

Official Undergraduate News Organ of Technology



A Record of Continuous News Service for 42 Years

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

MANAGING BOARD: W. G. Peirce, Jr. '24, General Manager; G. C. Reinhardt '24, Editor; R. E. Bamford '24, Managing Editor; D. M. Schoenfeld '24, Business Manager

ASSOCIATE BOARD: J. P. Ramsey, Jr. '25, City Editor; F. A. Barrett '24, Sports Editor; G. F. Geis '25, Features Editor; Shedd Vandenberg '25, Advertising Manager; D. A. Henderson '25, Circulation Manager; J. H. Hooks '25, Treasurer

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.

Member of Eastern Intercollegiate Newspaper Association

In Charge of This Issue: H. L. Bond '23

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1923

POSTER SNATCHING

AN American characteristic which has not endeared us to our European cousins is the habit of souvenir snatching. Money often obtains a welcome for Yankee tourists, but the agony of the natives who see their shrines profaned is too familiar to bear repeating.

The spirit behind this desire to carry away a splinter from the castle's great hall shows itself in the corridors of Technology. Stealing posters from the bulletin boards has become so common that this means of giving information may become extinct. Posters which require hours of hard work decorate some student's room when they should be on the boards.

An ambition to have surroundings which recall the pleasant past is not evil. It is the means and not the end to which publicity men object. After their few days in the public eye posters will be given away. Surely the desire for wall decoration is not so strong that it cannot be held in check long enough to make the drawing a gift and not booty.

A RISING POWER

THE position of fraternities at Technology has long been unique among colleges. With their members only a small percentage of the student body, and their houses of necessity mostly remote from the Institute they have been communities complete in themselves, little affected by the general trend of Technology affairs and, until fairly recently, but little interested.

Now, indications of a change flourish on every hand. Interfraternity athletics is commencing to really mean something. A successful basketball league was maintained, the relay competition for the interclass meet has won approbation and an award from the Advisory Council, and a baseball series is being vigorously pushed through.

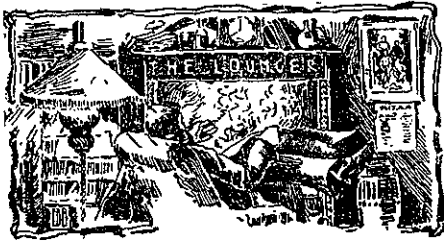
But such projects as well as others of a non-athletic nature require cooperation. In few colleges are the fraternities as isolated from each other as at Technology, and the effectiveness of action of the Greek letter societies here is hampered by this fact. The New Interfraternity Conference, whose constitution is now being considered, is a step to meet a real need. If it adopts a policy of active cooperation among its members its possibilities for constructive, valuable work about the Institute are considerable, but if it fails to take any definite stand its futility will be greater than that of its somewhat unfortunate predecessor.

PHOSPHORUS PUZZLES

THE appearance of Voo Doo yesterday gradually converted skeptical tolerance into whole hearted praise. Phosphorus has outdone himself in a worthy and, it seems, successful bid for the favor of the Prom girl. For once he is irresistible. But we owe him a grudge for the way he treated us, his classmates, in the full winter months.

Continued mediocrity forced us to believe him incapable of greater achievement. We even ceased to censure, merely mourning the loss of Phosphorus as he was in the days when his naughty, but interesting, humor drew condemnatory comment in the Communication's column. Then yesterday he reappears in a raiment to dazzle his former glory.

Seeing is believing, but still we wonder. Has he been accumulating his treasures for this final display or is this really a measure of his ability? If it is the former we consign him to oblivion but in the latter case he has a new mark to live up to. We cannot expect the impossible but if the petting of the Prom girl brings such results from his feline majesty we demand more consideration for ordinary mortals the rest of the year.



Prom week is here again. The Lounger is pleased, if for no other reason than that he will now be afforded an opportunity of seeing some really good looking girls. Not the Boston variety of course, but those imported from other states. Perhaps, too, when these New England girls see the way the New York girls wear their dresses (this pertaining solely to length) they will effect a change in their rather belated system of styles.

There is one thing, however, which the Lounger is worried over. He has heard of diplomacy as applied to the courting of young ladies. He can appreciate the niceties arising from bringing a girl up from some alien state. But he cannot quite convince himself as to the proper method of financing the deal. According to a Congressional statute, it is unlawful to pay for the transportation of a young lady (other than your wife) from some other state into that where in you are to meet her.

