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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

W. G. Peirce, Jr., R. L. Kaufman

Friday, December 2, 1921

## MEANING OF THE BROWN BAG

Allegories and metaphors are apt to be misleading. We have a very recent example of this platitude in a recent indignant communication sent to THE TECH by a man outraged by libelous editorials on the brown bagger. The writer rises in democratic wrath against what he considers derogatory discrimination on the dollar basis. Apparently to his mind the brown bagger is the student less fortunate in possession of this world's goods than his fellow. He views editorial comment on brown baggers as an attack on the deserving but less wealthy members of the student body. His conception of what the term brown bagger means is palpably wrong.

The brown bag, without regard to the man who carries it, is the symbol in the minds of all connected with the Institute of the spirit of selfish aloofness and narrow indifference. It typifies the attitude of many men to the Institute who come to the Institute simply to get technical information and the Institute's degree without giving anything in exchange except their tuition fees. It has been accepted as the mark of the man who enters the buildings at nine and leaves them at five without giving a thought to anything except their own mental acquisition. The brown bag symbolizes a terribly selfish spirit which would prove the complete ruination of any college if it became predominant.

The brown bagger himself is not the man with a Boston bag in his hand but the man with a mean selfish spirit in his heart—a spirit of self-aggrandizement that knows no obligation for any benefits received. Perhaps as many brown baggers arrive at the Institute in the morning in automobiles as in subway trains and trolley cars. There is no mark of dress or distinction as to means to differentiate the brown bagger other than his own attitude towards his college. There are

many men who scorn the Boston bag as a most tasteless article and who shrink from any personal connection with them who are nevertheless preeminently brown baggers! Attacks on the brown baggers are not directed against any class of individuals in the Institute other than the class of men, rich and poor, fraternity and non-fraternity, who stand selfishly aloof from any except official relations with Technology and its activities.

The custom of designating men of this ilk as brown baggers is founded in the belief that the majority of men carrying brown bags are of this type. That is probably inexact. Nevertheless, the article has already the firm association with the spirit of selfish indifference in the minds of all at the Institute. Its usage, therefore, must be accepted and must be understood in its intended meaning.

## PUBLISH THE TECH ELECTIONS

THE TECH takes pleasure in announcing the following elections:

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## CHORAL SOCIETY HOLDS ITS SECOND REHEARSAL TONIGHT

The Choral Society holds its second rehearsal this evening at 7:30 o'clock in room 5-330. Mr. Townsend will be present to personally conduct the rehearsal. The attendance at the first rehearsal was a distinct disappointment to those in charge, so it is earnestly hoped that there will be more present at this one.

Among the songs being rehearsed is a trio by Frederick Bullard, called "The Kavanagh," which under Mr. Townsend's direction, and with the splendid quality of tone which he believes the club has thus far shown, promises to develop into a very beautiful number.

## DR. DAN PREDICTS WORLD TECHNOLOGY

Students Must "Work to Learn and Learn to Work"

## INSTITUTE TEACHES DISCIPLINE

Dr. Taikma Dan '78, addressed the student body in the main hall of Walker Memorial last Monday. He emphasized so many good points and told how Technology had helped to educate the world. As it was impossible for the entire student body to assemble in Walker, THE TECH presents his words verbatim.

"Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Overseers and the Faculty and Students of Technology:

"I think that somewhere in my heart, since my graduation from Technology in 1878, there always has been a hope of expressing public acknowledgment of the debt shared by all the Japanese students who have been educated at Technology, and which, through all these years I have owed my Alma Mater. Today unexpectedly I am given the great honor of standing before you to render such acknowledgment, with heart indeed almost too full for utterance.

"It has seemed to me that a tribute to 'The Spirit of Technology,' to the spirit which has guided my life, might be the most useful service I could render. You will not ask a learned or scientific treatise at my hands; there are many among you equipped to do that better than I.

Learned to Work at Technology

"And so, on thinking over the things for which Technology has always stood and still stands, it has seemed as if the problem to which its founders chiefly addressed themselves is comparatively simple, and can be stated in comparatively simple terms. This problem, as I apprehend it, was, in the easy phraseology of the business man: 'You must actually work to learn,' with its corollary, 'You must learn to work.' Only the founders of Technology, under the inspiration of William Barton Rogers, saw their problem completely through to its end. As a result of their work, it is no longer Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but it is now Institute of Technology of the world. No words, no phrases vaguely expressed, contented them. They evolved and they put in practice for the first time this revolutionary education, the modern system of individual experiment and research. To them the modern laboratory was a concrete expression of what they meant by the phrase 'You must work to learn.'

