THE STORY OF THE TECHNOLOGY BRANCH

WE ARE GIVING BELOW A REPRINT OF AN ARTICLE BY MAJOR EDWIN T. COLE, WHO WAS THE FIRST TECH DIRECTOR ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF HARVARD CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY. THE ARTICLE SHOWS HOW THE TECH BRANCH WAS CALLED INTO EXISTENCE AND THE ARTICLE IS NOW AN INTERESTING HISTORICAL SKETCH.

IT MIGHT BE WELL TO MENTION HERE THAT TECHNOLOGY'S REPRESENTATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BUSINESS HAS BEEN GREATLY INCREASED IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS. PROFESSOR DAVIS R. DEWEY IS NOW A STOCKHOLDER. THE FOLLOWING MEN FROM TECHNOLOGY HAVE BEEN NOMINATED AS DIRECTORS FOR THE COMING YEAR: M. WALTER HUMPHREYS, MR. H. S. FORD, JASPER WHITING AND H. J. HORNE, JR., FROM THE STUDENT BODY. MR. HUMPHREYS IS ALSO NOMINATED FOR THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF THE CORPORATION.

Here is Major Cole's letter as it appeared in THE TECH on April 3, 1916.

TECHNOLOGY BRANCH

HARVARD CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Last year the Institute Committee, having gone into the subject of the Technology Co-operative Society, particularly with a view to establishing co-operative service at the new Technology, asked the Alumni Council to appoint a committee to investigate the matter and to make recommendations. This action was taken and the Committee after a very thorough investigation, nation-wide in its scope, suggested that the Harvard Co-operative Society, one of the most successful in the country, be invited to establish a branch as close to the new Technology as possible. This recommendation having been approved by the Institute Committee and accepted by the Harvard Co-operative Society, arrangements are now in progress for carrying out the plan.

One of the suggestions have been that a member of the Technology Faculty be elected to membership in the Board of Directors to represent the Institute in carrying out the plan, the undersigned on nomination of the President was duly elected and has secured this space in THE TECH for telling you all the details of the plan and its advantages to Technology.

In this first it is desirable to make a statement which will be repeated and argued about right along until everyone is convinced. Your branch is to be part of a real co-operative effort. The cost of any article to you will be the wholesale price procurable by a very large buying power, plus the cost of selling minimized to the utmost degree by scientific business management. Any charge over these two costs will be returned in dividends. But to make the scheme a success Technology must back it to the limit. This matter will be changed in each issue. Be sure to read it.

EDWIN T. COLE

Major, U. S. Army.

INSTITUTE MEN MAKE SHOWING AT CAMPS

Receive Benefit of Practical Engineering Instruction

MANY GET COMMISSIONS

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Clark and Lt. Harding in the doubles, but honors were even in the single matches.

There was always a waiting list for the use of riding horses during afternoons, and visits were made to the places identified with George Washington, Mount Vernon being only a few miles away. The Government buildings in Washington proved very interesting, also.

Qualify As Riflemen

Of all the weeks the men spent in camp, the time spent on the Rifle Range was most appreciated. Pomykala '22, won the Expert Rifleman's badge, and Warren '22, qualified as Sharpshooter. Gilman '23, Robbins '22, and Evans '23 qualified as Marksmen. The outdoor camp life on the range was a novelty to many of the students, especially those from Eastern institutions.

During the last week of camp, due to the sudden desire of Congress to economize, the schedule was considerably broken up, but the advanced students were given a chance to elect certain phases of military work for two days and enjoyed following up their particular hobbies.

Pershing Visits Camp

General Pershing visited the camp on the last day, and distributed badges for Rifle Marksmanship, as well as commissions to Seniors who were completing their training. He spoke to the students for about twenty minutes, emphasizing the necessity to keep up an interest in military affairs, either in the Reserve or the National Guard.

Each company held a dinner on the last evening and invited their officers to be present for such gentle admonitions as merited their personalities. The officers were required to attend a Normal School for a week after the students left camp. A banquet was held on the closing evening, at which Colonel Patrick, Commanding Officer of the camp, (now Major General, Chief of Air Service) was the Guest of Honor.

ORDINANCE CAMP

First Call sounded at 5.45 for the 135 men at the Ordnance camp at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. Fifty Technology men were at this camp, where all army guns from 16-inch to small arms, and all tractors, tanks, special motor equipment, and other material for the army is tested. The hours were taken up with alternate indoor and outdoor periods of instruction, so that, with dances, outdoor sports, and trips in the spare time, the summer was a pleasant as well as a profitable one.

Offer Wide Range of Subjects

Instruction began at 8 in the morning, with a two-hour lecture period, followed by two hours spent outside. Many practical ideas were to be learned from the many subjects of instruction, some of which were Tanks, Tractors and Trailers, Ammunition, Explosives, Drop Bombs, Sea-Coast Artillery, Ballistics, Field Artillery, Small Arms and Machine Guns, and Field Service Equipment. The men learned to make muzzle tests with the tonograph, and to take pressure tests on the guns.

