

The Tech

VOL. XXV. No. 54.

BOSTON, MASS., FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1906

PRICE THREE CENTS.

SPEAKS OF TOLSTOI.

The Rev. T. Van Ness Tells Y. M. C. A. of His Life and Character.

At the meeting of the Technology Y. M. C. A. yesterday noon in the Trinity Church Parish House, Rev. Thomas Van Ness, pastor of the Second Unitarian Church, gave an intensely interesting and instructive talk on Count Leo Tolstoi, describing the great Russian reformer as he appeared during a visit which Mr. Van Ness paid him while in Russia some years ago.

Tolstoi was born in 1828. Left an orphan at an early age, he was brought up by an indulgent aunt, and saw very little of the outside world until, when a young man, he joined his brother in the Caucasus. The impressive beauty of the mountains stirred him to his first literary effort, and he published several letters in the *Moscow Gazette*. During the Crimean War, Tolstoi remained in Sevastopol, the center of the struggle, and from there wrote his famous and vivid descriptions of the horrors of the war.

After the war was over, and Tolstoi was again in Moscow, the first great agitation began throughout the country for the emancipation of the serfs. This was the origin of Nihilism which has since grown to enormous proportions, having for its object the destruction of the government. The situation in Russia was parallel to that in the United States before the Civil War, when the abolitionists were struggling to set slaves free. Finally, however, the Tsar emancipated at one stroke the twenty-seven million serfs, thereby throwing the country into pandemonium. Tolstoi returned to his country estate and there began his great work for the benefit of the peasants.

In speaking of his visit to the Count, Mr. Van Ness drew a vivid picture of the old man as he appears today. He is nearly eighty years old, almost a patriarch, and yet the fire and enthusiasm of youth shine out from his sunken eyes, and his tall gaunt frame, although bent, is still strong and capable of manual labor. He lives in the country in the simplest manner, surrounded by the best books of every language. A great thinker, his novels have always been written for a purpose: to right some malignant evil. His teachings have aroused many of the Russian peasants from their lethargy to strive for better manners of life. His beliefs have so alienated the Russian Church that he has been excommunicated. Were it not that he is considered mentally unbalanced by the civil authorities he would long ago have been on the way to Siberia, a road which many of his disciples have already trod. Thus he stands today, beloved by the common people, hated by the government, but withal a shining light in the midst of Russia's disorder and blackness.

READING AT KOMMERS.

Prof. Swain to Entertain Students at Union Tomorrow Night.

Prof. Swain, who has succeeded so well in interesting the men of Course I. in his readings, will be the guest of honor at the Kommers tomorrow night. In the course of the evening he will read several passages of his own selection, and judging from his previous choice of subjects, the pieces will all be excellent. An exceptionally good dinner will be served at the usual price, and Mr. Rand hopes for a large audience. In fact, he expects that every student who enjoys pleasant books and good reading will attend.

Next week it is expected that Pres. Lucius Tuttle of the Boston & Maine Railroad will make an address, and Bursar Rand also hopes to get Pres. Pritchett to speak.

DR. PUTNAM GIVES LOWELL COURSE.

James Jackson Putnam, M. D., Professor of Neurology at the Harvard Medical School, and physician in the Neurological Department, Massachusetts General Hospital, will give the eleventh and last course of Lowell Institute Lectures this season on "Certain Prevalent Nervous Derangements."

The course will consist of eight lectures, on Mondays and Thursdays, beginning Monday, March 12, at 8 p.m. The subjects for the lectures are: 1—The Nervous Health of the Community, and the Influences tending to Maintain and to Impair it. 2, 3—Influences tending to Impair the Nervous Health of the Individual, especially Emotion and Fatigue. 4—The Sub-Conscious Life, in its Medical Aspects. 5—Correlations between the Mental and the Physical: Function and Structure. 6—The Power of Adaptation, considered in its Medical Relations. 7—Survey of our Means of Preserving Nervous Health. Mental Influences. 8—Ideas and Ideals.

TECH SHOW.

The following men have been selected provisionally as principals of the Show this year; Schofield, '09; Jenkins, '09; Ellis, '08; Boles, '07; Vonnegut, '08; Allen, '09; Adams, '08; Henderson, '06; Sands, '08; Hanley, '09; Coffin, '07; Bancroft, '07.

The principals will rehearse on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at the Union. About fifty men are out for the chorus but the management desires to have a much larger number come out. There are good chances for men to make the chorus, and those fortunate enough will certainly not regret it, for this year's Show promises the best time yet. The chorus rehearses at the Union on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 4 p.m.

