



TECH NEWS



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NO. 21

George Kaufman's "The Butter and Egg Man" Will Be Given By Masque

Bill Ahern, '39, Male Lead, Promises To Be Exceptional in his Peter Jones Characterization

PLAY TO BE PRESENTED ON MAY NINTH

Students Planning to Attend are Requested to Complete Their Arrangements at an Early Date

Rehearsals for the first act have been completed and the cast is well into the second act of the Masque's 1936 production of George S. Kaufman's play, "The Butter and Egg Man." All indications so far point to a great success both from an artistic and a recreational standpoint. George S. Kaufman is one of the foremost playwrights of the day with innumerable Broadway successes to his credit, among them being the famous "Of Thee I Sing" and its equally famous sequel, "Let 'Em Eat Cake." In the play, "The Butter and Egg Man," Kaufman has incorporated his knowledge of Broadway and the show business and the famous Kaufman humor into a smooth flowing, hilarious tale of a "Butter and Egg Man," from the West who is taken for a sleigh ride by two theatrical agents, but who winds up holding the reins. There is plenty of chance for good acting on the part of every performer and there is also a generous sprinkling of wise-cracks and humorous situations coupled with real drama which makes the play interesting and thoroughly enjoyable.

This play will be presented on Saturday, May 9, so every member of the student body is asked to make his plans for the evening during the com-

ing vacation. The time is rapidly approaching, and it would be well to have all arrangements completed at an early date in order to avoid any last minute rush for seats. The fraternities will have first choice of seats after the seating of the patrons has been arranged. In order that everyone will be satisfied, it would be well to complete plans as soon as it is possible. The spring vacation affords an excellent opportunity for the completion of these plans.

As has been before mentioned, rehearsals for the first act are already completed and rehearsals for the second act will be completed the week after the spring recess. If anything can be predicted from the performances of the players in the first act, this year's cast promises to be the equal of any cast before assembled. The histrionic ability of Bill Ahern, who plays the male lead, in his characterization of Peter Jones, the "Butter and Egg Man" from Chillicothe, Ohio, is displayed to perfection in this part. The love interest is furnished by Frances Allen who plays the part of the secretary to the two theatrical agents who try to fleece the boy from Chillicothe.

Every student who intends to take advantage of the entertainment facilities offered by Junior week-end should complete his plans during the coming vacation, and, as attendance at the Masque production is one of the high spots of the season, preparations for this event should be given adequate consideration.

BOYNTON'S BEACON Critic's Column



To the Editor of The TECH NEWS:
Dear Sir:

In the editorial "Let's Grow Up" in the March 24th issue of the TECH NEWS, the writer, in his effort to put across a good idea, gives the impression that there are disorderly scenes in the Sophomore Physics lectures. Certainly this has no basis of fact. As Dr. Duff's assistant in these lectures I have had ample opportunity to observe the behavior of the class, and at no time has it been inattentive or ungente-

manly. The lecture demonstrations are deliberately conducted to allow of maximum co-operation on the part of the students. Such cooperation is, I believe, to be encouraged. In inviting the class to thus participate in the experiments there is naturally a certain amount of good-natured comment, and a thoughtless student may occasionally take advantage of this liberty, but I have been most favorably impressed with the response accorded. Though this method of handling the lectures requires tact and nerve on the part of the lecturer, I am sure that with his years of experience Dr. Duff has realized that this is the most satisfactory and educationally productive manner of giving such lectures. Anyone who has been present knows that Dr. Duff has not the least difficulty in securing close and appreciative attention whenever it is called for. I have observed similar lectures in various schools and the atmosphere here strikes me as one of exceptionally good co-operation and genial relationship between teacher and student.

I realize perfectly well that the intentions of the writer of the article were excellent, but it is unfortunate that through exaggeration the wrong impression may be given to readers who have not attended these lectures.

R. T. YOUNG, JR.

To the Editor:

There are two days for make-up exams during the coming vacation, and invariably if you have two make-ups (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)



BOYNTON'S SUN DIAL

Annual "At Home Day" Plans Move Forward Rapidly as the Committee Choices are Made

**Edmunds Chosen
As Permanent
Class President**

**Seniors Elect Henrickson,
Shepardson and Svenson
Permanent Officers**

At the recent Senior elections for the purpose of choosing permanent class officers Donald L. Edmunds of Lyndonville, Vt., was made permanent president of the Class of 1936. Edmunds is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, a member of Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Xi, Honorary Fraternities, and has played in the Boyntonians during the past few years.

John R. Brand of Worcester was elected vice-president of the class. Brand is a member of Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity, a member of Skull, Senior honor fraternity, Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Xi Societies, and president of the Student A. S. M. E. He has been a regular of the soccer team for four years and was elected captain of the team last fall.

The office of permanent class secretary will be filled by Harold F. Henrickson of Holden. The new secretary is a pledge of Theta Chi Fraternity, and has been active in sports and Tech activities, being a member of Skull and Tau Beta Pi, president of the Student Athletic Council. Henrickson has played forward on the varsity basketball team for three years and was elected co-captain last season.

Alan F. Shepardson of Pittsfield is the new class treasurer. Shepardson is a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, a member of the Camera Club and track team.

Norman Svenson of Worcester was elected historian. He has been a stronghold on the varsity basketball team for the past three years and was co-captain of the team last season.

Easter Tidings

As this is our last issue before that very significant day—Easter—I take this opportunity to wish you an eventful vacation, Easter to me is synonymous with anything joyous and beautiful—anything from the purchase of new clothing to the preaching of sermons on that abstract but delightful subject of immortality. Riding along the highways this morning I could not help but feel an intangible expression of the coming Easter season. At this period we are approximately three-quarters through with this school year's work, i.e., except a few who have liked it so well that the Faculty feels they ought to repeat their good work. Easter time should also make us feel the gratitude we owe our parents or relatives for sending us through college. This gratitude can be expressed in no better way than by a suggestion of their attending church with us on Easter Sunday morning.—EDITOR.

**Mechanical Engineering Department Has Charge
Of Arrangements**

APRIL 25 DATE SET

**Invitations To Be Sent Through
Fraternities as Well as
By the Institute**

At Home Day this year is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. Plans are rapidly getting under way under the direction of committees made up of men representing all phases of school activity. The A. S. M. E. is represented by J. R. Brand, the A. S. C. E. by Joseph Stead, the A. S. E. E. by H. T. Wrobel, the Skeptical Chymists by A. F. Shepardson, the Class of '36 by Donald Edmunds, Class of '37 by Dana Woodward, Class of '38 by J. E. Germain, Class of '39 by Jack Rushton, Skull by Clinton Leech, Tau Beta Pi by J. R. Brand, the Interfraternity Council by Mr. P. R. Swan, Sigma Xi by Prof. C. F. Meyer, the Tech Council by Clinton Leech, and the S. C. A. by George Huntley.

The Faculty is represented by Prof. G. H. MacCullough, Prof. C. F. Meyer, Prof. H. J. Gay, Prof. K. G. Merriam, Prof. H. F. Taylor, Dr. L. L. Atwood, Dr. R. H. Beth, Mr. P. R. Swan, Mr. W. W. Locke, Jr., Mr. H. F. Feldman, and Mr. Edwin Higginbottom.

