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IN CHARGE OF THIS ISSUE

Robert Bamford.....C. L. Maltby

Monday, November 21, 1921

EXTEND THE GLAD HAND

The recent enthusiastic receptions accorded to Marshal Foch by American institutions of learning in general and by Harvard University in particular have aroused in many of us outspoken resentment toward the indifferent action, or rather the inaction, of the Institute authorities during the distinguished visitor's tour of Boston last Monday. Most of us have not had the opportunity to delve into the underlying motives of Technology's policy toward the public. And even though we were well informed on the subject, it might be embarrassing to meet all questioners with the assertion that this institution does not give away degrees, and, being concerned with serious work, can not possibly derive any benefits from purely popular and ostentatious demonstrations of hospitality. It is true, however, that this defense has been handed down to us as embodying the sincere precepts of the men who founded the Institute and guided it firmly upward to its present position of supremacy. Consequently we can not thrust it lightly aside.

Investigation of the attitude of our early administrators indicates clearly their belief that hard, conscientious, secluded, work, without recourse to advertising or unnecessary display, would in itself and by its own virtue command the respect of the admiring world. Emerson expressed the same idea in his familiar axiom that the man who did one thing well could not escape by living in the woods having a path worn to his door by those who came to seek him. But in spite of the success that has attended the application of this principle to the policies of the Institute, our everyday experience forces upon us the realization of how much greater it might now be had we given due consideration to the immense additional value of learning by contact with others. Association with any of the great public men who have at various times passed by unhailed and unnoticed could not fail to teach us something in a very direct way. Not only does a reception such as Harvard gave Marshal Foch leave a most favorable and far-reaching impression on the mind of the recipient, but also it presents to faculty and students alike the finest opportunity to hear and get something from the man who is their guest. It is pitiable that an eminent Far Eastern educator, intent upon investigating for himself the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, of whose fame he had heard, who came uninvited not so long ago and threw himself upon our hospitality while he was in the city as the guest of others. After a tour of inspection amid a hasty heterogeneous gathering and a lunch at Walker Memorial with a group of men that unfortunately did not contain the appropriate German linguist, how must he have contrasted us with the institution that accorded him dignified and studied honors further up the Charles!

However firmly rooted may be Technology's habitual backwardness in matters of this kind, it is inconceivable that a discerning administration

can permit the situation to exist much longer. Whether or not we can afford to maintain an attitude of self-sufficient aloofness, we want to get acquainted with all the generals, kings, philosophers, presidents, scientists, that we can induce to visit us; and there are many of them that want to get acquainted with us.

THE STUDENT LOUNGE

For some time now it has been apparent that the Student Lounge in Building 2 is overtaxed at the noon hour. Chairs and tables are taken by those who get there in the first few minutes after the hour, and the late comers, such as those who come from the further buildings, have either to stand up and eat, or sit on barrels and pipes and other makeshifts.

Last year there was no such overcrowding. The physical facilities have not been decreased appreciably. Therefore it follows that the number of students using the Lounge has increased. Aside from the opportunity which the lack of chairs gives to the Superintendent of Buildings to execute some carpentry, the phenomenon will perhaps be of interest to those interested in student morale.

Might the explanation, we suggest, be found in the increasing expenses which the student has to bear? Where students formerly spent the noon hour in lunching together, and collecting a little college spirit from contact with other students, many now are to be found singly or in pairs, eating their own lunch in the Lounge.

Perhaps it is necessary that this should be so, but when one remembers Stephen Leacock's method of establishing a college, it seems deplorable. Might it not be as beneficial to the Institute if some way were found to lighten the expense of the course?

The committee recently established by the Institute Committee whose purpose will be to receive guests at Technology will without doubt be able to bring about the much desired change, and will enter upon its work with the support of every Technology man who decides that his institution shall not be considered inhospitable.



The Lounge has at last discovered one thing about the 'Stute that Uncle Horace has neglected to charge for. It is something which is forced upon the student body by certain of the faculty with more or less disastrous results and the Lounge hesitates to mention just what it is for fear that the before mentioned collector of revenues will put a five dollar tax on it. Of course, if the staff were taxed, it might put a stop to such practices, but such policies have never been adopted by the political bosses of the faculty. The Lounge's grievance is just this. Certain of the faculty make a practice of continuing their lectures for some minutes after the close of the hour.

