



Established 1881

Published throughout the school year, by the students of the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Entered as second-class matter Sept. 18, 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.

MANAGING BOARD

A. J. Browning, '22.....General Manager
W. B. Ferguson, '22.....Editor-in-Chief
C. T. Jackson, '22.....Treasurer
Stevens Brimley, '23.....Managing Editor
W. A. Thomas, '23.....Advertising Manager
E. E. Rattwinkel, '23.....Circulation Manager
B. A. Dickson, '22.....Chair. of Editorial Board
W. B. Murdoch, '23.....Asst. General Manager

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 University 7415. News Room, 3 Walker Memorial; news phone, University 7029.

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.

IN CHARGE OF THIS ISSUE
E. M. Goldsmith, Jr.,.....H. L. Bond

Monday, October 24, 1921

AN INSTITUTE NEED

How many of us have ever thought as we stood during the singing of the "Stein Song," where in the connection between Technology and that song came? We heard the "Stein Song" sung many times and at various gatherings before we entered the institute, and did not in any way connect the song to anything other than the prevailing spirit of the gathering. After graduation it is doubtful if any of us will recall very much pertaining to the days we spent here when we hear the words—"It is always fair weather, when good fellows get together." Perhaps this will be due to the fact that the times "good fellows got together" were few and far between.

The student body has begun to think of Technology spirit as something that we know little about. Certainly there is not the same feeling evidenced here as at other Colleges—we say that is so because we are so different from other Colleges. True enough, but that is no reason why "Technology men" should not have one song that recalls to them the days spent here, and the enjoyable circumstances under which that song was sung.

The Tech Shows come and go—likewise the music of each year. The songs that particularly strike our fancy remain with us through Junior Week and perhaps until the Summer—then we forget them. Is it not possible for Tech Show this year to incorporate in its musical numbers one song that shall have been judged as representative of all that Technology means to us? It can be done—and the impetus given it at that time will carry it through the succeeding years.

We want a song which when we hear the first chord struck, we shall immediately know the rest, a song that means Technology whenever and wherever we hear it. We want a song that whenever the Musical Clubs give a concert, whether here or outside of Boston, the audience will know that it is the Institute song, and will become imbued with the same spirit that we have here.

The Institute at present is the result of hard and earnest work on the part of our loyal Alumni, and it is due to them that the Technology ideals and aims have been carried out to the industrial world. The same spirit that kept three of our Presidents in the chair until Death called them, should be the spirit that strengthens our feeling for the Institute.

Let us all begin to think more of what Technology means to us and leave a small portion of our daily schedules open for that course which deals in that intangible something that makes graduates proud of being Technology men.

CHOOSING YOUR PROFESSION

One of the most difficult problems which confronts a young man about to enter college is the choice of a

suitable course. He may desire training in all lines, and his aptitudes may extend to several. He may be especially interested in no particular branch of arts or science, but still be best fitted for a certain one. A vague knowledge of all things is of little use to a man today. To be successful, he must specialize. This problem of choosing a vocation has been recognized by psychologists who have done some very valuable work in pointing out to students the vocation for which they are best adapted. But their field is too limited. They can help only a few.

The Institute recognizes this difficulty by arranging the studies so that the first year covers the same ground in all courses. This enables a man to make his final decision at the end of the first year, when he is supposed to have a greater comprehension of scientific subjects on which to base his selection of a profession. It must be realized, however, that there is practically no professional work taken during the first year, so that a choice at the end of that time has little more basis than a selection made before entering the Institute.

Any means by which the freshman can be given an understanding of the exact field of each branch of engineering and the methods used in the various phases of technical enterprise, is an aid to the solution of this ever-present problem. In having the lecture course "Problems of the Chemical Engineer" open to freshmen, the Chemical Engineering Department sets an example which might well be followed by other departments in the Institute. A few lectures by a representative of each department would offer a more practical solution, provided that each series of lectures were given in a different part of the year. It might also be possible to condense all into a series of about ten lectures.

The professional societies might aid effectively by making their meetings at all times open to freshmen. Trips planned especially for those freshmen interested would cast on the technical phases of industry a light which would make possible a wiser selection of course. There is little doubt that the importance of the professional societies would be raised to a much higher plane by making this a regular part of their work.

