Army Technical Detachment
Uses Specialy-Skilled Men

It is not generally known that there is a mechanism within the Army by which technically trained enlisted men can be utilized in fields of their special skills. This is the Technical Detachment, to which men with special qualifications are assigned in connection with their basic training.

Analysts of the use of technically-trained personnel of the Armed Services have recognized that the Army needs to take advantage of the skill of its enlisted personnel. It became evident that those who entered the service as workers in highly technical fields had the least chance of using their technical training. The Army has now developed a program to train these workers for technical jobs because as science becomes more important to the defense of the nation, the need for personnel scientifically trained becomes a part of the defense programs that the Army must support.

Between 1940 and 1947, by means of technical training, more than two thousand young men with bachelor degrees or higher training in the physical sciences, or engineering were assigned, at least initially, to technical activities. When the peace-time draft was begun in 1948, a new Technical Detachment was established and approximately 500 men have been assigned under this program.

Minimum Qualifications
Assignment to the Technical Detachment probably will not lead to assignment to Officers Candidate School, nor do most men who do not attend O.C.S. such assignment will lead to technical specialization.

Following is a summary of Army Special Regulation 615-205-1, which explains the assignment of men to the Technical Detachment:

(a) Those men who have completed three full years of college, an A.O. degree of at least 150 credits, or a major in one of the physical, biological, or social sciences; or
(b) College graduates of two full years of college in an accredited school of engineering and an A.O. degree of at least 150 credits.

[Continued on Page 2]

An Outbreak of Flu
Overflows In Dormitory

For the past three weeks the infirmary in Building 11 has been operating nearly its full capacity of 21 patients. Most of the patients have been suffering from an upper respiratory infection commonly called Spanish flu. Before the flu broke out there were eight patients in the infirmary. The number increased to twenty and plans were made to expand to adjacent rooms if it be necessary. In this case coeds would have been set aside to provide the additional facilities required.

Although there was a slight flare-up of the infection early last week by the end of the week the number of cases had deceased considerably. Most of the victims stayed only three days and none of them had any serious complications.

Bridge Tournament

The M.I.T. Bridge Club held its annual club championship tournament Saturday, March 10, in the dining hall of Baker House. It will be a two-session event, the afternoon session starting at 3:10 p.m. and the evening session starting at 7:00 p.m.

Prizes and master points will be awarded as usual for the tournament as well as for the tournament as a whole. Among the bridge players at the Institute are: Richard Lerner '50, one of the members of the Institute's national collegiate championship team last year; Richard Mowry '51, and Nicholas Melonas '52, who will be defending the title they won last year; and several other seasoned duplicate players.

The tournament is open to all students and members of the Institute's staff and their guests.

[Continued on Page 2]

Unique Institute System
Predicts Freshman Grades

By E. BOLL, '47

When a freshman enters the Institute, one of the questions which concern his mind is how well he will be able to do the work. Usually he has a general background, but he is never sure. He undoubtedly knows that he has a chance of success because he has been admitted to the Institute. In certain schools, colleges and universities in this country, an applicant is admitted as a student if he can pass an exam to do the work. The schools can predict his success is not only possible, but probable, by checking actual first term rat-ings of entering students. If the applicant is not admitted, the exam is given. The student is not even admitted if the exam is not given.

Type of School Important

Professor John N. M. Bryan have been working on a method of predicting the first term rating of entering students for about five years. They have discovered various factors which are valuable in their work, and others which have no effect. Such things as parental background, previous experience, size of family and location of high school have been found to have no bearing on a student's ability.

For their predictions, Professor N. Wadsworth and Mr. Bryan are able to get results about 85% more accurate than they would have had they not used the various factors mentioned above. Other schools that use psychological tests usually get about the same accuracy. The accuracy of course must be higher, since errors tend to cancel out. From statistical groups, the predictions are remarkably accurate. In any work such as this, however, it is impossible to improve the method. Improvement in the method is not possible.

For His Research

Professor Sheehan Honored By A.C.S.

At the army technical detachment uses specially-skilled men, page 1.

At Monday's meeting of the Institute, a new constitution for the dormitory committee, which was approved by the residents, was discussed and possibly approved. At the meeting, the resident members of the Dormitory House Committees would discuss the proposed constitution, which was drafted by the students.

House Committees would handle such issues as athletics, dances and meetings which are of concern to the individual residents. Dormitory Committee would retain this information for each dormitory and coordinate the House Committees in a manner that would serve the needs of the residents in a dormitory.

Smaller Dormitory Committee

The Dormitory Committee would be replaced by a smaller committee in 1951 in order to increase the number of members. It seemed to be made up of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a committee, each of whom would be elected by the residents in that year. There would be an additional member from the Dormitory Committee that would be elected by the residents in each year.

The new committee, which would be made up by the dormitory committee, would be elected in the same way as the present committee. The chairman would be a committee member, and the committee would be elected in the same manner as present chairman.

The dormitory committee, consisting of a chairman, a secretary, and a committee, would be made up of the dormitory committee, and the executive committee, which would be elected by the residents in the dormitory. The dormitory committee would be elected by the residents in the dormitory, and the executive committee would be elected by the dormitory committee.

President Elected in Spring

The Dormitory Committee President and his associate for each dormitory will be elected in the spring for two-year terms of office. The committee would not be elected in the same manner as the present committee.

The main responsibility for the proposed constitution is to be elected by the residents in the dormitory, and the executive committee will be elected by the dormitory committee.

Welllesley Girls Slate Model UN

Fifteen Institute students representing nine countries will be delegated to the Welllesley College Women's Model UN held by the Wellesley College and the Wellesley Women's Model UN held by the Wellesley College and the Wellesley Women's Model UN.

Discussions on current problems within the framework of the United Nations will be opened by the Wellesley College Women's Model UN held by the Wellesley College. The discussions will be held following the election of the President on Saturday.

The main responsibility for the proposed constitution is to be elected by the residents in the dormitory, and the executive committee will be elected by the dormitory committee.

In any work such as this, the immediate goal is very important. Professor Wadsworth and Mr. Bryan are able to get results about 85% more accurate than they would have had they not used the various factors mentioned above. Other schools that use psychological tests usually get about the same accuracy. The accuracy of course must be higher, since errors tend to cancel out. From statistical groups, the predictions are remarkably accurate.