



TECH NEWS



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Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., Wednesday, November 27, 1946

Number 9

Alden Hydraulic Laboratory Scene of Unique Tests Performed In Behalf of Navy Department

W.P.I. Lab One of Four in U. S. Equipped For Such Experiments
Profs. Hooper and Newell Demonstrate Great Skill and Patience

One of the departments least known on the Tech campus, Alden Hydraulics Laboratory at Chaffins, has been the scene of extremely interesting and unique tests carried on in behalf of the Navy in an effort to explain and demonstrate the phenomena associated with the entrance of various simple geometric bodies into water.

Various members of the W.P.I. Faculty have been active in many fields which have materially advanced our recent war program; but here at Chaffins we have an example of concentrated effort in which members of both the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Departments have cooperated to their utmost. Here we can take you behind the scenes for a first hand rendition of the problems investigated since 1942, from which the restrictive lid has not yet been lifted. Restricted though the results are, the essence of the problem is to take high-speed photographs with an average exposure of 2 micro-seconds as various shaped models are projected into a tank of water at speeds approaching 200 feet per second. How this was accomplished is probably as interesting as the statistics developed from the tests.

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A.S.M.E. Holds First Meeting of Term

The first meeting of the A.S.M.E. for this term was held on Friday, November 15. The new undergraduate officers are President, Jack Williams; Vice-President, Larry Garnett; and Secretary-Treasurer, Sid Weatherhead.

Mr. E. T. Larson from the Sales Engineering Branch of Norton Company was the lecturer for the evening. His topic covered the grinding of tungsten carbide tools, and he showed movies depicting the grinding industry. Mr. Larson is a graduate of W.P.I. Class of 1922 and he has been with Norton Company since 1923. Besides his work in Sales Engineering, he is also identified with the progress of diamond grinding wheels. He helped in the research of this product.

There were about fifty members at the meeting including fourteen new men. The Society is still accept-

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Results of Various Class Elections Are Closely Decided

John G. Hambor Chosen Senior Class President On Second Ballot

The closeness of the dinner hour did not dampen the spirit of the various class elections held throughout the campus Thursday, November 21. Even though the time was limited and the balloting slow, there was little ballyhoo and each election was conducted with sensible orderliness, that was almost unusual.

This calmness did not dull the outlook of those present and prevent the installation of unqualified men. In each class the voting was close; the Senior class vice-presidency ran to five ballots with the final election of George Schupp, and the Junior class election for vice-presidency ran to three ballots putting "Red" Meade into office with a count of 66-63. The final slates represented well rounded students both scholastically and athletically and the opposing tickets represented equally versatile men. The upper classmen proved to be the more discriminating in the selection of officers only because of the greater familiarity.

This year the Senior class will be represented by the following men: President, John G. Hambor, returned from service last July. He is also a member of A.I.E.E. the Radio Club, and a member of PSK fraternity. Vice-President, George A. Schupp, Jr.; Secretary, Alfred F. Larkin; Treasurer, Roger P. Roberge; Tech Council, Norman W. Padden, John N. Wholean.

The Junior class is represented this term by: President Robert H. Adams. Bob is a member of the Interfraternity Council and a track man. Vice-President, John C. Meade; Secretary, John F. Coyne; Treasurer, Richard K. Horne; Tech Council, George M. Thomson, Allen F. Raymond.

For the Sophomore class, Geno Santandrea was elected President. He is also a member of the TECH NEWS Staff, and last year appeared in the Masque, and this term he was on the football squad, as well as a member of the baseball squad. He is a member of TKP fraternity. Vice-President, John L. Hawley; Secretary, David B. Brown; Treasurer, Jack K. Mullaney; Tech Council, Stephen J. Ucich, Robert I. Carlson.

In addition the Sophomore class

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Concert Huge Success

Audience Enchanted By Combined Efforts Of Glee Clubs

The concert given last Saturday night in Alden Memorial by the Tech Glee Club and a women's chorus of Worcester church choir members, under the direction of Clifford Green, was a huge success musically and also from the standpoint of attendance. The program, expertly executed, was especially pleasing to admirers of Sigmund Romberg, Vincent Youmans and Victor Herbert and selections taken from "The Desert Song" and "The Old Red Mill" were applauded time and time again by the audience.