So much so for the law of it. But what the Lounger fails to see is just

how it is possible for a poor, unsuspecting engineer, to buy the return trip ticket for said young lady without having to pay for it. Oh well! Our Technology prodigies ought to have enough sense of financial direction by now to know enough to ask a girl who has foresight enough to buy a round trip ticket in the first place. The Lounger hates to see 500 Prom girls all left stranded in a big city.

There is one other point the Lounger has discovered. We all make mistakes of course. But the Lounger knows of one precise case where a certain little April Flower has written her former Technological hero in the following pathetic and appealing tone: "What is to happen to a poor little girl who was invited last year to this year's Prom, but who knows the fellow who asked her is in love with another girl by this time?"

The Economics Department has usually been one of the favorite marks of the Lounger's cynical shot-gun. But the Edit in the last issue of The Tech was a little too much for him. He therefore wants to assert himself in favor of the Department's system of "missing word" weekly quizzes. They are not quite so idiotic as was stated. On the contrary, they are very practical. Not every course teaches one to memorize the 11th word of the xth line on the 24th page.

Duty, Honor, Country Student Government and Honor System at West Point By Maj. Robert Sears

Duty, Honor, Country, the motto of West Point, expresses the spirit which has given the United States Military Academy its unique position among institutions of the world and has made it worthy of its founder, George Washington.

The West Point honor system, therefore, is as old as the institution and has grown into the most cherished sentiment of the Corps.

If a cadet should ever unintentionally make an incorrect or misleading statement on an official matter, he is in honor bound to report that fact immediately to the authorities. For instance, let us suppose that a cadet has left his division of barracks during "Call to Quarters" for some authorized purpose, and that before returning he forgets himself and goes some place which is "off limits" during "Call to Quarters."

Authorizes Own Leave

This cadet on leaving his division of barracks, reported "All Right" to the sentry which signified that he was leaving for an authorized purpose. On returning to his barracks he is required to report "All Right" again, which signifies that his absence has been for an authorized purpose only. Before making the second report "All Right" he remembers that he has been "off limits." He must then go immediately to the Officer of the Day and report that he has unintentionally violated the meaning of "All Right," the punishment for which is "Five demerits and ten confinements" (ten confinements are confinement to one's room for one week).

I recall the case of a cadet who escorted a lady home after a hop. On arriving at the house he thoughtlessly stepped just over the threshold in holding open the door. This cadet had, earlier in the evening, signed up his departure for the hop. While availing himself of hop privileges he had entered "Officers Quarters" which was "off limits." He, therefore, could not sign up his return from the hop, and so reported that he had unintentionally violated the privileges, which drew the usual penalty.

Summary Action Against Offenders

The cadet is taught that the profession of the soldier demands courageous and fearless honesty in facing the absolute truth without evasion or quibbling; and the authorities invariably accept every statement of a cadet as the unequivocal truth. Of course, as might be expected in so large an institution, there are occa-

sional violations of truth and honor. Such cases, invariably, are brought to the attention of the cadet "Honor Committee" through cadets having cognizance of the offense, and an investigation is made with the result that, if the cadet is found guilty, the authorities are notified, and he is either tried by general court martial or given an opportunity to resign. The latter is the more usual course; and, as action is summary, the ex-cadet is speeded away on the first available train.

Borderline cases are sometimes met with. For instance, recently two mathematics sections had the same examination on successive hours. A cadet going to the second session asked a cadet returning from the first what problems they had had, the answer being "we had that scant problem again." A classmate who overheard the conversation later went to the cadet who asked the question and said that he ought to report himself to the Honor Committee. This the cadet did, and the matter created quite a stir in the corps, as it was generally known that the examinations were to be the same. After much deliberation the cadet was let off with a reprimand, as it appeared in the testimony that he had had no time to look up the problem and had not worked it correctly.

