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News and Editorial—Room 3, Walker Memorial, Telephone, Univ. 7029
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In Charge of This Issue:

T. W. Owen '26

NEXT WEEK'S REFERENDUM

NEXT week THE TECH will take a referendum on the attitude of Technology students toward the plan selected by the Jury of Award of the American Peace Award as "the best practicable plan by which the United States may co-operate with other nations to achieve and preserve the peace of the world."

The winning plan, which appears elsewhere on this page, was selected from 22,165 definite plans submitted and several hundred thousand letters merely suggesting solutions to the peace problem. If the plan is accepted by the American people, its author will receive the prize of \$100,000 offered by Edward W. Bok. His identity will be withheld until the nation-wide vote on the plan has been taken, and at present he is known only to one member of the Jury so that merit alone might form the basis for selection.

The purpose of the American Peace Award, in Bok's own words, is "to reflect in a practicable plan the dominating national sentiment as expressed by the large cross-section of the American public taking part in the Award." And in almost every plan has been the conviction that "it is time for the nations of the world to admit that war is a crime and thus withdraw the legal and moral sanction too long permitted as a method of settling international disputes." They all show a realization that no adequate defense against this situation has thus far been devised and no international law developed to control it. They point out that security of life and property is dependent on the abolition of war and the cessation of the manufacture of munitions.

The referendum to be taken at Technology will be but a part of a nation-wide vote taken on the winning plan. This is a matter which should interest every Tech man, whether he is an American or not. We are printing the winning plan in this issue so that every man will have a chance to read it over carefully and think about it before having to cast his vote. We hope the subject will become the foremost topic of conversation among the students during the next few days, and that the entire student body will vote on the ballots which will be distributed next week.

This is not a matter of mere theory. It is a subject of real practicability which concerns YOU.

EXCUSE FROM FINAL EXAMS

IN the disturbed and abnormal period just preceding the December examinations we presented a resume of the principal reasons for and against exempting a student of high term standing from a final examination. At that time the urgencies of the moment did not permit of much theorizing, for the exams were a dull, unavoidable, and depressing reality and we were confronted with the immediate problem of passing them successfully.

The tribulations of an examination period have passed and we are now free to engage in those occupations which are more to our fancy and satisfaction. While the immediate pressure of the next set of exams will not be felt for many days, the practicability of planning for the inevitable cannot be questioned.

It is different now. Conditions may be scrutinized objectively and critically and the conclusions will be less tempered with bias and prejudice, and will represent a rational and unimpassioned judgement.

The original proposal was such as to recommend that department heads be permitted to exercise their judgement on the problem of exemptions and was in no way construed to suggest that a blanket program be adopted which would exempt some men from every examination held. It is perfectly obvious that no general rule could be both expedient and fair; but it is equally obvious that under the guidance of men both qualified and able to effect a possible improvement in our pedagogical methods the operation of the plan at its worst could have an adverse effect on only a few.

The plan should at least have the sanction of experiment—in fact that seems to be the only solution when a wide diversity of opinion is expressed on the subject. We symbolize and realize "Education by Experiment," while we are content to theorize on the experiment of education. Can it be that prevailing methods have arrived at such a state that further attempts at rectification are superfluous? Probably not. Would it not be wise to endorse a plan which would permit of such freedom that those having faith in its success would be unhampered in their efforts to decide the merits for their own particular brood? It would be the educational "test tube" and we have faith enough to assume that the observer's powers of discernment are sufficient to warrant the risk.

WINNING BOK PLAN

Full Text of Plan

Five-sixths of all nations, including about four-fifths of mankind, have already created a world organization, the purpose of which is "to promote international cooperation and to achieve international peace and security."

There Is Not Room for More Than One Organization to Promote International Cooperation

Those nations cannot and will not abandon this system, which has now been actively operating for three and a half years. If leading members of the United States Government ever had serious hopes that another association of nations could be formed, such hopes were dispelled during the Washington Conference by plain intimations from other Powers that there is not room for more than one organization like the League of Nations.

The States outside the organized world are not of such a character that the United States could hope to co-operate with them for the purpose named.

Therefore, the only possible path to cooperation in which the United States can take an increasing share is that which leads toward some form of agreement with the world as now organized, called the League of Nations.

By sheer force of social international gravitation such cooperation becomes inevitable.

The United States Has Already Gone Far in Cooperation With the League of Nations

The United States Government, theoretically maintaining a policy of isolation, has actually gone far, since March 4, 1921, toward "cooperation with other nations to achieve and preserve the peace of the world."

The most familiar part of the story is the work of the Washington Conference, wherein President Harding's Administration made a beginning of naval disarmament, opened to China a prospect of rehabilitation, and joined with Great Britain, Japan and France to make the Pacific Ocean worthy of its name.

Later came the recommendation that the United States should adhere to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

Not long after that action President Harding wrote to Bishop Gailor:

"I do not believe any man can confront the responsibility of a President of the United States and yet adhere to the idea that it is possible for our country to maintain an attitude of isolation and aloofness in the world."

But since the proposed adhesion to the Permanent Court would bring this country into close contact at one time and point with the League of Nations, and since such action is strenuously opposed for exactly that reason, it is pertinent to inquire not only how much cooperation with the League and its organs has been proposed during the life of the present Administration, but also how much has been actually begun.

Officially or Unofficially the United States Is Represented on Many League Commissions

The United States Government has accredited its representatives to sit as members "in an unofficial and consulting capacity" upon four of the most important social welfare commissions of the League, viz.: Health, Opium, Traffic in Women and Children, and Anthrax (Industrial Hygiene).

Our Government is a full member of the International Hydrographic Bureau, an organ of the League. Our Government was represented by an "unofficial" observer in the Brussels Conference (Finance and Economic Commission) in 1920. It sent Hon. Stephen G. Porter and Bishop Brent to represent it at the meeting of the Opium Commission last May.

Our Public Health Service has taken part in the Serological Congresses of the Epidemics Commission and has helped in the experimental work for the standardization of serums.

Our Government collaborates with the League Health Organization through the International Office of Public Health at Paris, and with the Agricultural Committee of the League Labor Organization through the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.

In February, 1923, Secretary Hughes and President Harding formally recommended that the Senate approve

(Continued on Page 4)

Play Directory

COLONIAL: "Sancho Panza." Otis Skinner.
COPLEY: "Windows." Somewhat hard to see thru.

HOLLIS: "The 1st Year." Comical aspects of the tragedy of marriage.

JORDAN HALL: Cyrus Ullian. Pianist.

PLYMOUTH: "Whispering Wires." Gripping thriller.

ST. JAMES: "The Eleventh Commandment." What every girl should know.

SELWYN: "Sweet Lavender." A London company revives Pinter.

SHUBERT: "A Perfect Lady." Good musical comedy with Constance Binney.

SYMPHONY HALL: Boston Symphony Orchestra. Monteux, conductor.

TREMONT: "Adrienne." Musical comedy.

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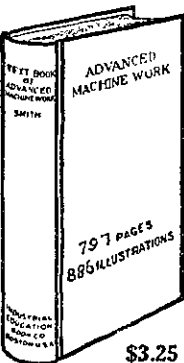
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