

A Record of Continuous News Service for 43 Years



Official News Organ of the Undergraduates of Technology

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Table with columns for MANAGING BOARD, ASSOCIATE BOARD, EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT, BUSINESS DEPARTMENT, and OFFICES OF THE TECH.

WHERE IS YOUR BUTTON?

THE Combined Drive is officially over. Only fifty-six percent of the Student Body contributed to the only Charity drive that is to be held this year.

Though the Drive is officially over, the Committee will not turn down any further contributions. There is only \$365 more to be raised in order to go over the top.

The Dormitories have come across one hundred per cent. Twenty-eight Fraternities have done likewise. Without a doubt, these two groups contain the men that are benefited the least by the operations of the T.C.A.

COLD WEATHER AND HEALTH

AS usual at this time of year, with the coming of the first cold weather, the general health of the student body begins to go down. More and more show up every day with colds and other minor troubles.

The body is one's most valuable possession and warrants far greater care than most of us give it. If you are careless of your health, why stay at the Institute and attempt to get an education, which represents such a great investment?

Every one knows that to miss even two or three days at the Institute is a serious loss. Even if colds do not cause actual absence from class, they make it extremely difficult to do good work and get the full benefit from courses.

A GREAT deal of interest is being shown by college men all over the country, as result of an announcement by Dean Wilkins of the University of Chicago, in which he states that all fraternities having marks averaging under C would probably be denied winter term initiation privileges.

It is a question just how this measure will work out; whether on the one hand, it will raise the standing of the delinquent fraternities; or, will on the other hand, only result in a clash between the faculty and students.



The Lounger has come across a new proposition in sport betting. He hears of two men who took the list of football games to be played last Saturday, went through the list, and placed bets on every one of the 52 games listed.

that the sum of ten cents was put on each game. The Lounger should say that with 52 bets at ten cents apiece, even money on all of them, a man would stand a fair chance of breaking even.

It reminds the Lounger of one occasion when he was playing Bridge at a quarter of a cent, and after playing half a dozen or so rubbers, came out three points ahead. He didn't spend the winnings of that evening all in one place.

The Lounger has at last found a piece of inefficiency. He went into

the Bursar's Office about something—never mind what—the other day, and he was asked if he had paid them \$25 lately. He honestly disclaimed any knowledge of it.

The Lounger feels highly complemented by one statement in the communication from Mr. Weihmiller that was published on this page the other day. Mr. Weihmiller said something about the Lounger's dropping his role of master of wit and sarcasm and turning to other fields.

The Lounger doesn't know whether Mr. Weihmiller was trying to be a Master of Sarcasm himself at that point, but if he was, it was darned weak. So far as his making incorrect statements as to the number of Professional Societies on the dead old Committee, he is very sorry if he has misrepresented this figure.

Communications

To the Editor:—Your editorial "The Two Term System" in the issue of November 14, seems to indicate on the part of THE TECH, though not, I hope, on the part of the Student Body, a point of view diametrically opposite to that of the Faculty.

You would appear to think that the calendar and curriculum of the Institute should be arranged for the convenience of the student who works only when something compels him to do so. The Faculty believes that all Institute matters should be arranged to benefit the student who is eager to learn and willing and able to work.

When you say that "with a two-term plan, too much is at stake when examinations come around," you evidently have in mind the student who expects to fail and to take a condition examination, or one who expects to pass only with a severe dose of "cramming."

To me, it is by no means "obvious that the percentage of failures must increase" with a fifteen week term. The Institute was formerly on a two term basis, and I believe that the percentage of failures is quite as large now as it was then.

All your arguments are fallacious. Even if it were true that the student "neglects his work more"—which the context shows means for a longer time—in a fifteen week term, still he does so only two thirds as often, and his "half as much again cramming has to be done only twice a year instead of thrice."

Consider your argument that "students learn more in a ten weeks term because they start studying sooner." Suppose under a ten week term, a student idles for the first five weeks of the term; until, that is, his intermediate records warn him. His total unproductive time is fifteen weeks per year.

Under the fifteen week term, this student could idle the first seven and a half weeks of a term and be no more wasteful. It is not at all likely that a student could be idle for seven and one half weeks without receiving very definite notification of that fact. He could receive his warning, doubtless, after five weeks of idleness. The former student thus has fifteen weeks of working time; the latter twenty. How then can the former "learn more?"

Your "break in continuity of work" argument is certainly in favor of two terms, as the work would be interrupted only once between terms, instead of twice; the discontinuity due to holidays being the same in both cases.

More important than these details, however, is your evident desire to arrange the calendar to suit the less worthy students; those who work only because they are forced to work. I hope the calendar, and all other matters, will be so arranged as to favor the student who, as I have said, is eager to learn and to whom the work of learning is a pleasure.

(Signed) L. M. Passano.

To the Editor of THE TECH:—Dear Sir—Tech men are presumably interested in any extension of the scientific method into new fields of research, even when the extension constitutes such a radical departure that its scientific character is not yet generally realized.

