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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

E. H. Koehler, Jr. '22 W. B. Purinton '22

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1920

GIVE IT A TRIAL

THERE is an increasing tendency on the part of the universities, colleges and preparatory schools of the country to subdivide the regular classes into groups according to the abilities of their students. There is no spirit of invidious distinction in thus separating the more intelligent from the less intelligent students, but merely an effort to accomplish, more efficiently, the results desired by any educational institution, by preventing the dull students from holding back the brighter ones and by preventing the brighter students from setting too fast a pace for their less fortunate fellows.

Such a plan of separation according to ability might be employed with great success at Technology, especially in those subjects which are compulsory for men of, all courses. Surely neither the better nor the poorer student would object to a scheme which so obviously benefits both. And the instructors, too, would have an easier time, for they would be relieved of the unpleasant experiences of having one part of their classes look bored, while explaining a subject in detail to the other part or of causing one part to look dazed while keeping the brighter group interested.

A NEW SONG BOOK

THERE is a deided need of a new song book; one that will more satisfactorily answer the demand for a truly representative collection of Technology songs. It is the almost unanimous opinion of the undergraduate body that the old songs, appropriate as they may have been for those frequent gatherings in the Brunswick Tap Room on Boylston Street hardly fill the present need.

The book we have at present serves little other purpose than to deny the fact that there are better songs than those it contains. The collection could be more appropriately called, "A Collection of College Songs."

By combing the old Tech-Show scores for the song hits of past years a real Technology Song Book might be compiled; one that would be typical of our Institute and really deserving of its title.

CONCERNING M. I. T. CAN BE PROCURED AT T. C. A.

Early last fall the latest edition of "Concerning the Massachusetts Institute of Technology" appeared, and was distributed to the members of the student body. When all had been supplied, those remaining were put away and apparently forgotten. The Technology Christian Association, however, acting for the editors, has assumed the distribution of these. All members of the junior freshman class, and those of the upper classes who have not secured their copy, may procure the book by presenting their registration card at the T. C. A. office at any time during the day.

FENCING "COMES BACK" AS BIG INSTITUTE ACTIVITY

Fencing reappeared as an Institute activity last Tuesday when over a score of enthusiasts met to discuss ways and means of forming a team. E. E. Freeman '21, who has had much experience in intercollegiate varsity fencing was the moving spirit behind the action. James Nesmith, 2nd '22, has been appointed manager.

While not now recognized as an official Institute sport, there is evidence of great interest in fencing and with the spirit shown in starting and the prospects of a successful season, it is expected that recognition will soon be forthcoming. Masks and foils have already been secured and meets are either arranged or pending with many of the larger colleges in the east.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of THE TECH.

Can anyone give any sound reasons why an institution such as Tech should not have a comic magazine published by its undergraduates?

The student life is full of incidents which if cleverly presented would give volumes of good clean amusement to the many readers of the comic publication. The talented student body at Tech gives a resource of mirth never to be exhausted. The Alumni have furnished a most inviting office to carry on this work at the Institute.

Therefore, with all these advantages, why can't we get with our meagre fifteen cents a decent comic paper? If such a paper is worth editing at all it is surely worth editing well!

An occasional stale joke is no black eye for a magazine. The same joke appearing twice in one issue with practically the same camouflaging, might be a mistake. But one issue having two jokes, each appearing twice, is obnoxious and worthy only of the junk pile. Cartoons, tho a trifle crude, are at least home talent and exhibitions of honest effort, an asset to the publication and perhaps to the school. However, why make so many of them so indecent as to queer the whole issue, those responsible for its publication, and perhaps the whole Institute? And further, why spoil a good cartoon with explanatory remarks so likewise unfitting as to queer it?

A thing doesn't have to be indecent to be funny to most people.

Therefore, editors, let's crawl out of our shells and see what the majority of the readers want, and what will do the most good at the 'Stute, and give the student body a magazine worthy of the reputation of M. I. T.

A Reader.

HUMAN ENGINEERING MAY BE NEXT PLAN

T. C. A. To Take Up the Idea of Furthering the Human Engineering Plan at the Institute Soon

PROFESSIONALS WILL LECTURE

Several measures of importance were discussed at a meeting of the Advisory Board for the Technology Christian Association, held in the Grill Room of Walker at 12.00 o'clock Monday, January 19. This meeting is the regular monthly meeting of the Board at which the General Secretary's report for the previous month is read.

It was decided that W. M. Ross, the General Secretary of the T. C. A., should attend the series of lectures at the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst. J. Stitt Wilson will give the series of lectures February 5-8 on the subject "Constructive Christian Democracy."

