Tuesday, April 2, 1935

THE TECH—Inquires

This column endeavors to solicit student opinion upon selected questions. A reporter interviews students at random, in making his rounds about the Institute. Questions for this column may be submitted by readers. Open Forum comment on any of the answers will be welcomed.

Question for today: "Many colleges forbid the pledging of freshmen to fraternities until their second or even third term. In your opinion should such a system be established at Tech?"

John B. Toy, '37, X, 494 Memorial Drive, Cambridge: "No. Many houses are run entirely by students; freshmen need all the time possible to gain experience in managing. Furthermore if freshmen did not live in fraternity houses, there would be insufficient accommodations. In addition too much time would be wasted by freshmen and upperclassmen in rushing during the school year."

Robert C. Smith, '35, XV, 230 Beacon St., Boston: "It would hardly work at Tech. We have no time to do any rushing at the beginning of the second term. By the time a man has been here for one term he has formed contacts which will seem more important than contacts he may form in a fraternity."

Bulfinn Inman, '38, JR, Dormitories: "I favor a compulsory postponement of pledging for at least one term. A newly arrived freshman is the most bewildered being on earth—except, perhaps, a few in a nudist colony."

Alexander R. Appleworth, '31, VIA, Dormitories: "Yes, I think such a system would be far superior to the present rushing system which would join a fraternity because of the social rush system would join. After all, the students' interests are more important than the fraternalists' interests."

Robert C. Smith, '37, X, 494 Memorial Drive, Cambridge: "I do not believe that such a system would be successful at Technology for it defeats the primary purposes and benefits of most of the fraternities on the campus. Congenial friends, living quarters comparable to those at home, assistance in scholarship and opportunities in activities, all are most important in the first years of college."

Lester M. White, '37, X, Dormitories: "I would seem desirable to postpone pledging for a term so that freshmen can have a chance to decide whether they think fraternities worthwhile. At present, there is too much hasty pledging."

No. Many houses at Tech are in a certain social class, who, when he was asked whether he would rather have an apple or two halves the same size, took the two halves and assumed the frown of the class."

"No—emphatically! The season of necessity must be as short as possible both to allow new men to adjust themselves to the environment and permit returning men better to start their college year."

Richard G. Nangle, '37, X, 927 St. Paul St., Brookline: "No—it would decrease the size of the houses by more than a fourth of the members during the deferred period. Some houses at Tech are commonly too small as it is."

"No—emphatically! The season of necessity must be as short as possible both to allow new men to adjust themselves to the environment and permit returning men better to start their college year."

According to the Georgia "Tech-sionic" there was once a freshman in a certain social class, who, when he was asked whether he would rather have an apple or two halves the same size, took the two halves and assumed the frown of the class.