

THE TECH

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In charge of this issue: W. F. DOLKE JR., 1908

Monday, February 18, 1907.

The Institute is primarily a place for the study of the applied sciences. This aim is evident in the direct and practical application of these studies. But in those studies which are given in order that the graduate may be a man of good judgment, sound ideas, and symmetrical mental development, this directness and practicality of application is wanting, and the benefit of the subjects is to a great extent lost. Something in addition to the present courses of instruction in English, History, and Political Economy is needed, in order that the student may learn to apply the knowledge acquired through these studies, and get a clearer understanding of the events which occupy men's minds and the forces which influence men's environment at the present time. Among the officers of instruction are men who are eminently qualified to lecture upon current events and upon the use of history and political science as aids to a thorough comprehension of them. The students would quickly appreciate the benefits to be derived from such a course of lectures; the importance of such affairs as the trust problems, tariff revision, the problem of the Philippines with the closely allied "Japan war" talk, together with many other things, call for them. The eagerness with which the student body waits for a convocation is a proof of the cordiality with which they would welcome a course on general affairs.

The editor of a college paper occupies rather a unique position. With unsparing criticism, slight assistance, and no praise, his post is surely not one to be coveted.

His work on the paper is regarded by Faculty and students alike as a sort of recreation, for which he receives no credit. If the paper comes out on time and contains the usual amount of news there is nothing said *pro* or *con*. But let it be an hour late, or contain a wrong statement, and a cloud of disapprobation breaks over the head of the unfortunate editor, and he never hears the last of it, even though examinations or illness may have rendered the best work next to impossible.

This editorial is not written to

ask for more consideration on the part of our readers, or for more assistance. We never expect the former, and have given up all hope of the latter, save in a restricted sense. What we do ask for is *honesty*. When a local is dropped in the box at the News Bureau with the name of the author thereon, we take it for granted that the statement is a fact, and publish or reject it according as we consider it of general interest or not. The name of the sender is required only as a proof of good faith, and it is upon this faith that we depend for the accuracy of the notices and news items sent to us. Moreover, we would like again to call the attention of the student body to the fact that *THE TECH*, in order to appear at the correct time, has to go to press at a certain time, and that the Editors are not to blame if notices are handed in too late for insertion.

Another point we wish to make is that the communication column of *THE TECH* is not intended to be used for the airing of personal quarrels or of personal dislikes. It is intended for the open discussion of problems affecting the Institute or the student body. *THE TECH* welcomes all communications on these subjects but requests that they be concisely written in good, clear English. So many communications have been received which begin with one idea, and end up with another, without getting anywhere in the meantime, all containing words enough to fill a complete issue, that *THE TECH* has begun to believe that, in spite of the efforts of the English Department, very few Institute students understand in the least the use of the English language. *THE TECH* desires communications, but it desires also that the writer state his arguments in a clear, concise manner. Moreover, all communications which are unsigned will be consigned to the waste basket, whether or not they are suitable for publication.

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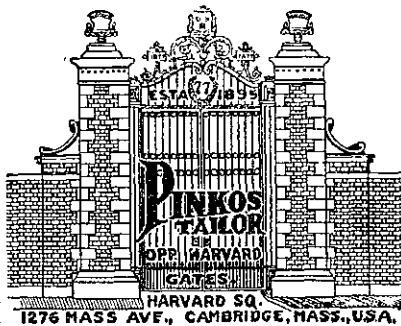
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