

THE TECH

Published every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during the college year (from September to June), by students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Entered as second-class matter October 6, 1904, at the post office at Boston, Mass., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

OFFICE HOURS:

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Tues., Wed. Sat., 10-11. Thu., Fri., 12-1.
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Editor-in-Charge, News Bureau, 10-11
Tuesday and Thursday 4-5. Saturday 10-11

Contributions are requested from all undergraduates, alumni, and officers of instruction. No anonymous manuscript can be accepted. All communications regarding subscriptions or advertisements should be addressed to the Business Manager.

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Subscription - - - \$1.50 per year in advance.
Single Copies 3 Cents.

In charge of this issue: A. K. MITCHELL, 1909.

Wednesday, April 17, 1907.

Owing to the suspension of the exercises of the Institute on Friday, there will be no issue of THE TECH on that day. Monday's issue will appear as usual.

THE TECH regrets to announce the resignation of F. B. Hooker, Jr., 1910 from the News Staff.

The Faculty insists—and very correctly too—that no man shall graduate from the Institute who has not had a chance to acquire a certain ease and accuracy of expression in English composition. To this end examination papers, accounts of trips for the purpose of examining plants, etc., are submitted to the English department for criticism and correction. Some people regard general studies as a nuisance and are perfectly content to pass with the lowest possible mark; but we are convinced that the great majority of men at the Institute recognize the value of a thorough training in English and the necessity of being able to describe machinery and processes with accuracy and precision.

We are the more astonished, therefore, to note a certain looseness—we might almost say ambiguity—of expression, which can be seen in many of the Institute text books, written by members of the Faculty and Instructing Staff. Making all allowances for printers' errors and for impatience and ignorance upon the part of the students there still remain many passages in laboratory instructions and similar notes that defy reasonable interpretation. Should the student apply to the instructor for elucidation the matter is usually straightened out satisfactorily, because the student has obtained momentarily the point of view of one who is very much better informed upon the

subject than he is. Often it is not hard to see what the author wanted to say and thought he said. In other cases no amount of juggling with words and meanings will shed any light upon the sentence.

We would suggest that if the authors of the various text books would remember that their pupils do not take up the subject with the author's knowledge of it and of the other branches of mathematics and physics, much misunderstanding and unnecessary loss of time would be avoided.

NAMES OF MEN WANTED.

All men who are going to be in Philadelphia on April 27, the day of the Penn. Relay races, are requested to send their names to Major Frank N. Briggs, '81, chairman of the Advisory Council on Athletics so that arrangements may be made to get the men together at the races.

GOULD CAPTAIN OF RELAY TEAM.

All four members of the Penn. relay team turned out together at the Field for the first time Monday to begin systematic training for the race against Brown, Amherst and Wesleyan. They jogged up and down the 220 yd. straightaway several times, Gould was elected captain by the team and will have the responsibility of getting the men to practice together.

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