

## THE TECH

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Monday, April 27, 1908.

### IN DECREPITUDE.

There are indeed dead things at the Institute but the deadeast of all is the Society of Arts. An admirable institution in its ideals, originally the biggest and most important part of the Institute, the society has in late years been allowed to go into a decrepitude that is disgraceful when its purposes are to be considered.

This society was organized, it seems, for the investigation of the progress made in the industrial arts. The society is supposed to promote scientific research by the exhibition of mechanical and new industrial processes. Also the society founded a journal, the Technology Quarterly, to advance the interests of the industrial arts and of education. All well and good, but how far has this society with these high ideals fulfilled its purposes?

Something like fifteen persons greeted Professor Jackson the other evening when he appeared before the society to give a deeply interesting talk, one of moment to all engineers and Institute students. It was almost an insult to ask as eminent an expert to talk before such a gathering. Other meetings this year, except the one at which Professor Jaggar spoke, have been almost as sparsely attended. Last year conditions were nearly as bad.

The reason for this deadness of interest is lack of advertising, lack of push by those in charge, an uninteresting schedule of speakers, and the room that the meetings are held in. The meetings are kept a dark secret, except to a few, by sending out a small number of cards announcing the meeting in a stereotyped fashion with never a word as to who the speaker is or what he has done. No effort is made to take advantage of the columns of the newspapers or of The Tech, no press agent work being attempted. Newspapers will print a four line notice, but have too much regular business to dig out facts in regard to a speaker of whom no one has ever heard.

The schedule of speakers contains perhaps one or two men that have made a noise in the world as experts, and speak in a fairly popular manner on popular subjects. The other speakers are usually, or at least have been for the last two years, either men speaking for products of their concerns or are dry-as-dust scientists of the lesser sort.

The mere mention of Walker 23 as a meeting place to most Institute students is in itself enough to make most of them chary of spending an hour in the well known bone-breaking seats and weird, peculiar atmosphere. These conditions added to the doubtful value of what the speaker has to say militates against making the meetings of the society popular among the students. And the methods of conducting the meetings have the same dry flavor now as they probably had 645 meetings ago.

Those who remember the flourishing condition and the interesting proceedings of this society when in charge of Professor Wendell, and know the prominent position it held years ago in Boston, can fully appreciate just what sort of a mummy this organization has become. With just the same ideals that the present President of the Institute is striving toward in the school itself, the bringing together of the scientists and the manufacturer, and the bringing in of the practical to leaven the theoretical, this society has fallen to a very small place, has become a joke as a part of the whole Institute.

The journal connected with this society has suffered from this decline. Those in charge of the Technology Quarterly have had, however, enough life to secure for it some very valuable articles. Still, this does not fill the field it should.

The Society of Arts should be made attractive to student, instructor and professor, mechanic, professional man and engineer, it should be one of the strongest and most virile features of the Institute. Under the present management the society does not fulfill its functions, its meetings are neither popular among or attractive to any of the classes mentioned. Someone should revivify this fast-dying institution.

### EDWARD IGNATIUS CAHILL 1910.

The sudden death of Edward Ignatius Cahill 1910 after a three weeks' not seemingly dangerous attack of typhoid fever at his home in East Boston Thursday came as a deep shock to his many friends at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and in East Boston. All who have known him in class and on the basketball team at Tech regret to lose such an earnest and tireless worker.

The funeral was held at 9 o'clock Saturday morning from his late residence 250 Lexington St., with solemn high requiem mass at the Sacred Heart Church, East Boston. Many friends and relatives with a number of Institute men were present at the ceremony. The Tech basketball team sent flowers.

Cahill was a basketball player of more than average ability playing two years on the Institute team as one of the forwards, preferably in the left position. He was a short, strongly built fellow, and a thorough athlete. He came to the Institute from East Boston High School where he starred on the basketball team for several years. His election to the captaincy of the Institute team showed that he was honored by his team mates. He was studying in Course III.

### RESOLUTIONS.

Whereas, Almighty God in his infinite wisdom and power has taken from us Edward Ignatius Cahill, a member of the class of 1910, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; be it

Resolved, That in his untimely death his class has lost a most loyal and faithful member; and be it further

Resolved, That the Class of 1910 extend to the bereaved family its sincere and heartfelt sympathy, in this, its hour of earthly sadness.

(Signed)

TOM W. SAUL,  
CURTIS C. WEBB,  
JOHN J. HIGGINS,  
ROBERT S. BREYER,  
For the Class of 1910.

### WALTER DOANE 1911

Walter Doane 1911, after an illness of two weeks died at his home in East Boston April 25, at 11.45 A. M., of jaundice. Funeral services will be held Monday afternoon at 107 Lexington Street, East Boston.

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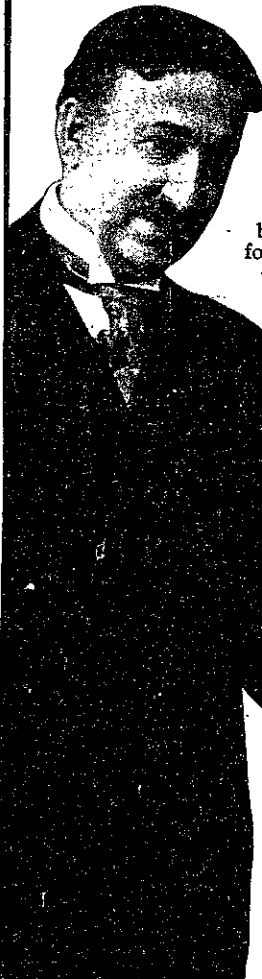
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