The fraternities are represented by Mr. P. R. Swan and Prof. H. J. Gay of the faculty and by J. R. Brand, P. S. K.; J. A. Stead, T. C.; D. W. Woodward, P. G. D.; Clinton Leech, T. U. O.; J. M. Smith, A. T. O.; R. W. Powers, S. A. E.; G. W. Huntley, L. C. A.; and R. V. Defoe, T. K. P.

These committees, with the M. E. Department in charge of the program, have already initiated proceedings which will make this year's At Home Day as successful as were any held in the past. Students are requested to send in to their fraternity committee men or to some member of the general committee, the names of prospective students, or friends of theirs who are interested in engineering work. Invitations will be extended to these men either from the Institute or through the fraternities. Those men who are invited through fraternities will be guests of those fraternities at lunch and will be escorted around the campus by fraternity representatives. The assistance of every member of the student body is asked in order that the success of the project may be assured.

**Lieut. Jennings Spoke
To Students on Tuesday**

Subject: Naval Flight Training

On Tuesday, March 24, Lieutenant Howard L. Jennings of the Squantum Naval Reserve Aviation Base, who visited the Institute at this time last year, spoke to members of the student body, on the subject of "Naval Reserve (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

A.I.E.E. Meeting At Dormitory Friday Evening

**Mr. Warren F. Snow, Service
Supervisor, to Speak on
Radio Interference**

There will be a meeting of the Student Branch of the A. I. E. E. on Friday, April 3, at seven P. M. in Sanford Riley Hall.

At the meeting, Mr. Arthur F. Snow, Service Supervisor for the Worcester Electric Light Company, will speak on, "Methods of and Experiences in Locating Radio Interference." To illustrate some of the methods used, Mr. Snow will bring apparatus which he uses in this work, and will demonstrate the manner in which it is used. The lecture should be particularly interesting to members of the Radio Club, who are invited to attend.

Plans are being made for participation in the coming Regional Convention of Student Members of the A. I. E. E., which is to be held in New Haven early in May.

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On The Goat's Head

There are few aspects of college life from which we can derive more spontaneous enjoyment than good-natured but vigorous rivalry between the two underclasses. Since it is neither possible nor advisable to keep up the hazing which takes place during the first week of college, interclass matches have been introduced as a means of satisfying this rivalry between the "sophs" and "frosh" which has been traditional among college students since time immemorial. As a reward for winning the greatest number of points in interclass competition, the victorious class is presented the Goat's Head.

The Goat's Head in its role of a reward for victories in athletic competition does not seem to justify its existence. Rarely does one hear it spoken of around the campus. Since it does not actually go into the possession of the winning class, it has no tangible significance to us. The Goat's Head, which once was a true tradition at Tech, and whose possession was highly prized and hotly contested for, has been relegated to a secondary position. It seems a pity that the Institute has allowed one of its traditions, which was comparable to the Rope Pull and the Paddle Rush, to become lost.

In 1931, the Tech Council withdrew it from active competition giving the reason that only a few individuals knew where the Head was kept and the majority of the classes had no part in the competition. This was probably the case, but wouldn't it have been better to modify somewhat the rules governing its possession than practically to destroy the whole tradition?

Interclass athletic competition is not dependent on the presentation of a prize to the winner. The pleasure created by defeating the team of the rival class is reward enough.

The rivalry between the classes reaches its highest points at the rope pull, the paddle rush, and an occasional closely contested athletic match. During the greater part of the year, however, it takes on an apathy from which it is impossible to arouse it. It is easy to see that if the Goat's Head were once more in circulation, it would do a great deal towards keeping class spirit alive throughout the whole year. As we stated in the beginning, a great deal of the college atmosphere is based on the rivalry between the Sophomores and Freshmen. Anything that tends to further a friendly antagonism between these two classes justifies its own existence. What do you think?

Campus Chatter or Not

As some of you may have noticed, in the past two or three issues of the NEWS there has been no Campus Chatter column. The new staff, which assumed office a few weeks back, were undecided as to the worth of this column, but there have been so many comments, both from students and outsiders concerning the absence of this column that the staff has decided to write this editorial in view of receiving comments, whatever they may be, as to whether continuation of the column would be worthwhile. Now, naturally it is the purpose of this paper to please its readers, and we are going to do as much as we possibly can to make this paper one from which you may receive some enjoyment. Therefore, your comments are necessary to make this a paper for you.

The nature of this column would be primarily the same as that which has appeared in previous issues. However, for those who may entertain some fears regarding their actions in "off" moments, may we say that we shall print nothing which would jeopardize anybody in any manner. However, we shall print choice bits of action, and there certainly are some choice bits, concerning both our faculty and students, which are too good to be kept for the enjoyment of only a few. In this manner we believe we could write a column which would be enjoyed by all, and give the paper a little less formal air. So—we are open to suggestions. Whatever they may be, send them in so we may know just how you feel about the Campus Chatter column.

The School For Non-Scandal

Here at hand is a copy of a bill, H. R. 11225, to establish the National Academy of Public Affairs. This bill was submitted to the House of Representatives on February 17, of this year, and action has been pending on it since it was referred at that date to the Committee on Education. It is one of the best ideas that has been given this office to comment upon. Mr. Wesley E. Disney, Democrat of Oklahoma and author of this bill, seeks the establishment of a "politicians' West Point" to educate young Americans in administrative and diplomatic service, both in national and international affairs.

"It is conceivable that we may think our way out of bigotry, hatred, war, and depression," says Mr. Disney. He continues, "Even the doubters would concede that the effort to do so is worth while—that there is glory in even trying. Such an institution would produce men and women of broad vision and fine technical training for the purposes of aiding in the great forward movements that have overtaken the world."

The courses of study at the College would, of course, be developed as it grew in public opinion, but it would be logical to anticipate that such courses would comprise the elements of language, history, and Government.

Students upon graduating would not be required to serve in governmental positions, for as Disney says, "They wouldn't be worth anything if they are compelled to enlist for office work."

The TECH NEWS along with many other publications thoroughly endorses this movement, and hopes for the passage of the bill providing for non-partisan and competent government. Advocacy of this movement directly to the author of the bill would be a great factor in effecting its passage.

Boynton's Beacon

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

both of them are scheduled for the same day. Why couldn't they be spread over the two-day period?

R. M.

(Ed. This seems to us a very good idea.)

To the Editor:

Last week the fraternities at Tech held a swimming meet in co-ordination with the various other interfraternity functions. As most of the students here at Tech know, this meet had a disastrous affect on some of the houses. There were instances where men who had been entered refused to swim and other cases where a house entered a man and then did not notify him to swim. This is a concrete example of the lack of co-operation in the fraternity houses as well as around the campus. There is no excuse for this. When a man pledges to a fraternity he pledges to do his duty to the house and help it in every opportunity. Also, when a man comes to Tech he pledges to his family that he will do his best here but how many of us can truthfully say that we have? Is this co-operation? The answer is most emphatically no!

