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

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A NEW DEPARTURE

YEARS ago, Colton said that "next to acquiring good friends, the best acquisition is that of good books." The thought embodied in this remark has been repeated many times and by many different persons. Just as a man may be judged by the friends he keeps, so may he be judged also by the books he reads—by their number and the quality of their contents. A man who reads a book is unconsciously having his ideas molded, his opinions tempered, and his appreciations broadened—in short, he is being educated.

It is axiomatic, and yet too little appreciated, that a man's education does not, or should not, end with graduation. The principal value of college training is that it teaches men where to look for knowledge, and how to judge it when they have found it. A college course which does not instill an appreciation of books is deficient for this reason: that it restricts the field of knowledge of the graduate to that in which he specialized in school, and results in comparative narrow-mindedness and inability to judge in matters outside that field.

The value of being able to express one's ideas clearly and coherently in writing is continually being stressed. But this ability cannot be obtained by the short cut of a course in English. It has been found that men who join the staff of THE TECH invariably write better in proportion to the amount of reading they have done; their vocabularies are larger, their sentences are more coherent and grammatically correct, and they distinguish better the shades of meaning of synonymous words. The three compositions published in today's supplement have been picked by the Faculty of the English Department as embodying original thought and clarity of expression.

The training of a Technology student is highly specialized, as colleges go. It is a technical training. And it is because of this that the supplementary page appearing in today's issue of THE TECH may claim to have a special field of endeavor. For the same reason, it is somewhat in the nature of an experiment. It is published in the hope that it will encourage more and better writing by Technology students on non-technical subjects, and, above all, that it may help to broaden the appreciations of the student whose literature is bounded by textbooks, the morning paper and the Saturday Evening Post.

INDIFFERENCE, NOT OPPOSITION

APPARENTLY the death of the Technology Circus does not go entirely un lamented. With this issue is printed the second communication within the last few weeks in regard to the Institute's traditional emotional outlet, asking for a definite expression of undergraduate opinion on the matter.

Who is to blame for the decadence of the Circus? Nobody. Never a communal affair, its failure to appear can be laid to the door of whoever favors its continuance and does nothing about it. One or two men who can give assurance to the Institute Committee that they are able to engineer another such affair will no doubt find that the opposition is small.

It is an easy matter to revive the Circus, but in regard to the advisability of this move there is serious question. There never seems to have been a Circus about which the concurrent opinion of the students has been that it has accomplished definite good. On the contrary it has nearly always degenerated into a veritable brawl. If there are students who favor this form of diversion, there is plenty of opportunity for them to obtain it in places where the name of the Institute is not degraded by their activity, for there certainly is a large enough body of undergraduates who do not care to have their names associated with such an affair to merit the consideration of those who do.

THE OPEN FORUM

To the Editor of THE TECH:
 In the November 5th issue of The Tech appeared a letter by Carl Connable urging the organization of a body to renew the Tech Circus. The concluding paragraph of his letter was: "If I am wrong, I'd like to have my error pointed out to me. If I am right, let's organize a bigger and better Tech Circus." No one has made any attempt to show the fallacy of having a circus, nor has anything been done towards its revival; that is, insofar as is generally known. To my mind, the lack of response to Mr. Connable's letter is a distinct indication of utter disinterest on the part of the so-called "rulers of student affairs," the Institute committee, THE TECH, and others. Does that mean that almost three thousand fellows are to be deprived of some good wholesome fun because of the disinterest of about fifty men? You may claim that it is the disinterest of the entire school. It apparently seems so, but was not the last circus held in 1926-27, or just before the memory of ninety percent of the student body; and was not the substitute, The Carnival, held in 1928-29 year, or before the memory of about sixty percent of the body? If something is not done within a year, The Circus and Carnival will both be completely forgotten to all those who are in the classes below '32. Is this to be allowed? It is your duty, as editor of THE TECH to have some attention brought to this affair so that some definite action be taken, regardless of the fact that it may be adverse.
 IRVING FINBERG '31.

Ten cigarette butt receivers have been placed at strategic points about the campus of the New Jersey State College for Women by the undergraduate officers. They are made of concrete.

HIGH BROWS DO NOT MEAN INTELLIGENCE

Height of Hair Line Does Not Measure Mental Power

It has long been known that a "high hat" does not mean superior intelligence, but now comes Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, anthropologist of the Smithsonian Institution, with the statement that a high brow does not necessarily indicate unusual mental powers.

After making measurements of the skulls of hundreds of Eskimos he reported to the bureau of American ethnology in which he presented this conclusion. He later said in an interview granted to the Associated Press, "If brains and the height of the forehead were directly related, the Eskimo would be intellectually superior to the white man."

"Instead," he states, "anthropometric studies have shown repeatedly that the height of forehead is not a safe gauge of intelligence, as commonly believed, but is controlled by the variable height of the hair line."

The quarter centimeter by which the height of the brow of the average Eskimo man exceeds that of the average American man would indicate that the Eskimos are a superior race in so far as mental capacity is concerned.

The Eskimo women do not follow the men in having higher brows than the Americans, but have exactly the same skull height as the average woman in the United States. The entire skull height of the Eskimo man is about the same size as that of the "old American" man.

