

Official Undergraduate News Organ of Technology



A Record of Continuous News Service for 42 Years

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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STILL NO ACTIVITY BULLETIN BOARD

THE report of the investigation committee of The Tech to the Institute Committee last Thursday was probably the most outstanding example of destructive criticism that our student government has accepted this year. With hardly a lone comment on any feature of the paper that had received favorable judgment by the student body, this committee set about tearing to pieces details of past issues of The Tech, giving scarcely a thought to the basic principles that lay beneath. With a woeful disregard for the simplest mechanics of newspaper makeup they jumped into the position of advisors and critics. The Tech has not always been right, far from it. Its only reason for existence is to serve the student body by working for the best interests of Technology as a whole. Where we have been short sighted in carrying out these purposes in the past we hope to show better judgment in the future.

The Tech is a college newspaper. As such it is to be differentiated from the ordinary newspaper. The Tech recognizes this distinction.

As a newspaper, however, The Tech has a right to dictate its own policies, independent of any other organization whatsoever. These policies are formulated to achieve ends, which, in the opinion of The Tech, will only be of ultimate benefit to Technology as a whole. And as any individual possesses an inherent right to his own convictions, so will The Tech adhere to its own opinion, irrespective of any other organization which, by reason of its misdirected or assumed authority, tries to dictate its own code of principles.

The Tech repeats its former assertions that it is not an advertising circular for any activity that may want publicity. The Tech will be only too glad to print activity news, which does not appear to be only a means of obtaining unwarranted publicity. Such a policy is justified not only because the integrity of The Tech as a newspaper must be preserved, but principally out of fairness to, and as a protection to, other activity news which is of acceptable character and material value. It is up to the various activities to supply news which is acceptable in the first place and no further difficulties will be experienced.

PAYING A RESPECT TO ACHIEVEMENT

LAST Saturday Technology's flag was once again lowered to half mast to mark the occasion of the passing of one of its foremost men. Professor Louis Derr's name will long be remembered in connection with Technology affairs, and his achievements in the field of science will preserve the memory of him along with Technology's most cherished traditions. What he accomplished during his lifetime might well serve as an incentive and an inspiration to those who are now engaged in following out the work he did while alive. It is with regret that we make mention of Professor Derr's passing. Yet it is with profound willingness that we add his name to the list of those who have given their all toward maintaining and raising the standards of our Alma Mater.

HELP A CLASSMATE

THE T. C. A. Undergraduate Employment Bureau has issued a call for assistance in finding positions for students during the coming summer. Men who know of jobs that are open or which will soon be open can render a service by informing the Bureau, and in so doing they may be the means of helping some one to come back against next fall.

The Bureau functions throughout the year, but it is used the most during the summer months, when it provides work for students who are so far from home that they can not go back for vacation. As well as aiding those who actually need work it also places men who are industrious and are looking for experience.

Last summer, positions filled by the Bureau paid in total approximately \$20,000. The present source of obtaining jobs, through employers directly, is not large enough to meet the increasing demand. By means of student cooperation the Bureau hopes to open a larger field for undergraduate work. If you know of a job you don't want yourself tell the T. C. A. about it and help a classmate stay in the Institute.

The Tech takes great pleasure in announcing the election of Paul J. Cardinal '24, to the position of Editor.

INTERCOLLEGIATES

Seek Prettiest Coed

In a contest held recently at the University of Pennsylvania to choose the most beautiful coed and the handsomest male student, the men insisted that there were no good looking coeds at the university and refused to cast any votes. The coeds maintain that the man chosen is not handsome, and they will not take any notice of the matter.

Film on Relativity

The latest movie thriller is the six-reel film, "The Einstein Theory of Relativity" which was recently shown at Brown University. In an endeavor to acquaint the students with the fundamental ideas of the theory, only some of the popular conceptions were explained. The film illustrated the bending of light rays and the addition of the fourth dimension.

A straw vote recently held at Yale showed the tendency of the undergraduate to oppose the ancient traditions and customs of the college. Among the reforms demanded are a revision of the college curriculum, abolishment of required courses, and unlimited class cuts.

Sophs Threaten Strike

A sympathetic strike as a protest against the suspension of one of the members of the sophomore class at Johns Hopkins University is being threatened by his classmates. The sophomores believe that the only reason for the suspension was the active participation in the recent interclass battle, and if their belief is substantiated, declare their intention of walking out.

Offer \$1000 for Song

The Institute is not the only college offering a cash prize for a college song. At Yale a prize of \$1000 has been offered by an anonymous contributor to the person composing a suitable school song.

Temper Ardor With Wisdom Major Briggs Advises Cautious Choice of Opponents - Encourages Intramural Athletics

A quarter of a century ago, few colleges could have told you whether Technology had a track team or not. The story of Technology's rise to intercollegiate prominence in track, and later to varying degrees in other forms of athletics, is an interesting commentary on the spirit which has animated our athletic policy.

The Technology relay team, although a prominent feature in New England college competition, was not very well known nationally in 1904, when Georgetown University sent up its notably strong team to the B. A. A. games. The management encountered difficulties in finding a competitor in its class. Colonel George B. Billings, then chairman of the Athletic Committee of the B. A. A., and his colleague, Mr. George Brown, were rather pessimistic about locating a school who was willing to compete with the crack Georgetown team. Colonel Billings remarked to a fellow member of the B. A. A. Athletic Committee, Major Frank Briggs '31, "I can't see where we are going to scrape up a team willing to run against those Georgetown fellows."

