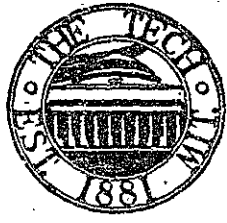


# The Tech



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## Fire In Building 5 On Sunday Evening In Low Temp. Lab.

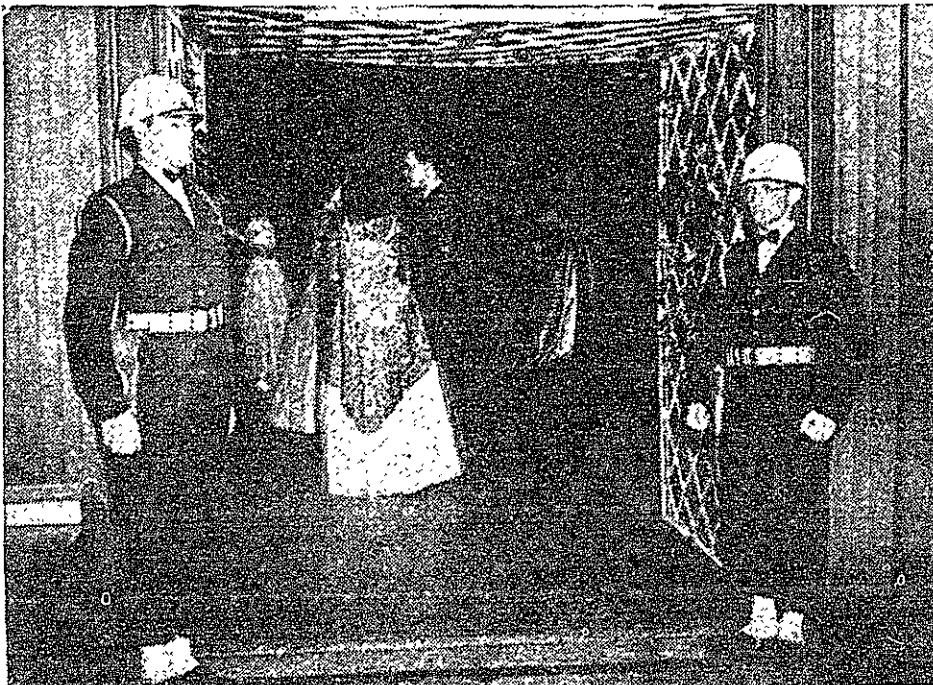
A fire in the low-temperature laboratory in the basement of the Pratt Naval Architecture Building on last Sunday night resulted in a couple of hundred dollars damage. The blaze was brought under control before it could harm the more than \$10,000 worth of equipment in the laboratory where liquid nitrogen is made for use in the experimental laboratories in the Institute. It is expected that work in the liquid nitrogen laboratory will be resumed today, but in any event there will be no delay in delivering liquid nitrogen to the Institute laboratories. Arrangements have already been made so that the liquid nitrogen will be available.

The blaze was discovered at 8:30 p.m. by Fred Ezekiel, a graduate student in Mechanical Engineering, who was working in an adjacent room at the time. He sounded the alarm and fought the blaze with an extinguisher until firemen arrived.

Eye-witness accounts stated that the firemen arrived with six fire engines, "prepared for everything." It was further asserted that about twenty-five firemen managed to extinguish the blaze within a half hour. During this time considerable worry was expressed over the eventual condition of the many ship models in the Naval Architecture museum directly over the blaze in the low-temperature liquid nitrogen laboratory. However, no damage at all occurred to these ship models.

A few previous accounts of the fire erroneously reported that the damage amounted to a total of \$4,000. However, Dr. Otto J. Stern of the Department of Industrial Cooperation asserted that the damage amounted to only a couple hundred dollars.

## SCABBARD AND BLADE MILITARY FORMAL



Shown above is the guarded doorway to the entrance of Morss Hall. Pershing Rifles guardsmen are (left), Robert Murphy and Ahmed Sulton. Captain and Mrs. David Rollins are pictured just inside the doorway.