At the same Meeting it was decided that it would be wise to take up, at some time in the near future, the matter of industrial service as the next big thing attempted by the T. C. A. The matter may only be launched by spring in preparation for the big campaign in the fall of 1920.

The plan of human engineering embraces a study of the human relations of employer and employee, and lectures by professionals on the human engineering principle.

The first could be supplied by voluntary classes conducted by professors. In turn the students could conduct classes of employees and further the work of Americanization and citizenship.

The latter part of the plan could be carried out by having men who have made a success of the application of human engineering speak to students at mass meetings called for that purpose.

The subject of human engineering has a large field, and in the hands of the T. C. A. should supply the human element along with the technical element as furnished by the Institute under the Technology Plan.

NOTICES

Technique Signup Book Lost—A Technique 1921 signup book containing numbers 1926 to 1950 has been lost. A reward of one dollar is offered to the person who returns it to the Technique office. The signups in the book have been cancelled, so it is of no value to the finder.

Rifle Club—There will be an important meeting of the Rifle Club, on Wed., Jan. 28, at 5 o'clock in Room 10-267.

"Concerning M. I. T." and "Bibles" Junior freshmen may procure copies of the book "Concerning M. I. T." and the "Tech Bible" by applying at the T. C. A. office.

Cartoonist Competition — THE TECH announces the opening of a competition for cartoonists. The candidates will meet in room 3, Walker Memorial, Monday at 5.00 o'clock.

U. S. TREASURY SENDS OFFICIAL

Mr. J. F. Deegan Will Address Meeting of Former Service Men to Explain Changes in War Risk Policy DESIRES FULL ATTENDANCE

A letter has been received by Col. A. A. Maybach of the Department of Military Science from the Treasury Department in Washington, which he has requested to be published in THE TECH for the benefit of ex-service men who are now attending the Institute. The letter received was as follows:

Treasury Department,
Washington,
January 8, 1920.

Commander,
American Legion Post,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:

I am sending a Special Representative from the Bureau of War Risk Insurance to every large university in the United States, in order to inform the ex-service men now attending school, of their rights and privileges under the War Risk Insurance Act. This Act has been amended, and very many important rulings have been added, which must be brought home to the ex-service men. These rulings which were recommended by the National Convention of the American Legion are now a part of the Act itself. In order to assist your Post, I am sending a Special Representative to advise the proper method of adjusting its problems and convey to it the latest information on allotments and allowances, compensation and insurance.

I would appreciate very much your co-operation in this very important work in aiding the men and their relatives, who sacrificed so much during the war.

Mr. J. F. Deegan, the Special Representative, will be at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on March 18th, and I would like to have you call together a special meeting of your Post and I will have him attend that meeting; answering any questions and giving any information in regard to the problems of the men of your Post.

I have also written to the President of your university, asking his co-operation also.

Kindly answer the question at bottom of this letter and mail in the enclosed envelope.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

R. G. CHOLMELEY JONES,
Director.

Will it be possible to have the ex-service men of your Post meet on the afternoon or evening of March 18th, so that my Special Representative may attend and address the meeting?

Col. Maybach said that the Treasury Department had erred in assuming that there was a Post of the American Legion at the Institute, but, nevertheless he would be willing to have a meeting of all ex-service men in the Institute, in order that Mr. Deegan may address them. The detailed information will be announced later.

COURSE VIA MEN AT LYNN

FORM "BOARD OF DIRECTORS"

The Lynn section of Course VI-A is preparing to continue the course in "The Presentation of Engineering Projects to Boards of Directors" that accomplished such excellent results last term. Under the direction of Mr. Hewitt of the English Department, the section is being organized into a board of directors to consider and vote on typical projects to be presented by members of the course.

The student committees this term will not present collegiate subjects; instead, they will prepare subjects of a semi-technical nature and those dealing with labor and social questions. Socialism, Bolshevism, the relation between employer and employee, the problem of the unemployed, hiring and firing, and shop conditions, indicate the nature of the problems to be considered.

The classes will be conducted this term at the Thomson Club where they can be of a more informal and intimate nature instead of at the shops. Mr. Hewitt explains that, in addition to giving the men practice in speaking while on their feet and presenting a subject in an attractive and convincing manner, an attempt is being made to keep them in touch with matters other than those of a purely technical nature. Furthermore, he says that the subjects for discussion are of the kind with which the men must be familiar, and which they will find of great value when they become executives.

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