A semi-chorus consisting of sopranos Margaret Feeherry, Louise Sahagian, and Helen Wall, altos Martha Kalashian, and Malama Nicholas and the Glee Club octet set the audience in the mood of the program and were followed by a solo by Lawrence McCorkindale and a duet by alto Betty Pearson and bass John Ebbs singing "Because You're You." Bass Bob Drew then proceeded to hold the audience spellbound with a rendition of "Old Man River." Helen Wall, a Worcester favorite, soloed on "I Love You Only," from Victor Herbert's "The Chocolate Soldier," followed by alto Malama Nicholas' "Siboney". Soprano and alto then combined their efforts to sing, "When You're Away Dear."

The Tech Glee Club under the direction of Clifford Green blended their voices beautifully on "Stout-hearted Men," "The Whiffenpool Song," and "The Riff Song." The octet then offered "Down by the Old Mill Stream," and "I Had a Dream Dear."

Members of the octet are Robert Jodrey and Lawrence McCorkindale, first tenors; Norman Taylor and Willson Appelgate, second tenors; John Beckwith and Daniel Lewis, baritones; and Robert Drew and Kenneth Truesdell, basses.

Dancing followed immediately after the concert. Music was supplied by Mal Gordon's thirteen piece orchestra. Daniel G. Lewis, Glee Club president, was in charge of all arrangements.

THE PEDDLER

There is room for several Sophomores and Freshmen on both the Editorial and Business Staff of the *Peddler*. Experience is necessary for advancement to higher positions later. Don't wait until you're a Senior and find that it is too late. Drop a note in the "P" Box, care of the *Peddler*.

Foreign Students at Tech Represent Fourteen Countries

Rushing Rules For This Year To Be Modified

Interfraternity Council Makes Changes Due to Large Frosh Class

Due to the extremely large Freshman class which entered Tech October 31, 1946, the Interfraternity Council has modified the rushing rules to cope with the situation. It is believed that this new system will give the Freshmen a chance to see and better decide for themselves which fraternity they will choose as their home here on the Tech campus for the next four years.

"Visiting periods", which began November 12 and will extend to December 20, have been designated whereby the Freshmen will have a chance to become acquainted with fraternity men. No one is allowed to converse on subjects pertaining to the fraternities during these rushing periods for it is only a time to become acquainted.

Another "visiting period" has been designated to extend from January 3 to January 10 and will afford a closer contact between Freshmen and fraternity men. It is to be clearly understood that no communication of any kind concerning fraternities is allowed, and any unauthorized rushing will be fined by the Interfraternity Council.

The first rushing week will be conducted at the fraternity houses on the following dates: January 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, and 22. Freshmen will receive invitations to the houses that are interested in pledging them, and they are strongly urged to arrive promptly at 7:00 o'clock and leave at 9:00 o'clock. If a Freshman does not heed the invitation he will forfeit his right to be pledged to any house on the campus until the next designated rushing period.

Second rushing period will be held at the houses between the hours of 7:00 o'clock and 9:00 o'clock, January 29, 30, and 31, and pledging will take place Saturday February 1, 1947.

After the conclusion of the second rushing week, Freshmen will be expected to list, on choice cards, no more than three fraternities from whom they will accept membership. The fraternities will also submit a list of men whom they wish to pledge; and if the feeling for membership is mutual, the Freshman will

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

Diminished Wartime Enrollment Attains Prewar Level

This year Tech has a large number of foreign students enrolled at the college. This is not a new policy, as there have always been many students from other countries here. During the war, the foreign enrollment diminished, due to enemy action and war-time shipping.

The men now at Tech represent fourteen countries. They have been in the states from a time ranging from two weeks to one year, and they say that skyscrapers amaze them. They find the American people friendly and ready to help them whenever possible. The foreign students feel the outstanding difference between their own country and America is the way the United States is mechanized. The men say they do not have a great deal of machinery in their own country, but after graduating from W.P.I. they want to go back home and build up their native land.

Most of the men came to Tech because it was recommended by their friends or former school teachers. However, there are some students who are following in their fathers' footsteps, as in the case of Mr. Mei, whose father graduated from Tech thirty years ago.

