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IN CHARGE THIS ISSUE

H. S. Griffith '23.....A. C. Hampton '23

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1921

NEWS AT ANY PRICE

NATURALLY the adventures of three balloonists lost in the wilderness make a good story. There is however a limit beyond which the news value of any incident should not be exploited, and when the whole press picks on a trivial incident, due to overstrained nerves, which throws no credit on the officers concerned, or on their service, and make of it an occasion for full page scareheads, that limit has been passed.

The press is always talking about Americanism, "one hundred percent, red-blooded Americanism," patriotism and loyalty; yet in this case an incident which all the dictates of common sense, good taste, and public interest indicate should be passed over lightly is exploited as if it were a national scandal, because it will sell papers. The public judges the Naval Service by its members, and the members by their actions and reported actions. Such a story, misleading as it is in its deliberate abandonment of any sense of proportion, can not fail to have an influence on the public mind, which believes unthinkingly what it reads in the papers. Where is the much vaunted patriotism of the press?

"We must give the public what it wants," say the editors forgetting, or ignoring, the fact that it is their papers that have developed the appetite for sensation till it is almost insatiable. The press can not excuse itself for sensationalism on that ground; it formed the public taste. Were its declarations of Americanism and patriotism anything but cant and catchwords, it could direct the public taste into more wholesome channels, and fulfill its true mission of guiding public opinion into intelligent judgments, instead of serving as a mouthpiece of mob hysteria. The press should be the leader of the people for good, not a mere panderer to the baser instincts of the mob.

A LONGER YEAR

THE number of schools offering work twelve months in the year is constantly increasing. Medical schools and other professional schools have adopted this plan to a larger extent than have the colleges of liberal arts. Men studying for the medical profession are now required to have a Bachelor of Arts degree in order to enroll in some of the best medical schools in this country. The number of men taking preliminary work in liberal arts before entering upon their professional studies is rapidly growing, as a glance at statistics here at Technology covering the past three or four years will clearly show. Inasmuch as these men are a little older than the others it is natural that they should desire to obtain their professional degrees as soon as possible and it is largely because of this fact that the twelve month system is being adopted in a number of schools.

By means of a questionnaire the Administrative Committee is seeking the opinion of the Faculty here upon the subject of extending the length and the scope of the summer school. In some departments of the Institute the research laboratories are now run practically all the year around. If all the departments would offer a quite complete summer school schedule whereby men could put in practically the whole summer here in a profitable manner the plan would probably be well received. It would not only give college men here a chance to complete their professional studies sooner, but would doubtless attract a considerable number of teachers who would like an opportunity to take additional courses or do research work. The Administrative Committee points out that some embarrassment has been felt in regard to Technology Plan contracts, owing to inability to continue research work on some problems during the summer months. With a twelve month system in operation such embarrassment need no longer be felt. The policy adopted will rest largely upon the expressions of opinion by the Faculty and it is with much interest that we await the final decision in the matter.

T.A.C. CREATES OFFICE

Name Chairman of Publicity And Arrangements

On the recommendation of Lyall L. Stuart '22, the Executive Committee of the T. A. C., at a meeting held last Tuesday, instituted a new office, namely, Chairman of Publicity and Arrangements. This office is a consolidation of the former Chairmanships of Publicity and Arrangements, and entails, a part of the duties of these chairmanships. George O. Clifford '22, Chairman of Publicity, was selected to fill this office at the meeting.

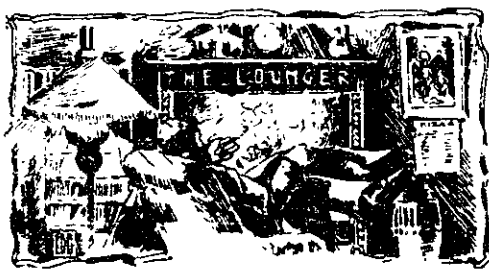
The recommendation of Stuart was made at the time of his resignation from the office of Chairman of Arrangements at a meeting of last Monday. In explanation of his resignation, he stated that the institution of the new office was necessary in order that there be a more centralized responsibility. He stated, in explanation of the office, that it corresponded to the office of general manager of a business corporation. His resignation was accepted.

The organization regrets that Stuart resigned in order to bring forward this new office, and wishes to express its appreciation for the services he has rendered both in his former position and in his action relative to the institution on the new position.

Further action relative to the institution of the office was taken at the meeting Wednesday, when R. K. Thulman '22 was chosen to fill the office of Sub-chairman of Arrangements and A. W. Skilling '21 was selected to act as Sub-chairman of Publicity.

