The Tech
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IN CHARGE OF THIS ISSUE

H. W. Dexter .... N. Cohen

Friday, October 14, 1921

The Editor Says:

Last year somebody lost a lucky number ticket at the Smoker, and also a prize. This is a true story.

FRESHMAN ELECTIONS

Shortly after Field Day the Class of 1925 will choose its officers for the present year; and upon its selection depends in large measure the importance of the new men as a potential factor in undergraduate activities. For this reason, and because of the sad experiences of other classes in their first year, we call the attention of the freshmen to the dangers incident to this initial election.

In the brief space of five weeks and under the existing circumstances of disintegrated student life, the individual voter can hardly be expected to determine which one man is best suited for a given position. That does not excuse him, however, from forming an opinion of several good men who could creditably hold down that job. The voter who checks off on his ballot the names that have the greatest psychological effect upon him, or who takes the word of another ignoramus in whose mind the nominee is indelibly stamped by reason of his lavender suit, would do better not to vote at all. The most conspicuous man is seldom the best one. It has often been said that the freshman president is never heard of again after his term expires.

The point is, size up your good material now. There is plenty of it. A little serious interest will save the class from getting off to a poor start.

DR. SHAPLEY SPEAKS

In a school like Technology where a man has so many advantages, even the most alert of us are liable to overlook some of the important ones. This afternoon, Dr. Shapley, a noted scientist from the Mt. Wilson Observatory in California, will speak on a topic relative to astronomy, a subject on which he is an authority. Heretofore, the attendance at such lectures as these cannot be said to have been very gratifying and herein lies the root of all the criticisms which have been hurled at all kinds of technical training. People think that we as engineers are in a rut, and we will have to admit it. We do not take the proper degree of interest in such affairs as these and if we are going to remove this blot on our reputation, we will have to alter our habits. We must not be engineers for engineering alone. If we expect to achieve real success and what most of us hope for, fame, it is absolutely necessary that we obtain a broader outlook on life than we can ever get by working three or four sets of problems every night.

When you see a bulletin board with a big poster on it calling you to what will probably be an hour of recreation, and certainly an hour of broadening education, you cannot afford to pass it by. Wake up!

THE "H" RE-ESTABLISHED

When the Registrar's office announced the Faculty decision to record an 'H" for a mark of 90% or more, a great many students were surprised to learn that a mark of 90% is actually attained at Technology. Beyond serving as information on this point, the average student did not believe that the announcement was of particular significance to him; he did not think that instructors would order rubber stamps of the "H" in anticipation of its frequent use. There are, however, numerous aspects of the subject which have an important bearing on the Institute's educational activities.

The "H" is by no means something new here at Technology. It was in vogue from very early days, and was abolished in 1894 because there was too much competition for it. One of the reasons for its re-establishment is that there are not a sufficient number of marks at present, especially since the removal of the "L." It is more desirable to make a greater differentiation between grades, since the present system indicates very little beyond Pass or Fail. Furthermore, it was thought desirable to have some mark of distinction for students who attain excellence in their work. It is intended as a recognition of merit habitually displayed rather than as an inducement to study. It is plain that such a mark will not make students exert themselves merely for the sake of obtaining it; in fact there is not much eagerness manifested for a "C." The average student is interested mainly in getting something out of a course, and in passing it. He tries to make his mark high, but he will put in very little extra effort to make the difference between a "P" and a "C," much less for an "H."

There are things that could be done, however, that would raise interest in the new mark. One method is to excuse from the final examination those students who attain a record of "H" in their class work. The loss of the reviewing characteristics of the final examination, which this proposition would entail, may be an argument against the adoption of such a method, but a man who can get "H" throughout the term, certainly knows more of a subject than the man who, after a thorough review, receives a lesser mark.

Another scheme is that already tried by a number of Departments. Last year the English and the Mathematics Departments established special classes for the men who received Credits. This year the Electrical Engineering Department is doing the same thing. In these classes the regular work is left entirely in the hands of the student, and all of the recitation time is spent on work of an advanced nature. This is in keeping with the principle advocated by many educational authorities, that students of greater ability should be given an opportunity to work to the best advantage, and not be restrained by the slower members of the class. It is to be hoped that other Departments will soon emulate this example, and thus make for a maximum efficiency in the metods of instruction at Technology.