Biography Of Richard C. Maclaurin The Creator Of The New Technology

(Editor's Note:—This is the fourth of a series of biographical sketches of the famous Institute men represented by the new pictures in the main hall of Walker Memorial. Others will be published from time to time.)

Richard Cockburn Maclaurin was born July 7, 1870. He entered Cambridge University at the age of 20 and received his Sc.D., LL.D., and B.A. in 1895. In 1898, he received from Cambridge an LL.M.; in 1899, an M.A. from New Zealand; in 1904, an LL.D. Cambridge; in 1908, an Sc.D., Cambridge; in 1909, a D.Sc., Dartmouth; and an LL.D., Wesleyan; in 1910, an LL.D., Harvard.

While Dr. Maclaurin is famous the world over as a student and professor of Law, Mathematics, and Physics, to us, men of Technology, he will mean something more. To us, he is the man who made the Technology, as we now see it, possible.

In 1907, he was offered the Chair of Mathematics at Columbia, which he accepted. The following year he was made head of the Department of Physics. He did not, however, occupy this position long; for during the same year he was elected President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was inaugurated on June 7, 1909. His inaugural address is one which will be long remembered for its sound wisdom.

Speaking on Education, he says, "... and the end of Education is to fit men to deal honestly, intelligently, and efficiently with the affairs of life. Science and Culture are teammates. They cannot, and should not be separated. ... Yes, it is the School that preserves the freshness and vigor of youth, and encourages initiative."

President Maclaurin was not long in office when he was faced with the stern reality that money was needed—and a great deal of it. It was no obstacle to be dodged, nor was Richard Cockburn Maclaurin the man to dodge it; but rather, then and there, he con-

secrated his life to the task of obtaining for Technology the money which meant so much to her—meant the added courses, the new buildings, the modern equipment, the complete facilities of all kinds, and above all, a place to expand. The next ten years were devoted to this cause. After repeated efforts, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts consented to give \$100,000 a year for ten years. Otherwise, things did not go so well. During these first, trying years, the only consolation for those interested in Technology was the statement of President Maclaurin that perhaps there would be enough to "tide her over another bad year."

A fund was started for the money for a new site and new buildings, and it slowly grew, thanks to President Maclaurin. About this time he also discovered Mr. Eastman, a benefactor of the Institute whose identity was a mystery, and who was known simply as "Mr. Smith." President Maclaurin had hopes that the Institute would be able to share in the money and opportunities of the Mackay bequest of Harvard University.

With the outbreak of the War, ominous clouds loomed up on the horizon. The State refused a renewal of the grant, and the Institute was ruled out of the Mackay bequest. President Maclaurin worked on unceasingly, and at the end of a year of war-work, during which time he had no vacation at all, he announced that a certainty had been made of an endowment: fund of \$8,000,000 through Mr. Eastman. There, within sight of the goal, before—a well-blazed trail, behind,—President Maclaurin was called.

Many will say "What a pity, he could not live to see Technology's complete success." The answer to this is found in the character of Richard Cockburn Maclaurin; no selfishness to be indulged; no personal vanity to be flattered; only an ever increasing fidelity to purpose, and an immeasurable love for Technology.

physio-psychology will agree that the realm there opened to our study is as complex and as important as the entire inorganic world. The position of the human consciousness at the very center of this field should encourage direct investigation of it; yet our modern science has devoted itself almost wholly to the study of things and the development of instruments external to the personality, and has left to the Oriental races, with their limited comprehension of the scientific attitude, the observation of man's internal states of consciousness and their capacity for development. It is only gradually being brought to the attention of the western world that, by carrying its scientific attitude into this new field, and asking a few hints as to method from what has been learned in the Orient, revolutionary discoveries may be made, which independent investigators can corroborate in accordance with the most rigid standards of science.

The method used falls under the general description of "meditation," and requires such preliminary training in the investigator as will enable him to keep his attention absolutely fixed on the object of his study, without any of

(Continued on Page 4)

Play Directory

- BOSTON OPERA HOUSE: Walter Hampden in "Cyrano de Bergerac." Boston debut to-night.
COLONIAL: "Stepping Stones." Just as good as ever.
COPLEY: "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals," "The New World," and "Barbara's Wedding." An evening of Barrie.
HOLLIS: "The Nervous Wreck." Riotous adventure of a neurotic Easterner.
MAJESTIC: Charlot's Review. Excellent evening's entertainment.
PLYMOUTH: "The Potters." Amusing comedy of common mortals and their troubles.
ST. JAMES: "We've Got to Have Money." Comedy.
SELWYN: "For All of Us." Play by and with William Hodge. Good.
SHUBERT: "Wildflower." Good musical comedy. Edith Day.
TREMONT: "Saint Joan." Shaw's famous chronicle-play, superbly acted.
WILBUR: "Moonlight." With Julia Sanderson.

The Fenway Mass. at Boylston Dante's Inferno De Luxe Presentation

STUDENTS ACCOUNTS Solicited Manufacturers National Bank "The Closest to the Institute" Kendall Square, Cambridge

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