There are many examples of this lack of co-operation. How many of us do things with absolutely no regard for our neighbor? We have lecture periods for a purpose. Most of us want to hear the lecture but there are always a few in the hall who had rather talk about the date they had last night or make jokes about various things. That disturbs the class and especially those within a radius of ten feet of the talker. Conditions are the same, if not worse, in the dormitory. The night before the Chem prelim, someone probably wishes to study but there are a few who do not care and they manage to thoroughly disturb the dormitory. Is this the type of fellow we want to have as our friend? No! He is a trouble maker who is selfish and cares only for his own self and has absolutely no regard for the other fellow. He is the type that does not know the meaning of the word "co-operation."

What say fellows? We have only about nine weeks more of school before we will be free for our vacations. Let's "get on the ball" and do some real and intensive work so that we will "hit" the finals for our ninety average and show the faculty, our parents and ourselves that we have not wasted everything this year. Let's also try and show a little regard for our neighbor before doing annoying things that may be small but annoying to anyone that is conscientiously trying to get ahead. There is still time to stage a come-back and prove these things. What say you engineers? All right then—let's go.

FRANK W. LEE, '39.

CAMPUS CHATTER

Going along with the editorial of this week, here is an example of some Campus Chatter:

Seen in Boynton Hall last week: Some of the Junior Civils fooling around and breaking up one of the cigarette receptacles. Two dollars apiece.

To get back to cigarette receptacles—there was a slight conflagration in one of them, when along came the Head of the Foreign Language Department and an eminent member of the Economics Department. "Doc" started after a fire extinguisher but Mr. Schweiger said "Oh, I can handle this," and he proceeded to extinguish the blaze. Hint—be sure your cigarettes are out before you toss them, or else stop throwing paper into the containers.

Seems as if 30 Institute was having a spring house cleaning last week, what with beds on the lawn and a Chevrolet on the front walk. All because of an M. E. Department inspection trip last Thursday. On this same trip it is rumored that "Gussie" cracked up a nice new fender.

Also heard that the last Physics lecture was the quietest in Edmunds memory. Why do people in the front row in Government lecture try to sleep during the lecture?

Wish some of these thesis partners would make less noise Fridays and Saturdays; especially those in the basement of the M. E. Building. It interferes with hearing and sleeping.

Seems as if some of the bright boys in the Geodesy problem period last Friday were not so clever after all.

Do the Senior Civils know what a concentrated load is? They placed a knife edge on the head so that it did not even touch the beam in the Flexure Test of an I-beam. "Mac" finally fixed it.

How about some constructive criticism for the TECH NEWS? We have plenty of the other kind. Write it down and drop it in the NEWS Box and if you feel you can write something for Campus Chatter, write it down and see if we publish it.

Naval Air Cadets

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

Aviation Training." Lieutenant Shea, executive officer of the base, who had intended to accompany Lieutenant Jennings, was unable to be present.

Lieutenant Jennings brought attention to the fact that there is a wonderful opportunity for college men, in Naval Reserve Aviation. The only requirements are: the ability to pass a rigid physical examination, and two or more years of college education. Elimination flight training for New

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 5)

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What is Wrong
With College Papers

Written by Curtis D. MacDougall
for TECH NEWS

Collegiate newspapers, literary, humorous and other publications are no better than they are largely because undergraduate editors fail to discriminate between professional journalistic practices which they can and cannot imitate to their advantage.

Not all methods which make for success in commercial journalism are adaptable to students' publications; others which could, perhaps, be imitated ought not to be because they are unworthy of any journalism, amateur or professional.

An historical survey of undergraduate periodicals reveals that since their inception they have used commercial newspapers and other publications as their models. Innovations in them have followed similar ones in publications admired by college boys and girls. There has been much poor judgment and little discrimination in getting "on the bandwagon" whenever a new circulation-getter was concocted by some successful practicing alumnus.

The most obvious case in point, perhaps, is the extent to which undergraduate comic publications have prostrated themselves before College Humor magazine. The main purpose of many student editors of allegedly funny publications is to "make" College Humor; serving the interests of the campus subscribers may become entirely secondary.

College literary and news publications do not have the financial incentive to imitate any particular standard magazine or newspaper, but the urge to emulate the latest fad or fancy is strong. Five years ago there was scarcely a college literary publication which considered itself "chic" that was not as much a replica of Henry L. Mencken's "American Mercury" as conditions and faculty censors permitted. As the influence of Mr. Mencken's contribution to Americana waned, sycophants of the "Mercury" have decreased in number. At present there are several popular models including "The New Yorker," "Harpers," "Vanity Fair," and "Time," awaiting the appearance of a new idea which all want to copy.

In imitation of current professional newspaper practice the "colyum" is the contemporary rage. Heywood Brown, Walter Lippmann, and Walter Winchell serve as models for more aspiring journalists than all the good examples in all the good textbooks on journalism.

Reasons for this situation are not difficult to find. First, the professional model is the easiest to obtain and the most obvious. Undergraduate readers are accustomed to reading regular newspapers, and it is therefore supposed that they desire their campus publications to be of the same kind. Second, most undergraduate editors consider somewhat seriously a professional journalistic career and regard the practical experi-

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

Basketball, Swimming and Track Complete Winter Sport Season

Basketball Team Shows Up Brilliantly — Swimming and Track Teams Have Rather Fair Seasons

Graduation in June Will Leave Many Vacancies For Next Year

The swimming team had a rather unfortunate season. Although the team did not as a rule always take the first places in the events, they were consistently placing men and making points. In the eight meets of the season Tech won two meets and lost six. The final average was 250. On graduation day, Gray, Jones and Lane are going to leave the Institute. Men of such caliber will be missed next year as these men were the mainstays of this year's team. However, much confidence will be placed in available material for next year.

The track team competed in only two meets. One was with Mass. State, the other at the triangular meet at Tufts College. Out of a possible 164 points the team collected 49.5. The track team will not lose any men at graduation in June.

A review of the winter sports of the past season shows that the basketball team finished with a high average while the swimming and track teams made poor showings.

One thing that aided the basketball team was the fact that at each game fine student support cheered the team in their weakest moments. The biggest factor was the abundance of good material which not only cooperated in teamwork and attitude, but at all times showed the willing spirit to win. Out of the sixteen games played, Tech won twelve and lost four, thereby setting up a fine average of .750. After such a brilliant season, Grublevskas, Swenson, Bottcher, and Hendrickson may well hang up their suits with pride when they graduate in June. The rest of the team will be eagerly awaiting the basketball season next year, anticipating better laurels.

Mr. Paul Savage Speaks At Camera Club Meeting

Subject: News Photography

The Camera Club held its bi-monthly meeting last Wednesday night in the M. E. Library with Carl Keyser officiating in the absence of President Burr. It was voted by the members to have an exhibition on April 25, which is the date of the annual Tech "At Home Day," of prints taken and finished by members of the club. It was also voted to have each member pledge a certain number of prints in order to insure having a successful exhibit of as many prints of various types and sizes as might be possible.