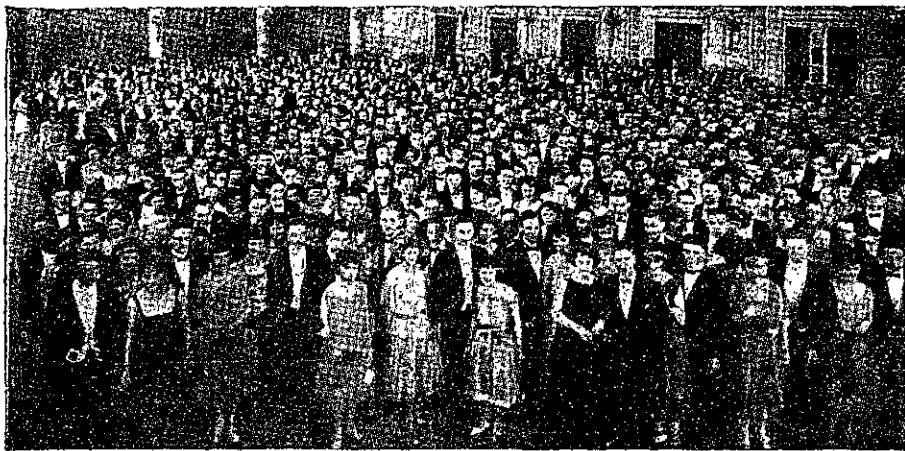
Guardians of Own Honor

The corps of cadets individually and collectively is the guardian of its own honor. No cadet would hesitate to inform on another whom he knew had been culpably dishonorable. This does not mean that "tattling" is condoned.

I remember a plebe who was called before the authorities to give evidence against an upper classman being investigated for hazing. Largely on the evidence of the plebe, the upper classman was dismissed. The Honor Committee investigated the matter and found that the plebe had given out more information than was actually required. The plebe was given one month to resign, did so willingly, as he had been cut by the entire corps.

This description may sound harsh to the reader, but it must be remembered that Gen. Washington had some bitter experience during the Revolution with dishonorable and disloyal officers and his ambition was to establish a military academy that should develop habits of honor and loyalty that would be unassailable.

THE TECH PICTURE OF 1923 PROM



This picture of the 1923 Prom was taken by The Tech during the evening's festivities and sold at the Copley-Plaza as part of the Sunrise Issue before the dance was over. A similar picture of this year's Prom will appear on the front cover of the Special Prom Issue.

COMMUNICATION

Letters over 200 Words May Be Excluded Due to Lack of Space

To the Editor:

As our Prom Issue approaches and the efforts of the publicity department become apparent, a word about the stealing of posters from the bulletin boards may well be in order.

Contrary to the usual consensus of opinion, these posters require a great deal of hard work and thought in their conception. It is very discouraging to these men and a reflection on the Institute for the posters to disappear from the boards before their appointed time; to say nothing of within a few hours after their appearance.

Phosphorus is highly flattered that its efforts should be so desired and realizes the thought and motive behind it. She suggests therefore that if any man desires a certain poster he drop in at the office and tell us about it; and the moment it has finished its sentence on the boards she will be only too glad to reserve it for him.

J. E. Brackett '23.

Scott's Spring Clothes For Young Men

WE suggest for particular examination, both the Suits and Topcoats we have brought hither in chest sizes 32 and up to 40.

We believe they will agreeably meet physical, mental and monetary requirements; for young men going to Prep School, for young men going to College, for young men starting out in business.

They express in quality of cloth and color the young man's viewpoint, outlook and feeling.

They are priced \$40 or \$45

Scott & Company Limited 336 to 340 Washington St., Boston

Wanted: 50 Leaders

Babson Institute seeks fifty men who will apply themselves for one or two years to an intensive study of business principles. This will include daily discussions in small groups directed by men with years of business experience, and conferences with active factory and office executives. This practical background bridges the gap between university training and actual business practice. It fits you for an executive position.

Babson Institute, an educational institution endowed for the purpose of fitting men for executive responsibilities, invites you to send for the book, "Training and Business Leadership." Write today. No obligation.

Babson Institute Wellesley Hills, (Suburb of) Mass. (Boston)

STONE & WEBSTER INCORPORATED

DESIGN steam power stations, hydro-electric developments, transmission lines, city and interurban railways, gas and chemical plants, industrial plants, warehouses and buildings.

CONSTRUCT either from their own designs or from designs of other engineers or architects.

MANAGE public utility and industrial companies.

REPORT on going concerns, proposed extensions and new projects.

FINANCE industrial and public utility properties and conduct an investment banking business.

NEW YORK BOSTON CHICAGO

AMERICA'S FOREMOST FLOWER HOUSE

ESTABLISHED 1847

Thos. F. Gabrin INCORPORATED FLOWERS

SPECIAL CONCESSIONS TO TECH

BOSTON and NEW YORK

1 Park St. and 549 Boylston St. 76 years of real SERVICE 561 5th Ave. at 46th St.

TRADE SIMCORE MARK

Simcore wires and cables are made in accordance with the Code rules of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. Every completed length is subjected to voltage tests that not only insure superior quality but are a measure of that quality.

SIMPLEX WIRE & CABLE CO.

201 Devonshire Street, Boston Chicago San Francisco New York