It is well to remember that a person is usually best fitted for that line of work in which he is most interested, if the interest is deep-rooted. Since introspection is not common, few can tell otherwise for what lines of work they are mentally best adapted. The choice of the wrong course is fatal to successful work, a fact which is attested to by the large proportion of technical graduates who do not remain in engineering fields. Efficiency can not be expected from a man whose work is distasteful to him, and the industries as well as the men themselves must suffer from haphazard choice of profession. The value of aid in the selection of course is too important to be overlooked by those who are in position to give such aid.

OUR GRANDSTANDS

Every fall, along with the walls over our lack of a football team, there can be heard an undercurrent protesting against the lack of an adequate grandstand from which to view such sports as we have here at Technology. And such a protest is quite just and many more should join in it than do. The piles of lumber that are called the north, middle and south grandstands are the same sort of accommodation that little high schools, with two or three hundred pupils, throw together to seat the crowd at their track meets.

The south and middle stands are mere scaffolding; the north stand is protected against southwest-by-westerly winds only. How many men are to be found of such a sturdy build that they can sit in the stands for an hour and a half with a stiff wind blowing and not catch cold? And of those who have escaped cold, how many have succeeded in avoiding the perpendicular splinters that menace the unwary. Grandstands have been built through which the wind does not drive quite as hard as through the rafters of a deserted house. And it is quite pos-

sible to keep wooden seats free from splinters. With all the varieties of technical knowledge at the disposal of this Massachusetts Institute of Technology the buildings and structures owned by the Institute ought to be, if not the best, at least good in their way. The grandstand ought to be as good in its way as the track and the baseball diamonds and the main buildings themselves.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Maxim Silencer Company,
Hiram Percy Maxim, President.
To the Editor of THE TECH:

The editorial, "All Technology Smoker" in your Monday, October 17th issue, hits a certain very important nail so squarely upon the head that I am actuated to write a few comments.

One of the things a Tech man notices when he gets out of Tech is the absence of grasp which he had when he was in Tech. I was one of the great majority who went to Tech with a little brown bag to learn engineering. I overlooked that there was another important thing to be learned. You describe this thing admirably in your editorial and I cannot do better than use your words. "the achievement of some destiny in the world of men and affairs."

It seems to be a fact that even in this day, there are a large number of men attending Technology who carry brown bags and who are going along in that same benighted stage that I ran along in. It seems to persist, for some reason or other at Technology. It is something which I am persuaded can be corrected however, and this humble effort is one little push in this direction.

Whether it is the Faculty's fault or the fault of the student body, I will not venture to suggest. I do suggest however, as a result of some thirty-five years' experience with my classmates since we graduated, that the situation could be improved if those of the undergraduates who have been fortunate enough to catch the bigger idea, were to set themselves the task of getting it over to at least a few of the brown baggers. I fully realize it is no small job, and that many good men have attempted it before and failed; but this does not mean that it cannot be done. I know that if the right sort of thing had been attempted on me and some of my fellow brown baggers, that I and they would have fallen for it. I say this because we were made to fall for it, almost to a man, after we graduated. We must have been at least 85% brown baggers. The 15% Real Stuff, when they awoke to the possibilities, simply got after us in a manner which made us see it. The result has been a knitting together of our Class in a manner that I have never seen equalled in any organization. Mechanic Arts '86 have held reunions every five years for thirty-five years, and the sacrifices some of us make to attend these reunions is unbelievable. Not a one of us would miss one of these reunions unless the circumstances were positively prohibitive. And so I say, this thing can be done. James T. Ball, Mechanic Arts '86, was the master mind in our Class, and there must be a master mind in each class in Technology today. Let them get together and persist in that idea which was back of the recent smoker, and they will get it across to at least some of the brown baggers.

(Signed) HIRAM PERCY MAXIM,
Mechanic Arts '86.

Mass. Inst. of Tech.
To the Editor of THE TECH:

Being warranted that I am not trespassing the bounds of a student, I wish to put the following before the Executive Committee, before the Faculty, before the student body, and before the Institute Committee:

The Executive Committee of the Institute passed a resolution "to put Technology at the disposal of the state government should the impending railroad strike take place"; "the Institute Committee in behalf of the student body declared its hearty approval of the measures adopted by the

NOTICES
FOR UNDERGRADUATES

All First Year Men are to attend the lecture of the Medical Department which will be held from 1:00-2:00 o'clock in Room 10-250 as follows:

Monday, October 31st, or Wednesday, November 2nd.
Monday, November 14th, or Wednesday, November 16th.
Monday, November 28th, or Wednesday, November 30th.