Many couples who attended the Scabbard and Blade Military Ball, held last Friday evening in Morss Hall, have hailed the military formal as one of the best dances held on the campus this year. Morss Hall, much unlike its usual staid self during dining hours, was alive with tulips of red and yellow; the picture of the ballroom as a

flower garden was completed by a fountain spouting colored water and a configuration of trellises which were rigged by the front doorway and at the far end of the hall.

Instructors and personnel of the Military and Air Science Departments were present en masse, plus the members of the Scabbard and Blade Society and a variety of

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## WSSF CARNIVAL NOTICE TO FACULTY TICKET HOLDERS

The complimentary carnival tickets that were sent to all faculty members were given to them because they had already contributed to the World Student Service Fund Drive. The WSSF Carnival Committee requests faculty members who cannot attend to destroy their tickets. They are not transferable and unless submitted by their original holders, they will not be honored at the door.

## Civil Engineering Conference Room Named For Spofford

A conference room to be used primarily by the Civil Engineering Department has been dedicated to Charles M. Spofford, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering and former head of the department.

Although the exact details of the room, including the layout and location, have not yet been worked out, its facilities will be somewhat like the Jackson Room in Building 10. The room will serve as a place where students and staff, separately or collectively, can gather for various functions, such as conferences, discussions, small lectures and teas. Student professional societies would be able to make special uses of the Spofford Room for meetings and social gatherings.

### Possibility of Society Offices

There is a possibility of there being a small office for Professional societies associated with Course I, and there may be limited kitchen facilities. However, these things have yet to be considered.

The facilities of the Spofford Room will not be limited in use to the Civil Engineering Department but will be available to the departments located in the vicinity of Building 1. It is expected that all the details concerning the room will be worked out in the near future and the Spofford Room should be ready for use by next fall.

### Course I Head

Professor Emeritus Charles M. Spofford, eminent structural engineer, was head of the Department of Civil Engineering for fifteen years and was in charge when the Institute moved across the river. He is a graduate of the Institute and has spent most of his life teaching. He is very active in professional societies and is at present senior member of a firm of consulting engineers in Boston, which has done important work both inside and outside of this country.

## Sailing Team Wins On Choppy Charles With Half Of Team

News Staff

Technology's Sailing Team stepped boldly into intercollegiate sailing competition with a sensational victory over Northeastern University, Middlebury College, Boston University, and Boston College in a thrilling series of races on the windy Charles last Sunday afternoon.

High-point man for the afternoon—with a perfect score—was Lawrence F. Buckland, '52, one of two varsity sailors who did not journey with the team to Annapolis where a simultaneous regatta was held. Buckland turned in an amazing afternoon's performance with three victories, fighting some of the choppiest waters on which intercollegiate regattas have ever been held.

Adams Bincer, '53, the other remaining varsity sailor, was high-point man in the "B" division, with one first and another second.

The final score: Technology, 30 points; Northeastern, 28; Middlebury and Boston College, 21; and Boston University, 14.

## FINANCE BUDGET MEETING

The Finance Board is holding its annual budget meeting this Thursday, April 10, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 1-134. At that time all activities requesting funds from the Undergraduate Association for next year's operations will meet to discuss their budgets with the Finance Board. A schedule of appointments appears below and will be adhered to as closely as possible. Any activities that wish to request funds from the Undergraduate Association budget and that are not listed below, may make an appointment by calling the Institute Committee, extension 2696.

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## Dr. B. E. Proctor Affirmed Head Of Course XX

Dr. Bernard E. Proctor has been appointed Head of the Department of Food Technology at the Institute by Dr. George R. Harrison, Dean of Science. Dr. Proctor, who is Professor of Food Technology and Director of the Samuel Cate Prescott Laboratories of Food Technology, has been acting head of the department since January 1951.

Dr. Proctor has done valuable research in food preservation, fermentation, microbiology, electronic sterilization, and sanitation. He is president-elect of the Institute of Food Technologists of which he was a founding member, and special consultant to the U. S. Public Health Service.