The men came to the States in

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Radio Club Plans Program

The W.P.I. Radio Club, which has been reorganized recently, held a business meeting last Thursday, November 21. At this meeting the treasurer was elected, and the program for the coming year discussed. The officers of the club at present are: Jones, vice-president; John Begley, secretary; Bob Smith, treasurer. Prof. H. H. Newell is the faculty adviser.

The program consists of Morse Code classes, designed to enable those interested to get an amateur license, and building projects to supplement the transmitting and receiving equipment already in the "shack", as it is called. These projects include a 1500 volt supply, an antenna tuner, a new final amplifier, and a modulation monitor.

At present, the transmitting equipment includes a crystal controlled, voice modulated, 250 watt transmitter, which is on the air, and which has already made several contacts, including Paris, France. Plans are being made for an operating schedule with

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Making the Most of Education

Tech is a fine school. It's rated as one of the best engineering institutions in the country. The staff includes professors and instructors of the most brilliant kind. And yet Tech is not as widely known as it might be. The criterion for a good all-around student is hard work and vigorous play. It's common knowledge that sports and extra-curricular activities make the mind more active and also tend to bring up marks. Certainly we have the opportunity for these many extra activities but they are not holding the interest that they should. Fraternities play a very important roll (attention Freshmen) in giving the undergraduate a more rounded education and that is what the graduate vitally needs in order to have the successful life a W.P.I. man should have. Many names could be mentioned of men who left Tech for scholastic reasons and made tremendous names for themselves and yet the majority of the graduates sell their fine education down the river for some small job with no future. Some of the companies take advantage of the graduates by offering them jobs and holding them for a year or so; keeping the top 10 per cent cream and then getting a new crop of graduates. The graduate students should be more dependent upon himself after getting his degree. He should know how to meet people, how to make a favorable impression on them and know how to shoulder responsibilities. Part of the blame may rest on the school. Perhaps we need more business courses combined with our engineering—perhaps we need a course on contact with people and how to be aggressive to make the most of our education. Perhaps the men themselves could take more interest in activities that make them feel easier in contact with people and that would train them to assume responsibilities without undue strain. Certainly, work hard but don't get in a rut. Make your education well-rounded.

E. E. Research

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)
Admittedly, it isn't difficult to imagine a simple set-up for projecting models into a tank of water at various angles to the surface. In practice a "gun" operated by carbon dioxide at pressure up to three hundred pounds is employed to give the model velocities ranging from fifty to two hundred feet per second. The tank used is glass-walled, about the size of one of the Boynton faculty offices, and just about the thing to have in your apartment living-room with Esther Williams swimming about. However, obtaining a succession of photographs following the path of the model in actual tests was the problem which has been solved only by the joint ingenuity of mechanical and electrical minds. Consider what happens when you

take a broadside picture of a runner. With the proper lighting, you may be able to secure a fair photograph at an exposure of 1/200th of a second; anything greater will produce a blurred negative. The runner is moving at a maximum of eighteen feet per second; obviously the only way to get a series of pictures of a body moving at 200 ft. per second, it was necessary to resort to the stroboscopic methods developed by Dr. Eggerton of M.I.T. Professor Leslie J. Hooper of the Mechanical Engineering Department, in charge of the testing, learned that the necessary equipment needed was not to be had.

A power supply and accessory equipment was obtained from Crompton-Knowles Loom Works. In addition, by much trial and error, (Continued to Col. 5)

Fraternity News Bits

There has been a lot of talk concerning school spirit around the campus for a long time. Well, the bulk of the student body belongs to the Fraternities, thus the members would be the ones to support the various social and athletic programs. Here are a few examples of how the Fraternities in general with a membership of approximately 400 did not support many of the school activities.

First let us take social activities. Last spring the Junior Prom just barely covered expenses with a total of 140 couples. The two Dorm Dances failed with the first attendance of 50 and the second with 70 couples. These dances did not cover expenses and the fellows who played in the band received a total of two dollars a man for eight hours work.

Now for the athletics. How many Fraternity men can say that they saw a baseball or soccer game. There were as many men on the bench as there were in the stands. One point here is that athletic teams are mainly composed of Fraternity men. I'm not trying to blame Fraternities individually, but it does seem that the Fraternities could attend some of these functions to support their own men.

