CO-OPERATION NEEDED

Last night at the meeting of the Interfraternity Conference, the majority of the fraternities voted to have the Rush Week for the freshman class entering in March controlled by the I.F.C. This is in direct contrast to the free manner in which Rush Week has been conducted in the past.

In deciding to control the conduct of Rush Week, the fraternities assumed many responsibilities which they had not faced in the past. Previous Rush Weeks have been wide open affairs, often with every house out to cut the other's throat. This year there is a need for co-operation between the houses.

The need for this co-operation is borne out by the failure of past attempts to control Rush Week and rushing practices. Before each of the two previous Rush Weeks, the I.F.C. proposed limits and controls on the rushing period. Each time these proposals were accepted, but when it came time to put them into effect, they fell apart from lack of co-operation between the fraternities.

The proposals made and accepted this year are far more sweeping and drastic than those of previous years. If the I.F.C. is successful in requesting the Institute to withhold the list of entering freshmen, the fraternities have entered into a plan which requires the utmost effort on their part to work together for its success.

Each fraternity wants essentially the same thing; they differ only in their ideas of the best means to attain that end. If, and only if, each house will forget its petty grievances and the sometimes not-too-ethical practices it followed in the past, the proposal passed by the I.F.C. will work. If the fraternities are not prepared to do this, it would be best to drop the idea completely and return to the old system rather than have the plan fail as did those in the past, creating only confusion and ill feeling.

Geology Department Head Organizes Search For Bauxite Deposits In Haiti

Under the leadership of Professor Warren J. Mead of the Institute's Geology Department, a group of geologists have discovered the presence of large deposits of bauxite in the Caribbean Islands of Haiti and Jamaica. The other members of the group included Dr. Robert R. Shrock and Dr. Walter L. Whitehead, both members of the Institute's Geology department, Dr. Carl Schmedeman of Harvard and Wisconsin Universities, and two Technology graduates, Forbes Robinson and A. P. Horner, Jr.

Professor Mead, who had been serving as advisor and consultant to the Reynolds Metals Company of Richmond, Virginia, began his search for bauxite in 1940 when the Reynolds Company began expanding its facilities to meet increased aluminum production schedules. The company at that time started construction of a large aluminum plant, and began a search for bauxite, the ore aluminum is recovered from, to supply this plant.

Bauxite Found in Arkansas

At that time, however, the important sources of aluminum, South America and the Dutch East Indies, were either inaccessible because of Japanese conquest or difficult to reach because of wartime shipping conditions. A bauxite reserve was found in Arkansas, but further exploration showed that sufficient large tonnages of ore to make production feasible were not present there, or anywhere else in the United States.

To combat this condition, Professor Mead gathered together a group of geologists and a thorough study was made by them of available geological information dealing with the Caribbean region. Oddly enough, bauxite was not mentioned in any of the literature, though the geographic conditions indicated that the Island of Haiti might well contain the needed deposit.

Used Aerial Reconnaissance

Dr. Whitehead, Dr. Shrock, and Forbes Robinson left for Haiti July 1943. They promptly demurred the correctness of the earlier hypothesis by finding large amounts of bauxite within a few weeks. The expedition in Haiti was so successful that field work, but was greatly aided by aerial reconnaissance, a large deposit found and was spoken from the air by Dr. Schmedeman.

Postwar Plans

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enrollments based upon a freshman class of 675 to 700. The student body would then, with certain adjustments in the upper years, ultimately approach 3500, as compared with the pre-war number of 3100. Buildings now devoted to war use, such as Buildings 12 and 24, now used by the Chemical Warfare Service and the Radiation Laboratory, will be available for regular academic use by the Institute. The addition of these buildings, plus a newly equipped group of freshman chemistry laboratories now being prepared, will permit the proposed expansion.

Certain other additional building units will be needed if the Institute is to round out its program. These, which were advanced by President Compton in November, include a new library, a gymnasium and dormitory units. Studies are now being made as to how a Faculty Club might be housed and operated for staff members at the Institute. The need for such an organization is generally recognized, and it will definitely be provided if means can be found.