

1000 COLLEGE MEN AT SMOKER FOR NEW CLUB

60 Colleges Represented in
Large Gathering at
Copley-Plaza

TECHNOLOGY HAS BIG DELEGATION PRESENT

Success of University Club
Assured by Response
Received to Date

The campaign for a new University Club in Boston reached its climax at the third annual intercollegiate smoker at the Copley-Plaza Hotel last night, when about 600 of the 1000 college and university graduates who attended pledged themselves to join the new club. Sixty educational institutions from Maine to California were represented at the gathering, which was one of the largest and most enthusiastic held since the project was launched. Over 70 Technology men comprised one of the largest of the group that represented their college at the big smoker.

The ball room was jammed with more than 1000 college men, and fearful and wonderful were the sounds that came therefrom. From the time that the large Tech delegation stood up and informed the world that "We are happy, Tech is Hell" until a few representatives of the University of California contorted themselves and screamed some outlandish thing, the smoker went at high speed.

Business Session Brief

Business got very little attention at the affair. Henry I. Harriman, a Wesleyan graduate and a member of the committee for the new clubhouse, said that the committee has done everything possible and that it "was now up to the college man in Boston to put the club across." He reviewed the plans for the building, which he said would have one of the best sites in the city at Trinity Place and Stuart Street, and would provide facilities not available at the present University Club of Boston.

"Within 15 miles of Boston," he said, "there are 10 colleges and universities with an enrollment of 15,000 students, and more than 30,000 college graduates. We believe that it is possible to get enough members to organize a real club. We must start with at least 4000 members."

"The committee already has organized the different colleges and one or two of these institutions already have pledged their full quota of life and regular members. We now have about \$100,000 and 100 pledged."

Donald D. McKay, a graduate of Amherst and secretary of the committee, announced that the universities of California, Michigan and Minnesota and Purdue had filled their quotas, while Amherst and Cornell were nearly over the top. When he asked how many of the college men present would sign the pledges for membership in the clubs, more than half of the gathering stood.

Technology Not Yet Near Quota

Technology, with between 4000 and 5000 alumni, in or near Boston, has been allotted a quota of membership in the club of 668 Senior Members at \$100 each, and 68 Life Members who make a single payment of \$1000. P. D. Sheelin '18, who is in charge of the Technology drive stated that at the close of the smoker, Technology's quota was nowhere near filled. But five life members had signed up, and some 75 or 80 senior members.

During the evening an entertainment was presented. The program included a saxophone dance by James Moynihan of Harvard, accompanied by Morgan Harris of Harvard; xylophone solo, J. T. Ballard of Tufts; monologue, Chester Stackpole of Brown; double piano duet, Nelson Waring and Rolo Hudson of Kenyon College; songs by Harry McDevitt and Lester Wiggin, accompanied by the Dartmouth alumni jazz band; piano-logue, S. H. Ayer, Cornell; boxing exhibitions between P. E. Pieris and H. J. Courtney, and Phil Grant and C. F. McNeil; Billy Sheelin, referee. James M. Swift, an alumnus of the

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Organize New Republican Club at Technology

Active part in the 1924 presidential campaign is planned by the Technology Republican Club which established itself as an undergraduate organization last Saturday. The first act of the new organization has been to start a drive to obtain the membership of all Republican students here and is making satisfactory headway.

Beginning in January, the club's program calls for a series of mass meetings to which Republican speakers who figure prominently in national politics have been invited. Plans for these meetings and addresses are in the hands of an executive committee, consisting of: W. H. Robinson '24, D. A. Shepard '26, presidents of their respective classes, Austin Cole, Jr., A. D. Carothers '24, A. G. Hall '25, N. L. Mansfield '25 and M. M. Greer '26.

PERSIAN MINISTER VISITS INSTITUTE

Hussein Alai Expresses Hope
That His Countrymen
Will Come Here

Hussein Alai, Persian minister to the United States, on his visit to the Institute last Friday, said, "We are anxious for our young men to get the benefit of the training to be obtained at your world renowned institution." This was his second visit, having been here Wednesday with Mrs. R. C. Macclaurin, wife of the late president of Technology.

The Persian minister said that his country was entering upon "an era of economic development" and that it wanted American experts to assist it in this work. He referred particularly to the opening of the Persian oil fields, and said that the young men of his country needed practical technical training in the fields of engineering, electricity, and oil.

Knew Dr. Stratton

He has been in Washington in his present capacity since November, 1921, and had met Dr. Stratton there before the latter came to the Institute. He said of our president, "He was very kind to me whenever I had any business with him."