It can't be too expensive for the Dorm Dances. Formals are quite a bit more expensive but the attendance of some previous ones bumped 200 couples. Very few fellows do any studying on a Saturday night unless they have a rough exam on the following Monday. So the only reason left is just disinterest. All these activities could be made interesting and would be a lot of fun for everybody—but only if they are supported by Fraternities and all others who attend Tech. If not, they will have to be abandoned.

A.E.P.

The Fraternity held a House dance on Nov. 9. Girls were invited from all over the city by Lou Block. There were eighteen couples who enjoyed

the music and refreshments. A Sadie Hawkins dance was held on Nov. 16 and girls were invited from Clark, State Teachers, and Becker.

A.T.O.

The social committee headed by "Doc" Watson are in the midst of planning a House dance for the 30th of November.

All the fellows are learning how to paint under the direction of Ed Baldwin, House Manager.

Lambda Chi Alpha

The following new officers were elected recently: Wess Miller, President; Vladimir Dimitroff, Vice Pres.; Bob Macdonald, Secretary; and Bill Moulton, Treasurer.

Sunday, Nov. 17, our Mothers' Club gave a buffet dinner for about seventy people.

Back this term after serving in the Navy: Don Taylor, John Yeager, Frank Emerson, and Wyman Thomas, all of the class of '49, Don Flohr, '48 and Jack Rogerson.

P.S.K.

It seemed like old times again to have the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa and Theta Chi get together for a fall party and dance last Saturday evening. Both houses served refreshments of cold cider, American cheese, and hot doughnuts to round out the evening. A vote of thanks to Ray Laferriere and Guy Nichols, from Phi Sig and Theta Chi respectively, who headed the arrangements for the party.

S.A.E.

A hay ride dance was held by S.A.E. on Halloween Eve. Brother Bob Good and wife were the chaperones.

Men we welcomed back are Arne Kellstrom, Bob Wallace, Mac Kirkwood, Guy Burr, Dick Morse, and Jim Breed, all from the Navy; and Earl Johnson and Bob Russell from the Marines.

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Many veterans returned including J. P. Hyde, Elsworth Sammet, Al Reidel, Russ Norris, Ken Scott, Bob Smith, and Al Talboys.

The 40th Convocation of Delta Tau, the original of Sig Ep was held (Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

E. E. Research

(Continued from Col. 2)
two 16 mm. cameras were constructed capable of a speed of seven hundred frames per minute. The electronic devices required were largely the original work of Professor Hobart H. Newell of the Electrical Engineering Department.

However, for certain work, this type of camera proved disadvantageous. But, it was remembered that about thirty years ago Professor Newell had developed a disk camera for thesis work capable of taking thirty consecutive pictures at high speed. The camera had been on the scrap-pile until the need arose for such an instrument at Chaffins. Here again it was necessary for Professor Newell to develop quite complicated timing circuits necessary to synchronize the revolving disk with the projectile, and with the additional problem of stopping the camera before double exposure was made.

This problem was solved by an ingenious combination of circuits activated when the projectile passed through the field of a coil located at the mouth of the "gun". The pulse created here started the camera, while after a certain elapsed time, the camera operation ceased by means of another tuned circuit activated by the first pulse.

Professor Hooper is proud of the fact that Tech's lab is one of four in the country equipped to perform such testing. Originally the work was carried on in conjunction with Cal. Tech, but more recently the affiliation has been switched to Harvard University. Other tests of hydraulic phenomena are being conducted at present at Chaffins, but as yet the results may not be made public.

Ever since the installation of the original Venturi meter at the close of the last century, Alden Laboratory has been responsible for advances in design theory. With its additional war-time record, we can understand the importance of such an institution as applicable in peacetime as in war.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir:
Having read the latest issue of *TECH NEWS* (Nov. 14, 1946), we find that there are a few errors which we would like to call to your attention.

In the second paragraph of "P.I. Patter" a falsehood is stated, as there were approximately 180 students in the class of 1949B and not 40.