Mr. H. McCready has been appointed as an Assistant Business Manager.

FENCING TONIGHT.

Tech Meets Harvard and University of Pennsylvania at the Gym.

The Fencing Association will hold its third meet of the season this evening when the varsity team meets Harvard and Pennsylvania at the Gym. The varsity men are in better condition now than they were before the meet with Harvard and Columbia, and a close meet is promised. Harvard will enter the same team that won the triangular meet held Feb. 16. These men have had practice in several tournaments since that time and are reported to be in tip-top condition. Nothing can be said of the strength of the Pennsy team, as it has not competed in any meets which give an opportunity for comparison. Judging from reports, Harvard has the better team, while Technology and the U. of P. are about on a plane.

The big bout of the evening will be the one between Jorge Lage and Bowman of Harvard. Bowman is the champion of New England, and one of the best fencers in the college world. Lage beat him in the triangular meet of Feb. 16, and Bowman has sworn to get even. Lage has lost only one bout in three years. This bout should be close and exciting, as was the other.

COLLEGE NOTES.

Bowdoin is to publish a new song book, which will contain about 90 songs.

The student body of Bates college has voluntarily voted to abolish hazing.

California University has organized a pistol club for the men and a fencing club for the women.

Secretary Taft will deliver four lectures at Yale in April on the responsibilities of citizenship.

Of the 25 universities of the entire world which enroll 3,000 or more students, nine are found in this country.

The Buffalo alumni of Syracuse have presented an entire arch to the university. The arch will be built of stone.

Dr. Abiann W. Harrie of the Jane Institute, Port Deposit, Md., will become the new president of the Northwestern University.

A rowing club for women is being organized at Leland Stanford University. One hundred names have been subscribed to a list, which the president of the Woman's Athletic Club has posted for entries.

The committee of the Wisconsin legislature investigating the Wisconsin State University because of many complaints, is making earnest inquiries into the fraternity question. Several professors and students testified to bad influences of Greek letter bodies at Madison.

CALENDAR.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2.

- 1.00 P.M. Chess Club Meeting in 11 Rogers.
- 4.00 P.M. Candidates for the 1909 Basketball Team meet at Gym.
- 4.00 P.M. Rehearsal of Tech Show Chorus at the Union.
- 6.30 P.M. Missouri Club Dinner at the Union.
- 8.00 P.M. Fencing, Tech vs. Harvard, vs. Pennsy, at the Gym.
- 8.00 P.M. Musical Clubs' Concert in Medford.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3.

- 2.00 P.M. Rehearsal of Tech Show Principals at the Union.
- 2.15 P.M. Hare and Hound Chase from Reading Y. M. C. A. Leave North Station.
- 6.00 P.M. Kommers at the Union. Prof. Swain to Read.
- 8.00 P.M. Sixth of Series of Lowell Institute Lectures, etc.

MONDAY, MARCH 5.

- 4.00 P.M. Rehearsal of Tech Show Chorus at the Union.
- 8.00 P.M. Seventh of the Series of Lowell Institute Lectures by Prof. Cross, etc.

NOTICES.

Chess Club.—Meeting of the Chess Club in 11 Rogers at 1 p.m. Friday.

Electoral Committee.—Ballots for the 1908 *Technique* Electoral Committee are now at the Cage, and should be called for immediately.

Ohio Club.—There will be an informal dinner of the Ohio Club at the Union next Monday at 6.30 p.m. All men from Ohio are invited to attend.

Lowell Institute.—The tenth course of Lowell Institute lectures, on "Scandinavian Antiquities," which was to have begun last Tuesday, has been given up.

Musical Clubs.—The Musical Clubs will give a concert this evening in the Medford Opera House. Members of the clubs will meet at Sullivan Square at 7.10 p.m., leaving on the 7.15 train.

Cross Country.—The Cross Country Association will hold its first spring Hare and Hounds chase tomorrow at Reading. The men will leave track 7, North Station, at 2.15. Round trip fare 25c.

Missouri Men.—The Missouri Club Dinner will be held at the Union this evening at 6.30 sharp. It is requested that all men be present on time, as special entertainment has been provided, and it is desired to finish by 8 o'clock.

Y. M. C. A.—Ballots for the election of officers of the Technology Y. M. C. A. will be mailed to members next Tuesday or Wednesday and are due at the regular Thursday meeting. The candidates are as follows: For President, F. O. Adams, T. C. Keeling; For Vice President,

(Continued on page 3.)