Following the business meeting Mr. Paul Savage, news photographer of the Worcester Telegram-Gazette, gave a very interesting dissertation on the experiences of a news photographer. He gave the members great help and many hints in the developing of rush work which is the main job handled by a news photographer. He showed numerous prints which he has taken in the past and told a short story of his experience in taking each one. The most interesting picture to most of the club members was one taken from the air of the Tech campus. It showed the campus in its entirety with excellent detail and background. Following his discussion he held a general discussion in which the members asked him many questions vital to the heart of all amateur and professional photographers.

BOWLING RESULTS

With the remaining matches of the Interfraternity Bowling to be rolled off this week, a glimpse of scores shows Theta Chi still in the lead with 21 wins and 7 losses, Theta Kappa Phi being second with a score of 21 wins and 11 losses.

The individual averages are: Scott 90.6, L. Cronin 89.7, Constant 88.2, Dearborn 88.1, Gale 87.8, Sherwin 87.5, Lundquist 87.1, Bell 86, Edmunds 85.7, D. Wilson 85.6, Hamilton 95.6, Fine 85.5, Ellsworth 85, Maine 84.8, Goodwin 84.8, Lang 84.7, Mallis 84.7, Howes 84.6, M. Wilson 84.5, Harvey 84.3, Gamache 84.3, Sadick 84, MacMillan 84, Milliken 84, Merrill 84, Irvine 83.8, E. Cronin 83.8, Bridgman 83.2, Stone 82.5, McGrath 82.4, Stauffer 82, Ham 81.9, Sawtell 81.9, Slovin 81.6, Atwood 81.5, Blauvelt 81.4, Beatty 81.3, Hitchon 80.6, Germain 80.6, Levine 80.1, Hanson 80, Trotter 78.5, Nims 78.5, McEwan 78.3, O'Neil 78, Hughes 77.7, Messimer 77.2, DeFeo 76.8, Crane 76.5, Kiem 72.3, Burg 72.1, Cox 71.6.

Best single string, Sherwin 135; best 3 string total, Scott 328; best team single string T. X. 387; Best team 3 string total T. X. 1089.

Team Standing		
T. X.	21	7
T. K. P.	21	11
A. T. O.	18	10
L. X. A.	16	12
T. U. O.	15	13
P. S. K.	14	14
P. G. D.	12	16
S. A. E.	6	22
S. O. P.	5	23

Herbert F. Taylor, '12, Asks, "Did You Know?"

No attempt was made to organize athletic teams for many years, though interclass baseball was played from the earliest days.

On the area now occupied by the north wing of the Washburn Shops there was once a pine grove. The first student athletic association selected this grove as the site for the gymnasium. There they erected a horizontal bar, parallel bars, and ladders. From a crossbar lashed to limbs of the trees was suspended a pair of flying rings. All of the apparatus was built by members of the apprentice class in the woodshop. To the stationary equipment were added Indian clubs and dumb-bells. During the brief shop recess, and in other periods when students were not engaged in classrooms, the pine grove gym was the scene of intense activity. Those who enjoyed it were among the generous contributors to the gymnasium fund thirty-odd years later.

that track athletics had their beginnings at the Institute in the spring of 1881? The first competition was between the first and second classes (Continued Col. 3)

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Baseball Squad Will Receive a Cut This Week

Capt. Howes, Germaine, Harvey, Casey, Only Veterans From Last Year

After two weeks of tryouts, Tech's baseball squad of about sixty will receive their initial cut sometime this week. Coach Bigler who has been watching this year's squad very intently in the last week believes he has some promising material. Heavy hitters are being sought as Tech has shown up very poorly in this respect in the last few years. There will be only four veterans for Coach Bigler to build his team on. Capt. Dick Howes will be at third, Jackie Germaine, shortstop, Jack Casey outfielder and Francis Harvey, a pitcher, will be the nucleus. As an added support, Irving Boettcher, a letterman two seasons ago and first baseman, who did not play baseball last season is out again.

The battery candidates are receiving most attention now. Al Raslavsky of Bridgeport looms as one of the foremost pitchers. A lefthander, he has fine control and his offerings have been hard to hit in practice.

Pitchers who reported are, Edward Roszko of Plainfield, N. J.; Minot Brigham of Brookline; John Driscoll of Lynn; Carl Hichon of Norwich, Conn.; Clark Polschold of Worcester; John Mudgett of West Springfield and Ray Houston of Worcester.

The catching candidates are: Zack Taylor, a reserve catcher last Spring; Perry Clark of Bridgeport, Conn.; Andrew Constant of Grafton; Al Stone of Marblehead; Allen Chase of Cheshire and fine prospect from Yale, Andy Fine.

"Did You Know?"

tween classes, and was known as the Field Day. Field days were held each fall and spring for many years before a varsity track team was organized.

The scene of what was then the supreme event of the school year was the area between the foot of the Hill and the Boynton Street wall. A vestige of the old cinder track is still there, for it was used as a practice field until 1915, when Alumni Field was made available.

Events of early field days included sprints, hurdle races, broad and high jumping, potato races, sack races, wheelbarrow races, elephant races and a tug of war, with seven huskies at each end of a short rope pulling for all they were worth. Fair ladies and other friends of students, using the grassy slope of the Hill as a grandstand, applauded their heroes. Considering the unfavorable conditions and lack of training the records made were remarkable.

that by the terms of John Boynton's instrument of gift the Institute might have been coeducational, and that no formal action has since been taken to prohibit the admission of women?

No woman has ever been enrolled for the regular course, however. There is an unwritten law that none ever shall be. The Institute has enough other problems. In the first decade of the college there were a few women on the campus who served as laboratory assistants. They took special courses in chemistry, languages, and drawing.

One of the four teachers who constituted the original faculty was a woman, Miss Harriet Goodrich, instructor in mathematics. She was succeeded the following year by Miss Marietta S. Fletcher, who taught English, French and German for three years, during which period she became the wife of Prof. John E. Sinclair. Since Miss (Continued Col. 4)

Tech Basketball, Swimming, and Track Lettermen are Announced

Athletic Council Makes Philip Atwood Basketball Manager, Mudget and Young Assistants

Phi Gam Takes The Intramural Swimming Meet

Phi Sigma Kappa is Runner-Up With Theta Upsilon Omega Third

Easily outdistancing its nearest rivals, Phi Gamma Delta's swimming team splashed to victory with thirty-four points last Thursday and Friday in the intramural swimming meet held at Fuller Pool. Phi Sigma Kappa house was runner up with twenty points.

Phi Gam was never seriously threatened. In the first event, the 160-yard freestyle relay, their team finished in front by a short distance. After that they made at least three points in each event.

No records were broken in this meet, although it was full of close and exciting races, some of them practically dead heats.

Besides the relay, Phi Gam took three top berths, Phi Sig captured two and Theta Upsilon Omega, which finished third in the totals with ten points, gained the remaining first place. For the winner, Bill Bushell copped the 100-yard freestyle, Bob Webster the 40-yard freestyle, and Al Shepardson dove for 38 points and first place. Phi Sig men, Jack Mosher and John Chapman, gained five points each in the 220-yard freestyle and 100-yard breaststroke, respectively. Randy Buck of T. U. O. stroked to first place in the 100-yard backstroke.