"Technology Will Meet Any One" Major Briggs was then chairman of the Institute Advisory Council on Athletics, and at once stepped into the breach: "Technology will run against Georgetown, or against any other team you want them to," was his challenge.

Technology did run against Georgetown and got walloped, but that incident laid the foundation for a later high standing in intercollegiate athletics. Major Briggs, who has continued to exert as profound an influence upon the course of our athletic development as he did in this incident which supplied the initial impetus, will give his opinions upon the expansion of our athletic policy.

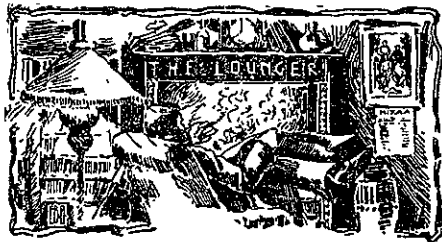
By Major Frank Briggs '31

The policy of the Advisory Council since its institution in 1897 has been to foster and develop intramural and interfraternity competition to the end that the class and thus the varsity teams may be improved. The value of intramural athletics in getting a large number of men engaged in all branches of sports must not be overlooked.

First Intramural Competition Here

This stressing of intramural athletics is typical of Technology; the experiment was first tried here. In the first eight or ten years of its existence since 1897, the Advisory Council laid special emphasis upon the establishment of intramural athletics with the result that, after a dozen years of this policy, the idea began to be taken up by other colleges (among whom was our neighbor on the river) and was broadly cast out upon the waters by them as an original idea. In the long run, this policy has been adopted by colleges throughout the country of far greater athletic notoriety than our own humble institution.

The policy as thus developed has



The Lounger has long been recognized as a joy-killer. He has been both detested and respected for it. Detested because facts are cold and cruel, and the Lounger's pen is independent of personal enmities or friendships. Respected because the danger of an enthusiastic eruption of his satire on one thing or another is always impending. But today he is in a congenial mood. He therefore submits some meandering consolations and ramblish advice.

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"Oh-Ma" Shy-Ann, or whatever his name was, had the right sort of dope after all, to the Lounger's way of thinking. Omar must have run a hockshop or a merry-go-round, for he couldn't get over his own little phrase, "Take the cold hard Cash, and let the Credit go to the Dickens. No charge accounts accepted, and we don't deliver C. O. D."

Anyone who has tried to bum a ride on the Boston and Maine, or attempted to purchase diamonds with the ingenious combination of a clean-shaven, smooth cheek, and a naked pocket-book knows the value of Cash. It's just a choice between which part of

proven good without a drawback. We have now our fraternity relays and baseball teams; our dormitory hockey, basketball, and bowling teams; the football, basketball, and baseball teams of the undergraduate activities; our eight Field Day teams, our class baseball teams and crews; and our freshman teams in almost every branch of sport. Probably over half the school is engaged in athletics of some sort.

Developed Better Varsity Team

That this policy has resulted in much better competition in our class teams was demonstrated on Tech Field at the Interclass Track Meet the other day. Our varsity teams are necessarily much improved by having available an abundance of material in the shape of men trained in intramural and interclass athletics. So while not sufficient unto themselves, intramural and interfraternity sports occupy a very important place in Technology's athletic program and contribute immensely to the final results.

Then there is the matter of athletic competition with the greater colleges. About the beginning of this century our successes at the world renowned B. A. A. games began to show that we were too strong for the other small New England colleges of average athletic rating, with whom we had been competing. And so the Athletic Council gradually developed the policy of taking on these highly-rated greater colleges not only in track but also in swimming, wrestling, boxing, basketball, etc., when we created such teams. It became evident that these were the colleges with whom we preferred to compete, although three years out of five they might be stronger than we.

Good to Pick Tough Opponents

In general, this policy of picking tough opponents is sound. One objection is that in track events, for instance, the competition up to the end of April is apt to be confined to a very few of the most expert men. For example, we were recently confronted by the alternatives of sending six or eight of our best men down to Philadelphia to the Pennsylvania Relay Carnival to compete with the strongest teams in the East, or of sending a full team of about two dozen men up to a dual meet with Maine.

The selection made was undoubtedly wise, because three or four times as many men were able to profit from the experience, which they would not have had if only a few men had gone to Philadelphia. The experience would not have been very valuable to the chosen few, either, for it is upon them that the brunt of the work has fallen during the winter months, and for them the Relay Carnival would have been just a continuation of a long series of contests of the indoor season.

The need is for more general competition, that includes other events than the short distance runs and similar indoor events, and that develops a track team as a whole and prepares competitors in all events for their strenuous contests at the N. E. I. C. A. A. and I. C. A. A. A. games.

your anatomy you want to erase during the process of your ejection, be it from parlor car, caboose, or Tiffany's. The solution is to buy two pairs of trousers with your next suit or stay the way you are and go around to see Frank Kanaly—what's left of your clothes will do to run in.

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The point the Lounger wishes to bring out by all this tom-foolery discussion is that the June finals are not afar off, in fact are appearing on the potential horizon even as now. Simultaneously with their appearance comes a contemporaneous dose of the parasitic spring fever.

To return to the subject. There are two available courses of approach to exams. The first is to keep studying until the term is over. Then you can have a good time exam week and can (Continued on Page 3)

Communications

To the Editor: The members of the 150 pound crew wish to express their appreciation of the support given them by those cheering from Harvard Bridge, in the race with Harvard Saturday. (Signed) F. V. Rosseau (Captain)

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