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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

H. L. Bond '23 K. B. Castle '24

Wednesday, January 11, 1922

DISCRIMINATION NEEDED
IN TAXING OF FAILURES

By charging a fee of five dollars for all condition examinations, the Faculty is responsible for a great injustice to many students. Little account is taken of the possibility of extenuating circumstances. There is small consideration of the fact that in many cases failures result from causes other than neglect of work or insufficient intelligence. It should be unnecessary to remind the Faculty that there are many students who cannot afford to pay the five dollar fee which is imposed. If the failure was reasonably avoidable the fine is, of course, justified. However, when poor health or an unavoidable overload of studies is responsible for a low grade, the Faculty would not be over-beneficient in omitting the five dollar tax.

There should be no great difficulty in deciding what students should be released from the payment. From the standpoint of health, cases could be passed upon by the medical department in much the same manner as absences are excused. Only too often, in this region of oscillating temperatures and wind-swept bridges sickness causes failures, with the resultant fine which the student often cannot afford to pay. It frequently becomes necessary for students entering with conditions to take many more hours than they can successfully carry. In such a case, very remote is the possibility of escaping the payment of the fee. The total amount of money which these payments bring into the treasury of the Institute is not great. The tax is imposed as a fine and not to obtain revenue. Obviously then, it is an error to impose a fine

for failures not due to wilful neglect of work. Cannot the Faculty realize that it is occasionally advisable to give a student the benefit of the doubt? Equity is made use of in courts of law. Why not at Technology?

AMHERST STREET

Amherst street, leading from the Institute to Kendall Square, purports to be a "street," and to one unacquainted with the environs of the vicinity or with the topography of this particular stretch of antiquated highway, the name gives a decidedly wrong impression. For, what is expected through association of ideas, is not fulfilled in any sense.

Instead of a street, one sees a quagmire or a sheet of well-nigh impassable ice studded here and there with cobblestones, cinders, and trash. Whether it is a quagmire, morass, swamp, or frozen sheet, depends upon climatic conditions. It falls into at least one category whatever be the season of the year.

To the multitude of students who must trespass this abomination of modern roadway, who must wade through puddles of stagnant water, plod through a morass of mud ankle deep, and slide, glide, fall, and finally cross the ice barrier to enter the Institute, sympathy only can be extended. The city of Cambridge no doubt extends its sympathy, but a square deal to the students who are making and have made Cambridge noted for its institutions of learning, is in order. Some action should be taken by the city to see that a sidewalk adjoins the curbstone which still survives and which is the only evidence that a street exists, and that suitable drainage be provided.

ALUMNI NOTES

STUDIES AERONAUTICS ABROAD

Lieutenant Edwin E. Aldrin '17, one of the founders of Air Service Engineering School of Dayton, Ohio, is now on a three months' leave of absence in Europe, studying aeronautical activities in Germany, England, France, and Italy. He is to return soon to become assistant chief of air service at the Philippine Islands.

Lieutenant Aldrin graduated from Clark University in 1916 and took his master's degree at Technology in 1917. For a short period after receiving his degree he was instructor in aeronautics at the Institute. Late in 1917 he was commissioned second lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps of the regular army, and received his first lieutenantcy in the same corps a year and one-half later.

He is an Associate Fellow in the British Royal Aeronautical Society and a junior member of the American Society of Automotive Engineers. He is now secretary of the Aeronautical Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

NOTICES

FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Night Editor in Charge of the next issue of THE TECH is E. S. Gray '24, Tel. Saugus 115-W. All matters concerning the issue should be referred to him.

OFFICIAL

Second Year Mechanism Course VI—Students whose names begin with the letters A through K will report to room 1-146, and those whose names begin with L through Z will report to room 1-150 for their exercises in Mechanism, beginning Tuesday, January 10.

Glee Club Rehearsal this afternoon at 5 o'clock in Smith Hall, room 10-250.

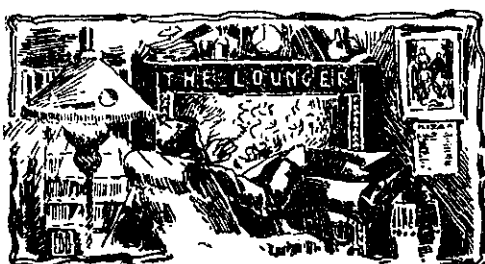
The M. I. T. A. A. picture will be taken at Notman's, Harvard Square, on Saturday, January 14, at 2 o'clock.

Men Who Can Play the cornet for work, are requested to leave their names and telephone numbers in box 289.

Signups for the Winter Concert of the Combined Musical Clubs will be on sale in the main lobby at 12 o'clock tomorrow.

All Seniors who have had their picture taken and have received proofs from Notman's are requested by Technique to return same to the studio as soon as possible.

There will be a meeting of the Dartmouth Club of M. I. T. on Friday at 5 P. M. in the office of the Technology Christian Association. A secretary will be elected at this meeting.