Have No "Home-Work"

All the instruction was by lecture and by demonstration on the actual apparatus. There was no preparation required to be done outside. Classes were over at 5 o'clock and the men then had the rest of the time to do as they pleased.

Regular "Activities" a Feature

Baseball, golf, tennis and swimming filled the hours after 5, but there were also organized activities. Institute men led the Dance, Year-Book and Banquet committees. A year-book was completely written, and a contract had been made with the printer when Congress suddenly decided to economize, and the appropriation was cut down, so that this could not be done. Neostyled sheets of parts of the book were given out the last night, when the fellows were gathered at a farewell banquet which they were staging for the officers.

Enjoy Week-End Trips

Week-end passes were given to all those who wished them, and many availed themselves of this opportunity to visit Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia and Atlantic City, as these are about equally distant from Aberdeen.

Three or four dances were given throughout the summer. On one of these occasions, Mrs. Shaw, of Bel Aire, Maryland, sister of Mrs. Passano, helped furnish girls for the dance. The girls came to the Proving Ground in an auto truck.

The men from the Institute took a leading part in all the work and activities of the camp, and all seem to be of the opinion that it was a pleasant and worth-while experience.

Col. H. W. Schell, commander-in-chief of the Proving Ground, was in charge of the ordnance work at the camp. Major Lathrop B. Clapham, Camp Benning, Ga., Captain G. W. G. Stephens, Camp Vail, N. J., and Captain T. M. Chambliss, Camp Benning, Ga., were in charge of the infantry work.

AVIATION CAMP

Twelve of the 33 men at the aviation camp at Post Field, Fort Sill, Oklahoma, were from Technology. Merton C. Hall, and James B. Ford, M. I. T. '21, received commissions as second lieutenants in the Aviation Reserve Corps, and were the only men at this camp to receive commissions. The other colleges represented at the camp were Georgia Tech, University of Illinois, University of Washington, and Texas Army and Navy.

The men were given training as airplane observers, which consisted of mastering the details of the various duties of an observer in the active air service.

Tech Men Showed Up Well

In aerial gunnery, W. H. Vaughn, M. I. T., had the highest rating, and in Radio, M. Knight and A. M. Keller of Technology excelled, leading the others by some ten points. B. Stevens led in Artillery Observance, M. C. Hall in Visual Reconnaissance, and W. Sternman in Aerial Photography, but the Institute men did not make such a good showing in Aerial Navigation.

The other course in the training of the observers was Cross-Country Flight, which all the men did successfully, no comparative ratings being given.

Had Officers' Ratings

All the men had the rank of second lieutenant or higher while at the camp, and enjoyed all the privileges of officers' quarters and club while there. There were not a great many men at the camp, as the training is very expensive, and so only a few well-qualified men may have it. The airplane instruction costs five dollars a minute for every minute a man is in the air, and each man has about 300 minutes in the air while at the camp.

Is Not All Work

While not engaged in the training and instruction classes trap-shooting, swimming, base-ball, tennis and equitation were enjoyed. Dances were run week-ends, and the men took trips to Medicine Park.

Prior Training Helps

The men from the Institute were the only ones at the camp who had had previous flights. Last Spring, all the men here who had signed up for the aviation unit were given flights at Framingham. The other men had practice flights in a smaller plane to become used to the air, but this was not necessary in the case of the Institue men, who began right off in the DH 4 B Liberty planes.

Care For Own Planes

The men were divided into four flights, or sections, to take care of the planes. Each flight had a plane to take care of, under supervision of an officer. To take care of a plane required tending to the motor, control wires, and radio.

SIGNAL CORPS CAMP

Seventeen men from Technology were with the Signal Corps unit at Camp Alfred Vail, N. J. During the first four weeks in the camp the time was taken up with class-room work, but the program was then cut short by the lack of funds.

As the Signal Corps work is connected with the other branches of the service in its functions, the general organization of the army was one of the first subjects to be studied.

Following this, telephone construction, radio, and carrier-pigeons were the subjects considered. There were also courses in visual signaling, code classes, and practical lessons in operating Field Radio, and in setting and climbing telephone poles.

Field-Day a Feature

Technology was well represented in the field-day sports. P. M. Alden '22, won first in the 200-yard dash and second in the low hurdles. J. E. Brash '22, won one of the firsts in boxing, and F. W. Warburton '23, got a first medal in wrestling. R. MacDonald tied for first place in the 100-yard dash, and he and E. R. Thomas '22, took first in the mile relay.

E. J. Healey '23, was the only man in camp to qualify as a Sharpshooter.

Classes were held in the morning and in the afternoon till 4.30, after which the men went swimming at a nearby beach, usually taken in an army truck.