Under the column headed "Largest Freshman Class Enters Tech" the statement was made that the present Freshman class has a larger age difference than that of any previous class. This is not true because Phil Ackerman was a Freshman last year, and his age at that time was 32, if not 33 (please correct us if we are wrong). The youngest students included such men (?) as Phil Silver, whom we believe was 17 at the time.

The larger age difference, therefore, occurred last semester when the class of 1949B was in its first year. The age difference then was 15 years as compared with the present difference of 12 years.

Sincerely,
MEMBERS OF THE
CLASS OF '49.

P.S.—Just how many students are there in the largest Freshman class ever to attend W.P.I.?

Ed. Note.—Ans.: 214 students!

Such interest as this is commendable! This letter inaugurates a column, long missing in the *NEWS*. Will the students perpetuate this column in the future? All letters, properly signed, will be printed.

Class Elections

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)
elected a historian, George Crompton III. The Junior and Senior classes maintained their historians as previously elected in their Sophomore years.

The Freshman class did not hold their election in order that the class can get a little better acquainted with one another. Two men, Robert L. Tagen and John F. Brierly, were elected temporary class chairman and Tech Council Representative respectively, until the regular elections can be held.

A.S.M.E.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)
ing new members and Freshmen and Sophomores as well as the Juniors and Seniors are welcome to join. The next meeting will be held sometime around December 15.

A committee of Bill Jaegle, Jock Warren, Don Hall, Bob Rutland and Al Riley was appointed. The purpose of this committee was to select approximately fifteen different topics of interest to future mechanical engineers. Lists of these topics have been sent out to numerous industrial concerns in and about this area with the hopes of securing some interesting and enlightening lecturers.

With the new plans starting to develop, it looks as though the A.S.M.E. Chapter here at the school will have a successful year.

Foreign Students

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

various ways. Some of them were lucky, and were able to fly to this country. One of the men said he was impressed in the way the towns were so well laid, and how neat they looked from the sky. Most of them came by boat, and landed in New York, where they had their first taste of the so-called "fast life" we live here in America. Most of them are getting used to it now. One of them came over on a troop transport and had what he called, "Eggs by the powder," for the first, and what he also hoped, the last time.

Tech should have a great soccer team next spring, because all the foreign students have been brought up in the same way American boys are on baseball and football. They call it "field hockey". The foreign students are also interested in football and baseball. They have seen these games in American movies and also have watched American soldiers play them. Mr. Roed, from Norway, is waiting for winter so he can go skiing, which is the national sport in his country. Other sports which the foreign students are interested in are swimming and tennis. Mr. Goh, from Malaya, is very interested in swimming, as his country is an island, and he has spent a great deal of time in the water.

Their respective countries will benefit a great deal by the experience that these men will have to offer when they graduate from Tech.

Radio Club

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)
the radio clubs of other colleges, through which school news might be exchanged.

All interested students are cordially invited to the next meeting of the club, which will be held Thursday, December 19, in the Communications Lab.

The history of the Radio Club dates back to the fall of 1909 when a group of students formed the W.P.I. Wireless Association. This club pioneered in wireless, using a 2000 watt spark transmitter. In 1931 the name was changed to the present name, the W.P.I. Radio Club, and a new constitution was drawn up. The purpose of the club is to give the members training in building and operating, and for the advancement of radio in general.

Freshman Rushing

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4)
be pledge on Saturday, February 1, 1946.

A separate plan has been put into effect for returning upperclassmen who have never previously been pledged to a fraternity on the hill. Rushing periods on these men will not begin until after the Freshmen have been pledged.

This new system of prolonging the rushing period should provide a better chance for the Freshmen to

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Peddler Has New Staff

Members Appointed by Faculty Advisor and Tech Council

With the events of the week just passed, the *Peddler* is once again back to its pre-war status. Because of the war, the *Peddler* found itself in the position of having no Senior members left on campus. This situation necessitated abandonment of the constitution, which provides that the Senior members elect the next Senior Staff, and so the faculty advisors and Senior members of the Tech Council were asked by Prof. Schweiger, faculty *Peddler* advisor, to assist him in choosing this year's staff from the letters of application which had been submitted to him.

The results of this selection process are listed below. For further information concerning this matter, read the box at the bottom of page one.