Candidates for Tech Show orchestra are needed. Report any night at 5:00 o'clock at the Tech Show Office.

cororation regarding the threatening railroad strike."

1. Has the Faculty of the Institute any voice in this matter?

2. Should the Faculty have a voice in issues of the above character?

3. Is the opinion of the Faculty in regards to issues of the above character worthy of serious consideration by the student body?

4. If the student body through a vote values the opinion of the Faculty on issues similar to the railroad strike, should the Faculty be obliged to render a decision?

5. Since a resolution of the above character in order to be effective requires cooperation between the Executive Committee, the Faculty, and the student body, should separate resolutions be publicly submitted, or should there be a combined approval by the above three parties?

6. Is it fair to assume that the Institute Committee, which is composed of members representing specific organizations established for specific purposes, is empowered to pass a resolution embodying a social, political, and economic belief in behalf of the student body?

Feeling that effective cooperation cannot be justly secured until the above questions are reasonably answered, I, therefore, submit this letter to you.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) RICHARD J. SHOLTZ, '22.

ALUMNI NOTES

STEWART '21—LEROUX

The marriage has recently been announced of Earl R. Stewart '21 to Mlle. Louise Leroux. The marriage took place August 20 at St. Nazaire, France. Stewart met Mlle. Leroux while in France during the war.

Stewart prepared at the Wakefield high school and was a member of the Chemical Engineering Society and Corporation XV.

MERRILL '11—SHAW

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Shaw of Milton announce the engagement of their daughter, Eleanor, to Charles Hudson Sayre Merrill '11. Miss Shaw is a member of the Junior League, and is a graduate of Miss Haskell's School. Merrill is a member of the Lambda Phi fraternity, the Walker Club and Osiris.

PURVES '19—BRADLEY

Mrs. Eustice R. Bradley of Pittsfield, Mass., announced the engagement of her daughter, Mary T. Bradley, to John C. Purves '19. Miss Bradley is a graduate of Miss Hall's School in Pittsfield and Emma Willard's School of Troy, New York.

Purves took an active part in activities while at the Institute, being a member of the track team and the Civil Engineering Society. He is a member of the Delta Psi fraternity.

JAMES W. PIERCE '91

James Wilson Pierce '91 a prominent civil and construction engineer of Cambridge and Boston died suddenly at his home in Wellesley.

Until recently he was connected with the engineering firm of Lockwood, Green, and Company in various capacities. At one time Mr. Pierce was city engineer of the city of Cambridge. He was a member of the

Theta Delta Chi fraternity and an associate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

He is survived by his wife, four children and a sister.

VOO DOO IS WITTY AND WELL ILLUSTRATED

Technology was greatly amused last week in the first issue of Voo Doo. The drool is really very clever. It provokes many laughs—something rather unusual these days. In the short jokes the wits came forth in all their exuberance with a number of extremely funny quips.

The drawings are well done. Especially good are the cover, the women, and the cartoons done by the art editor, W. B. Elmer '22. The work of the other artists is creditable but it is apparent that there are too few men out for the art end, or at least few good ones for practically all the drawings are done by four or five men.

All in all, the Voo Doo is very funny. For a first issue it gives great promise for what is to follow.

REPRESENTS SIAM

Rien Budasuke '23, from Siam, has been chosen as a member of the Cosmopolitan Club entertainment committee. Siam is the 18th country to be represented on this committee.

SPORTING GOODS

Just Across The River

H. ANGUS CONNORS

88 Mass. Avenue

Near Commonwealth Ave.

TIREX PORTABLE CORD



Tirex will increase portable tool efficiency by reducing cord troubles and renewals to a minimum.

It stays on the job from four to five times as long as any fabric covered cord on the market.

May we send you a sample?

SIMPLEX WIRE & CABLE CO

MANUFACTURERS

201 DEVONSHIRE ST. BOSTON 9

CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO

WELCOME '22, '23 and '24

and Greetings to 1925

It's going to be a great year, here at the 'STUTE, and we are planning to do our part over in Walker by giving you better Service than ever—best food you ever ate and plenty of it at moderate prices.

TECHNOLOGY CAFETERIA