



Published semi-weekly throughout the school year, and weekly during the summer vacation by the students of the
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Boston, Mass., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 19, 1918

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Subscription \$1.75 for the college year in advance. Single copies three cents.
Business office, 310 Walker Memorial, Charles River Road, Cambridge, Mass.; business phone, Cambridge 7415. News room, 3 Walker Memorial; news phone, Cambridge 7415; after 6 p. m. Monday and Thursday, Main 4734, 4735, 4736.

All material for publication must be in hands of the night editor by noon of the day previous to issue.

The Editor is always responsible for the opinions expressed in the editorial columns, and the Managing Editor for the matter which appears in the news columns.

Although communications may be published unsigned if so requested, the name of the writer must in every case be submitted to the editor. THE TECH assumes no responsibility, however, for the facts as stated nor for opinions expressed.

IN CHARGE THIS ISSUE

James D. Sarros '22 William K. Taft '22

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1920

SACRIFICE

WE have not yet so far forgotten the World War that we fail to accord instant sympathy and honor to a man crippled or blinded in battle overseas. No one with decency can fail to do so—his sacrifice is so obvious. A man who enlisted and thereby seriously interfered with his career by surrendering a promising position which he has been unable to regain, is also deserving of honor and respect—his sacrifice, though less evident, was still great, and he lacks the tribute of sympathy which is extended his wounded comrade. Both, however, have this in common: they made their high resolve in an hour of National emotion when even the weak and selfish may be swayed into a high-minded, self-forgetting act.

Most of those who are now underclassmen were too young to enlist. The Government, however, requires their service in another fashion—it requires of those who attend land-grant colleges a few hours of training in order that when the next emergency arises, they may be at least partially fitted to meet it. In return, the Government assists to maintain the school, giving the Institute an annual income upon an amount equal to about \$400 for each student now required to attend military instruction. The Government further offers military scholarships of about \$220 to upperclassmen who prove themselves fit for commissions.

In return, the Government asks completion of only a small amount of training. It is true that it takes a little time and effort, and that there is no personal glory attached to it. Neither was there much personal glory for the buck private who went over the top in a bayonet charge to kill or be killed. He at least was a MAN:—knowing the country's need, he offered everything he had. Of the student, the government asks far less—a little time, a little thought... is it so much? We could not all go overseas to mix in great adventures, but we all know in our own hearts whether we are earnestly and willingly and sincerely responding to this call which the country makes upon us—a call which is next to nothing compared with what has been required of some four million fellow-citizens. There may have been some excuse for the "SLACKER" from the War—he was called to endure an infinitely harder trial. There can be no excuse for the man who proves himself a "SLACKER" when he is asked for so little.

UNDERGRADUATE ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED FOR ENTIRE WEEK

All undergraduate activities, with the exception of the regular Institute exercises, will be suspended at Technology until Monday, January 26. This announcement was made last Friday, following a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute Committee, at which it was decided to take this action as a mark of respect to the memory of Dr. MacLaurin.

The decision to eliminate all activities, other than of a purely studious nature until a week from yesterday, means the probable cancellation of a swimming meet scheduled with the University of Pennsylvania for next Saturday night, a Dormitory Dance at Walker on Friday and another planned by the Technology orchestra for the following night, as well as Tech Show rehearsals, hockey games, and a number of other activities of a varied nature.

NEWSPAPERS LAUD LATE PRESIDENT

All Greater Boston Dailies Comment at Length on Our Irreparable Loss—Praise His Scholarly Achievements

A NOBLE LIFE, ALL AGREE

All of the Greater Boston newspapers have commented editorially on the death of our late President MacLaurin. Among the most noteworthy of these are those appearing in the Boston Herald and the Boston Transcript. Both papers have spoken of Dr. MacLaurin as one of the greatest educators in the United States as well as one of the foremost gentlemen and scholars.

The following editorial, under the title "President MacLaurin, the Man" commenting on the death of Dr. MacLaurin, appeared in the Boston Herald of January 17, 1920:

Richard Cockburn MacLaurin had a genius for accomplishment. Quiet and unassuming, he displayed great qualities without either ostentation or eccentricity. He grappled with unaccustomed problems of finance and such was his facility of assimilation that he quickly became skilled in matters of financial administration. His keen sense of humor was suspected only by his intimates. His training and experience in Great Britain, New Zealand and the United States gave him a cosmopolitan quality that carried him over and through many obstacles and perplexities; some have declared that quality to have been "his salvation."

