

THE TECH

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In charge of this issue: M. R. SCHARFF, 1909

Friday, March 29, 1907.

The students here do not seem to realize what an effort is being made to make the Saturday evening Kommers a success.

Better Attendance Needed. These Kommers could easily be made one of the most novel and successful features of student activity at the Institute if they were only attended by as large a number of men as those who prompt them have a right to expect. But they are not. Bursar Rand can never count on a regular and satisfactory attendance. As it is the Bursar and the Institute Committee hesitate to ask men of large reputations here to speak, since they cannot count on an audience that is worthy of them. This is about the situation for next Saturday night. The speaker at the next Kommers on Saturday will be Moorfield Story. He is a lawyer of large reputation and will give a talk that will be well worth hearing. It is to be hoped that he will speak to a large crowd, and that Tech will not get the name of not according the men that come here to speak the courtesy of a large and appreciative audience.

Harvard's troubles over her athletic system has brought out a great deal of just pride among those undergraduates and alumni of the Institute who know any thing concerning the athletic system which has been in vogue at Technology for a long period of years. This entire system is based on the fact that athletics remain a sport and are not made a business. This spirit has been summed up in the four lines which constitute the inscription on the bronze tablet over the gate to Tech Field:

"Not the Quarry, but the Chase,
Not the Laurel, but the Race,
Not the Hazard, but the Play,
Make Me, Lord, Enjoy Alway."

This spirit is responsible for a system that has kept the athletic interests of the undergraduates running smoothly and with far more success than any other system could bring about. The system is embodied in an "Advisory Council on Athletics," which consists of three alumni, who were active in athletics during their student

days, elected by the Alumni Association, and three undergraduates, elected by the Athletic Association. This body has full control of all sports, the Faculty having nothing to do with the conduct of athletics. The Faculty believe, and THE TECH heartily supports them in the belief, that all student activities should be run by the students themselves. Dean Burton says, "I know of no institution in the country that has had so little trouble in carrying on its athletics as the Institute. This is due mainly to the non-interference on the part of the Faculty in these matters. If they should have a hand in the matter they would be more or less biased and there would be continual trouble. The less school authorities meddle with athletics the less trouble will ensue."

That there should be some friction between the advisory council and the managers of teams is to be expected, but on the whole the Council has had remarkably little trouble. The success of the system has been due in a large measure to the unremitting labor and pains-

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