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Official News Organ of the Undergraduates of M. I. T.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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In charge of this issue: W. L. Sheppard '33

"MARRIAGE"

ON THREE evenings of this week the Dramashop will present a comedy entitled "Marriage", by the Russian author Gogol, in the Commons Room of Rogers. Giving as it does an opportunity for the Faculty and student body to enjoy an interesting and unusual type of entertainment, it is to be hoped that they will support the efforts of the players in a more enthusiastic fashion than has been customary at past performances.

Theatrical critics of Boston have always praised the presentations of the Dramashop, giving full consideration to the physical and psychological difficulties which the organization has to overcome. The physical difficulties are due to the lack of an adequate stage and hall in which to present a play, and the necessity of making scenery and other properties from materials at hand. The psychological difficulties arise from the fact that the Dramashop tries to cater to a public that is below the average as far as interest in things literary and dramatic is concerned.

The first difficulty will probably be remedied to some extent when the new additions to Walker Memorial are built. For the second difficulty there probably is no remedy. Students come to Technology to study engineering and the sciences, and the great majority of them restrict their interests, together with the knowledge that they seek, almost exclusively to the facts that can be represented by differential equations. In this they are seconded by a large percentage of the Faculty, who fail to appreciate the educational value of non-scientific subjects.

It is to be hoped that both students and Faculty will support the Dramashop in its new presentation, and thus help to perpetuate and strengthen an organization which would be wholeheartedly welcomed at any other college, but which must practically fight for its life at an engineering school.

KEY CAPERS

DEPENDENT, as it is, upon the support of the student body, the Beaver Key Society is undertaking to sound out the sentiment of that body.

Saturday evening the basketball team plays its first game of the season, against Newport Naval Academy. Following the game, the society has arranged for a dance in the Main Hall, Walker, with the intention of offering several more in the future if this first venture should prove successful.

It is essential that the undergraduate body appreciate the services which the Key Society may render, and understand the import which it carries as such an organization. Key societies are functioning in the majority of the larger colleges and universities in the country, and in most cases are contributing considerably to the reputation of the schools in which they have been instituted.

A new organization at Technology, the Beaver Key Society has within the limits of the fall term accomplished much of its founders' expectations. The welcoming and entertaining of the various teams which come to Cambridge to meet Institute athletes is necessary to the reputation of the school. To finance its work, the society must depend entirely upon the sympathy of the undergraduates, and lacking this, it is destined to follow the ill-fated Calumet Club into obscurity.

The student body is urged to give to this movement the backing it merits, and to recognize this merit as a benefit to Technology. These post-basketball game dances not only provide an enjoyable evening, but also furnish the sustenance of an organization for the best interests of the Institute.

New York Skyscraper Mooring Mast Stands Quarter Mile Above Street

Empire State "Hitching Post" Built To Serve Largest Of Zeppelins

The tall mooring mast for dirigible airships on top of the Empire State Building in New York City is taking shape a quarter of a mile above the street level. The 200-foot spire will be entirely incased in its aluminum and chromium steel finish within a month. This "hitching-post" will be adequate to serve the hugest of Zeppelins, it was revealed by William F. Lamb of the architectural firm of Shreve, Lamb and Harmon, who designed the great building. A maximum side pull of fifty tons, in addition to wind bracing for 120-mile-an-hour-gales, has been allowed for, Mr. Lamb pointed out.

"All steel work, the landing platform and arrangements for equipment for the actual hitching of airships are being installed," he said. "The spindle through the top of the mast will be designed in the future along the most modern lines. The recent construction of the Montreal mooring mast for the English R-100 involved many improvements over the great mast at Lakehurst, which was built only five years ago." The spindle will work on the ball and socket point principle, allowing elasticity in all directions.

Elevator Installed: A shuttle elevator will carry passengers up to a glass-enclosed observation gallery at the top of the mast from the main observatory on the eighty-sixth floor of the building. "Imagine a seventeen-story building placed on top of that eighty-six-story skyscraper and you have some idea of the height of the topmost observatory," Mr. Lamb continued. "Spectators at that height will be about

1,225 feet above Fifth avenue. The entire height of the structure is 1,248 feet. It will be possible for visitors to climb a short flight of stairs to the even higher landing platform above the last observatory, but it is unlikely that the practice will be permitted, since that space will be open to the air."

The mast will form a brilliant climax to the new skyscraper. Its aluminum, the architect pointed out, will be somewhat more lustrous than the aluminum spandrels between the windows of each story further down, but duller than the brightest stripe of chromium steel that shoots up the side of the building. This aluminum base will be set off with flashing in K.A.-2 steel, the Krupp discovery, the same as the strips below. This metal has been proved to be rustless and stainless. The entire mast will be illuminated at night both by flood lighting and interior illumination.

