

*The Tech* announced in 1911 that "Tech will move, it will move soon, and to a site close to the city limits of Boston. All that remains is the final selection." Forty possible sites were considered, including Springfield, Wellesley, Milton, and the Fenway district. Later that year, on Wednesday, October 11, a banner headline proclaimed "Cambridge Site Chosen for New Technology." The story gave very few facts, reporting that the site "is a tract of land of about fifty acres at the end of Harvard Bridge, bounded by the Charles River, Esplanade, Massachusetts Avenue, and the Boston and Albany Railway (Grand Junction tracks), Main Street and Ames Street. It is all level land capable of being advantageously developed with admirable exposure to light everywhere."

To the accusation that "Tech is deserting Boston," President Maclaurin replied that the "new site is already easily reached from all portions of the Metropolitan area, and when the Cambridge subway is completed, passing the edge of the property with an important station just below, it will be even more easy to reach."

As usual, money was the primary factor determining how quickly New Technology could be ready for students. Alumni and friends rallied to the cause, however. The following spring, *The Tech* joyously recorded an unexpected burst of fortune. This time, the banner read "Institute Receives Anonymous Gift; Two And A Half Million For Fund," and a subhead added "Site Practically Clear; Cement for Buildings Ready to Ship." The story explained that, "Yesterday afternoon, President Maclaurin made the startling announcement that an anonymous donor had added the sum of \$2,500,000 to the

building fund. This is a gift which has probably never been equaled by any living man in bestowing money on an institution of learning. It will enable the alumni to center practically their entire attention on the question of raising money to equip the New Institute, and to build whatever dormitories and social gathering places they may feel are needed." This anonymous "Mr. Smith" was later revealed to be George Eastman, whose beneficence did not end with this huge gift.

Many different plans for locating and building dormitories were evaluated. One scheme considered in early 1913 envisioned dormitories "four or five stories in height and built completely surrounding several yards or 'quads' much the same way as is the custom in English universities." Several fraternities also announced plans to relocate near the new site. By 1914, most of the planning decisions were made and construction was underway.