His fellow-workers in Technology's cause soon learned to respect him, and their respect deepened into affection and quickened into enthusiasm. When he came here a stranger they found him a most sympathetic listener, absorbing their views rapidly, reticent as to his own, yet never giving offence by his silence. Seemingly to have had comparatively little business experience, at Tech he was surrounded by men whose forte was finance; yet within a year they were saying capped by his lack of familiarity that he thought finance as though he were a financier by profession. He reached Boston by way of Scotland, Cambridge University and a "down-under land," knowing little of America, and it was supposed that he would be handicapped by his lack of familiarity with the country and the city, yet in a short time he seemed to know everything and everybody.

He could "reach" men. "Inaccessible" New York business men received him and after an interview liked him and did what he asked. He had the knack, the art, of skilful letter writing. His letters, never too long, always shrewdly diplomatic, yet definite and pointed, often induced "big men" to change their minds even when the alteration meant much trouble and expense. He was direct in his methods. In Washington when he was serving the government in war times they told him he never would be able to get to Secretary Baker, even though his subject was important, and he did not see the secretary, for Mr. Baker was out of the city; Dr. MacLaurin then quietly amazed his associates by going to the White House and at luncheon discussing and settling his problem.

When he came to Tech great things were contemplated. He grasped the vision at once, made the vision his own, expanded it, and then lived for it for 10 years. He spared not himself. Never rugged, it was feared that he might break down at critical periods of his campaigns. Right through last summer he toiled, spending four days a week in town, and traveling to the extreme north of New Hampshire to spend a few hours with his family. He did not always have his own way, but when a conference decided against his hopes he would withhold his objections and leave them all unsuspecting, unless he were sure the time was opportune for a test.

He was a lovable and able man. The entire country laments him.

The Boston Evening Transcript published the following editorial about the late President MacLaurin on January 16, 1920:

For all the shock of suddenness and for all the pain of swift

and heavy loss inflicted upon this community and upon the whole world of education by the death of President Richard C. MacLaurin, still in these very qualities of the event there is, if not a softening of the blow, then an almost epic ennoblement of it. The great presidents of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have all died in harness. To its founder and first president, William Barton Rogers, the call came, on May 30, 1882, without a moment's warning. It is true that for a brief time before, he had laid aside the formal cares of the school's headship; yet he died in the very midst of a Commencement Day address to students immediately his own, reared during his administration. So in 1897 came also the death of that other foremost man among the Institute's presidents, Francis Amasa Walker, in the full swing and toil of his service, and in the same bleak first days of January that are at present returned to us. And now Richard Cockburn MacLaurin, the only other man whose record entitled him to a place beside Rogers and Walker in the absolute forefront of Technology's annals, has taken his place beside them indeed, both in the manner of his going and in the height of his honor.

It were folly to attempt any comparison among these three men. Without the contribution made by both Rogers and Walker, the story of the most recent years at Technology obviously could not have been written as it has been, even by the master hand of a MacLaurin. The dramatic sailing of the barge that bore the Institute's sixth president and his faculty, together with their charter and great seal, across the River Charles on a summer's night of 1916, would have been but a futile voyage had it not carried as freight also the accumulated experience and repute of a generation of labor and progress in technical education. The vast buildings on the Cambridge side of the river would have been empty indeed, had there not been at hand, as there was, a great store of finely established tradition wherewith to fill them. Yet even the preservation and maintenance of these intangible riches were largely the work of Dr. MacLaurin in the critical opening years of his leadership. He came to the Institute in 1909 at a time when their very survival, and certainly their prestige, were at stake. He husbanded them and he increased them. And more than any other one man he contributed first to clear comprehension of the vision of the shining new home where they were to be housed and given great new opportunities of service, and then to the actual realization of that vision in the stone and concrete, the mortar and steel, of the splendid plant on the Charles.

