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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

William K. Taft '22 Lucian F. Jenness '22

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1920

CHANGES IN THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

It was with the utmost regret that we learned of the resignation of Professor Arthur Noyes. He is an Institute graduate and has been associated with Technology for thirty years and during that period has demonstrated his ability in theoretical and inorganic chemistry. We wish Professor Noyes continued success at the California Institute of Technology.

Coincident with the announcement of Professor Noyes' resignation came that of the appointment of Professor W. K. Lewis as head of Course X. Professor Lewis, another Institute graduate, is recognized as one of the country's leading chemical engineers. The fact that he has given up an important industrial position in order to devote his time to Course X is especially worthy of note in these times when so many experts are forsaking their academic duties for industrial and commercial fields.

KEEP IT A T. C. A. BIBLE

SOMEONE has dug up a ruling of the Institute Committee several years ago to the effect that the committee, and not the T. C. A., should publish the Tech Bible. Whereupon certain of its members declare that the prerogatives of the committee have been usurped and that the ruling should be enforced. It would seem that, on the contrary, the Institute Committee would be only too glad to have the publication taken off its hands. The T. C. A. has handled the book well. It has the machinery to do so; in fact, there is now a committee at work preparing the issue for next year. The Institute Committee can do no better than to leave things as they are. The ruling should not be left on the records, but either it should be rescinded or else the duty should be relegated to the T. C. A. as a perpetual committee.

EXCHANGE PROFESSORS

THE appointment of Professor Sedgwick as first exchange professor to Cambridge and Leeds marks the acceptance by the Institute of a custom beginning to gain the recognition of most of the greater American universities. The exchange of professors between countries, besides giving the colleges concerned the benefit of different methods of teaching and different points of view, tends to bring about better mutual understanding and deeper friendship between the nations practicing it.

It is to be regretted that conditions in England will not permit the English universities to send a professor to Technology. However, the Institute will be worthily represented abroad and with the resumption of normal conditions we may expect the representative of some foreign university.

The M. I. T. A. A. is to be congratulated upon the measure which they proposed and the Institute Committee adopted, providing medical treatment for men injured in athletics. It is obviously unjust that men serving Technology in the athletic field should be subject to serious loss through injury whether received in contests or in practice. From now on, men are to be given immediate treatment in all cases and, when the student is unable to do so, the M. I. T. A. A. is to pay for any subsequent treatment.

HOG ISLAND SHIPYARD BUILT BY GRADUATES

COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor of The Tech:

Dean Burton's talk at a Dormitory Smoker a few weeks ago in which he intimated the keen interest shown by various Alumni in the subject of a War Memorial Dormitory, has stirred up actively the Dormitory men. The subject of new dormitories has long been one of many renewed arguments among us, and is of vital interest to the one hundred and seventy men out of over three thousand who have had the good fortune to occupy rooms here; but until recently new dormitories have seemed a goal impossible of attainment.

Now, however, when we see the remotest possibility of convincing our Alumni and Corporation that we should have a much larger system, we wish to take advantage of it in the most convincing and emphatic way possible.

First, as residents of the present dormitories, we have already signified our satisfaction of the existing building and its government by signing to the last man a petition which will probably be submitted in the near future by the committee on War Memorial Dormitory Investigation.

We are constantly being approached by our friends who wish to know whether there is not some possibility of obtaining rooms here for the coming year, their plea being that there is too long a waiting list already. Even now, the list of men occupying rooms here is being carefully combed in order to eliminate those of any who have the least chance of leaving this year, in order to squeeze in one or two more among the many who wish to get in.

New dormitories would accomplish more to lift the morale of Technology than any other one change that could be made here. The first tangible result would be in satisfying the actual demand for quarters in them. They would remove students from rooms in Boston and Cambridge that in many cases are very inconvenient both as regards accommodation and location, and in not a few instances from those that are highly undesirable. That would make it possible in the majority of cases to render a greater and more efficient service at a more reasonable cost.

The result that would be intangible at first, but that could not help but make itself felt within a very few months, would be the unification of the student body that would produce a spirit which Technology has tried to assimilate for years without avail, simply because her students have been so widely scattered. It would do away in a large measure with the sad-eyed commuter who through force of circumstances must seize his student bag at five o'clock at night to rush to some unknown region, there to remain unheard from until nine o'clock the next day.

Last of all it would do more than anything else could to add that human element of relationship that professors, Alumni, and students alike have tried to foster in various ways in the past. It would place Technology out of the class of a factory, and put it on a plane where there would come the opportunity for all students to feel a more spontaneous and sincere interest in the institute and its work.