WALKER COMMITTEE MAKES REGULATIONS FOR YEAR

The Walker Memorial Committee for 1921-22 consists of the following: H. M. Shirey '22, Chairman; C. W. Springer '23, W. F. McMeans '23, F. O. Bond-Nelson '24, T. F. Bunday '24.

The office hours of the committee for the first term are as follows: Mondays, 12-1; 1-2; 4-5. Tuesdays, 1-2; 4-5. Wednesdays, 12-1; 1-2; 4-5. Thursdays, 12-1; 1-2; 4-5. Fridays, 12-1; 1-2; 4-5. The office is located in the basement of Walker, Room No. 29, in the rear of the T. C. A. office.

Plans for Year

Out of fairness to everyone, reservations will not be made for more than one month in advance. For every meeting held after 6.00 P. M., a card must be had which will be called for by the night watchman. A telephone will be installed within a week and the committee can be reached by alumni or others desiring information.

The new floor which at first sight may not appear suitable for dancing can be put in first-class condition for that purpose.

CORPORATION XV AFFILIATES

Votes to Join Society of Industrial Engineers

At a recent meeting of the board of directors of Corporation XV, it was decided to affiliate the Technology organization with the Society of Industrial Engineers, a society composed of business executives, owners and managers of factories.

This affiliation is to be similar to the affiliation of the other professional societies of the Institute with their National Societies. The object of the Society of Industrial Engineers is to promote the engineering problems of business and management.

Affiliation Terms Announced

The terms of affiliation are as follows: The Corporation will pay the society fifty cents for each member per year. This will entail no additional expense to present members of Corporation XV. Each member will receive the monthly magazine of the society, and will be privileged to attend all of its meetings and banquets. It will furnish speakers for meetings of the Corporation here at the Institute whenever they are needed.

It is stated that the greatest advantage comes after leaving the Institute, for under the terms of this new affiliation, members of Corporation XV may join the National Society two years after graduation without the usual payment of entrance fees. Men who are not members of the Corporation while at the Institute are not allowed to join the society until five years after their graduation and have to pay the customary entrance fees.

I. E. Society Vote Expected

Now that the board of directors of Corporation XV have accepted these terms of affiliation, it only remains for the Society of Industrial Engineers to vote on the constitutionality of the act, to make the consolidation complete. It is expected that this will be voted on during the next week.

The Corporation is running its membership drive this week in connection with those of the other professional societies, and expects to exceed last year's membership of two hundred and fifty. They are issuing stock certificates as last year. These are on sale in Building 1, near Dr. Dewey's office.

FRESHMEN MEET TO DISCUSS FIELD DAY PREPARATIONS

The freshmen were called together Thursday noon by C. C. Taylor, president of 1923, to discuss the preparations for Field Day or rather the lack of them. In every sport, football, crew, track, tug o' war, more candidates are urgently needed. Freshmen will have to get out and show some pep or the big day will be a sad disappointment to 1925.

W. A. Metcalf '23, coach of the freshmen football, spoke for a few minutes upon his sport; his need of men; the failure of the men who did sign up to appear on the field. There are not even enough men out there to have a scrimmage.

H. O. Tappan '23, then came forward with a story just like Metcalf's—not enough material out for track. In fact, he has only twenty to work with. And with the tug o' war, R. P. Shaw is having the same trouble. Only half the necessary number of candidates is out. Nothing was said about crew as there was no representative of the coaching staff present.

So the gist of the whole thing is that freshmen have to wake up and show that they have some pep. Field Day must be a success so it is up to the class of 1925 to get out there and do their best.

NOTICES
FOR UNDERGRADUATES

There will be two vacancies for sophomore assistant managers of the rifle team, which are to be filled by competition. Candidates may report today at the M. I. T. A. A. office between 12 and 2 o'clock.

Members of the three lower classes wishing to enter competitions for positions on Musical Clubs' management meet Monday, 5:00 P. M., in Walker 310.

