THE TECH

ESCAPE FROM BABBITT

A five-day week for Technology, with the purpose of "enhancing the student opportunity for cultural development self directed education, and independent research, which has been proposed and is now being considered by the Faculty, will not give the student any additional hours to work. The purpose is admirable, but the method of achieving it is questionable.

With the undergraduate burden under the burden of a week of forty-eight hours or more, it is now suggested that all classes be crowded into five days in order to 'entrap' students to seek culture and more research.

We may divide the students into two groups for the purpose of analyzing its probable reaction to the change. First there are the students who need no prodding. To make up for the pronounced scarcity of spare hours for cultural development is easy. His free hours are not wasted. Because he could adapt himself easily to a new schedule, the proposed change would not affect him greatly. He is already working at a healthy maximum, and since his study is already concentrated, he could secure no additional hours of work per week.

The second type—the student who needs prodding—might first grout the change with sarcasticism, realizing that the new plan would allow him to stay out late on Friday night and sleep Saturday. He would soon discover, however, that concentration of college hours would entail more preparation during the week and that he would not be gaining anything. At present this student can be induced only with difficulty to apply himself to outside work. The assigned work is enough for him. It is unlikely, therefore, that he would give any greater sustained effort to outside work under the new plan. Saturday would tend to become a clean-up day for the residue of assigned weekly work.

The plan has, however, the very definite advantage for students and staff members of commuting from long distances. Concentration of the requisite class-hours into a five-day schedule might encourage students to make healthy relaxation on Saturday to the exclusion of serious time-killing during unoccupied gaps of the present schedule. Staff members would be freed on Saturday for research or conference with students. Undergraduates might secure part-time employment on this day.

What this Institute needs is not a five-day, but an eight-day week. The student has all his classes crowded into five days in order to let enterprising students to make healthy relaxation on Saturday to the exclusion of serious time-killing during unoccupied gaps of the present schedule. Staff members would be freed on Saturday for research or conference with students. Undergraduates might secure part-time employment on this day.

If it is the desire of the Faculty that the student find time to relax and absorb culture after that event.

We hereby suggest that a committee be appointed to send a letter to A. Hitler askingive must create a new day.

(Continued on Page 4)

NEW TECHNOLOGY REVIEW FEATURES ARTICLE ON MINING

Review Includes Article Giving Results of Research on Engine Combustion

"Ignition and Mixture in the Cylinder," written by Professor Frederick K. Morris, is featured in this month's Technology Review. Professor Morris writes with the knowledge of a philosopher of wide experience. An article of genuine detail, it presents the diverse series of factors which the engine found, the remarkable diminution of tent, and the advent of coal burning.

The results of recent research on angle combustion are given in an article entitled "Engine Combustion Caught in the Act," written by John F. Freyling, Jr. The study described in the text and illustrations relate to the work he has pursued in holding the Alfred Sloan Automotive Research Fellowship at the Institute.

Ralph T. Joses and J. Myres Elan, Jr., have collaborated in making a study of the effects of the depressions by the American college in an article under the title "Academic Economics." Questions such as are used to evaluate the academic value of American colleges from 1929 to 1930, cover, however, the most important economic class-hours would entail more preparation during the week and that he would not be gaining anything. At present this student can be induced only with difficulty to apply himself to outside work. The assigned work is enough for him. It is unlikely, therefore, that he would give any greater sustained effort to outside work under the new plan. Saturday would tend to become a clean-up day for the residue of assigned weekly work.

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