material interjected which tends to befog the issue. It is not a question of glory seeking class leaders, or one of gowns versus dirty shirts and collars, or one of a class endeavoring to establish a precedent or tradition. It is a question of whether or not the Class of 1923 will attend the graduation exercises this coming June in garb befitting the solemnity of this particular occasion.

The Faculty have signalized the import of the coming event by their decision to wear caps and gowns, in view of the fact that this June Dr. Stratton will be inaugurated to the presidency of the Institute. It is the duty of each man of the graduating class to cast aside all extraneous points and personalities and to consider well the principles involved in the question, and then to form a judgment in the light of the essential facts. This done, it is further a duty to go to the polls and cast his vote as his judgment directs, in order that the class as a whole may arrive at some decision.

DORMITORY RESIGNATIONS

THE resignation of the Dormitory Committee is of importance on account of its bearing on the future of student government at Technology, not because it points towards future Faculty intervention, but because it shows the absolute necessity of complete confidence and cooperation between the Institute authorities and the student governing bodies.

Lack of understanding between the Faculty and Student Dormitory Committees, and the existence of different factions among the dormitory students themselves, are the principal reasons for the present crisis, though of course there were also minor considerations too numerous to mention.

The actual problem of governing the Dormitories is a relatively simple one provided that the principle of Faculty cooperation rather than that of Faculty intervention is strictly adhered to. Hence it seems reasonable to hope that the committee to consider the Dormitory situation appointed by President Stratton, even before the Dormitory Committee resigned, will be able to speedily and effectively remedy the slight defects existing in the present system of Dormitory government.

The World's Affairs

Foreign

Feb. 6. The Turkish delegates to the Lausanne Conference have agreed to accept all the peace terms which they rejected Sunday, according to reports of the Associated Press. Acceptance of the treaty was received by the French Foreign office today. It was at once communicated to the British office with the request that the affair be settled immediately in the interest of all concerned.

Feb. 6. The French occupation of Appenweier and other important railroad centers in South Germany last Sunday, is held by German officials to be a violation of the Versailles treaty, and retaliatory measures are reported to be under consideration. At a meeting of the Cabinet yesterday there was strong feeling in favor of breaking off diplomatic relations with the French Government.

A French statement claims the new occupation to be the result of the annulment of several trains in Germany. Other sources attribute the occupation of the Southern cities to the policy of progressive occupation to break German resistance, and to the desire of the French to hold the important railroad centers in case of a clash between Russia and Poland, into which the Little Entente might be drawn.

Feb. 6. The Liberal administration, headed by Louis Taschereau, was returned to office in the general elections held yesterday in the province of Quebec. The Conservatives increased their seats in the House, however, from five to twenty-one.

National

Feb. 6. A general immigration bill, reducing by one-half the number of aliens admissible to this country, will come before Congress prior to the close of the present session. The bill will cover the question of Japanese immigration, and will, according to Congressman Johnson of California, attempt "to write into law the terms of the gentlemen's agreement between the United States and Japan."

Feb. 6. Senator Borah has been enlisted in the fight now progressing in Congress to pass a bill which will make the concurrence of seven members of the Supreme Court necessary to declare a Congressional resolution unconstitutional. Senator Borah holds the "five to four" decisions of the Court have resulted in the voiding of many vital laws.

Feb. 6. Secretary Weeks of the War Department is making plans for a trip to Porto Rico and the Panama Canal Zone in the early spring. Mr. Weeks plans to study conditions in Porto Rico which at present are unsettled. Due to the trouble there, the present governor, Gen. E. M. Rellly, is expected to resign soon. The Secretary wishes also to make a general inspection of the Canal Zone.

State

Feb. 6. New "Blue Sky" laws are advocated in measures now before committees of the Massachusetts Legislature for hearing. One measure seeks to regulate the sale of securities on the partial payment plan, and the other aims to keep lists of stockholders from too free circulation.

