

The Tech

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PREXY TALKS TO 1909.

Freshmen Hear Interesting Address on General Topics.

The Freshman Class was favored with a very interesting talk by President Pritchett at the time of the usual lecture in United States History Tuesday. In opening his remarks President Pritchett spoke of the lack of opportunities which he has recently had of meeting more of the students, and although he has already been called Ex-President by the press, he is still glad to be of service to the student body.

Dr. Pritchett then proceeded to speak of the need of keeping in touch with the prominent events of the time outside of the purely technical problems of the engineer. It is of great importance that a young man should be familiar with questions of national and world-wide interest. With the idea of giving the students such a knowledge, President Pritchett proposed the holding of a conference perhaps twice a month to consider the live questions of the time. Such matters as the Hepburn bill dealing with the regulation of railroad rates, and the opening up of China to western civilization should be familiar to everyone. The President of the Institute as "Professor of General Topics" should be the one to talk on such general questions.

Continuing his remarks, he gave the class some advice as to the requisites of a good engineer outside of a good technical training. Experience shows that the practical employer looks for a young man of character and good manners, one who is able to deal with men and willing to tackle hard problems with all loyalty to the man for whom he is working. The conventional forms of good usage sometimes seem foolish but they are worth following. Thus an engineer should not forget that the technical training is not the only essential to success, but that ability to deal with other people is equally necessary.

ARCHITECTS HAVE ROUGH HOUSE.

The Architectural Society held its monthly smoker at the Tech Union Monday evening. Mr. R. S. Peabody, of the firm of Peabody and Stearns, architects, and a member of the Institute Corporation, was the guest of the evening, and spoke on architectural sketching, showing a number of lantern slides, and also many examples of his own work.

After refreshments were served the men started in to have a general rough house, which lasted until after twelve o'clock. An orchestra of guitars, banjos and mandolins furnished music, and Sam Marx gave a very comical vocal solo. The smoker finally evolved into a "hook show," in which the window hook was used to such good purpose and with such frequency that it was finally broken.

PENNSYLVANIA RELAY RACES.

Big Relay Races Being Planned for April 28 at Franklin Field.

Pennsylvania's Relay Race Carnival will once more open the scholastic and collegiate outdoor season. To make this assured, good weather on April 28 is the only thing necessary, for the entries are of even a higher class than in previous years, if that be possible. Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Cornell, Chicago, Michigan, Dartmouth, Lehigh, Swarthmore, Lafayette, Virginia, and a host of other college teams have entered, making this meet the greatest gathering of collegiate runners ever seen on any track. The schools have also entered in great numbers. All the big schools of the country will be on hand. Lawrenceville, Mercersburg, Hill, the High Schools of Philadelphia, New York, Washington, Boston, Brooklyn, Chicago, Baltimore, Buffalo and literally scores of others will send in their best runners. Last year over 1000 athletes were actually seen in competition on Franklin Field, over 200 college and school teams being present. This year's entries promise to be even larger.

TECHNOLOGY FUND GROWS.

Since the recent decision in regard to the Harvard merger, the Technology Fund Committee has taken a fresh start and the movement is progressing with renewed vigor. The subscriptions to the fund now amount to nearly a quarter of a million dollars and there is promise of a rapid increase.

The plans of the committee aim to carry on a short but active campaign from now until June, so that the books may be closed up by Commencement time. These plans will be more fully outlined and discussed at a dinner of the fund workers to be held at the Trade Club on Thursday, March 29. Mr. Frederick P. Fish of the Corporation will be one of the speakers, and increased activity in the work of the committee is anticipated. It is hoped by the end of June that this "whirlwind campaign" now being inaugurated will result in a subscription from every man and a total of half a million dollars.

Y. M. C. A. MEETS.

At the regular Thursday noon meeting of the Technology Christian Association Mr. H. T. Richardson will speak. Dr. Pritchett will not be able to speak as he has been called to New York City. Mr. Richardson is one of the Board of Directors of the Berkeley Temple and is a lawyer by profession. He was the orator for the Evacuation Day celebration of the Berkeley Temple Men's Club. His speech should be of special interest to Tech men because of his interest in young men and his keen sense of humor.

IMPORTANT THESIS WORK.

Course X Men Making Original Researches on Iron and Steel.