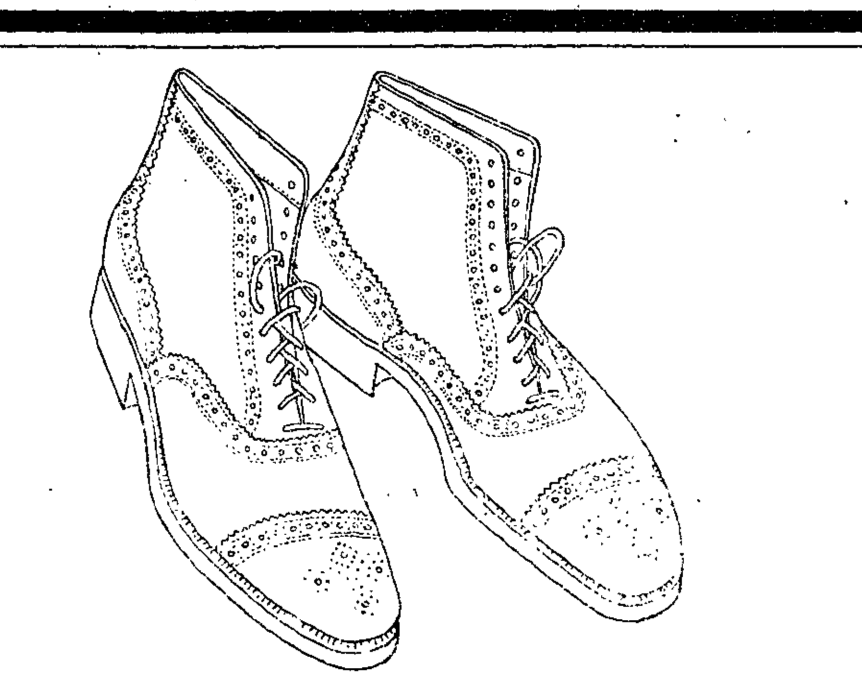
Freshman and Sophomore candidate for assistant manager of basketball report in M. I. T. A. A. office in Walker today between 12:00 and 2:00 P. M.

Freshman, and all other men interested, are urged to come out for "Voo Doo." Positions are open in the Business, Art and Literary Departments. Business meeting for candidates Mon day, Oct. 17, at 5 o'clock, Room 309, Walker. Literary and Art meeting Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 5 o'clock.

The Masonic Club will be the guests of the Ricard C. Maclaurin Lodge U. D. at their regular monthly meetnig, next Wednesday evening.

Cross-Country Candidates will leave the track house for Franklin Park at 1.30 P. M. tomorrow.

Tech Show Orchestra rehearsal Tuesday at 5.00. Members are to report to the Show office in Walker with their instruments.



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COES AND STODDER

10 TO 14 SCHOOL STREET

MINERS PLAN ACTIVITIES

The Mining Engineering Society has got under way for the season, and is planning a very interesting year which will be beneficial to its members and very interesting. At the smokers planned for different intervals during the winter, prominent engineers will give talks about their experiences. The smokers will, in general consist of a short business meeting, a talk, or movies relating to mining or metallurgy, and refreshments.

The Society will run their membership drive in connection with the combined membership drive of the Professional Societies which starts Thursday. Miners, Mettalurgists, and Geologists of the three upper classes are eligible. Present members are asked to aid in securing new members.

VOO DOO PLANS UNCERTAIN

Voo Doo is still somewhat uncertain regarding its plans for the coming year, but the executive board is to hold a meeting this week that will formulate definite plans. These plans will be announced on the bulletin board and in THE TECH. The Voo Doo board however announces the following meetings for candidates in the different departments. A business meeting is to be held Monday, October 17, at 5 o'clock, in the Voo Doo office, 309 Walker Memorial, and a Literary and Art Department meeting will be held Tuesday, October 18, at 5 o'clock in the Voo Doo office.

CATHOLIC CLUB ACTIVE

The activities of the Catholic Club will begin with their first meeting of the year which will be held October 19 at 6 P. M. in the North Hall of Walker Memorial building. The Catholic Club has recently completed a successful drive for new members, and now has an enrollment of 150 students. The club has assisted new students and has placed about fifty freshmen in Catholic homes near the Institute.

Among those who will be present at the meeting next Wednesday are Dean Talbot, Father NcNamara, the former chaplain of the club, Father O'Conner, the new chaplain, Mr Kanaly, Mr. Copithorne, and Mr. O'Neil.

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