NOTICES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

OFFICIAL

The third lecture (similar to previous lectures) on the Slide Rule will be given by Professor Lipka on Thursday, February 8, in room 10-250 at 4:00 o'clock. Bring a polyphase rule to the lecture. No registration is necessary.

The fourteenth meeting of Course 5.94, Recent Development in Science, will be held on Friday, February 9, at 4:00 o'clock in room 10-250. Professor W. K. Lewis of the Department of Chemical Engineering will speak on "The Addition of Sulphur to Rubber."

Attention is called to the regulations governing condition examinations. Condition examinations in first term subjects are to be taken in March; in second term subjects in June; in third term subjects in September; in Summer School subjects ending prior to about August 1st, in September; and in Summer School subjects ending later in the summer, in December. Students who do not take their condition examinations at the appointed time forfeit the right to such examinations. Petitions for postponement of any examinations will not be entertained by the Faculty except in case of illness certified by the Medical Department.

UNDERGRADUATE

The Night Editor in charge of the next issue of THE TECH is P. R. Goldings '25, telephone Roxbury 1455-M. All matters pertaining to the issue are referred to him.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of THE TECH:

In the latest issue of THE TECH one F. P. Squibb, unknown to me, accused someone of forging my name to a communication, and by inference charged me with abetting the forgery. Mr. Squibb had his facts wrong. I wrote the thing,—every word of it. I refuse to be denied credit for backing 1923 in its fight to keep the class officers from making the class ridiculous with their childish clamor for caps and gowns.

Mr. Squibb was either misinformed or a deliberate liar. If he was merely guilty of misguided dissemination of libellous falsehood, he will surely hasten to apologize in these columns. Otherwise, it must be assumed that the lie was deliberate.

J. S. WARD, JR., '22.

Chicago, Ill.

To the Editor of THE TECH:

As a member of the Class of 1922 I should like to express some views which more nearly represent the opinions of a majority of the class than those set forth by Mr. Ward in his communication of January 26th.

It is a good thing for Mr. Ward that he no longer has to depend upon the Faculty for grades or a salary, for most of them have no doubt felt offended at having been nicknamed flappers. Little does he know that the votes of the wise heads (many old alumni) were defeated last spring in attempting to initiate the custom of having the Faculty wear caps and gowns at "Commencement," as he calls it. This vote was taken after a request had been received from the Senior Week Committee, which he helped to elect perhaps, and had it not been too late the class as a whole would have taken action in the matter.

Why be a fixed New Englander all your life, never believing in changes? Technology may be different in many ways from other colleges throughout the year, but why not add some dignity to the occasion of receiving one's diploma as these other colleges do? No alumnus, I believe, is more proud than I am of having been graduated from M. I. T., yet I frankly admit that I hesitated to ask my friends to witness the graduation exercises. Why? Because, except for the addresses by the President and the Dean, there can be nothing of interest to a visitor, unless it be to derive excitement from watching the mad rush for diplomas, comparable only to the Technique Rush and the Charge of the Light Brigade. I wonder if Mr. Ward ever attended a commencement exercise at college. The reading of thesis abstracts is the height of dryness, and even the members of the graduating class count the minutes required for this monotonous procedure. The only impressive sight to the eyes of the visitor is the harmonious array of caps and gowns, lending an air of importance and solemnity to the occasion.

Technique reveals the fact that Mr. Ward never attended any other college, so to have an Alma Mater song means nothing to him. I do not doubt that all college men who read this will be forced to admit that college songs and cheers are the real factors in effecting an enthusiastic college spirit. At a large college men's picnic last summer at which I was present, the most rivalry was evidenced, not on the athletic field, but at the dinner table. And when it came time for the Technology men to try to outdo their rivals, many of them did not even know the words of Technology's one song and two cheers. Had we started the Stein Song, some other table would no doubt have retaliated with "Good Night Ladies," thinking it time to leave.

I take it from Mr. Ward's attitude (Continued on Page 3)

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