The Minister was shown through the engine laboratory and laboratories of technical analysis, photoelasticity, and other researches. He expresses hope that several Persian young men would come here to study in the future, Persia being the only country in the world that never had a student at Technology.

DORM CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS CONTINUES

Cold Weather Only Possible
Cause of Holdup

With the completion of the "Gunnite" walls of the new dormitory, work on the building is rapidly going forward to completion. A large part of the plumbing is finished, and the conduit work for the electric wiring is completed. All the floors, which are of reinforced concrete, are finished, except for surfacing.

Work is being started now on putting in the inner partitions. According to the latest fireproof practice, these walls will be of metal lath construction, and their entire thickness will be only about three and a half inches.

Large blocks of Indiana limestone, which form the base of the walls, are being put in place now. These rest on granite blocks on the foundations. After the limestone is in place, work will be started on the exterior brick facing. The rapidity with which this part of the construction can be completed is dependent on the weather, as bricks cannot be laid in extremely cold weather. The old weather does not interfere with the use of the cement gun, however, and it was being used yesterday to finish up the south wall, in spite of the cold.

When asked how long it would be before the exterior of the dormitory would be finished, one of the men in charge of the work said: "Ask the weather man."

HOLD GYMNASTIC INTERCOLLEGIATES AT PRINCETON

Pick Tiger's Lair for This
Year's Meet at I.C.A.
A.G.A. Meeting

ROPE CLIMB ADDED AS NEW EVENT IN MEETS

Technology Captain Is Pres-
iding Officer of
Association

Six of the eight member colleges were present at the fall meeting of the I. C. A. A. G. A. held in New York last Saturday. The gymnasts decided to hold their intercollegiate at Princeton on March 28. New York University had previously been decided upon, but as they will not have a team this year, the location was changed.

The meeting was called to order by vice-president McCoy, captain of the Beaver team. The following colleges were present: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Captain J. T. McCoy; United States Naval Academy, Captain J. R. Dancy and Head Coach L. H. Long; New York University, Manager Miller; University of Pennsylvania, Manager G. G. Mahy; Princeton, Captain J. Ewing and Manager T. F. Angell; Yale, Manager G. Bryant; Mr. E. E. Kraus, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association and a graduate of Pennsylvania.

Dartmouth and Haverford failed to send delegates to the meeting although they are members of the Association.

Rope Climb Settled

Upon the decision to hold the intercollegiate at Princeton on March 28 Captain Ewing automatically became president of the Association and assumed the chair.

After the intercollegiate, the next thing taken up was the standardization of the rope climb, a new event on the calendar of gymnastic events. After much discussion the length was set at 20 feet, starting from sitting position. Two trials against time are to be given each contestant, timing from the pistol shot until the tambourine at the top is struck. Ties will necessitate another trial.

Try-outs for the gymnastic team to represent America in the Olympic games in Belgium this summer. Secretary Kraus, who is a member of the Olympic Gymnastic Committee, urged the delegates to interest the members of their respective teams and get them working in preparation for the tryouts.

Olympic Work Hard

The work expected of the gymnasts in the Olympic is of such an advanced nature that few college gymnasts will find themselves able to prepare for the tryouts. Many complicated forms of the sport are taken up that college teams leave entirely alone, so the men, when they finish their season this winter, will have many new tricks to learn before they will be able to make a showing comparable with that of their competitors.

Before the meeting was adjourned

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FRENCH RADIO AMATEUR HEARS STATION IXM

Through an amateur station in Hartford, Conn., the M. I. T. Radio Society has received word from French 8AB, located at Nice, France, that he heard the signals from the station IXM, December 9, on a wavelength of 100 meters.

The message telling of the reception also said that the wavelength of the Institute station's signals was determined by the special wavemeter which was made at IXM early in the fall for the French amateur, Leon Deloy.

This transatlantic transmission on such a low wavelength was accomplished under adverse conditions at IXM, as the station is at present using unrectified 60-cycle current for plate supply, owing to the burning out some time ago of the mercury arc rectifier which is normally used to supply a direct current for the plate of the 250 watt tube used for transmitting.

Undergraduates Do Not Know Student Government System, EH21 Exam Shows

THIS GOT THEM!

EH21 POLITICAL THOUGHT

"10. Describe the system of student government at Technology. Explain what you consider to be the causes of its success or failure. How far are these causes also operative in adult politics? Do you consider any principles or suggestions given in the book applicable to the improvement of the system at M. I. T.?"