Co-Editors - in - Chief: Paul D. O'Donnell, Roger Perry; Business Manager: Henry J. Bove; Managing Editor: Keith McIntyre; Photography Editor: Carrol Burtner; Advertising Manager: Allan Glazer; Senior Editors: David Bassett, Edmond Eager, Leslie Flood, H. L. Hoyt, Robert Hubley, Edwin Johnson. Senior Business Assistants: Nathaniel Feldman, A. L. Flotteran, Edward George, John Harding, Philip Jones, D. S. Watson, John Williams; Editorial Assistants: A. H. Dinsmoor, Lou Block, W. J. Wachter, J. R. McBride; Junior Business Assistants: J. C. Meade, J. W. Ebbs, M. D. Jordon, G. Hall, A. E. Riley, R. K. Horne.

intelligently choose a fraternity, and will in return allow the fraternity men to get a better knowledge of all the new men.

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Debating Club Has Debates With Clark And Holy Cross

Discussion of Debating Topics and Elections Are Items of Interest

At the November 12 meeting of the Debating Society, the main purposes of which were organization and the election of this season's officers, Allan Glazer was re-elected president, Robert Lerner, manager, Peter Kahn, secretary, and Jerome Eckerman, assistant manager; these last three men being new to their respective positions.

After the elections had been disposed of, President Glazer started a discussion of the debate topic for the coming intercollegiate season. The topic is: Resolved that: Labor should be given a direct share in the management of industry. Having discussed the subject thoroughly, the members decided that at the next meeting to be held on November 19, the following men would present debates on this subject: Glazer and Oletz versus Feldman and Eckerman, Lerner and Picard against Kahn and Meade, the first pair of names in each case taking the affirmative.

On November 19, the club met again, and with many heated, but calmly and cleverly presented arguments, the whole subject of labor versus management was laid open. Although Professor Easton, faculty advisor, made public none of his decisions as to winning teams, it was generally agreed that Allan Glazer's fiery and excellently gestured speech, in which he very convincingly presented the need for some new policy in labor-management relations, was the best of the evening. Since Messrs. Feldman and Kahn presented the best negative talks of the evening, they were chosen to represent Tech in the first debate of the season, to be held at Clark on Tuesday evening, November 26. On Wednesday, December 4, Holy Cross will come to Tech.

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Newman Club Holds Dance

The first monthly meeting this term of the Newman Club was called to order by the club president Norman Padden, '47, on Friday night, November 15, in the Janet Earle Room. The feature event of the program was an illustrated lecture given by the club's chaplain, Rev. Henry Brabson entitled "Communism". Fr. Brabson demonstrated the parallelism between the Nazi line of thinking and the present Communistic platform.

During the business portion of the meeting, plans for the annual communion breakfast were discussed as well as arrangements for a joint dance at the Worcester State Teacher's College sponsored by the Newman Clubs of both schools. The dance plans materialized last Friday night at the college with a large attendance. Miss Patricia Hehir of W.S.T.C. was co-chairman of the party with Norman Padden.

The communion breakfast was held at the Hotel Sheraton last Sunday following attendance in a body by the members of the Immaculate Conception Church.

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SPORT SIDELIGHTS

By LES FLOOD

One afternoon last week, while everything at basketball practice was running smoothly as usual, a loud voice paging Coach Stagg roared through the gym. Bewildered and baffled, the by-standers unmistakably observed that the voice came from none other than "Doc" Carpenter. Confusion silenced everyone in the gym for, to say the least, this was unbelievable, but the solution was soon discovered, for in "Doc's" hand was a microphone which was connected to the long-awaited portable public address system. Everybody is now happy; the student body because it will now know what is going on at the athletic events, and the Athletic Department because it has a new toy to play with.

The unexpected has been occurring on the basketball court lately. The "J.V.'s." have been giving the varsity a rough time. Maybe these upsets can be attributed to the fact that three men have left the squad. I don't know the answer myself, but I did hear one of the varsity men say that the "J.V.'s." have improved remarkably since the beginning of the year, whereas the varsity has only suffered from an increasing lack of teamwork. Coach Stagg seems to think he has better material than last year, but, unfortunately, not the stars like Laffey or Kuykendall.