(Signed),

W. R. McKENNEY.

To the Editor of The Tech:

A few days ago a freshman, having all but completed his descriptive geometry plate had put away his drawing board and instruments. Anticipating the joy of forgetting about the true length of a straight line for another twenty-four hours he reached for his hat. His flight was suddenly interrupted by his instructor, who descended upon him and sternly ordered him to stay after school. The freshman quite dazed wondered if by some miracle he was not back once more in the school of his childhood. He looked for the birch rod in the teacher's hand, and not finding this he looked in the corner for the dunce cap. It was not there either. He must have been mistaken. He was suddenly brought to earth again by the austere voice reminding him that the more time he wasted the longer he would have to stay after school. Still wondering if he was really at the Institute of Technology or in a grade school he laboriously hauled out his drawing board and instruments, and continued to search for true lengths.

We realize that this is the instructor's first year at the Institute and the way in which things are done here differ from other institutions. It does not, however, seem possible that after being here since October he should confuse work at the Institute with grade school discipline.

(Signed),

GENTLE READER

To the Editor of The Tech:

Having noticed in your columns an editorial and other matter which leads one to believe that more Dormitories will be erected at Technology in the near future. I wish to give the matter a little push if I may be permitted to do so.

It seems that this new building would possibly be erected as a memorial to former Tech men who gave their lives in the recent war. It appears to me that this is quite the idea indeed.

The idea of bringing the boys together in as large a body as possible so as to promote "College Spirit" is a good one. While I have been in your midst only a short time, I have heard some students pretty high up on the scale, speak rather strongly about the apparent lack of "College Spirit" here which is known to be so very prevalent at certain other institutions. These parties think that the men generally have to get away from old M. I. T. before they realize just how wonderful it is.

As a comparatively new man, I can only say that I certainly see evidence of the fact that Tech has some pretty good friends somewhere.

May the drive continue 'till the breakfast bell rings in the new dormitories.

Yours very truly,

Benjamin West,

Unclassified Graduate Student.

Hog Island was built as a war venture to meet the submarine menace and is the biggest shipyard in the world, with 50 ways and 7 piers, having a capacity for 23 ships, or, in other words, 30 ships can be under construction on the ways and 28 in process of outfitting, or a total of 78 ships can be constructed at one time.

145 days after breaking ground at the plant, the first keel was laid. 319 days after breaking ground, the first ship was launched, and 439 days after breaking ground, the first ship was delivered.

Since February 21, 1919, ships have been delivered at the rate of 7 per month, working only 44 hours per week. If this country was at war and the Government asked plant to work nights and holidays, it could deliver regularly one 7825 d.w.t. cargo ship every 48 hours, or 15 per month, or 180 per year. As it is, they are being delivered at the rate of 90 per year.

Contract Calls for 180 Ships

The original contract was for 180 ships, of which 58 were canceled after the armistice. The plant therefore now stands with 122 ships to build, all of the keels for which have been laid. 90 of which have been launched and 76 have been delivered.

It is peculiarly appropriate that a Massachusetts audience should be interested in Hog Island, in view of the fact that both Mr. C. A. Stone '88 and Mr. E. S. Webster '88 are Technology men and it was Stone and Webster who conceived, laid out and carried out the construction of this plant. Further than that, about 230 of the supervisory force at Hog Island, from the commencement of the job at the time of breaking ground, have been Massachusetts men. Further of interest to Massachusetts men is the fact that a very substantial number of the supervisory force have been Technology men, or in other words, have received their education not only in the State of Massachusetts but, in part, at the expense of the State.

Plant's Duty Nearly Finished

It is entirely unlikely that ever again in the history of the lives of the present generation will there be a duplication of this effort, and in view of the fact that the last keel has now been laid, and even that there are now eighteen vacant ways on which there will probably never be a keel laid, it shows that the plant has commenced to approach its home stretch.

One of the fortunate, if not the most important, features of the whole plant's function is the fact that of the 76 ships delivered to date there has been absolutely no trouble due to poor workmanship or material.

The ships built at the plant have up to date sailed 1,250,000 miles and carried over 875,000 tons of cargo. They have touched at approximately all countries of the world and have functioned with complete satisfaction.

CALL OFF LOWELL MEET

The freshman track team was forced to call off its dual affair with the cinder path men of Lowell High School last Saturday because of the bad weather which delayed the trains.

NOTICES

For Undergraduates

Canadian Club—The Canadian Club will hold a meeting this evening at 8.00 o'clock in the Faculty room, Walker where Professor Norris will speak.

THE TECH Opens News Competitions

Any men who are interested in the News Department of THE TECH and desire to enter the competition now open should see News Editor Kurth any time this week, at the TECH office in room 3, Walker. The candidates will start work either immediately or after vacation, but all entries should be made at once. Elections will be made to News Staff as soon as the ability and experience of the competitors warrant them. This position leads to that of Associate Editor in the second year, followed by that of Managing Editor and Editor in Chief or General Manager.



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