

THE TECH

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In charge of this issue: L. H. KING, 1907

Monday, March 18, 1907.

The question has been settled, Harvard is still to have intercollegiate athletics. The Athletic Committee of the Board of Overseers, as their report shows, have chosen to compromise, to adopt a middle course—quite the safest policy under the circumstances. The factions in the struggle now past have run so high, that any radical action would have been unwise. The report seems to be an attempt to conciliate all parties, and the lion and the lamb will in all probability lie down together.

The recommendations are in the main along well-known lines of athletic reform. In fact the provision for the abolition of professional coaching is the only clause in the report involving radical change.

To us it is gratifying to note the general trend of the Harvard discussion towards a policy similar to that in vogue at Tech. It was not so very long ago that a well-known authority on college athletics and a man who is professional in his practices, made the remark that the time was not far hence when all colleges would adopt the successful system of athletics as is practiced at Tech.

While we do not pretend that our system of athletics is above reproach, while we are certain that it is open to still further improvement, we are glad to be able to say that at least Tech is original and in her originality she has thus far succeeded in solving many problems of student activities.

There are but few people at Tech who could not tell what the "Co-op" is if asked by an outsider. Nearly every one has at least received circulars urging that he join it, and most of

the students have been members for the first year if not for any longer time. The object of the Society is well known and the fee nominal, consequently one would be led to believe that the membership should be large. On the contrary only about one half of the student body belongs to the Co-operative Society. There must be a reason for this and possibly a

recent occurrence would suggest why this is so.

The price of a certain article at the store of an agent of the Society was given as two dollars and a half. When told that the price elsewhere was less some rapid calculation convinced the agent that some change in price must have escaped his notice, and that he could still dispose of the required article at a profit for two dollars. On inquiry at the Society salesroom in one of the engineering buildings it was found that the price of the same article was two dollars and a quarter. This price was held to in spite of former quotations. The fact then remains that through carelessness or by reason of inefficient organization some one was not doing the right thing by the student at places where he was supposed to receive the benefits of the Society in bringing together the tradesman and student for mutual benefit. If, as this incident would seem to indicate, the agents of the Society are not exerting their best efforts in the interest of their customers, then membership in the Society is a farce. An organization for the general good of the student body is thus turned into a detriment and there remains no question as to the reason for paucity of membership. If such conditions are present it certainly seems as if a change should be effected and the object of the Society brought nearer to actual attainment.

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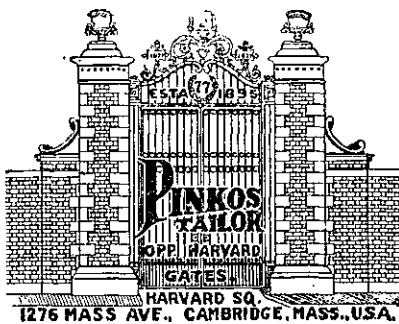
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