"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION"

The open season on colds has opened at the Institute with a vengeance. Cold and cases of pneumonia may be expected to stir up every little nook and corner, while a representative laundry reports a substantial increase in its weekly receipt of handkerchiefs. And as yet, Romance, the treacherous and capricious weather has not had half a chance to do its worst.

In the Medical Department, one of the most fully equipped in the world, we have started its work when it finishes examining the entire student body. Its personnel is anxious to prevent disease at the source. Compulsory examinations are for the good of the individual—if you have neglected yours, make an appointment now. But above everything, let the Medical Department care for your health or ever was the old adage about prevention more true than at present.

"CUSTOMED TO DON or Customed To Measure"

An article of clothing costs you less if you made it yourself. The people you know best will agree. A suit of clothes may cost you $120 at a reputable tailor's, but if you use your own skill, you can save $100 and make a suit that will last you longer and look better.

In charge of this issue:
S. R. Fleming '32

OFFICES OF THE TECH
Walter Morrell, Cambridge, Mass. News and Editorial Rooms, 570
Burroughs-Brown 101, Walsh.
Telephone: Cambridge 7-1501.
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: FIVE YEARS $10.00. Payable in advance.
Boston's four year undergraduate courses do not permit of the addition of more studies; that is, the required number of catalogue hours per term now in force cannot be increased to any great extent. Therefore, if the instruction now given in the four year undergraduate courses should be considered inadequate, the only remedy would be an increase in the term of study, say, from four years to five.

"FOUR YEARS OR FIVE?"

NOTHING grows so rapidly as rumor, nor with so little legitimate reason for growth. At present the atmosphere is saturated with rumors of the approaching conversion of four year courses at the Institute to a five year basis. While we are not aware of any official grounds for such rumors, yet there is apparently reason to believe that such action may be taken at some future date.

All qualitative engineering owes its development to processes of logic. While it is true that logical reasoning is responsible for the progress of qualitative engineering, it is also true that practical engineers are wont to ignore logic whenever their ends may be accomplished by use of the more convenient rules-of-thumb, formulae or tables. It is one of the purposes of the Institute to educate and train practical engineers: therefore, the Institute must instruct its students in the logical development of the engineering sciences and in the accepted practical methods used by practicing engineers.

In almost every subject that we can remember having taken, the instruction began with the underlying principles and progressed rapidly into the development of useful formulae and constants. As soon as the development of these practical minds had been accepted by the students as founded on infallible logic, the students themselves wrote overboard to make room for the more precious cargo of valuable formulae, since the students' success or failure in the subject depended almost entirely upon their ability to cope with and to solve practical problems. It cannot be denied that the measure of an engineer's value is his ability to deal with such practical problems, yet it is unfortunately true that, all too often, one is liable to encounter a proposition that calls for a new method of attack, something which cannot be found by diligent review of handbooks and lists of formulae. It is here that the "handbook engineer" falls down, and the natural result of the present curricula of the Institute is to produce too many such.

Under the circumstances the situation for this year is to increase the length of the courses of study, devoting more time to the improvement of logical reasoning. We may be sure that the students will more gradually become acquainted with the underlying principles and will be more firmly retained in the mind. It is because we believe that the guiding hands of the Institute must realize the probable truth of the foregoing statements that we have some right to expect the eventual abolition of the four year undergraduate courses.

The telephone grows mind-altering

The Bell System has made many successful experiments in two-way plane to ground telephone communication. This new development illustrates how it meshes a pace ahead of the new civilization. It is now growing faster than ever before.

New telephone buildings are going up this year in 200 cities. Many central offices are changing from manual dial telephones. A vast program of cable construction is going on.

This is the period of growth, improvement and adventure in the telephone industry. Expenditures this year for new plant and service improvements will total more than five hundred and fifty million dollars—one and one half times the entire cost of the Panama Canal.

"OUR PIONEERING WORK HAS JUST Begun"

"CUSTOMED TO DON or Customed To Measure"

A roll call of the outstanding universities would include with most interesting frequency the names of weavers of distinctive clothes by LANGROCK.