Observations by Dr. Hrdlicka show that the Eskimo's respiratory rate and temperature are close to that of the white man, but that his pulse rate is much slower, being about 60 per minute while that of the white man averages more than 70.

Play Directory

THE STAGE
 WILBUR: "Dishonored Lady," Katharine Cornell continues to excite the admiration of the audiences in this sympathetic drama.

TREMONT: "Green Grow the Lilacs," The Theatre Guild presents a new American folkplay written in rather modernistic style for those who enjoy a nice, clean, presentation.
 SHUBERT: "Street Singer," a musical comedy of the mediocre sort with lots of music, girls, humor, and lavish sets.
 MAJESTIC: "Street Scene," one of the best productions on the present Boston stage. East Side New York is pictured with a realism that is startling.

THE SCREEN
 METROPOLITAN: "Lightnin'," Will Rogers distinguishes himself as an actor of no mean talent in a production that is exceptionally interesting and entertaining.

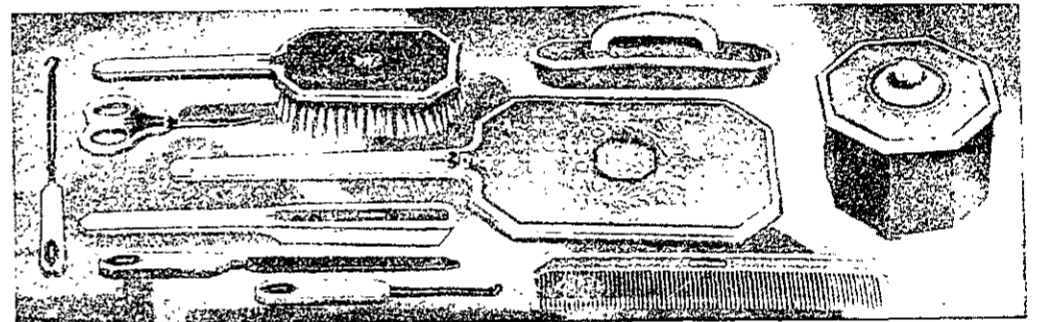
STATE: "The Lottery Bride," Jeanette MacDonald in a new talkie-musical comedy that will delight no dearth of fans.

FENWAY: "The River's End," James Oliver Curwood's thrilling novel brought to the screen with Charles Bickford.
 OXFORD: "Abraham Lincoln," now for the first time at popular prices, this great motion picture is offered to those who enjoy history in pretty pictures.

KATHIS: "Kismet," Otis Skinner brings Rogers' screen, the piece he has played so often on the stage, presenting life in a harem, certainly an interesting theme.

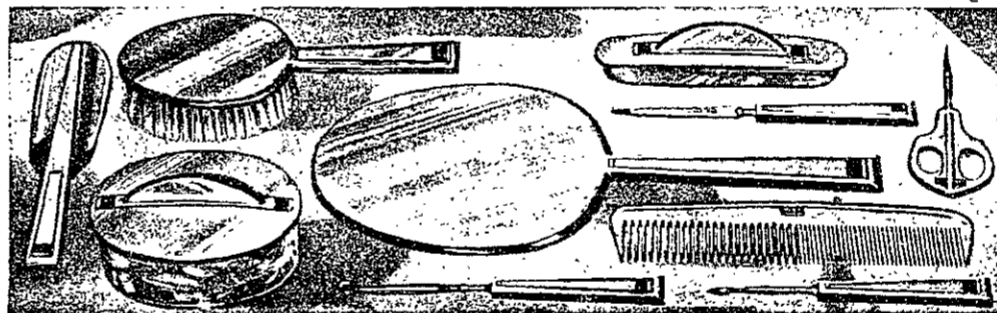
Caps and tams have been ordered for the freshmen at Murray College, Kentucky. The girls will wear blue tams adorned with the yellow letter "M" and the numeral "34", while the boys will wear caps of similar style.

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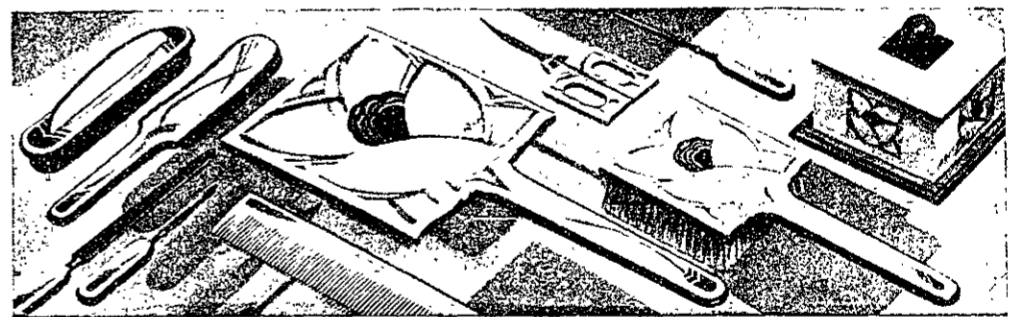
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