

THE TECH

VOL. XXVII. No. 28

BOSTON, MASS., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1907

PRICE THREE CENTS

TECH WILL RACE B. A. A. TONIGHT.

ONE-MILE RELAY AT PARK SQUARE.

Other Men Are Entered In Open Events.

Technology will compete tonight in a relay race with the B. A. A. at the Park Square Rink. The trials for the team to represent the Institute in this event were held last Monday at the Gym. The distance to be run this evening will be one mile in length and will be divided into relays of unequal length. The first man will run 360 yards and the remaining runners will cover 480 yards apiece.

Harold Lockett made the best time for the short distance and W. C. Salisbury and H. W. Blackburn made the team as men to run the longer relays. The last place on the team will go to either G. B. Cummings or to W. J. Seligman. Both of these men made equally good time so one will run and the other will be retained as substitute. Eleven Tech men are entered in the other open events.

1908 CALENDAR OUT NEXT WEEK.

Tech's "Red Letter Days" Are Marked In Red.

Technology's first official calendar for the year 1908 will make its initial appearance about the first of the coming week.

A departure will be made this year which will prove decidedly advantageous to all Tech men, namely the designation of Tech's "Red Letter Days," that is, all dates which are of particular importance to Tech men will be printed in red ink. This list will include such dates as vacations, examination periods and Junior Week, including all the numerous festivities of the period and their respective dates.

The calendar will consist of six pages on silver grey mounts with conventional designs of the heads of several departments done in black on each page. The title will be printed in cardinal. Below the sketches will be arranged two tablets for as many months, containing in addition to the customary data, a complete schedule of the year's events.

The cover design will consist of a half-tone cut of the portico of Rogers taken by Professor Derr. This will be mounted upon silver grey and will be set off by another half-tone of the official Technology seal.

PRES. NOYES WILL SPEAK.

To Give Choice of Course Lecture

A "choice of course" lecture will be given to the Freshmen probably next Wednesday by President Noyes in 6 Lowell at 4 P. M. President Noyes will give a general lecture relating to all the courses, and for more definite information regarding each special course the heads of departments will see men in their offices.

PROM BALLOTS ARE OUT.

Fourteen Are Nominated.

The ballots for the junior prom committee have been sent out to every member of the junior class. The following names are on the ballot: R. H. Allen, C. J. Belden, Gladys Blake, A. L. Dickerman, B. W. Dow, G. I. Emerson, M. Flagg, W. B. Jenkins, W. W. King, S. N. McCain, John Miller, L. D. Nisbet, C. H. Pope, A. L. Shaw.

CATHOLIC CLUB.

Father McCarthy on Modernism.

At a meeting of the Catholic Club last night, Father McCarthy spoke on modernism and the dangers that are arising from it. After the talk refreshments were served. Twenty-five members were present.

"SUCCESS IS DUE TO THE MAN AND NOT TO THE INSTITUTION."

PROF. SWAIN, IN ARTICLE ON COURSE I, SAYS A DEGREE IS A HELP AT FIRST BUT NOT AFTER TEN YEARS.

"Each Student Should Avail Himself of His Opportunities to the Utmost and Success will be Within His Grasp."

The aim of the course in civil engineering is to give the student such a training in fundamental principles that he will have some power and initiative in solving the new problems which he will meet in his professional practice. Many men learn in school only to solve the particular problems they are shown how to solve, and gain no ability to apply general principles intelligently to cases which are new to them.

The main object of Course I is to do something to develop this power. The man who can only treat the problems which have been explained to him is distinctly limited in capacity and usefulness, while the man who has thoroughly mastered a general principle has almost unlimited power.



PROF. GEORGE F. SWAIN

A great deal of engineering is mere copying of the work of others and in this way errors are perpetuated and principles wrongly applied. The intelligent engineer should think for himself. Only a very small proportion of the problems which will be met with in practice can be studied in a course of four years. The attempt is therefore made to show the student the importance of discerning the fundamental principles involved in each problem and of mastering them thoroughly.

As regards the curriculum, with the exception of the change introduced last year, there has been little change in the last ten or fifteen years. Some details formerly taught have been eliminated to make room for new principles, as for instance those relating to reinforced concrete.

It is believed that the ground covered by the curriculum as it has existed for twenty years has been all that the average student could properly assimilate

and no attempt has been made to cover a larger field. If the student wishes advanced instruction in any of the subjects of the course, he can obtain it by taking a fifth year.

But a year ago an important change in the curriculum of Courses I and XI was introduced, by which one year of modern language was eliminated from the course, enabling the instruction in mechanics to be begun at the middle of the second year instead of at the beginning of the third year, and allowing a corresponding increase in the time given to structures in the third and fourth years.

This increase of time, however, will be devoted mainly to additional drill in fundamental principles, and not to any extension of the ground covered, which is already large enough.

One general tendency in modern education is to crowd more and more into the various courses, corresponding with the advances in the sciences and arts. This tendency has been resisted in Course I, so far as practicable, and the main emphasis is laid upon fundamental principles.

Lecture courses have also been for the most part avoided; text books are generally required, and the class-room exercises are largely recitations and quizzes designed to help the student to see the true inwardness of things.