The summary:
160-yard freestyle relay—Won by P. G. D. (Webster, Rushton, Bushell, Bauer); 2nd, T. X. (Goodwin, Davis, Wilson, Swenson); 3rd, P. S. K. (Michel, Farrar, Moseveth, Mosher); 4th, L. X. A. (Hastings, Smith, Scott, Hauff). Time, 1:31.8.
200-yard freestyle—Won by Mosher, P. S. K.; 2nd, Kuniholm, P. G. D.; 3rd, Goodwin, T. X. Time, 3:03.2.
100-yard freestyle—Won by Bushell, P. G. D.; 2nd, Robinson, T. U. O.; 3rd, Rushton, P. G. D. Time, 1:12.
40-yard freestyle—Won by Webster, P. G. D.; 2nd, Michel, P. S. K.; 3rd, Ordway, T. U. O. Time, 0:22.1.
100-yard breaststroke—Won by Chapman, P. S. K.; 2nd, Shepardson, P. G. D.; 3rd, Armstrong, T. U. O. Time, 1:34.4.
100-yard backstroke—Won by Buck, T. U. O.; 2nd, Chase, P. G. D.; 3rd, Ekberg, P. S. K. Time, 1:21.4.
Diving—Won by Shepardson, P. G. D., 38 points; 2nd, Wilson, P. S. K., 34.2 points; 3rd, Abel, P. G. D., 32.6 points.
Final scores—Phi Gamma Delta 34; Phi Sigma Kappa 20; Theta Upsilon Omega 10; Theta Chi 6; Lambda Chi Alpha 1.

"Did You Know?"

Fletcher's day the instruction staff has been entirely of the masculine sex, that in the early days of the Institute the students were enthusiastic about introducing military drill?

It was a natural interest, for the Civil War had ended but five years before. Moreover, the state colleges that were founded by Government land grants about that time were required to teach military tactics. M. I. T. was among these institutions.

Students at the Institute formed a company, known as the Salisbury Guards, and engaged in drills on the campus. A stand of muskets was requisitioned from the State, but the box was never opened. By the time it arrived the enthusiasm had subsided.

Up to the entry of the United States into the World War there was no other (Continued Col. 5)

Benjamin and Linsley are to Manage Swimming and Cross-Country

A meeting of the Athletic Council was held Monday, March 23. At this meeting letters and numerals were voted to deserving players in their respective sports. Also, managers were elected for the next season.

Philip G. Atwood of Worcester was elected manager of next year's basketball team. He is president of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and treasurer of the Junior Class. For his assistants he will have John Mudgett, captain of next year's soccer team, and Roger Young. Letters were voted to Albert Raslavsky, Vincent Grublevskas, Norman Svenson, Frank Jenkins, Richard Munson, and Herbert J. Erickson, who was manager this year. B. W. B. was voted to each of the following men: David McEwan, Floyd Folmsbee, Charles Michel, Richard Elliott, Russell Korolyshun, Paul Bergstrom, and Howard Blanchard. Russell Karolyshun, Albert Raslavsky, David McEwan, John Rushton, and Floyd Folmsbee were voted to receive class numerals.

Beverly Benjamin, member of Alpha Tau Omega, is to be manager of next year's swimming team. His assistants are R. H. Nimmo and R. G. Potts. Letters were voted to H. C. Dearborn, R. H. Evans, H. C. Gray, E. H. Hanson, H. W. Howland, F. K. Jones, J. A. Lane, J. M. Smith, and A. C. Ekberg, who was manager this last season. The "1938" numerals were awarded to the following men: Norman Bouley, Robert Evans, Harris Howland, Paul Murphy, and Fred Wiley. The "1939" numerals were awarded to George Hampson, John Karna, and William Mullen.

R. K. Linsley was elected cross-country manager. His assistants are H. W. Haynes and E. M. Fenner. The relay was awarded to John Harvey, Angelo Mauriello, Stanley Olson, and George Ashwell. For track, William Frawley and John Harvey received letters.

Rifle numerals went to Lucian Allen, J. Harvey, A. Mallis, J. Lawrence, and B. Pierce.

It was voted to recommend to the student Athletic Association at the annual meeting that the system of selecting cheer leaders be changed to conform to that now in use for the managers and assistant managers of teams except that, in addition to a head cheer leader, four assistants be chosen.

"Did You Know?"

military organization. During several of the great national election periods, however, students organized marching units and joined in the torchlight parades and similar political demonstrations, some of which wound up in grand free-for-all fights.

that the grand closing event of the Junior Year—the first year under the original plan for designating classes—used to be the cremation and burial of Dr. Chauvenet? He was the somewhat unpopular gentleman who wrote the mathematics textbook that was inflicted on the entering class.

The ceremonies attending his obsequies were most formal. There was a solemn procession from the campus to the site of the funeral pyre on Bancroft Hill. The corpse was provided with a stout coffin, "made in the Washburn Shops" and inscribed with trigonometric functions. There was a (Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

A Dissertation on a Plan For Fool's Paradise

R. M. Eliot, '38

The Old Age "Revolving" Pension or the Townsend organization has become the strongest pressure movement in America since its first announcement on New Year's Day of 1934.

Its founder, Dr. Francis Townsend, who is sixty-five years old, after being discharged by the New Deal from his office of assistant in the health department of Long Beach, California, made some money selling real estate under Robert E. Clements. Unsatisfied with this, he was looking about for some other manner of keeping off relief, when he hit upon his plan. It was the picture of three haggard, old women, clawing in garbage cans for scraps of food that was impressed on his memory. Perhaps he himself might be driven to such a plight. Was it necessary that the aged people of America be in such straits? This country doctor set out to find a remedy and the result was the famous revolving plan.

The Townsend plan, as it is now, after being modified only slightly from the original, is quite simple to outline. Every free citizen, sixty years of age and over, without a criminal record, is to receive a monthly pension of two hundred dollars, with the two provisions that the recipients withdraw from all gainful occupations and that he spend the entire amount in this country within thirty days of receiving it back.

The supporters of this plan point out that it would not only bestow comfort and security upon the old people, but that the vast amount of money thus placed in circulation every month would stimulate a great revival of business. The retirement of the old from employment and their hiring of help would soon result in a shortage of workers and would result in higher wages. They claim that their plan will save capitalism and the profit system, and also the enactment of the two percent transaction tax would not only pay the vast pension bill but would also retire the national debt. One of the stock arguments for the adoption of the Townsend plan is that it will put young men and women to work and thus prevent them from spending their time in wild indulgences in liquor, sex and tobacco. The Townsend slogan is: "Aged for leisure, youth for work."