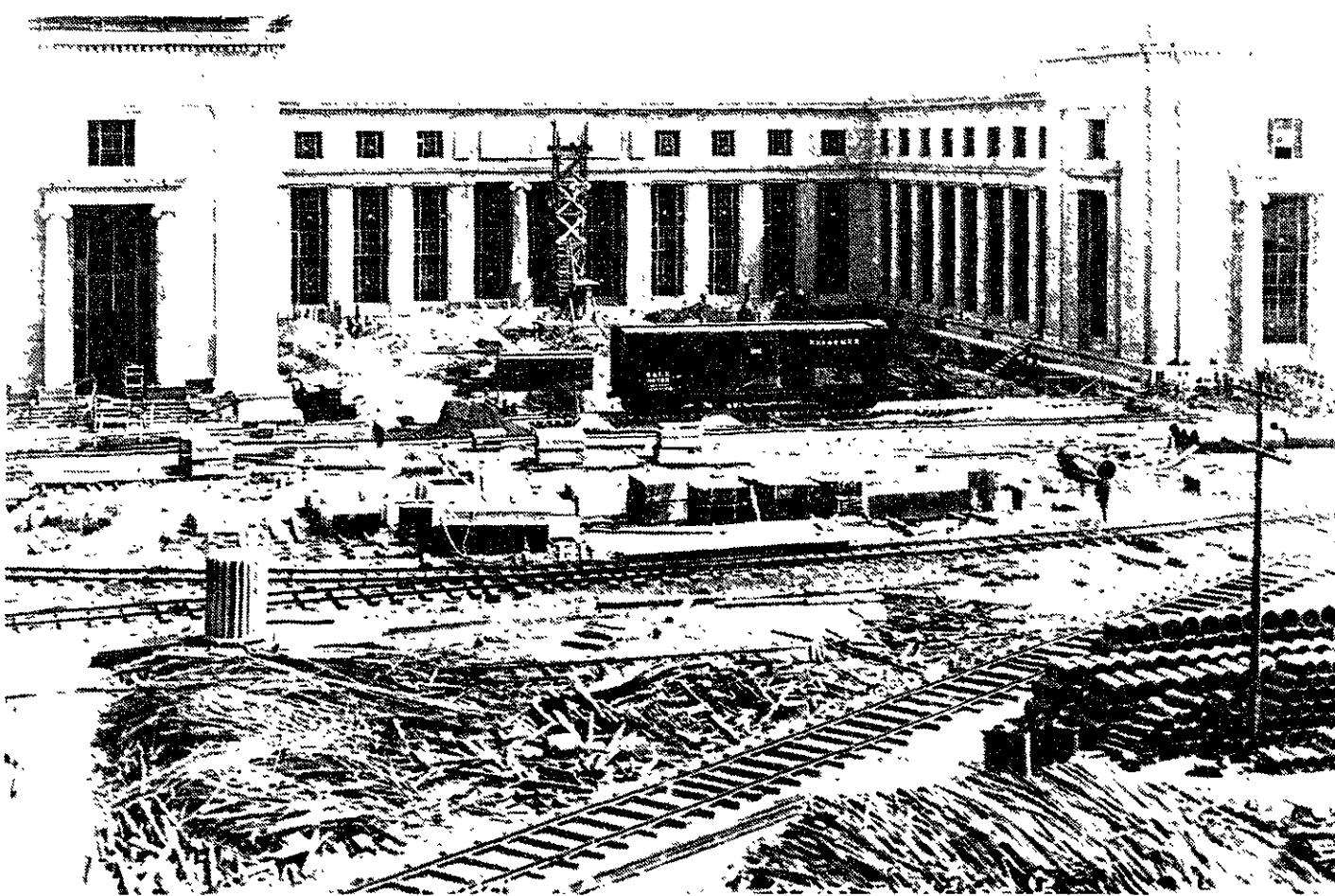
By late 1915, the familiar shape of the buildings as seen from the Harvard Bridge could be distinguished. Inscomm began issuing regulations for the governance of dormitories that year, and established the present Dormitory Council setup.

The MIT structure of today grew into existence as Tech slowly moved into its magnificent home. Student life remained much the same despite the changes in facilities. In 1912, hazing was an important issue for almost everyone on campus. Under a headline reading "Sophomores Abolish Last Traces of Hazing" an article reported that "Yesterday noon, in Huntington Hall, the Sophomore Class held its first meeting as a second year class at the Institute. On the Field Day question, which always is the big one for Sopho-

mores at this season of the year, they had some warm discussion and finally passed a motion that the class refrain from all demonstrations against the Freshmen . . . such as capturing the Freshman Chairman, or the customary baths in the frog pond in the Public Gardens."

*The Tech* and the students reacted violently when, in May, 1911, the Activities Council abolished basketball from the Institute against the wishes of the Athletic Association. To publicize popular sentiment on the issue, *The Tech* printed an edition in which every page was bordered with the words

The Great War had also interrupted most of the ordinary activities of the Alumni Association, delaying any reunions until June 1920. *The Tech* noted that alumni, coming back to what they considered the old school, were actually returning to the New Technology. MIT's important buildings had



Construction of the New Technology was a formidable task, entailing the use of 22,000 piles to keep the buildings from sinking, as the site had been filled in with Charles River mud.

Track and cross country were the most popular sports during this period. Enthusiastic supporters rented special trains in order that they could follow the teams around the New England circuit. Maps of cross country courses appeared at the top of *The Tech's* front page, along with frequent news of MIT's successes.

Although interest in crew was sparse at the beginning of the decade, it picked up in the later years. In October, 1910, an announcement appeared concerning the "new shell for the Crew! There are now two shells with places for eighteen men, and on the average fifteen report for practice. Come out some afternoon at four and try pulling an oar. Perhaps you'll like it. Everybody gets a chance."

