

THE TECH

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Friday, December 6, 1907.

"HA! HA!" SAID THE DUCK,
LAUGHING.

Dear me! Isn't this a little strong? Of course young women should never be given a chance to show their ability, especially in a technical school, and the thing about young fellows that worries a man most is decency. But these statements sound so bald when a person says them right out.

And then, the way that editorial on "1909 Chivalry" has been misunderstood is almost preposterous. Why, everybody loves 1909. Some people who are not members of the class expect to be soon and look forward with the keenest pleasure to the day when they will assume the responsibilities of gentlemen.

Of course THE TECH is prejudiced against 1909 but in a case of this kind, pettiness is cast aside, and it cannot withhold admiration and respect.

Like the flowers that bloom in the spring, official co-educational principles and equal rights and privileges either have nothing to do with the case or bring promise of merry sunshine. It is hard to tell which, but never mind, the fundamental principle is paved with roses.

"Every Day is Ladies' Day with Us!" God forbid that the case be otherwise.

Lives there a Junior with heart so cold who would not vote for a lady? That is the principle of the chivalric outburst of Wednesday last. These were the very words. "A woman's hand is needed in an event of this kind, a feminine taste in the flowers and decorations." Can anyone deny this?

So gallant were the members of 1909 and so respectful was their attitude toward ladies, that they nominated a lady for their prom committee without her knowledge.

It was indeed fortunate that last spring's Technique electoral committee was saved from indecency. Also viewed in remote perspective its "quickness and harmony" were admirable as was its immediate and unanimous chivalry.

There have been other chivalrous classes at the Institute, but not quite 1909. On the 1905 Technique electoral committee was a young woman. In such serious spirit was she elected and so respectful was the attitude of the committee toward her that when it met, her name was always proposed for some office, that she might be asked to leave the room. She was not invited to return until the end of the meeting. This courtesy was extended to her probably to protect her from the cigarette smoke.

Maybe a few rude members of this committee were not in sympathy with the actions of the majority, and maybe would have preferred to have her sit inside in the smoke. But these are idle speculations.

Let us return to the features of this scurrilous editorial which have been misunderstood. In all seriousness, the writer is assured that the Technique meetings this year are not opened with a prayer and surely he would not deny cigarette smoke and profanity are desirable adjuncts in a gathering of real college fellows.

Well, what do you think about it?

COMMUNICATION.

Dear Sirs:—

In your last issue you published an editorial entitled "1909 Chivalry." In this editorial you held the junior class up to ridicule for daring to treat its coeds with respect, and recognizing their class spirit and ability when they have shown them. The immediate cause of

this outburst is the nomination of a girl for the prom committee. According to your editorial her fitness for the position or for honor at the hands of the class is not to be considered, her skirts alone condemn her.

Tech is officially a co-educational institution in which the women students are on a par with the men. Unless some good and valid reason can be shown for casting them out of the social life, they should certainly be accorded equal rights and privileges in the class affairs.

The 1909 coeds have repeatedly shown their zeal in the class interest. On field night last year they worked hard to feed the men alongside of whom they could not fight; and throughout the season two of them rendered very efficient service collecting dues a job which to say the least is not paved with roses.

But even worse than the implied attack on coeds is the direct attack on decency in the performance of class business. It may be possible that no enterprise can be conducted successfully now-a-days except in a dense hedge of smoke and profanity, but the writer doubts it. The quickness and harmony with which the Technique electoral committee did its work last spring seems to prove that such conditions are unnecessary. Even THE TECH admitted the fact then. But of course seasons do change good manners and a business like spirit may be desirable, but the older men get the more value they seem to attach to them.

In brief, your article implies two absolutely false principles: first, that sex stands ahead of efficient service; and second, that decency should be left behind us when we enter Tech.

F. D. Applin '09.

TO DEBATE EXAM SYSTEM.

The Civic Club will meet at the Union tonight at 7.30. There will be an open discussion on the resolution: "Examinations are not a fair test of a man's knowledge." No preparation is needed and every one can say what he thinks.

TECH SHOW DINNER.

(Continued from page 1.)

B. Jenkins 1909 will sing "Cattle King" from "William, Willie, and Bill."

Kurt Vonnegut 1908 and R. H. Allen 1909, who made their fame two years ago as Karl and Alex the grinds, and who added to it last year in the title parts of the show, are expected and the success of their performance is well assured.

Sando, the leading lady last year, and Stein, a Wellesley waitress have been invited and probably will be there. Kibbey, who as a Jew collector made such a hit last year, is expected, but may not be able to come. Belden, who was Mrs. Montgomery Swelter last year has accepted and will certainly be there.

There were over 180 at the Tech Show dinner last year, the first of its kind, and the chances are good that the Union will be taxed to its limit. No tickets are to be sold at the door and all who wish to go will have to secure them beforehand.

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may be right and not be
Fownes, but they can't be

FOWNES

and not be right.

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