CALIFORNIANS GIVE SMOKER

California Club is giving a smoker in the Faculty Dining Room of Walker Memorial Tuesday evening, January 25. The officers of the Club have invited two or three men from the West to talk and music has been procured. Those men who hail from the far away borders of the Pacific are all cordially invited and should communicate with the secretary as soon as possible if they are desirous of attending.



Several of our most prominent undergraduates, men whom we had thought were perfect gentlemen capable of eating soup without accompaniment, have joined the marital throng over the vacation.

It really has cast a bad reflection on those who left the Institute with their boots on, so to speak, wearing their vote ten in their lapels as is the custom in these days, for when a mate fails to turn up on the third or fourth day of class, even though he may have honestly flunked out of school, his unthinking class mates immediately throw on him the cloak of suspicion, rank him with the rank, and indict him on the charge of marriage.

Some few of these men may have been driven to this awful step in the hope of raising their standard of eating. This applies particularly to Walker restaurant mal-feds. But some of these same may be doomed to disappointment because they all married college girls and if there is one thing a college girl can not do it is cook.

Most of them can dance, all of them can love, a few can sing, one or two play the piano, several can run a ukulele, but who has seen her yet that can make a fireless cooker cook or a gas range range?

Can you imagine a domestic scientist in front of a cooking stove—she'd be a hot one.

But anyway, outside of the cooking end, why Technology undergraduates should marry is beyond the Lounger's intelligence. But maybe they think they'll be too old when they graduate. They say a woman ages faster than a man. It's a cinch she gets through college faster than a man gets through Tech. But comparing Tech to a college is criminal and if the Lounger had an ink eraser he'd erase that last sentence and if he had any brains he wouldn't have started to discuss marriage anyway. But he'd like to know what his readers think about it.

THE TECH regrets to announce the resignations of Roger H. Damon '22, Circulation Manager, and William R. Scott '22, Chairman of the Editorial Board. William M. B. Freeman '21, has been elected to fill the latter position, while Egon Kattwinkel '23 has been elected Acting Circulation Manager.

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VARSITY FOOTBALL IMPRACTICABLE HERE

(Continued from Page 1)

prosecuted when the twilights are progressively early.

Thirdly, in a professional school like the Institute of Technology the work is not elective, except in minor measure, and with the large amount of prescribed study the average student is not free to leave the laboratory or class room until from four to six.

Danger to Players

Fourthly, under these conditions the time for practice is circumscribed to the point where the team is wholly unable to get adequate training.

Fifthly, while the game under the new rules is perhaps less strenuous than in the period during which football was played at Technology, there is and always will be serious danger to players who are not properly trained from the physical standpoint. At the Institute at the present time, there is no adequate provision for this form of physical training, and to institute it would entail a very heavy burden of expense, which at the present time could not be met.

Financial Considerations

Sixthly, while football is potentially a money maker it is only such after an adequate course of successive years which causes the games played by the team to be of general interest to the public. During these preliminary years while the team is making its reputation it constitutes a heavy burden of expense. Naturally, of course, a team like the Harvard Varsity with the subsidiary and contributing teams operating at a very heavy expense level is supported by the very large gate receipts accruing to the team. Gauging, however, from smaller teams and those still new in the game, it is safe to say that for Technology to put on a varsity team would cost on an average of from four to five thousand a year for a period of years. This investment might be warranted if in due course of time there were any hope that the Institute team could obtain to a level of excellence which would permit of their getting some return from the money spent. With the extremely hampering conditions under which a Technology football team would operate, however, there is no reason to anticipate any other than a fair level of performance which could never excite the profound and general interest which attaches itself to certain college teams operating under more favorable conditions. In other words the expense of operation would be a constant charge upon the very circumscribed funds of the Athletic Association. Under the student tax system athletics at the Institute call for an income of perhaps eight to

(Continued on page 3)

NOTICES

for Undergraduates

Dr. Seerley's Program for Today
10-12—Interviews
12:00—Lunch
12:30—West Lounge, Walker
1:30—West Lounge, Walker
2-5—Interviews
7:00—Lecture, 10-250
6:00—Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Hotel Brunswick

There is nothing in Boston quite so good as the \$2 table d'hôte dinner served every evening in the

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of the

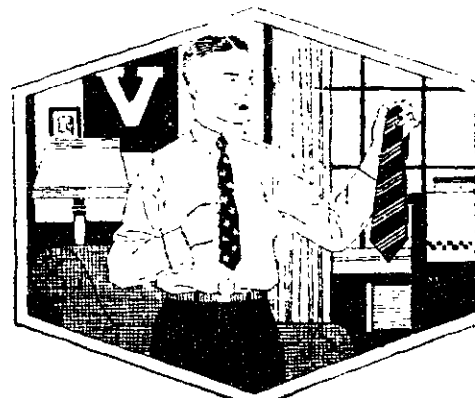
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