The fame and force of the school as a teaching institution having been saved and strengthened, its material reconstruction having been largely accomplished, still there was to be no rest for its purposeful president. The financial demand of the Institute's future were pressing for supply with an urgency almost ominous. Upon Dr. MacLaurin fell a principal part of the responsibility for meeting them. Of the far-sightedness and the fine competence which he brought to this task, the news of the month, telling of the complete success of the financial programme which Technology set itself, has provided the best possible evidence. Of the effort and energy expended upon it by Dr. MacLaurin the news of today has shown the measure. They have cost him his life. No sacrifice upon the altar of any cause ever was more direct, no death ever more plainly the result of over-fatiguing, even though victorious battle by a devoted leader. Side by side with Rogers and Walker, on a level higher, if anything, than the high position they occupy, this Commonwealth and all the educational world will hold, in sorrow now, in enduring pride throughout the future, the memory of the sixth president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Richard Cockburn MacLaurin, physicist, lawyer and administrator, intimately associated at various periods in his career with the academic life of three continents, self-sacrificing guide of America's greatest scientific school to what promise to be its greatest years.

NOTICE TO ALUMNI

Copies of this edition of THE TECH as well as Saturday's edition covering the annual Alumni dinner will be sent to every former student of Technology.

The culmination of President MacLaurin's work was in connection with the Educational Endowment Fund and it is felt that all Technology men will desire to receive his final message which was read at the dinner.

PRESIDENT'S ENTIRE CAREER SPARKLED WITH VERSATILITY

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formal invitation was sent to him. He accepted upon the condition that he be allowed to finish out the year at Columbia, and on June 7, 1909 he was inaugurated as Technology's head. Elaborate exercises in Symphony Hall.

Assumed Presidency of Technology

When Dr. MacLaurin assumed the presidency of the Institute he was just past his thirty-ninth birthday. His inaugural address he said that the end of education is to fit men to deal with the affairs of life honestly, intelligently, and efficiently. He said that science and culture should go hand in hand, and that the school should preserve in its students the freshness and vigor of youth, and see that the natural powers of initiative are improved and not checked by the school.

Built Up Loyalty of Alumni

In the early days of his administration he said that the great need of Technology was money. He voiced the hope of a splendid future for the Institute, and said that the school needed increased equipment of buildings and appliances. He attached great importance to the building up of loyalty to the Institute among its alumni. In this endeavor he was remarkably successful. One of the first manifestations of his success was a gift of half a million dollars by T. Coleman DuPont '84 toward the purchasing of a new site for the school in Cambridge. The alumni backed up the President admirably in his campaign for building funds and under his able direction the new buildings of the Institute were erected.

Discovered "Mr. Smith"

In 1912 Dr. MacLaurin visited George Eastman, the "Kodak King" of Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Eastman believed that Technology had only to embrace its destiny to rise to a position of great usefulness. Toward the building project, announced in March, 1912 Mr. Eastman gave \$2,500,000 and during the process of construction of the buildings he gave an additional million. He had requested that his identity be kept a secret as he wanted to avoid fuss and notoriety. Under his own name, in June, 1916 Mr. Eastman made a gift of \$300,000 toward machinery for chemical engineering training. These plus subsequent gifts, including the one he recently made when his name was disclosed make a total of \$11,000,000 that he has given to the Institute.

SIMPLEST CEREMONIES MARK FUNERAL OF DR. MACLAURIN

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only music, using Handel's Largo as the expression of that breaking of the silver cord of life which all were feeling. After a simple invocation, Dr. Gordon offered the words of the Twenty-Third Psalm as the consolation and help of the occasion. The simple words of devotion he showed that the greatest thing is love, greater even than life itself. Love expressed in humble Christian devotion and in honest service seems greater than the giving up of life.

In his closing prayer, Dr. Gordon commended the wife and mother to the tender sympathy and care of the creators of the Institute, and asked for the children, life's best opportunities.

The simple service closed with the congregational singing of "For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blessed, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!"

Many Notables Present

All the seats on the floor of the church were reserved for the entire student body, the faculty and the instructing staff, representatives from other institutions and societies, alumni and members of the cooperation.

The group of honorary pallbearers were men of distinguished accomplishment, those who had been co-laborers in creating the great

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