The Tech

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Editorial

WELCOME—AND WELCOME BACK

The time has come, when again vacation experiences are exchanged — the summer's exploits reminiscence described to friends — and then stored in the recesses of the memory to be replaced by the next exciting series of events. Much relies now upon the freshmen themselves and their attempts toward becoming adapted — their ability to get along with others.

It is in this realm that the insecure freshman finds difficulty. Certain factors are present, however, which may account for the conflicts. An individual naturally finds security and as "at-homeness" among members of his own group and conversely an antagonism toward outsiders. It is the unfortunate freshman who must make the efforts to break this barrier to his inclusion in the group. It is a two way process, moreover, of later course and communication between the freshmen and upperclassmen which will most rapidly allow of such inclusion.

Although the Freshman Advisory Program is designed to accomplish just that, it may well require a pause for self evaluation on the part of each of us to assure ourselves that as upperclassmen we have not developed the exclusive, unnatural "sub-group" attitude toward the new student.

A WORD TO THE WISE...

It occurs to us that there is a very real constant in a technical school such as M.I.T. from which grows a distress that is not limited to over-earnest freshmen, or their over-indulgent and doting parents. It is a constant which fosters illusions of laborious study — that work is as hard as one's imagination will allow, or as difficult as the sympathetic members of his family think it to be.

The constellation of normal instinctive activities (a decision which is reached when young men intend to become largely devoted to serious study) is unfortunately the source of much of this distress. It is certainly the unfortunate freshman who embarks upon a career of constant study which leads only to greater illusions of overwork and hence to withdrawal from all forms of diversion, no matter how important they may be to well rounded development.

...IN LOVE AND WAR

A certain amount of fair play was lacking at the Freshman Acquaintance Dance last Saturday when fraternity members and upperclassmen "removed from action" several of the girls before the dance had even gotten under way. That these men were present at a dance designed for freshmen only should have at least obliged them to give the frosh a break.

The dance, however, was a successful one and congratulations are in order for the Freshman Coordinating Committee.

Marshall Awards

By John Sailor '55

Glancing from home cooking, with raw nerves soothed by the sleep-inducing smell of food, and control regained after a night of music, the average student has returned to Tech.

Hoping to acclimate himself to the atmosphere by gradual re-exposure, he came early, but found activity already underway. The week before registration is a nerv-wracking one, and, with unpacking and freshmen orientation complete, and various odds and ends of business in attendance, one can hardly wait until all the handshaking and the old, old routine — "udda have a nice summer?" — fades into oblivion and normalcy returns.

The place is still the same in terms of general appearance, but there are a few new, and some welcome, changes.

For one thing, on the credit side, many an undergraduate is already surprisedly straining from staring at the latest crop of coeds. Opinion is ever overwhelmingly favorable, and the girls have found themselves to be the center of much attention. Chivalry is being flaunted again in, of all places, the Wallace dining hall, where freshmen are being carried away by the latest crop of coeds — in a completely altruistic spirit, of course! The fighting has spread to some of our less indifferent upperclassmen. If you hear an upperclassman discussing his latest exploits in a quasi-modest "it really isn't that wonderful" tone, then it's more than likely that some innocent frosh coed is there, widowed and overwhelmed by the broad experiences of her suave federation. If you're interested — well, the story is best left to the rear, and gentlemen, please don't shove!

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MARSHALL AWARDS

(Continued from page 1)

of 28, graduates of accredited U. S. colleges or universities. The scholarships may be held at any British university.

Financial Year's Study

The value of each award will be $3,000 a year, which will cover $2,000 a year for married men. This sum will comfortably finance a year's study at a British university, since academic fees and living costs are considerably less than in the United States. Transportation is provided from home to the university and back.

Qualifications for the awards are distinction of intellect and character, as shown by scholastic attainment and other activities and achievements. Preference is to be given to candidates who combine high academic ability with the capacity to play an active part at the university of their choosing.

The closing date for applications for 1954-55 scholarships is November 1, 1953. For further information, prospective candidates should write to the Freshman Coordinating Committee.

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