The Lounge sees that the Boston Committee has reported on the plans for a new bridge over the Charles. The membership of the group seems to be composed of both Haw-hawvard and Technology Alumni, with the result that no name was given to the bridge. The men who spent their time up the avenue did not want to lose what claim they had to the present name, but not being able to override public opinion, referred to it as the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge. This was intended as a compromise as both are located along the avenue. The Lounge expects to see the wedge driven in a little further thereby forcing what ghosts of the past still hang around this end of the town, back into the vile dust from whence they sprung, unbawled, undegreed, and undiscarded.

The present bridge used by students in crossing the river lies between the Technology pier and Dartmouth street. At the Cambridge end of the bridge the Lounge discovered when he recently started to cross the river that a sign had been placed there with the warning to keep off the ice. Despite the fact that the Lounge always obeys the law, even to the extent of never driving faster than his car will go, he decided to take a chance and cross the basin.

The trip was made without accident, and on reaching the other side proceeded to remove his skates, light his corn cob and proceed on his way in the direction of Copley Square. All the way across the Lounge never once felt the bridge tremble beneath him, he heard no creaking noises except such as drifted down from the many times condemned bridge on the avenue. He has decided, therefore, that he will advise the custodians of the law to have the word "ice" stricken from the sign and in its place inserted the word "bridge" and the sign moved to Haw-hawvawd Bridge.

MISTAKES

When a plumber makes a mistake he charges twice for it.

When a lawyer makes a mistake it is just what he wanted, because he has a chance to try the case all over again.

When a carpenter makes a mistake it's just what he expected.

When a doctor makes a mistake he buries it.

When a judge makes a mistake it becomes the law of the land.

When a preacher makes a mistake nobody knows the difference.

But when an editor makes a mistake—Good night!

VOO DOO ANNOUNCES ELECTION

The Managing Board of Voo Doo takes pleasure in announcing the election of K. T. Bainbridge '25, to the Board of Business Associates.

AT THE THEATRES

HOLLIS: "The Wandering Jew," 8:15. A pictorially romantic play, appealing to religious sentiment.

COLONIAL: "Tip Top," 8:15. Fred Stone always plays to a crowded house.

TREMONT: "Orphans of the Storm," 8:15. A Griffith production with Lilian and Dorothy Gish.

SELWYN: "Happy-Go-Lucky," O. P. Heggie in a comedy that seems to be doing well.

WILBUR: "Red Pepper," 8:15. Reviewed in this issue.

PLYMOUTH: "Dog Love," 8:15.

ST. JAMES: "Slippy McGee," 8:15. Reviewed in this issue.

SHUBERT: "Irene," 8:15. A reproduction but still good.

COPLEY: "The Cassilis Engagement," Reviewed in this issue.

KEITH'S: Vaudeville.

MAJESTIC: Vaudeville.

SLIPPY MCGEE SHOWN AT THE ST. JAMES THEATER

"Slippy McGee," shown at the St. James Theater this week, is an interesting story, well acted. The story of "Slippy McGee" is the regeneration of a crook under the influence of a girl he loves, and his benefactor. "Slippy McGee" is a notorious, quick-witted and resourceful thief and safe-breaker who, in his flight from his latest crime, meets with an accident. His life is saved by Father

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Ranee. Under the influence of his kindly love and the tender, sympathetic care of Mary Virginia, he casts off his old life, and later helps them out of a serious situation.

The play has many thrilling situations, strong characters, and is full of kindly humor. Walter Gilbert, as "Slippy," plays his part well, and is ably supported by the leading lady, Nancy Fair. The rest of the well-known cast are employed to good advantage, making the play worth seeing.

MCINTYRE AND HEATH OPEN
IN "RED PEPPER" AT WILBUR

A really good musical show has appeared at the Wilbur. McIntyre and Heath as two colored gentlemen of fortune are very entertaining to say nothing of a few bright spots in the chorus. The music is not exceptional but the jokes were of such a character that there was constant laughter.

The opening scene is in a cafe at Havana where the preparations for the races are being made. Next is the interior of the stables of Red Pepper and Sir Robert, the two rival steeds. In the second act there is an Arizona ranch scene and a scene in Georgia. In the ranch scene there is some very clever lariat throwing and there are two duets of the ballad type that make quite a hit. Miss Mable Eliane as Lilly Rose, a colored highbrow, puts across two very good numbers.

If you want a show that hasn't much plot but has a chorus and plenty of humor, no mistake will be made in seeing "Red Pepper."

"THE CASSILIS ENGAGEMENT"
FOR FIRST TIME IN BOSTON

With "The Cassilis Engagement" by St. John Hanton the Jewett Players returned to refreshing English comedy after a program of farce for the holiday season. The play at the Copley Theatre this week is by an English playwright unknown to Boston audiences, who at his premature death in 1909 was regarded as one of the most promising of the younger dramatists.

"The Cassilis Engagement" deals with the only son of an English noble house whose chief occupation is pheasant-shooting and being a country gentleman, and who becomes engaged to a London music-hall girl. Instead of opposing the match, Mrs. Cassilis, his mother, invites the fiancée and her cockney mother to Deynham, the Cassilis country home. She depends on the contrast between Deynham and the bohemian life of London music halls to cause the breaking of the engagement. The setting affords St. John Hanton an opportunity to gently satirize English country life.

Of outstanding excellence was Miss Ivan as Mrs. Borridge, the cockney mother. She might have been a born cockney for the ease with which she misplaced her "hatches."

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