HISTORICAL ESSAY CONTEST ANNOUNCED

Of interest to some Sophomores and Freshmen at Technology is the announcement of the Old South Association of Boston that it is offering four prizes for essays on historical subjects written by graduates of the Boston Public Latin and the Boston Public High Schools in 1929 and 1930.

The subjects chosen for the essays this year are "John Winthrop" and "The New England Confederation of 1643." A first prize of \$100, and a second prize of \$60 will be offered for each subject.

Further information regarding the competition may be obtained at the office of the Association in the Old South Meeting-house.

AMHERST SQUIRT GUN RIOT WAS BIG AFFAIR

When they were Sophomores the class of '61 at Amherst bought a huge squirt gun and used it to drench freshmen as they went to chapel. A year later the class of '62 decided to bury the gun, but the class of '61 thought it had some say in the matter and tried to recapture the weapon. The riot which ensued was finally quelled by the president of the institution who allowed the sophomores to bury their gun in peace.

THE OPEN FORUM

PROF. ROGERS ON DRAMASHOP

The Editor of THE TECH:

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings of this week, December 4, 5, and 6, the Dramashop is presenting a comedy, Marriage, by Nikolai Gogol, perhaps the most famous Russian writer of comedy. So far as can be known this play has never before been given in the United States and, therefore, for a Technology organization to attempt it is of distinct interest.

The play is laid in a picturesque period, the old regime in Russia around 1825, giving opportunity for amusing and picturesque settings and costumes. The director of the Dramashop has had the advantage of assistance from a former Russian student, now at the Institute, who will be able to obtain the real Russian atmosphere. The story is an amusing one, dealing with the perplexities of a bashful bachelor who is looking over the girls with a view to marriage, but who finally happily escapes. Another comedy of Gogol's, The Inspector, has been a favorite for nearly one hundred years. The Dramashop organization feels very sure that his play will prove very entertaining to a Technology audience.

Considering the excellence of the work that the Dramashop has done in the past, it has never been quite adequately supported by either the faculty or the student body. In spite of the general slump of interest in our best activities, some of us feel that the Dramashop is a unique institution which deserves and will repay support. There are three performances to choose from, the tickets are only \$1.00, and I hope that the Commons Room at Rogers will be crowded at every performance.

ROBERT E. ROGERS.

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Co-Education Like Music And Eating

Two Sexes Will Not Mix, Says English Author Who Opposes System

Presenting his ideas of co-education in an interview given the Duquesne Duke, official publication of that university, Gilbert Keith Chesterton, English author said, in referring to the placing of the two sexes together in schools, "The two always seemed to me like good music and eating, each to be enjoyed to the fullest, but never mixed."

"What do I think of co-education," he said, leaning forward from the chair which he filled to overflowing, smiling, and then looking over the heads of his inquisitors. "I'm not opposed to it. It's trying to mix two things which are not at all alike, just as though they were, and would mix well."

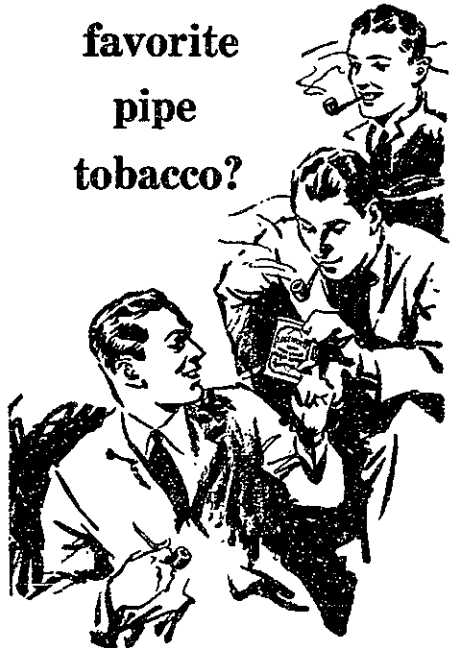
"It's throwing the two sexes into one great cauldron and mixing them with a vast spoon, a thoroughly impossible feat," he continued.

"There is a time, perhaps," according to Chesterton, "which both sexes benefit from association with each other, but co-education rarely arrives in the lives of young people at that propitious time."

"This business of simply placing the two sexes together and expecting as a result good for both is nonsense. The two sexes are quite unlike each other. Each deserves special care, distinct from the other."

A football game between Rutgers and Princeton of 1869 was re-enacted by the students of Rutgers, which was one of the events connected with the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of New Brunswick, N. Y. Old uniforms and even false whiskers were used in this mock game.

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