On January 24, 1934, articles of incorporation for "Old Age Revolving Pension, Ltd." were filed in Sacramento. The incorporators were Dr. Townsend, his brother Walter and Robert Clements, who calls himself the "co-founder." Since that day, a powerful and highly centralized organization has come into existence. The doctor's plan made headway from the start, much of the success being due to the expert guidance and supervision of Clements. After Townsend had easily obtained several thousand signatures for a petition favoring the plan, Clements became convinced that the idea was a "natural." As words of the plan spread through the West, the office was swamped with petitions, donations and applications. In San Diego alone, eighty clubs were formed with an enrollment of one-fifth of the total population of the city. As the organization gradually expanded, Clements determined to keep a tight grip on the many units. He insisted that the officials of each State headquarters be responsible to him. The clubs are not permitted to defy the mandates of the national headquarters and the headquarters has the power to demand that a club surrender its charter, records and funds at any time. The "Townsend National Weekly," was established in January 1935 as an official voice to reach the millions of Townsendites scattered throughout the West. This paper sells for five cents and is the only publication allowed to be sold in Townsend clubs. The "Weekly" is the Koran of the organization leaders. It

is read at all meetings and its gospels are passed on to the followers. Clements, by controlling the many clubs through the national headquarters and making his ideas practically the law by expression in the "Weekly", has kept rigid control of the entire organization. At the national convention in Chicago, which was attended by seven thousand elderly and uncontrollably enthusiastic delegates, Clements appointed the chairman of the convention and holders of all the key positions.

All this time, Clements has done everything possible to encourage the connection of Townsend and God and of the plan and an Heavenly inspiration. In fact, the followers now look upon Townsend with reverence and assert that God selected him to save the nation. Portraits have been placed together of the nation's great Washington, the Founder, Lincoln, the Saver, and Townsend, the Restorer. By playing on the hearts and desires of millions of elderly citizens, a movement has been set up which, for hysteria and fanaticism, excels even the most fervent evangelistic religious organization. Their principle argument is, "With God all things are possible." Ministers, preachers, real-estate agents and faith-healers have all added their voices to the chorus.

The most conservative estimate by the opponents of the plan, show that there is at least three million club members and ten million more people who are in support of the plan. Townsend, through their devotion, controls absolutely more than half of this number, making a voting power of over five million. It is inconceivable that within the short time of two years, two men, inexperienced in politics, have gained full control of five million votes. The politicians in Washington are amazed and terrified by the strength of this movement. It is almost certain to elect at least one hundred men in Congress this fall, and already has carried the Congressional election in at least a dozen states. One man was elected to Congress with only one plan to his platform—the Townsend Plan.

Many Senators and Representatives, such as Borah and La Follette face defeat in the next elections unless they pledge their support to the Townsendites.

In many cities throughout the West, the Townsendites have boycotted stores which will not extend credit on the pension checks which are to come as soon as Congress passes the Townsend plan.

The whole idea is rapidly developing into a money-making scheme. The "Weekly" now has a subscription of over 250,000 with the owners getting a profit of almost two cents per copy or \$200,000 per year. The Townsend National Legion of Honor has been established with dues at one dollar a month, and now has a membership of over 50,000 making a yearly income of \$600,000 a year. Also, the club members, numbering 3,000,000, pay monthly dues of twenty-five cents, ten cents of which goes to the national headquarters, making a yearly income of \$5,000,000. It has been estimated that, at present, the income of the national headquarters is \$25,000,000 a year. The Townsend plan, however, has boomed business greatly in a few lines. The manufacturers of kidney pills and gland stimulants, who advertise in the "Weekly", indicate that their sales have increased greatly. This is because of the many old people who want to live to enjoy their \$200 a month. Many money-making schemes have grown up, such as, automobile stickers, in three beautiful colors, selling for ten cents, a Speaker's Manual costs one dollar, a small booklet entitled "That Man Townsend" costs fifty cents and various automobile ornaments can be bought from fifty cents to two dollars.

It is pathetic the way in which these millions of adults give their support to a plan which decidedly has so many faults. There are many important

questions which they blindly refuse to ask themselves: How is the money, which is to pay the pensions, to be raised? Dr. Townsend himself estimates that it would require two billion dollars each month, which was forty percent of the total monthly income of the United States last year. It would cost each family about \$850 a year to support the plan. Also, how is the terrific rise in prices due to the transaction tax going to affect the people? It is estimated that a forty dollar suit or clothes will cost \$240 under the Townsend plan. Since only seven percent of the population is over sixty—is it fair that seven percent of the people should receive forty percent of the income which was earned entirely by the rest of the people who in turn get only 60% of their wages. What is being done now with the vast income of the national headquarters? Since the success of the plan rests on the expenditure the entire pension within thirty days, how can we be sure that this will be done?

When asked these or similar questions, the Townsendites invariably give meaningless or vague answers. The national headquarters has warned them against inquisitive people, whom they call "The Enemy." The followers are told to hold no parleys with The Enemy lest their minds be poisoned with false facts of life. One of the state chairmen, when asked how the money was to be taxed, gave a typical answer to all inquirers. He said "Details, details, why clutter up a movement which means the salvation of our country with details. All such details will be threshed out after the bill has been passed by Congress." When asked if he thought that the acceptance of the Townsend plan alone was sufficient reason to elect a man to public office, he answered, "Why not? In the Townsend plan is everything we need. In it are the answers to all our problems." Not only the older people, to whom the pension seems like a Heaven sent fortune, but also the younger people are supporting the plan. They are hoping to benefit by the money received by other members of their family. One young brawny man, when asked why he was supporting the Townsend plan, replied: "Somebody's got to take care of the old folks. How the hell are we young folks going to do it on what we get now from the government?"

So it seems that millions of our people both young and old, have suddenly lost their reasoning powers when the possibility of two hundred dollars monthly is conceivable. Their's is not to reason how or why, their's is but to get and buy.

"Did You Know?"

(Continued from Page 3)

funeral oration, an ode to the deceased, and a dirge by the "Blowhards," fore-runner of the Tech Band. The fire was lighted and Chauvenet's effigy consigned to the flames. The affair was usually enlivened by efforts of the second-year men to break up the party. After a round of paddling the classes marched down town for a supper at one of the hotels.

that the first enlargement in the Institute plant, according to a plan developed in 1883, was to have included an addition to Boynton Hall and the construction of a chemical laboratory?

A forty-five foot extension was to have been made at the west end of Boynton Hall, to double the size of the chapel, provide drafting rooms for the civil engineers, physics classrooms and a library. A two-story chemical laboratory was to have been built just north of this extension, approximately on the area now occupied by the Mechanical Engineering building. One of the main objects was to free Boynton Hall of the disagreeable odors stirred up by the chemists. The whole project was estimated to cost less than \$40,000, but the trustees were unsuc-

(Continued Col. 4)

Mr. W. E. Lawton To Speak Today Will Discuss "The Theory of Ferromagnetism"

At the next physics colloquium to be held on Tuesday, March 31 in the Physics Lecture Hall, Mr. Willard E. Lawton, physics instructor, will be the speaker. His subject will be "The Theory of Ferromagnetism, Up to Date." He will include in his discussion such topics as the origin of ferromagnetism, the B-H Curves, magnetostriction effects and new magnetic alloys.

Doctor Plimpton and Mr. Lawton have been recently conducting experiments to test the fundamental law of electrostatics. They have attained a higher degree of accuracy than has hitherto been achieved. There is an article in the last number of the "Physical Review," a periodical containing articles on physics, reporting on the success of their work.

"Did You Know?"

cessful in their efforts to raise the money. Soon after this a physics laboratory was fitted up in the basement, and a library on the first floor of Boynton Hall.

that among the student escapades that used to strain the sweet dispositions of the Faculty, bonfires ranked near the top?

