

The Tech

Established 1881

MEMBER EASTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

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

Entered as second-class matter Sept. 16, 1911, 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 \$2.50 for the college year in advance. Single copies five 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 received by noon of the day previous to issue. Although communications may be unsigned, if so requested, the name of the writer must in every case be submitted to the Editor-in-Chief. THE TECH reserves the right, however, to reject unsigned communications.

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IN CHARGE THIS ISSUE

Ingram Lee Nicholas Cohen

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1921

THE EDITOR SAYS—

Recent reports show an increased sale of railroad and steamship tickets from Boston. Let's hope we all come back.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE DISSOLVES

WITH the closing of the school year, and with the inauguration of Dr. Nichols as president, the duties of the Administrative Committee cease. To some, especially those who came here this year for the first time, this committee and its functions have always been shrouded in mystery. It is the opinion of not a few men that the executive of the Institute, in educational as well as in business matters, has been acting President Elihu Thompson, and consequently an organization whose energies were devoted to the solution of academic problems, seemed to them a superfluity. Soon after the death of Dr. MacLaurin, the Committee, which now consists of Professors Talbot, Miller, and Wilson, was organized, and presidential authority was given to it. More than a year has passed under this regime, and the work done by it in this time is well worthy of commendation.

One of the first things that was accomplished by the new governing board was the reorganization of the Medical Department. With Faculty, student body, and employees numbering over 4000, it was always considered necessary to have a force of doctors and nurses in attendance throughout the day, but it was thought that the maintenance of such a staff would incur too great an expense. This objection was evidently overcome by the Committee as two doctors were secured, to give free medical advice to students, and a nurse was provided for the clinic. The Institute, at present, has practically the best emergency medical service of any educational institution in the country.

Another very important thing for

which the Committee was in great part responsible, was the raising of the salaries of the instructing staff. This was a piece of work that urgently needed attention, as the salaries offered by the industries were so much greater than those the instructors here were receiving, that a few of them severed their connection with the Institute to go where the remuneration was commensurate with the services rendered. When the endowment fund was raised a sum was immediately set aside as a bonus for the instructors, and as soon as possible the Administrative Committee, working with the Executive Committee of the Corporation, arranged a new schedule of salaries which went into effect at the beginning of the school year.

Among the less notable doings for which the Committee may take credit was the reorganization of the offices of the Dean, Registrar and Secretary. Whereas formerly, the Dean was chosen by the Faculty, he is now appointed by the Executive Committee of the corporation, and he becomes an administrative officer. The Registrar is now a member of the Faculty.

The thing for which the students would award laurels to the Committee is its recommendation of a revision of the Faculty rules, especially as regards failures and dependent subjects. Heretofore, if a man failed in a subject he was not allowed to take Vise and Bench work the second year. Why this was so, in the face of the fact that the latter subject had not even the remotest dependency on Descriptive Geometry, is not known. Similar cases were so numerous that it would have been almost impossible for students to graduate in four years, if they had gone according to this rule. As it was, it was flagrantly violated both by students and by Faculty members, and no doubt this was one reason why it was repealed. At the present time a student may take a subject which is dependent on one that he has failed, provided he does not come under the fifty per cent rule.

A few things which were of less moment, but which were appreciated by the students, were done at the in-

stigation of the Administrative Committee. Among them was the purchase of seats for the gymnasium, and the appointment of a committee consisting of Faculty members, Alumni, and students, to aid in the celebration of Junior Week. This committee was very helpful in making the week a success.

All of us vividly remember the Walker dining service before the Administrative Committee made provisions for its improvement, and the appreciation of the change in this service is manifested by the enormous increase in patronage in the dining hall.

We are moved to applaud the government of the Institute during the interregnum. Technology has been spared the usual mishaps which come to a leaderless institution, by the wisdom and ability of the three men on the Administrative Committee. We say goodbye to the Committee, happy that we are not saying goodbye to the men who composed it.

THE BENCHMARK

TO those who have attended, the summer camp for surveying has been one of the best and most memorable incidents of their course at the Institute. Enough time is provided for recreation so that Jack need not become a dull boy and the whole course is much in the nature of a holiday. Last summer a group of the men there thought it worth while to put out a year book to keep fresh the memory of the good times on Gardner's Lake. This added another publication to the list of Institute Activities. The Benchmark was in many respects unique and is well worth perpetuating. This can only be done through the active interest of the men who are going this summer. If the Benchmark is to be published again—and THE TECH would like to see it permanently established—the sophomores who are going to Camp must get together now and organize a board. From its record, 1923 is too quick-spirited a class to let pass, neglected, the opportunity of making traditional the publication of the Benchmark.

COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor of THE TECH:

Men and women are divided into two classes, gumps and otherwise. I am appealing to the otherwise men of Tech to help me raise my quota of \$305 for Mount Holyoke College Endowment Fund. If you feel kindly toward girls—college girls in particular,—be generous. Even if you do not like college girls, be generous anyway, for Mount Holyoke girls will feel kindly toward you. For information and for remittances, Room 4-232 will be open daily from 9-5.

(Signed) EVELYN O. CLIFT.

To the Editor of THE TECH:

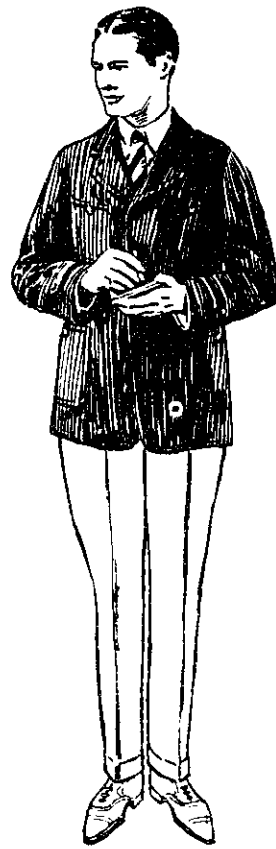
Last summer there were 140 men from Courses I, III, XI and XV-1 at Summer Surveying Camp. We put out, for the first time, a camp annual, the Benchmark No. 1. It was a lot of fun, it was well received, it was good experience and the sentiment of the fellows at camp was that we should encourage a second volume this year.

Summer camp lasts but eight weeks. We did all of the work on the book after arriving at camp last year, including soliciting of advertising. You can imagine that we had some difficulty in getting \$400 worth of advertising by correspondence from a little surveying camp way down in Maine for a publication that had never appeared before. We feel that the fellows, if they do want to go ahead with the Benchmark this year, should attempt to get some advertising before they go to camp. We realize that we only need to get two or three good men interested in the Benchmark to put it across again as well, and these men, of course, will come from the four publications at the Institute. If there are any men in your business or editorial staffs who are going to summer camp this summer and would be interested in the Benchmark proposition, won't you mention it to them and have them see me soon. Two of the men in our Managing Editor's department have already "come out" for B. M. No. II.

J. C. Patty,
General Manager,
THE BENCHMARK NO. I.

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