in the current structure, of the 82 men on Institute Committee, only 32 are repre- sentatives (the president plus two men elected from each class), remaining 26 being activity leaders, six being ex-officio and one representing the students. What is even more important, however, is that the Executive Committee, which acts as the steering committee, where most of the legislation is originated, is comprised of two representatives from each class and the Chairmen of the Budget Committee and Walker Memorial Committee, plus three mem- bers from the class of '50. This committee, itself. Thus, it can be seen that there is no direct representation for the students on the committee that makes the most decisions.

A remedy for this situation must be found, and the sooner, the better. What we propose, then, is this: that the number of representatives from each class be increased to eight, so that they hold a balance of power with the activity leaders. Furthermore, and what is most important, the Executive Committee should be elected directly by the students. If such a representative is to be, he will be actively determining the future policies of the Institute Committee, which ultimately affect himself.

N.S.O.

About a year ago in Prague, Czechoslovakia, the American National Students' Organization had its first meeting. The organization is a federation of national student groups from many coun- tries, and it is a forerunner of the one in Eu- ropean. For the United States, twenty-five inde- pendent observers representing several U. S. national student groups, I.S.A. and similar groups were in attendance.

Upon their return to the states, this group of Americans, obviously impressed by the con- spiracy of the Institute Committee to prevent such an American college and from other youth groups in general, wrote the Institute Committee to tell their fellow-students what they had seen and what was being done by national student organizations in Europe.

The advantages of having and belonging to a national student organization were clearly put out. Such a group could, for example, secure cooperation between various athletic, social and political groups, discuss such important subjects as the role of sports, a fact that seems impossible of accom- plishment on the individual college. A national students' federation would be able to exert pressure on such incidents as the ousting of President Bailey of Texas University, or could fight a bill like U. S. I. A. in the Massachusetts Legislature that would tax colleges that admitted more than a certain percentage of out-of-state students. Such an organization would be powerful enough to help reduce prices on books and apparel, and to back inexpensive student tours of Europe, and would have funds at its disposal to pro- vide scholarships and grants-in-aid to needy students. These and many similar deeds could be achieved by such an organization as was suggested.

The Technology committee for the proposed National Students' Organization was approved by the Student Senate two weeks ago. This N.S.O. committee is scheduling meetings to tell the Institute about last summer's con- ference. The committee met last week in the idea. More concretely, it plans to send delegates from Technology to a second con- ference this summer, which will again be held in Chicago. If enough enthusiasm is evidenced, an American National Students' Organization would be well on the way.

We feel that a National Students' Organization would be a good thing for college students everywhere. It would give us a chance to face the national and international issues that confront them and will unite to act together. The organization includes these same students, in later years, will be in a better position to shape the destinies of our nation. All Technicians interested in such an organization should attend the committee meetings, lend their ideas, and vote for the Technology delegates to the coming Chicago conference.

Letters to the Editor

Managing Board, The Tech
Walker Memorial
39, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

I would like to thank you very much for the opportunity which this issue of your editorial, and the opportunity it gives me, to present my opinion. The editorial policy that you have been following in this paper recently is, I believe, very much in the interest of standards and situations, to be sure that students are well informed and have an opportunity to improve the situation, rather than to be blindly noncommittal. Without wishing to express any opinion of the status quo, if handful shared.

You are suggesting that to the present group of class officers, two representatives from each class, and the two Institute Committee representatives will be added and that the new group be styled Institute Committee. But that is one of the relatively few schools in the coun- try with such a group. Its essential function is the Institute Committee, one of whose members is a student. What is even more impor- tant, however, is that the Executive Committee would have a check on any rash decisions, and as a check on any rash decisions, must be made a National Student Organization. Even more important, the present group of class officers, two representatives from each class, is suffering from a lack of regularity. Neither the Executive Committee nor the Student Senate or any other body which acts as the steering committee, since this summer which will again be held in Chicago. If enough enthusiasm is evidenced, an American National Students' Organization would be well on the way.

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