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O. B. Robinson '26

FADS, MONKEYS, AND MEN

PAGE Mr. Darwin! Here is proof for his theory, honor for his monkeys, and repudiation of his enemy Bryan. By a long experience of excruciating pain and boring ennui we have evolved another one of his missing links to connect the narrow vale between monkeydom and humanity.

First, list to the tale of the monkey. A monkey seeing something new and sparkling immediately becomes covetous and goes into momentary ecstasy playing with it. But in several minutes his rapture ends, and he is tailing himself from tree to tree in quest of something new to tickle his fragile cerebral ribs.

Next, note a striking simulation. Every time a member of the species "genus homo," collegian particularly, lights upon some trivial whifflescent or fitting fad he becomes obsessed with, and insatiably desires, it just as his hairy ancestor. Witness the simial action of members of the Harvardonian race as their eyes behold a blue shirt and they start a chromatic riot of haberdashery with the Blue Shirt Club. Watch the Technology type ape the Bohemian with a rakishly turned down hat, toe-sack trousers, and gorgeous adenoidal decorations. It all lasts for a minute and interest dies just as the monkey's.

Mah Jongg, the ancient Chinese game invented in Ohio, so took the fancy of the race "Americano," that their gullibility would have shamed their progenitors. But it was identically the same emotion the monkey displays. The female of the species took to galoshes with a frenzied rush which was over before the rush finished. Dapper Dandies wore feathers in their hats for a day.

So, Mr. Darwin, this irrefutable proof of the inherent monkey in man will surely bring joy to your ghostly cogitations, and vindication for your honest confession of the true nature of the pretenders, "Homo sapiens." And every fad that comes and goes adds proof to your genealogy.

Four hundred and thirty-one years ago Columbus discovered America. Seemingly it will be equally as long again before some improvement is discovered in the Great Court.

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

AFTER a pseudo-edifying hour during which the conductor in his childlike efforts to express himself finally resorts to such terms as "jiggers," "dog gone," and "darn," one is prone to feel that the exactitude of his thoughts may be proportional to the beauty of expression. When such moron-like terms are foisted on us both regularly and intermittently, the implication is that either we are incapable of assimilating a more profound expression, or that the instructor is incapable of that profundity.

The most unfortunate thing about this defect is its generality. An isolated case or two could be condoned on the grounds that other desirable qualities were sufficient to merit a more liberal degree of toleration. These special cases however, are not so evident. Whenever a man is either so careless or indifferent in his speech, or so limited by his own ignorance of the fundamentals of correct and clear English that his expressions are positively nauseating, he should be relegated to his proper niche for he has not the qualifications of an educator. His attributes are only those of a mere trainer.

We can almost detect a little hollow laugh from those exponents whose song is one of derision for fine English, and whose creed is adorned with the phrases of the streets, and the prattlings of the mentally void. This reverberation is not significant however, for their number, while large, is not legion, and their influence is luckily only commensurate with the adequacy of their expression.

THE PRIDE OF THE INSTITUTE?

WHAT an edifying view the lounge room of building Five presents to a visitor inspecting the Institute plant! Just how often do officials point it out with pride as a show room of Technology's finely equipped group of buildings? How many men stoop to lounge in its inviting bleakness and its restful dirtiness?

This policeman's haven and janitor's smoking room has evidently been forgotten by those in charge, and most certainly it has been rightly scorned by the students for whose use it is intended. The condition emphatically needs to be remedied, for it is a disgrace to the Institute and practically an insult to those who have to use it. Those who commute have sore need for some place to go to between classes, but until this lounge is renovated and made comfortable no use can be made of it except by wandering members of the Cambridge police force.

COMMUNICATIONS

Feb. 10, 1924.

To the Editor of "The Tech."

Dear Sir:
The writer has just been informed that it is proposed to hold a "Crew Week" as a means of stimulating interest in the sport of rowing. The writer requests the privilege of your columns to express a hearty endorsement of the project and to urge upon the student body at large the support of an activity which is one of the most useful and beneficial in the entire group of athletic endeavors.

In the first place, rowing is a pastime and an enjoyable recreation, one that can be carried on alone or in the companionship of others. Secondly, it is a form of exercise that does not have to be discontinued on leaving college, as regrettably so many of the students' activities must. Thirdly, it is a form of sport which when carried on reasonably and under control, does not overstrain or exhaust.

Through the generosity of the Institute authorities you of the student body have a most unusual opportunity to develop this fine, dignified and worthy sport. You have an excellent boathouse and adequate physical equipment. Last, but not least, you have a mentor and director in the person of William Haines, who is an oarsman of many years' experience, a successful competitor himself, the trainer of successful competitive crews. Most important of all, he is a man of genial personality, infectious good humor, and one who embodies the cleanest and best ideals of true sportsmanship.

Support and further "Crew Week." Here is one of the rare opportunities when you have a chance to do good for others and at the same time to do good to yourself.

The Advisory Council is keenly interested in the experiment, endorses the project and wishes you all success.

(Signed) A. W. Rowe.