The barbaric cruelty of this can not be appreciated unless the reader has been located with the Lounge in Building 2 near 151. The first day of the class the customary procedure is to prepare for the dash to Walker, which you have every chance of winning. The prof, however, takes no notice of the bell and raves on about the integral of $\frac{1}{x}$ while you sit back and watch the dash for hash. Or what is more cruel the prof says as the bell rings, "Now if you gentlemen will spare me a few minutes from your lunch hour, etc." Truly it would not be so bad if he would not gloat over the fact that he has you pinned so that you will have to stand in line for half an hour before eating, and consequently will not get the afternoon's work prepared.

Pity the poor chap who is located with one of these gentlemen in the vicinity of 3-470 until four minutes after the hour, and the next hour has a class with the Duke in 2-243. Or even more tragic is to have a date at Ye Inn (The only one) and the keeping of that date depends on getting over to Trinity Place for the Framingham local at fifteen minutes past the hour. The Lounge has often made it in twenty minutes, but as for doing it in about ten, the usual result is to see the train just pulling out as he reaches the top of the bridge. Once the result was almost as bad as a vote ten, but it seems that some of the faculty at the neighboring institution for young ladies are similarly inclined, with the result that the alibi works very well.

In direct contrast to this policy is

that in vogue at the Sophomore EH lectures. By the intonation of the lecturer's voice one knows just what time it is so that by the time the bell finishes ringing the whole mob has its hats and coats on and those who have a convenient location are leaving through the door. This is efficiency, and more of it would be appreciated by the Lounge and the Wellesley hounds.

COMMUNICATIONS

To the Editor of THE TECH:

Reformers as a rule are carried by the enthusiasm of their reforms to demand, what on cooler thinking, they really do not want. For example, the prohibitionists stopped the sale of light wines and beer. The subject in question is the one concerning smoking.

The cause for the recent reform was due to a complaint made concerning not smoking but the untidiness of the cigarette butt strewn floor. I realize that no matter how high a state of self-government we possess that cigarette smoking will always be accompanied by untidy floors. This is not however true about pipes.

This question was brought rather forcibly to me by some zealous and officious person. I was walking through the main lobby with a cold pipe in my mouth when someone demanded that I stop smoking. My direct answer somewhat abashed the person and he walked away. His zeal I admired but his officiousness was unwarranted.

I want to make my stand perfectly clear. I do not object to giving up my right to smoke in order to comply with the request now posted. That request seems a trifle broad; and is pipe smoking objectionable? This is a fair question and deserves a fair answer and I would like to get the opinions of others.

H. SHERMAN BAKER '25.

INTERCOLLEGIATE NEWS

BROOKLYN POLYTECHNIC FROSH BREAK UP SOPHOMORE SMOKER

When the Sophomores of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn attempted to hold their annual smoker, they found their plans and evening rudely disturbed by the presence of the entire freshman class, which proceeded to make short work of the smokers. Led on by three Juniors, the frosh swooped down on the surprised and indignant Sophomores and carried off several of their number. The Sophs rallied after this and succeeded in getting the captives, but were forced to retire. After a short period of guerilla warfare the meeting broke up.

Calculus Admirers Organize

In order to further the interests of mathematics, and to bring into a compact group the followers of the elusive differential, a Math Club was recently organized in Columbia University. Under the constitution, members will be classified as active, associate, and honorary. Those who have passed calculus and one other half-year course with a grade of "A" are active members. Those who have not these requirements are associates, and honorary members include graduate students, faculty members, alumni, and others whom the club wishes to honor.

Can You Beat It?

Stanford University is the proud possessor of a freshman who uses a private airplane in which to ride to school. The owner is taking mechanical engineering preparatory to studying aeronautical engineering at Boston.

Oxford University has recently issued its Roll of Service for the late war. It contains the names of more than fourteen thousand men, a large percentage of whom never returned from the field of battle.

McGill University's hockey team will meet four teams representing colleges of the States this winter. These four are Cornell, Dartmouth, Boston College and Harvard. Besides these, they will play teams from the colleges of Canada.