ILLINOIS STUDENTS ASKED TO CONVENTION

Reduced R.R. Rates to Student
Volunteer Gathering

The Technology Christian Association, which is in charge of the delegation that Technology will send to the annual student volunteer convention this year being held at Indianapolis, has invited Technology men whose homes are in the Hoosier state to attend the gathering as representatives of the Institute. There are 12 men from Indiana here, who by action of the T. C. A. executive committee, will be the beneficiaries of a reduced railroad fare on their trip home for the holidays. The other members who will make up the party, make the same saving.

The action was taken at the last meeting of the committee, and makes it possible for the men to cut 25% off the regular travel rates. Full fare is to be charged to Indianapolis and half fare for the return. The full fare is \$24.71. Other expenses are estimated by the T. C. A. to aggregate \$40. There will be a sleeper charge of \$16.20 for an upper berth and \$20.26 for a lower; room and board for the four days at the convention will be \$14, and the registration fee is \$6.

Nearly every college in the country will be represented at the convention. The University of Washington at Seattle, is sending 40 delegates, its full quota, a distance of over 2500 miles.

WALKER DECORATIONS FINISHED NEXT WEEK

To Unveil New Painting at
Alumni Dinner

"Alma Mater," by E. H. Blashfield '69, which has been hung at the north end of the main hall of Walker will be unveiled at the Alumni Dinner on January 5. The painting is approximately twenty feet long and about fifteen feet high and was shipped to Technology in sections. The various pieces have been assembled and mounted on the wall by Vincent Aderente.

The other renovations in Walker which have been in progress during the last weeks are rapidly nearing completion and it is expected that all of the work will be completed by the time that the students return for the second term, after the Christmas holidays. The mantel which stood in the main hall has been removed in order to make room for the painting and the wall has been completely remodeled.

The portrait of former President Francis Amasa Walker which formerly hung at the north end of the main hall has been moved to a position directly above the entrance to the hall. Although many students have expressed their disfavor at the place chosen, it is expected that the picture will remain there indefinitely.

A bust of President Walker has been placed in the main lobby of Walker in a position which attracts every eye entering the building. The bust will be replaced by a memorial as soon as it is completed but it is not expected that this will be in place until the summer of next year.

Institute Committee and How
It Works Is Greek to
Sophomores

CONDEMN FRATERNITY POLITICAL INFLUENCE

Few Constructive Criticisms
Among Answers Made to
Question

The department of English and History threw confusion into the ranks of the Sophomores who tackled the political thought option of E. H. 21 examination last Saturday afternoon, when they asked men to tell what they knew about the student government system here at Technology. The surprising condition was revealed, that only about one man in 60 was able to give an exact answer to the question, and that the great majority of undergraduates had the vaguest kind of idea of how student activities are controlled.

In that part of the answer that called for a criticism of the system, charges of too much fraternity influence, autocracy and student lack of interest were presented. Others defended the present form of student control and commended its operation. A few frankly admitted that they knew nothing about it whatsoever, and one man was surprised to hear that there was such a thing.

Answers Vary

Instructors of the department assert that a varying degree of intelligence was shown in the answering of the first part of the question which called for a description of the system of student government. In one section, but one man out of nearly 60 was able to give a really concise and thoroughly acceptable delineation. In the same section, about three answers in thirty were made by men fairly well acquainted with the subject. For the most part the men who did try to answer had but a fair knowledge of what they were talking about.

Very few of the criticisms offered were in any way constructive. The most frequently repeated charge was that the various fraternity bodies at the Institute exerted more than desirable influence on undergraduate politics. Factional control was further condemned by one man, who, referring to the controversy in the Class of 1923 last spring over the question of graduation attire, said, "When a powerful minority, in fact, almost a majority, can be forced to wear caps and gowns against their will, then a faction has control, and the minority is being oppressed."

"As I know the system, said another, "it is autocratic, even with the Institute Committee itself." Another blames the total lack of student interest in Institute political affairs for any failure of the system. A number showed their lack of information on the subject by the weirdness of their criticisms. For instance, one man, who assumed that the faculty was the deciding power in student government, called such a system a bureaucracy, because it was a government by permanent officials.

No set of answers would be complete without hearing from representatives of the Brown Bag Club. "It would be a hard task for me to give a description of the student government at

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CALENDAR

- Saturday, December 19
3:00—Walker Memorial Committee tea dance, main hall, Walker.
- Thursday, January 10
7:00—Masonic Club Smoker, north hall, Walker.
- Friday, January 11
8:15—Dorm Dance, Walker.
- Saturday, January 12
5:30—American Chemical Society meeting, north hall, Walker.
- Friday, January 18
8:00—Faculty Club Reception, Walker.