I have frequently had occasion to call attention to the fact that civil engineering is a very broad profession. The graduates of the department therefore find occupation in varied fields. The demand for these graduates has for many years far exceeded the supply, and I cannot remember a year in which we have not had many more applications for men than we have been able to fill.

The past year has been a remarkable one in this respect, and although a large class was graduated last June, probably twice or three times as many men could have been placed. The demand for men in any branch of engineering fluctuates, of course, with the fluctuations of general business, and a slowing-up is now in progress.

The past few years have been so remarkably prosperous, and men for technical positions have been so scarce, that employers of engineers have been obliged to take anybody they could get, and inefficient men have found positions far beyond those they were qualified to fill. This has been true in all lines of engineering. Men who are competent to act merely as draughtsmen or surveyors, have been receiving wages nearly double what men in such positions were getting five or ten years ago.

The result of the readjustment now going on will be to make more places for the best men and allow them to advance faster than ever, while the less capable men, if they look at the matter

(Continued on page 3.)

MEMBERS GIVE TALKS.

New Plan Started by M. E. Society With Success.

Talks by members were the features of the Mechanical Engineering Society's meeting at the Union Monday evening. H. E. Allen 1908, on the construction of the railroad tunnel under the Hudson. S. H. Daddow 1908, on the development of the gas engine, and L. Loeb 1908, on the recent Quebec bridge disaster, were the speakers.

Prof. Lanza also spoke of the value derived from preparing and giving talks and advocated that in the future the majority of the student's meeting society's meetings be given up to student talks.

1910 AND 1911 PHOTOS ON SALE.

Relay and Football Pictures Secured by THE TECH.

THE TECH has secured prints of the Sophomore relay team and Freshman football team, that of the former being reprints of the photograph appearing in the special Field Day issue. These prints are on sale at the Cage, and at the table with THE TECH. The price is 50 cents each.

This will be the only opportunity for the Freshmen to secure a picture of the 1911 team as no other photograph of the team will be taken this year.

Dean Burton will be the guest of the Technology Alumni Association of New Bedford at its annual dinner tomorrow night, Dec. 5.

1909 WINS FIRST CLASS FENCING MEET.

1911 TAKES SECOND PLACE.

Grubnau 1909 Won Ribbon For Individual Superiority.

1909 won the first interclass meet of the fencing club Monday evening with 15 bouts to their credit, 1911 was second with 8, 1910 third with 4. V. C. Grubnau 1909 won the ribbon for individual superiority, showing excellent form and winning all his bouts.

The juniors were in the lead from the start. The team was V. C. Grubnau, M. Nickerson and R. Chinchilla. Chinchilla showed the excellent form derived from several years' experience. Nickerson's work was characterized by an almost impenetrable defence. Grubnau is a new man this year and has developed remarkably by consistent training, and should stand a good show for the varsity.

The 1911 team was made up of W. Jones, L. G. Glazier and W. Doane. Jones made up in speed what he lacked in form, and won half of the 1911 points.

The sophomore team consisted of R. Gallegos, D. Clapp, and B. Jones. Gallegos has had a lot of experience and was the mainstay of the team. The work of D. Clapp, who has only recently come out, was a surprise.

In addition to the interclass work Mr. P. Cushing, an outside expert, fenced a four-minute bout with foils against F. J. Lange 1909, and Capt. Loring fenced Lange with foils in the speediest bout of the evening.

In a four-minute duelling sword bout Gallegos 1910 defeated Mr. Cushing, winning out by greater endurance. The final bout was Capt. Loring and Mr. Cushing with duelling swords, the latter winning by one point. The contestants were evenly matched and brought applause from the audience time and again.

Summary of bouts:

- 1st bout—Doane 1911 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 2d bout—W. B. Jones 1911 defeated Chinchilla 1910.
- 3d bout—Nickerson 1909 defeated Gallegos 1910.
- 4th bout—Glazier 1911 defeated Clapp 1910.
- 5th bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated Doane 1911.
- 6th bout—Chinchilla 1909 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 7th bout—Gallegos 1910 defeated W. B. Jones 1911.
- 8th bout—Nickerson 1909 defeated Glazier 1911.
- 9th bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated Clapp 1910.
- 10th bout—Chinchilla 1909 defeated Doane 1911.
- 11th bout—W. B. Jones 1911 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 12th bout—Gallegos 1910 defeated Glazier 1911.
- 13th bout—Nickerson 1909 defeated Clapp 1911.
- 14th bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated W. B. Jones 1911.
- 15th bout—Gallegos 1910 defeated Doane 1911.
- 16th bout—Nickerson 1909 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 17th bout—Chinchilla 1909 defeated Glazier 1911.
- 18th bout—W. B. Jones 1911 defeated Clapp 1910.
- 19th bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 20th bout—Nickerson 1909 defeated Doane 1911.
- 21st bout—Doane 1911 defeated Clapp 1910.
- 22d bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated Glazier 1911.
- 2d bout—Gallegos 1910 defeated Chinchilla 1909.
- 24th bout—W. B. Jones 1911 defeated Nickerson 1909.
- 25th bout—Glazier 1911 defeated B. Jones 1910.
- 26th bout—Grubnau 1909 defeated Gallegos 1910.

(Continued on page 2.)