NOTICES

FOR UNDERGRADUATES

OFFICIAL

Changes made in the VI-A calendar will affect the third, fourth and fifth year students this year. The Christmas vacation will begin December 18th and continue through December 26th, the men reporting for work at the General Electric Co., and at the Edison Company on December 27th.

The exercises of the Institute will be omitted on Thursday, November 24, as it is a legal holiday in Massachusetts.

HARVARD PROFESSOR WILL ADDRESS CHEMICAL SMOKER

Will Give Talk On Chemistry Of The Automobile

The Chemical Society will give a smoker at 7:30 on November 22, in room 5-330. Professor James B. Conant of Harvard University will speak on the "Elementary Chemistry of the Automobile."

Professor Conant has addressed many other audiences before on the topic which he is to speak on Tuesday and has developed a non-technical way of explaining his points. All students, whether members of the society or not, are invited to attend the smoker and lecture.

Visit Gas Plant

The second inspection trip of the society was carried out on Tuesday and Wednesday. About 50 men availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting the Everett Gas Works.

The visitors saw how the coal was distilled and the ensuing gases washed free of impurities. They then followed the processes through the various stages of completion, to the industrially pure gases.

Several other trips are planned soon, one of which is to be an all-day affair. Information on this is expected at an early date.

PRESIDENT NICHOLS RESIGNS

(Continued from Page 1.)

large success in the work to which you propose to devote your effort.

Very sincerely yours,

FREDERICK P. FISH,

Chairman of the Executive Committee

Dr. Elihu Thomson of Swampscott, chief consulting engineer of the General Electric Company, has again been appointed acting president, a post which he filled after the death of Dr. Richard C. Maclaurin in January, 1920, and will continue until a successor to President Nichols is named. The office carries no responsibility of actual management, however, for this was the condition under which Dr. Thomson consented to assume it in the former interregnum. The educational affairs of the Institute will continue to be directed by a faculty administrative committee consisting of Professor Henry P. Talbot, head of the department of Chemistry and acting dean; Professor Edward F. Miller, head of the department of Mechanical Engineering and chairman of the faculty, and Professor Edwin B. Wilson, head of the department of Physics.

President Nichols' plans are indefinite. His chief concern will be to regain his physical strength after which he hopes to resume certain investigations in connection with lighting problems which he interrupted to become president of Technology. Search has already been begun by the Corporation for his successor.

AT THE THEATRES

HOLLIS: "Blood and Sand," 8:15. Otis Skinner in a new play by Tom Cushing.

COPLEY: "A Night Off," 8:10. Henry Jewett Players. Reviewed Wednesday.

ST. JAMES: "Shavings," 8:20. A comedy of Cape Cod life from the book by Joseph Lincoln.

SELWYN: "The Mirage," 8:15. Florence Reed in a new portrayal of the eternal triangle. An unusual play with unusual acting.

PLYMOUTH: "The Bad Man," 8:20. Holbrook Blinn comes from a long run in New York as a kind-hearted bad man of the prairies.

TREMONT: "The Love Letter," 8:15. Franz Molnar's musical play scores a big hit. First class acting, dancing and singing.

COLONIAL: "Two Little Girls in Blue," 8:15. Good music, peachy girls and delightful dancing.

WILBUR: "The Rose Girl," 8:15. An amusing musical comedy playing to crowded houses. Good music, good

SYMPHONY HALL: Nov. 27, 3:30. A joint concert of Emilio de Gorgoza, baritone, and Elly Ney, pianiste. Elly Ney is considered among the first of pianistes.

SHUBERT: "Theodora." A new Goldwyn picture. Reviewed Wednesday.

MAJESTIC: 8:00. High-class Shubert vaudeville.

KEITH'S: 8:00. A new line of vaudeville.

ARLINGTON: "La Traviata," 8:15. The Boston Society of Singers gives the popular opera, "La Traviata," in English.

FENWAY: "The Single Track," with Corinne Griffith. A quickly moving picture of love and adventure. Kathryn Williams in "A Man's Home."

GLOBE: "The Three Musketeers," 8:00. "Doug" Fairbanks at his best as a swashbuckling soldier of France.

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