### Public Service Record

Holding a distinguished record of public and professional service he served during World War II as Expert Consultant on Foods to the Secretary of War and as Director of Subsistence and Packaging Research and Development, Office of the Quartermaster General.

Born in Malden, Massachusetts, Dr. Proctor graduated from Malden High School in 1919. He received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Biology and Public Health at M.I.T. in 1923 and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1927. From 1923-26 he was an Instructor in Biochemistry at the Boston University School of Medicine and from 1926-27 an Assistant at the Institute.

### Director of Prescott Labs

He became an Instructor in Biology and Public Health in 1927 and an Assistant Professor in 1930. He was named Associate Professor of Food Technology and Industrial Biology in 1936, Professor of Food Technology in 1944, and Director of the Samuel Cate Prescott Laboratories.

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## Annual Staff Assembly Ball Steeped In Color, Traditions

Walker Staff's annual Assembly Ball, now the coveted tradition of the dining hall's student staffmen, will be held in Walker Memorial on Friday, April 18. Harry Marshard's orchestra will play.

With seven hundred people expected to attend, and many former Technology graduates coming from afar, the affair will be a spirited reunion of many of the now successful men in industry who have, at some time, lugged dishes in the dining hall.

### Herbert Teager Is Chairman

Since September preparations have been made for decorations and presentations by an all-student staff committee, under the leadership of Herbert Martin Teager, '52, chairman. Floodlights and a canopy will add glitter to the buildings exterior, while artistic lighting and decorations will transform Walker Memorial from a student union and dining hall into a ballroom worthy of the affair.

Heading the schedule of events is a private reception for the committee and honor guests, followed by receiving until eleven. The receiving line will include prominent members of the MIT faculty, administration, and corporation.

### Assembly Originated in 1935

Originating in 1935, the Francis Amasa Walker Assembly has been held every year since then with the

exception of the war years. The committee attributes its tremendous success mostly to the fact that the work done for it by the student staff is voluntary and of a sufficient volume to make the equivalent cost to other school organizations prohibitive.

Originally the financial expense involved was met from gratuities received by the staff, and from voluntary contributions. From this source also came the small financial assistance necessary to hold an informal dance each month. The informal dances became so popular, however, that the sale of tickets to the Student Staff and their friends was begun. Now popularly known as IDC's, these informal dances are held once each month, with profits used to help finance the Assembly.

### Assembly Committee Self-Perpetuating

The staff each Fall elects some of its members to a self-perpetuating committee which plans the Assembly from September until April.

Each year the Assembly is highlighted by the music of a well-known orchestra. Unique presentations staged at intervals throughout the evening, the Grand Assembly Promenade, and a buffet supper

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## Tour Of Europe's Industries Planned For Course Fifteen

The Eighth Industrial Tour of Europe sponsored by Course XV will have the following itinerary: England—13 days, Norway—5 days, Sweden—8 days, Denmark—3 days, Germany—8 days, Holland—3 days, Switzerland—5 days, Italy—5 days, and France—13 days, making a total of 63 days abroad.

The group of approximately sixteen students will sail on June 6th. The return trip will be made in August either by plane or by boat. Tentative plans call for the use of two station wagons for European transportation.

### Thirty Plant Visits

Over thirty industrial plants will be visited including plants in the electrical, chemical, shipbuilding, housing, watchmaking, automobile, champagne, fish, steel, zinc and coal industries. Tours are now being arranged with such plants as Morris Motors, General Electric, Metro-Vickers, and Imperial Chemical in England; John Brown & Firth Shipbuilding in Scotland; ASEA and SKF in Sweden; Georg Jensen in Copenhagen; Phillips in Holland; and Fiat in Italy, to mention only a few.

### Discussing en Route

Ideological, moral, and other intangible factors affecting industry as well as such tangible factors as plant location, buildings and layout will be emphasized. Points of cultural interest will be included in the itinerary whenever possible. Meetings will be held en route to study and discuss the social, political, economic and industrial conditions of the countries. For example, lectures on the French economy are being arranged for the group at the Sorbonne.



C. J. Brown, Sponsor