In 1884 they published an edict "to prohibit entirely processions of any character on any public street of the city, also to prohibit bonfires and noisy demonstrations at night on the grounds of the Institute, except at times and under conditions approved by the Faculty."

This edict was defied on New Year's Eve three years later. A fine, big bonfire on the Hill lighted the whole west side. A policeman at Lincoln Square pulled in the alarm and the brave firemen were quite disgusted to find that there was no need for their mad dash to the scene.

A few days later each student was buttonholed as he came out of chapel and asked if he was on the grounds between eleven and one that night. One said he was, and three who declined to answer were suspended. Guilt was finally hung on nine students. They were suspended until they had raised a fund of \$50 to be paid to the Fireman's Relief Association.

that the Salisbury Laboratories were designed to accommodate mechanical and electrical engineering as well as physics and chemistry?

Stephen Salisbury, 3rd, contributed \$100,000 in 1887 for the construction of this building as a memorial to his father, one of the original trustees of the Institute. The arrangement of rooms was planned by Professors Alden, Kimball, and Kinnicutt, after visits to the best college laboratories in the country. Stephen C. Earle was the architect.

About half the space of the first two floors, including the large rooms at the front, were assigned to mechanical engineering for testing laboratories, steam laboratory, drawing and model rooms. The rest of the second floor and all the third floor was for the use of the physics department and its subsidiary, electrical engineering. The chemistry department was given a part of the ground floor and all of the top floor, where the wind would have a fair chance to dissipate disagreeable odors.

that the stabling of Mr. Higgins' famous horse, "Buckskin," in the chapel of Boynton Hall, by members of the classes, of '85 and '86, was not the first student escapade of its kind? Yet, forty years later, these classes calmly accepted the verdict that Buckskin had

(Continued Col. 5)

Glee Clubs To Be Combined in Concert Here

Framingham State Teachers Will Sing With Tech Club April 17

The Worcester Tech Glee Club will be host to the Framingham State Teachers College Choral Society in the annual combined concert and dance to be held at the Alumni Gymnasium on Friday, April 17. This will be the second combined concert of these two organizations this year, the first one having been held at Framingham on March 6.

The concert will be held from 8:15 to ten o'clock in the evening and will be followed, as usual, by dancing until midnight to music furnished by the Boyntonians.

Mr. Green, director of the Tech club and Mr. Archibald, director of the Framingham organizations will conduct their respective groups and will alternate as conductors of the combined numbers.

Student tickets may be obtained from any of the following men: George Wood, George Chase, Earle Vickery, Harold Cox, Robert Abbe, Ronald De Feo, Richard Prokup, Murray Wilson, Perry Clark, Richard Wilson, Edwin Kiem and Morton Fine.

"Did You Know?"

caused serious damages, and donated a lot of money to renovate the chapel.

In the fall of '72 the faculty was somewhat disturbed, and the students equally delighted, to find a billy goat complacently occupying the sanctum at the opening of morning prayers. He missed the rest of the service.

The next morning a burlesque excuse appeared on the chapel bulletin board—"Reasons for proposed absence of Billy Goat from prayers—got kicked out the last time."

The chapel was regarded as the choicest place for a prank. On more than one occasion a dictionary or French lexicon was substituted for the Bible. Once when this happened to Dr. Thompson, he calmly delivered the longest of the Psalms, reading it presumably from the lexicon.

that at least three technical schools were modelled on the Worcester plan, and that several others copied the unique feature of shop instruction?

The first school designed to be like W. P. I. was Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, Indiana. It was opened in 1883, under Dr. Charles O. Thompson, first principal of the Worcester Institute. A few years later the Miller Industrial School was opened in Virginia, with the assistance of several W. P. I. professors.

The entire Worcester system was transplanted in Atlanta in 1887, when the Georgia School of Technology was founded. Professors Alden and Higgins went to Atlanta to assist in planning the school, and the latter spent a year there directing the work of the shops.

Case School of Applied Science at Cleveland and Armour Institute of Technology at Chicago also took leaves

that being an editor of a class yearbook was once a hazardous occupation?

The "Reminiscences of '77" was one of the earliest of these publications. Modern editors would not consider that the subject matter was particularly inflammatory. Its criticisms of the faculty were very frank, however, and it stirred up a hornet's nest. Since it appeared after graduation, no punishment could be inflicted. The faculty later passed a rule that diplomas might be revoked within twelve months after Commencement.

The "Aftermath" of '91 also created a commotion. For the most part it

(Continued Page 5, Col. 1)

"Did You Know?"

(Continued from Page 4, Col. 5)

was harmless but it contained two or three obnoxious sketches. One, entitled "The Jail," showed the Institute buildings with a pennant flying from Boynton Hall bearing the inscription "The Students be Damned." Another sketch of Faculty Row was labelled "Via Assinorum." At the Commencement exercises, five of the editors received, instead of diplomas, a letter of reprimand and a copy of faculty rules concerning "conduct becoming a gentleman."

that the most extensive and lucrative business in which the Washburn Shops ever engaged was the building and installation of plunger elevators.

Designs for these elevators were made by Mr. Milton P. Higgins, first superintendent of the Shops, in the 'seventies. From 1880 to 1896 a large number of these elevators, both freight and passenger, were built in the Shops, and special drilling machinery was developed to install the plungers. Many Worcester buildings were equipped with these elevators, some of which are still in operation. The market for them spread to widely separated cities of the country.

The income from the elevator business was as high as \$75,000 a year, and total income of the Shops in the first twenty-seven years was nearly a million dollars. Due to internal controversies, the trustees decided to dispose of the elevator business in 1896, and Mr. Higgins resigned a few months later to devote all his time to business, including the Norton Company, for the

development of which he and Prof. George I. Alden were largely responsible.

that in the early years of the Institute students had a spring vacation of one week? There was also a vacation of one week at Thanksgiving, and two weeks at mid-years.

Modern students who would like to revert to that plan might be less willing

Moreover, days were days. Shop practice started at seven and was continuous until twelve. Afternoon periods were from one to five forty-five, followed by compulsory chapel. Recitations began at eight and a man thought himself fortunate if he had not more than five eight-o'clocks a week.

Shop practice included the making of parts used in machines manufactured there, the digging of pits for elevators,

sorbed in operating costs. Another grant of \$50,000 was made in 1886. This amount is still a part of the Institute's endowment. In consideration of these gifts the Institute maintained twenty state scholarships.

In 1894, the Trustees petitioned for and received \$100,000 from the State, which was used to construct the Mechanical Engineering building, power house, and the President's home. An annual grant of \$3,000 was established in 1896. It was increased to \$6,000 three years later. In 1912 the Institute was granted \$50,000 a year for a period of ten years. All State aid ended with the final payment of this grant in 1922, when legislation was passed that denied further aid to any but State-controlled institutions.

that the Institute did not own a large section of the present campus at the corner of Salisbury and Boynton Streets until 1906?