To the Editor:

The petition for a referendum as to whether the Seniors' Valentine Party shall be formal or informal has been denied on the following grounds:

1. It is not consistent with the committee's program.
2. A number of Seniors want it formal.

The committee says these answer the points raised.

It does not answer them. When the petition for a vote on this matter is submitted, why is it turned down? If this affair is for all the Seniors why not let the majority speak through a vote? Are the Seniors who want it formal so few that they are afraid?

Our duly appointed class officers have proceeded in a high handed manner. Their attitude is arbitrary and undemocratic in denying a vote on the grounds set forth.

(Signed) Thos. R. Rhea '24.

The following communication has been referred to the editor by the Publicity Manager of Tech Show 1924, to whom it was addressed, in the hope that it would correct an erroneous impression in the minds of some of the student body:

New York, Jan. 24, 1924.

Dear Mr. Mabley:
In a recent issue of The Tech there appeared what the writer considered an arraignment of, and a challenge to, the New York Alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

It appears that the New York Alumni were criticised somewhat because of their lack of cordiality to the members of the Glee and Banjo Clubs and their failure to entertain them while in New York.

May one of the New York Alumni draw your attention to a few relevant facts which seem to have been overlooked. Those of the Alumni who are best situated to extend the privilege of their homes to the members of the Musical Clubs are men of middle age who have more or less acquired the habit of domesticity and are given to retiring at least before midnight. The members of the Musical Clubs naturally wish to attend their own dance after the concert, which may require their presence until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. This in itself is a great barrier in the way of the reception which these men would have accorded

Play Directory

ARLINGTON SQUARE: "Mary." Musical comedy.

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE: "The Bat." Farce-well presentation of famous mystery play.

COLONIAL: "Vanities." Revue, with Joe Cook.

COPLEY: "Misalliance." Bernard Shaw comedy by Jewett Players.

HOLLIS: "The 1st Year." Domestic comedy. Funny.

MAJESTIC: "Polly Preferred." Comedy with one good character.

PLYMOUTH: "The Whole Town's Talking." Comedy, with Grant Mitchell.

ST. JAMES: "The Cat and the Canary." Revived by Boston Stock Co.

SELWYN: Jane Cowl in "Antony and Cleopatra." Last week.

SHUBERT: "The Passing Show." Winter Garden show, opening tonight.

TREMONT: "The Clinging Vine." Musical comedy, with Vivienne Segal. Entertaining.

WILBUR: "Up She Goes." Musical comedy. Last week.

them, as the home in which they would be entertained of necessity would have to be kept open awaiting their coming until an unknown hour of the morning, perhaps 3 or 4 o'clock, a condition not greatly to be desired.

When the "Tech Show" was in New York last winter the writer personally wrote to one of those in the Executive Staff, offering to take care of two or three men, for one or two nights, as the occasion may warrant. This offer was refused; but the offer stood notwithstanding. A similar offer was not made to the Glee and Banjo Club members for the reasons aforesaid, which seemed to be all sufficient.

As for the younger men of the Alumni, few of these have homes into which they could take the members of the clubs and very few of them are so situated as to warrant their taking care of members of the clubs at their expense at hotels or clubs.

Will you kindly endeavor to give to the members of your travelling organizations this slant on the situation and again state that some of us would cheerfully take care of a few members of the Tech Show if they wished to avail themselves of this privilege.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Charles E. Lawrence '96.

UNDERGRADUATES FAVOR ETERNAL WORLD PEACE

Students all over the United States are essentially peaceful. A survey of the results of the undergraduate vote on the Bok Peace Plan show that all but one of the Institutions which voted were in favor of the plan. The only college which held adverse opinion was Union College at Schenectady, where the count went against the plan. Even Wellesley and some of the other girls schools came through with a heavy vote in favor of the plan. It is rather pleasing to note that the general trend of the younger generations is to avoid war.

WHO SAYS?

The sayings for today are:

1. "I see your finish."
2. "This reaction proceeds very smoothly, gentlemen."
3. "Suppose we take a curve of this sort."

At the suggestion of a number of our readers we shall henceforth reprint each quotation along with the name of the professor who is responsible for it so that there will be no doubt or inconvenience incurred in properly identifying each familiar saying:

The answers to the last three quotations are:

1. Prof. Armstrong: "When I was County Superintendent..."
2. Prof. Gill: "Like unto this—"
3. Prof. Park: "Now this has no practical use."

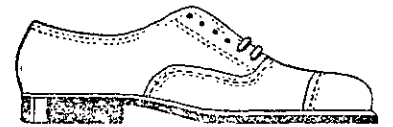
PROMINENT MEN TO SPEAK AT HARVARD

To help Harvard students choose a vocation, arrangements have been made to have a series of prominent men speak on life work. During March and April the following men will speak: Former Attorney General of the United States, George W. Wickersham, who will cover the profession of law; Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric Company, who will tell of the possibilities in the business and engineering field; Bishop William Lawrence will talk about the ministry; and President Ernest M. Hopkins of Dartmouth College will speak on the subject of "teaching."

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