One of the most important problems before the industrial chemist at the present day is that concerning the relation of cause and effect of the corrosion of iron and steel. Although an incredible amount of work has been done on the subject, there is as yet no definite information regarding the influence the constituents of iron and steel have upon their corrosion. Past investigation has been rendered difficult owing to the impossibility of obtaining samples of iron of a desired composition.

Pullman, Sargent, Dill, and Shipman, the four Course X seniors, have taken an original investigation of this subject as a thesis, which is being carried on under the supervision of Professor Walker in the laboratory of industrial chemistry. They have been supplied with an electric furnace from the General Electric Company, in which any temperature up to 3000° Centigrade may be maintained in practically an absolute vacuum. A large quantity of chemically pure iron is being prepared by chemical means, from which alloys will be prepared containing definite and known amounts of the various constituents of iron and steel, especially carbon, manganese, silicon, sulphur and phosphorus. The ability to melt the materials in a vacuum obviates the usual errors due to the presence of oxygen and hydrogen. After the known alloys have been prepared the physical constants and the speed of corrosion will be minutely studied.

TELLS HARVARD'S PLANS.

Coach W. T. Reid of Harvard addressed the Dartmouth students Saturday on football and the present athletic situation.

"Football will be on trial next year more than this," he said "and if not satisfactory then will surely be abandoned. My idea of sport is a contest between men or teams in which the main idea is to secure wholesome fun, and in which the question of winning or losing is of secondary importance.

"But sport, according to my definition, which I admit I have not always practiced, has degenerated because of four things, the spirit of winning at any cost, proselyting, unfair coaching and playing, and making football a business rather than a sport.

"I believe we should adopt English ideals of sport if that is possible. At Cambridge it shall be our purpose to make the eleven out of the material that voluntarily presents itself. There will be absolutely no proselyting. The rules next year should not be evaded. Officials should not be considered policemen. Visiting teams should be treated as guests. Harvard has tried to follow these rules and has been laughed at.

CALENDAR.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28.

- 4.00 P.M. Tech Show Chorus Rehearsal at the Tech Union.
- 4.00 P.M. Glee Club Rehearsal at the Boston Y. M. C. A.
- 4.15 P.M. Geological Club Meeting in 14 Pierce.
- 5.00 P.M. *Technique '08* Electoral Committee Meeting in 26 Rogers.
- 8.00 P.M. Festival Mandolin Club Concert in Jordan Hall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29.

- 1.30 P.M. Weekly Meeting of the Y. M. C. A. in the Parish Hall of Trinity Church.
- 4.00 P.M. Glee Club Rehearsal at the Boston Y. M. C. A.
- 4.00 P.M. Rehearsal of Tech Show Principals at the Tech Union.
- 4.00 P.M. Banjo Club Rehearsal in 33 Rogers.
- 8.00 P.M. Sixth of Series of Lowell Institute Lectures by Prof. Putnam, in Huntington Hall.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30.

- 4.00 P.M. Rehearsal of Tech Show Chorus at the Tech Union.
- 4.00 P.M. Mandolin Club Rehearsal in 31 Rogers.
- 4.15 P.M. Prof. Swain's Reading in 6 Lowell.
- 5.00 P.M. *Technique '08* Electoral Committee Meeting in 26 Rogers.

NOTICES.

Lost.—An amethyst watch charm. Leave at Cage for F. M. H.

Lost.—A set of drawing instruments. Leave at Cage for W. R. R.

Cross Country Ballots.—The balloting for officers of the Cross Country Association will close at 4 P.M. on Friday, March 30.

Readings.—A short list of reading in connection with the Lowell Institute lectures by Professor Putnam may be obtained in the March bulletin of the Boston Public Library.

Freshmen.—Nominations for Vice-President of the Freshman Class should be left at the Cage at once for the 1909 Election Committee. Each nomination must be signed by ten members of the class.

Civic Club.—The meeting of the Civic Club has been postponed until Friday, April 6. The subject of debate will be: *Resolved*, That the defects in American Municipal Government are due to our Republican Form of Government.

Geo. Journal Club.—The Geological Journal Club will hold its regular meeting today at 4.15 P.M. in 14 Pierce. The topics: "Rocks of the Cataracts of the River Madeira, South America;" "Desert Regions of the World."

Mr. Andrew Carnegie will give to Amherst \$75,000 for biological and geological laboratories on condition that the college secure an equal amount. The building is to cost \$100,000 and there will be a fund of \$50,000 for its maintenance.