"The eyes of William Barton Rogers, beheld the future. While other men were preoccupied with their own and past generations, President Rogers was busy with the pupils whose destinies were in his charge. Two facts of his time he was the first to perceive. The first was that an immense industrial development was taking place in America. The second was that a marked scientific movement was under way throughout Western Europe and Eastern United States, which lacked an organized body and faculty of trained men to give it direction and control. Technology, I repeat, was the result of this vision. The seed sown by President Rogers and his able successors has grown and matured to a vast overshadowing tree whose fruits are being borne by Technology graduates through all the world.

## Was Seventeen When He Entered

"And meantime an inscrutable destiny had guided the steps of a Japanese lad, a stranger, immature, and only seventeen years of age, to the gates of Technology when this revolutionary experiment in education—this experiment which was to revolutionize the world—was in the making. This lad was guided and equipped by you for his battle in life in 1878.

"He comes today before you to acknowledge this debt. To whom? Of the men composing the Faculty of my time, of professors and assistants under whom I studied, but three have survived to my childhood—Professor George A. Osborne, Professor Robert H. Richards, Professor Gaetano Lanza; and all of these have 'Emeritus' writ large after their names, and there are, of course, my fellow students and classmates whose association was an inspiration and privilege.

"Therefore, it is to the younger generation that I turn; to those young men bright of eye, who shall onward bear the torch of our experience to illumine the future with the spirit of Technology.

"This spirit, then, gentlemen, is the taking of infinite pains, and the concentration of your entire energy on the vocation you have chosen, while you are yet young, and before the energy of youth is dissipated and scattered by the various calls upon it of advancing years. Of all the things I learned—it is now forty-three years ago—self-discipline was chief. Self-discipline as the result of accurate search after truth; as the result of taking no truth for granted till tried in the laboratory; but above all, self-discipline, with the persistence of enlightened patience and self-control. Otherwise—and I am still addressing you, gentlemen—the

(Continued on Page 4)

## CHEM. SOCIETY VISITS PLANTS

On Wednesday, December 30, the Chemical Society ran one of the most successful trips in the history of the Society, according to the officers. The first plant visited was the Graton-Knight Co., manufacturers of leather goods and belting. The party was conveyed to the plant where a number of guides were furnished to make up parties of about four men each. The whole process of belt-making from start to finish were thus covered in detail. Lunch was served at the expense of the company, during which the guides imparted their valuable information at the smoker which followed the dinner.

The party was then conveyed to the plant of the American Steel & Wire Co. At this plant the manufacture of wire from the pig-iron state to the finished product was viewed by them.

The party returned to Boston about 5 o'clock.

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## NEW OPTICAL STORE

At the corner of Mass. Ave. and Newbury St., an optical store has been opened by the Montgomery-Frost Co. who conduct other stores at 366 Boylston St., and 40 Bromfield St.

Their Mass. Ave. store is equipped with their usual complete optical workshop where quick service will be given for either new orders or repair work on spectacles and eye glasses.

## SIGN-UPS FOR SOPH BANQUET GO ON SALE

Arrangements Provide For Many Special Events

## SECTION LEADERS SELL CARDS

Signups for the Sophomore banquet, to be held Thursday evening in the main hall of Walker, have gone on sale through the class section leaders. The price of the signup card is \$1.

Many interesting features for the banquet are promised by the committee in charge of arrangements, headed by G. H. Cowan '24, to include the usual speeches, moving pictures, special singing acts, music, and what he promises to be one of the most sumptuous meals ever served in Walker. Cabo Vicario is directly in charge of the entertainments and hints of touches of local class color to be displayed during the evening.

## Four Men Will Speak

The list of speakers is composed of Dean Talbot, Charles Pipkin of the English Department, Major Putney, and D. F. Carpenter '22, president of the Senior class. At the banquet the men will be awarded their class numerals for being members of Field Day teams. T. M. Taylor '22, president of the M. I. T. A. A., will be in charge of giving out the numerals.

The signups will be on sale only until next Monday, and the men are therefore urged by the publicity committee to obtain them as soon as possible. The redemption on the signup will be \$1.50, bringing the total price of the banquet pasteboards to \$2.50.

## START T. C. A. HANDBOOK PLANS

The T. C. A. Handbook board had its first meeting of the year Wednesday night and discussed the general policies to be pursued. It was decided to open all competitions, and start active work on the book, the first part of the year.

A radical change, which will be welcomed by many, will be the printing of next year's book on thinner paper. People who have already received leather covers this year will be given only the insert next year. This saving in cost will enable the T. C. A. to print many more books, provided as much money is secured as before.

## AT THE THEATRES

WILBUR: "The Nightcap," 8:20. Mixture of mystery and comedy.

ST. JAMES: "Smilin' Through," 8:15. A fantastic story of love, a family feud, and the other world.

COPLEY: "The Voyage Inheritance," 8:10. First performance in America of Granville Barker's famous comedy-drama.

PLYMOUTH: "The Bad Man," 8:15. Holbrook Blinn as a chivalrous cowboy of "free" Mexico.

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