This area, about 300 feet on a side, was known as the Hill estate. On it was a big gray house and barn, an orchard, and a heavy growth of trees. The Hill family had had it on the market for several years, and in the summer of 1906, it became known that a group of apartment houses was to be built upon it.

James Logan, a vigorous Tech trustee and later Mayor of Worcester, went into action. He secured contributions from five graduates, each of the six giving an equal share of the \$25,000 purchase price, and the property was conveyed to the Institute. The Alumni were: Elmer P. Howe, '71, Fred H. Daniels, '73, John W. Kendrick, '73,

T. Edward Wilder, '74 and Calvin H. Hill, '77, all men of distinguished achievements.

The grove was thinned out, the big house was removed, and the barn was transported to Chaffins, where Charlie Allen will be glad to demonstrate its usefulness.

Naval Air Cadets

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 4)

England residents is held at Squantum, Mass. After ten hours of dual instruction, the student is given several examinations, and if he passes these, he is recommended for Pensacola. At Pensacola his training consists of 300 hours flying time, an extensive ground school course, and a course in aerial navigation. This training at Pensacola lasts about a year; then the Aviation Cadet is advanced to the rank of Ensign and transferred to three years of active duty. After serving three years the pilot is transferred to inactive duty and may hold any civilian position he desires.

Lieutenant Jennings mentioned that there are now two 1935 W. P. I. graduates, Lawton and Leet, at Pensacola receiving their naval aviation training. After his talk, he answered questions asked by the students.

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to adopt the whole of it. Those were the only holidays, except a day at Christmas, New Year's, and the 4th of July. The school year began on the second Tuesday in September, and recitations ended on the first of July. All students then spent a month, ten hours a day, in summer practice. There were six glorious weeks of summer vacation.

and on occasion, haying on the campus. that several major crises in the Institute's history were averted by the generosity of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

The first State aid was granted in 1869, a legislative gift of \$50,000, a portion of which was used to defray the Boynton Hall building deficit. The balance was invested but later ab-

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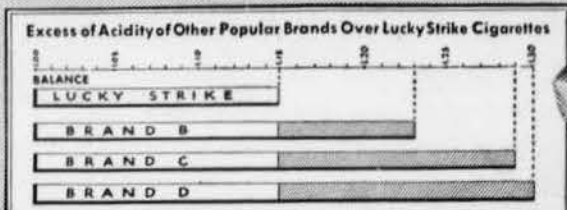
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Each Puff
Less Acid

What is Wrong With College Papers

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

ence gained by working for a student periodical as of more value than theoretical courses taught by elderly professors who may or may not have had actual newspaper experience. Words of advice and caution from these professors, and from parents and alumni, cause sympathetic smiles for the old fogeys.

I do not wish to be interpreted as being opposed to the use of the undergraduate newspaper as a laboratory for reporting and editing students. On the contrary I believe that every extra-curricular activity should have an educational or vocational purpose. Members of a college glee club are not taught to sing through their noses and thus compelled later to unlearn a great deal of their instruction after commencement. Neither are the rules and principles adhered to in collegiate athletics, dramatics, or oratory different from those in vogue in the analogous professional fields. Fallacious, therefore, would be the argument that college journalism should be considered in a different light.

It must be realized, however, that the essential problem of any editor, amateur or professional, is to diagnose the needs of the public he is attempting to reach and to decide his editorial policy accordingly. No two publications appeal to exactly the same group or groups. The New York "Times" is different from its neighbor, the "Herald Tribune," the "Christian Science Moni-

tor" is nothing like the Chicago "Herald Examiner." The problem of the student editor would seem easy, for he is not faced with the necessity of creating his public; it is created for him at registration. A student himself, he is, or should be, familiar with the undergraduate (his public's) point of view.

The undergraduate editor is not serving the best interests of his readers when he clutters up his pages with columns, more columns, features, side features, reviews, amateurish interpretations of national and international politics, etc., at the expense of legitimate news and intelligent comment thereon. Nevertheless, a week's statistical study of a student newspaper at a university proud of having one of the oldest and best schools in journalism in the country, reveals that it devotes 21 percent of its reading space regularly to such material. The special columns number 10 so that virtually every executive aspiring to write one has an opportunity to do so. In another leading college newspaper, a fourpager, these columns number five; they take up on the average 50 inches of space or about 20 per cent of the total reading matter.

As I am intimately acquainted with both of these schools, I know that the general news coverage is lamentably inadequate and that readers, students and faculty alike, constantly complain of this shortcoming. Skeletonizing or omission of important stories is explained as due to "lack of space," but no editor ever would consider cutting down

or leaving out the issue's juvenile philosophy. Reporters on papers which value columns above news naturally become slovenly, and often when there is space it must be filled with exchange copy or other filler; the staff, accustomed to writing for the wastebasket, has not come through.

Of the columns, the Walter Winchell type is at present the vogue. Arthur Brisbane columns of comment on world affairs are on the wane. Let me quote a few paragraphs from a recent issue of a well-known undergraduate newspaper to illustrate the stupidity of campus columns.

"Jane Cunningham, '33, drags down the knitted ball-bat for not calling up her one and only when she was in Chicago. Shame, Janie, shame.

"Delta Gamma! Six of your sisters were observed—headed by Vera Simonson, '34—to be walking down Larson Avenue chain gang fashion last Wednesday. Are they fugitives?

"We wonder who Elsie Thomsen was waiting for last Friday night at the entrance to Science Hall. Was it B. L. or A. G., Elsie?"

Could anything be more reminiscent of the most puerile kind of backwoods journalism? To how many readers of the average-sized college newspaper are such "witticisms" interesting or meaningful? Beginning with enough material for a week or two, the columnist sooner or later (usually sooner) runs dry. There just isn't enough real "dirt" on the campus of even the largest uni-

versity to keep him going. So he begins to verge on the obscene or else, as is more likely, he writes about a small clique of his acquaintances. Fully half of the names appearing in the "Winchell column" of a certain leading university newspaper are those of students of journalism, members of the fraternity to which the columnist belongs, or of the sorority with which his girl friend is affiliated. The faculty of the school of journalism, of course, comes in for a triple dose of panning.

From the standpoint of the potential professional journalist, practice in imitating Walter Winchell or any other successful columnist is so much time wasted. The college columnist who believes that he is training himself to become the successor of an illustrious journalist by becoming proficient in his style, is worse than foolish. Likewise, it is a vain hope that one ever will conduct a similar column. A new idea is necessary before a new feature can be widely successful.

Originality and a fresh point of view should be what the undergraduate journalist strives to acquire as assets in his attempt to set the journalistic world on fire. No matter how well he is able to draw the physiognomy of Andy Gump, his chance of playing Elisha to Sidney Smith is negligible. And the same is true of all imitations of present "greats" in the professional writing field.

Emulation of successful professional writers, furthermore, is regrettable: first, because it is not sufficiently dis-

criminatory. Some of the trash that provides a quick rise to double fame for a noted columnist is not worth imitating; second, even if the model is a good one, too slavish copying of it stultifies initiative and originality; third, the imitation usually is too obvious; fourth, if readers realize what the writer is doing, they judge him by the model. Thus, by his inviting this comparison he insures his own failure.

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...that doesn't give me
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