

A Record of Continuous News Service For 49 Years



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

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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

Events Surrounding National Law and Abolition of Slavery Compared

John B. Henck '86, a graduate of Technology, is the author of an article in the November "Atlantic Monthly" on prohibition which has been given federal endorsement by A. W. W. Woodcock, director of federal prohibition enforcement.

Customs and Standards Change "Customs and popular standards of right and wrong are always in a state of change," declared Mr. Henck in the "Atlantic Monthly,"

Transfer Student Gives Impressions Of Institute Work

Speaks of Technology Spirit After Spending Twelve Weeks Here

"However, I do like it in spite of all the things I've said. I came here with the intention of getting training in my special branch of work. I'm getting it, and exactly what I wanted, too.

ment. The point at which it becomes necessary to change the written law to make it conform to new views of life, is naturally a matter of controversy, since all people do not advance at the same rate, and some cling with more tenacity than others to their old ways, and especially to love of their pet poisons, whether of thought or diet.

Slavery Thought Justified "It is less than a hundred years," continued the writer, "since the people of a large section were generally agreed that human slavery was justified, as a stepping stone by which a superior race might realize a higher life, while doing no wrong to an inferior one, incapable of similar advance."

He continues, "A shorter time has passed since public opinion was comfortably satisfied to recognize the right of any man to destroy himself by the use of narcotics or intoxicants, if it so pleased him. It was admitted that victims of such habits were a burden to society and a danger to its peace and moral tone, but it was held that their personal liberty was sacred, and must not be infringed upon, either for the security of society, or for the humane purpose of their rescue from degradation.

Wet States Should Enforce Law "Are the states still strong for personal liberty any more justified in nullification, than the former slave states were?" asks Mr. Henck. "Gradually the latter have been overcoming their prejudice, to their increasing benefit, and it would seem that the theory of the wet states, that they could afford to ignore their obligation to cooperate with their neighbors in enforcing the national law, has been sufficiently discredited by the facts resulting to convince them on their error."

Blackboard Used By Alumnus Rivals Einstein's Garret

Technology Man to Confer With Relativity Wizard at Pasadena, Cal.

The famous "garret" which is Dr. Einstein's workshop is rivaled by the window blackboard of Dr. Richard C. Tolman '03, one of the great American mathematicians whom Einstein will see when he visits Pasadena, Cal.

Dr. Tolman's blackboard, like a curtain, covers the upper half of his office door that ordinarily would be devoted to a glass window bearing the name of the tenant. As used by Dr. Tolman, the board is a glorified figuring pad, one a salesman might use to advantage in illustrating selling points. He sells no goods, but in one sense of the word he uses the blackboard for selling.

Mathematical Magic He sells ideas to his callers—mathematical ideas about relativity, ionization, colloids, conductors, principles of similitude and statistical mechanics, the subjects for which he is internationally famous in the scientific world.

Difficult subjects all, but they seem to come alive on the blackboard at the magic touch of the 49 year-old man. Tall, dark, with a pipe almost invariably in one hand, chalk in the other, he faces his caller, a smile flashing momentarily time after time as he speaks rapidly in a soft voice.

Dr. Tolman has just finished a series of relativity studies giving a possible explanation of the "red shift" of light, an unaccountable indication that distant nebulae in all parts of the heavens are rushing away from earth at speeds running up to nearly 10,000 miles a second.

He finds this is not all real speed, but partly an effect due to discrepancies in the time of arrival at earth of successive light impulses from the nebulae, which are so distant that their light now reaching us started earthward 50 million or more years ago.

CLOSING A BREACH

DR. ROWE and the Advisory Council on Athletics are to be congratulated on having brought the resumption of athletic relations between Harvard and Princeton perhaps one step nearer to reality.

There is no good reason why two great rival universities should hold to stiff-necked, unyielding, and uncompromising policies over the question of athletic relations, merely on account of a quarrel of four years' standing over a comparatively trivial issue, a quarrel that would be better forgotten and relegated to history. It seems foolish to the casual observer that an entire intercollegiate sports program should be disrupted by failure to agree on football schedules.

It is to be hoped that the triangular regatta on the Charles next May will have some appreciable effect in closing the breach, a consummation which is undoubtedly desired by the undergraduates of both institutions.

DR. MILLIKAN AND UNEMPLOYMENT

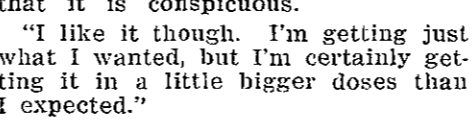
AT the hands of the laity in both the press and civic organizations, the general business depression has been attributed to almost every item imaginable. Perhaps the greatest single blame is laid at the door of machinery. The constantly increased use of labor-saving devices and of new methods of efficiency in production throw men out of work and thus keep adding to the seriousness of the unemployment problem.

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, in discussing this question in a New York address, remarked that science creates more jobs than it destroys, and that "in the long run, I expect science, or better the method of science, to go a long way towards solving the unemployment problem." It is the term, "long run" that must be stressed. It is not a temporary situation, unfortunate as the fact may be.

English history offers a galaxy of examples, illustrating that unemployment and the suffering which is its heir, is not a recent problem. From the outset of the modern machine or industrial era near the close of the 18th century, there have been periodic disturbances of new machines that threw old men out of work. Yet it has become the byword of labor heads in recent years not to oppose the use of new kinds of machinery. The understanding is that in the "long run" it is a benefit, rather than a detriment to the worker. If such innovation means unemployment, and a need for adjustment, in the course of time it demands more workers and raises the standard of living.

Determined efforts to get industry back into balance and not the scrapping of machinery and scientific research, is the only adequate remedy.

THE LOUNGER



The Lounger wrapped his beard around his waist and dragged his senile carcass down to the Senior Prom. By all indications it was Junior night, Juniors here and Juniors there, and Juniors at the door. However, it was damned nice of the Seniors to run this dance for the class of '32.

There is a persistent rumor that no Seniors were present. This is of course utter exaggeration — the Lounger counted at least six. These moved about very mournfully and addressed each other in hollow tones. Most of the evening they congregated in a corner sorrowing at this their last Senior Prom.

As usual the lounges were the evening's most popular resort. In fact if it were not for these convenient parking places, the floor would be so jammed with dancers that movement would be impossible. The dance would consist of a huge shaking, pulsating mass of black and white liberally besprinkled with reds, blues, and greens — like an animated jazz jelly.

Speaking of shaded lounges and open fires the Lounger wishes to observe that many a collar wilted and many a hard shirt front buckled and many a dress was rumbled as the evening spun to its close. Most of the damage to sartorial attire was done in the quiet comfort of the lounges... but that does not prove anything exclusive or if it does, a man can't be hanged on circumstantial evidence—

thrown in contact with some boy who doesn't know what he is doing. "There seems to be a lot of talk about liquor around the Institute, but the actual stuff has been pretty well hidden. Perhaps I just haven't been to the right places. Perhaps the fact that the Institute is in a large city has something to do with it. Anyway, drinking doesn't seem so prevalent as it did in the small town where I was last year."

Play Directory

Table listing plays and their descriptions, including Copley, Colonial, Hancock Hall, Lyric, Sandersons, Shubert, Tremont, Fenway, Keith's, Keith-Boston, Metropolitan, Olympia and Uptown, Repertory, and Orpheum.

Advertisement for Lydia Lee-Luncheon, featuring the text 'YES We Change the Menu EVERY DAY' and 'Lydia Lee-Luncheon'.