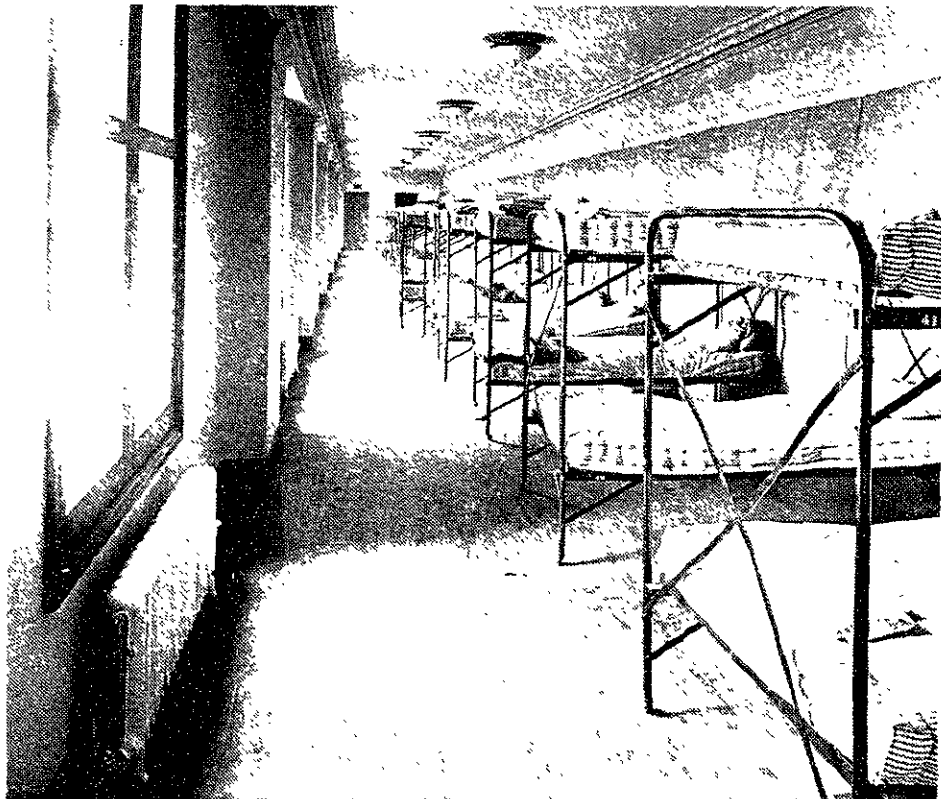
"WE WANT BASKETBALL." In an editorial, G. M. Keith said, ". . . if the attitude of the student body is to have any weight, we believe that this weight will be found to be so overwhelming against their decision that they may think best to reconsider. At least, we hope so." Needless to say, the sport soon returned to the MIT scene.

World War I temporarily disrupted student life at the Institute. Walker Memorial, built for use as a student activities center, opened in 1917 just in time to house 250 naval aviators. The end of the war brought a rapid return to peacetime pursuits, however. Registration surged, exceeding all records in the fall of 1919 when more than 3,000 men made plans to study at the Institute.

only recently been constructed, and were displayed to the alumni by professors and their assistants.

President Maclaurin died of pneumonia in January, 1920; shortly before his death his condition was regarded as excellent. His physician stated that Dr. Maclaurin had used "every ounce of his strength" in working for Technology, and had no energy left for fighting the disease.

*The Tech* soon reported the appointment of a new Institute President: "Ernest Fox Nichols, former President of Dartmouth College and Professor of Physics at Yale, was elected President of the Institute late Wednesday afternoon by the Corporation." According to *The Tech* report, Dr. Nichols was a distinguished scientist and able administrator.



World War I forced the conversion of the gallery of the Walker Memorial dining hall into a dormitory for 250 naval aviators shortly after the building opened in 1917.

The  
**Humanities Department**  
salutes  
**The Tech**  
on its  
100th birthday!

**Warmest  
Congratulations  
to The Tech  
as you celebrate  
your centennial.**  
**You have been the voice  
of MIT  
for 100 years!**  
**We look forward to hearing  
you  
for at least 100 more.**

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