Three floors down, Coach Grant has quite a large group out for the swimming team. Although it is too early to make any predictions, the overall appearance is good. The candidates have been timed for one lap with excellent results. Favorable criticism seems to be in order, for not only has the turn-out been good, but the enthusiasm is overwhelming.

The Interfraternity athletic activities are off to a strong start with many fraternity men running around the gym track trying to make the

Fraternity News

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 4)

on November 2. It was comprised of a buffet supper Saturday followed by slides and dancing. Sunday an alumni meeting and banquet was held at the Hotel Sheraton. Harry Newell, Larry Hine, and several members of Theta Upsilon Omega and Delta Tau were initiated into Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Theta Chi

There are many new faces, or rather old faces but new to most. They are Eli Gifford Braley, Gordon Brandes, Fred Bruno, Bill Carpenter, Howie Cheney, Ed Cornell, Bob Donnan, Gene Kosso, Lawrence Minnick, Roger Perry, H. Rienstra, Clayton Roberts, Chet Snow, Bill Williams.

T.K.P.

Walter Mussoni and Henry Zaney both from the sophomore class were pledged by Lambda last Thursday night and Francis Hoey was re-pledged.

Brother and Mrs. Edward Tamulevitch were the chaperones for a dance at the house on November 16. Brother Tamulevitch was graduated in June 1945.

various relay teams. Some of the boys don't look in too good shape, for it is not at all uncommon to see a man run two laps, at half speed, and then walk five. It's hard to figure just which house is going to win what because so many houses have a lot of good athletes, some of whom are, (and some of whom are not) eligible to participate in the various events.

Although this may be considered slightly out of the sports line, I'd like to mention what I considered the biggest social event of the term on this hill. The way it used to be there would be a formal dance on Friday night. Saturday morning you would bring your best girl to your worst classes. Saturday afternoon you would see a sports event or go on a picnic.

CAMPUS RAMBLINGS

By MYRON LUNCHICK

Many of us have noticed our C. E. brothers straddling the campus hills with their transits, ogling the passing girls through their telescopes and brandishing barbers-pole colored equipment supposedly intent upon acquiring a few civil engineering practices. But, few of us realize the strenuous efforts of the upper-classmen into the realms of soils analysis—the men who deal with "mud".

Not so long ago little smiling Prof. Meyer deposited the specimens, conglomerations of muck, dirt, and rock, on the lab tables in the dingy dungeon-like soils lab. The future engineers, regarding the earthy heaps with disgusted disdain and aloofness were told their interest for the next few weeks laid there in the study of the "mud".

Before long they were busily engaged hammering and pounding away

at the earth with reverberations resounding through Stratton Hall. Groping their way through the dust, the painstaking labor of their hands was placed in machines for further torture and violently shaken, sieved, and lovingly collected in small lily-white dishes. From thence mud pies were made and playfully rolled, patted and baked into appetizing, but unfortunately inedible little cakes. Like true engineers, numerable weights, measurements, and conditions simply had to be taken and recorded, all of an ambiguous nature, and somewhat dubiously applied to highly theoretical formulae to determine the oh! so very interesting characteristics of the specimens: their elasticities, plasticities, densities, etc. Like the mother who is alone in the appreciation of the antics of her son, so are these men all, all alone

in appreciation of the properties of their muddy charges. But, whether alone or no, nothing deters these men of science.

Not entirely satisfied with findings at this point, they go on and on in their analysis. An hydrometer test is next performed for the grain sizes of the soil and their distribution, using the principles that the grains are all spherical which they are not—that all of the heavier particles fall out of a solution first, in proportion to time and density of solution—which they do not—and that the hydrometer measures the density of soil suspension—which it may after, of course, applying a few correction factors: Kg, Kn, Kl, delta R and so on, ad infinitum.

Let not the reader misconstrue the article. These engineers with their mud pies are all working for a truly, yes, truly great purpose—to provide Better Roads for America—to them we must solemnly take off our hats.

Du Pont Digest

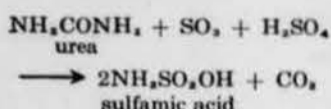
Items of Interest in the Fields of Chemistry, Engineering, Physics, and Biology

Low-Cost Sulfamic Acid Was Result of Newly Discovered Process

Once obscure laboratory chemical now finding wide use in industry

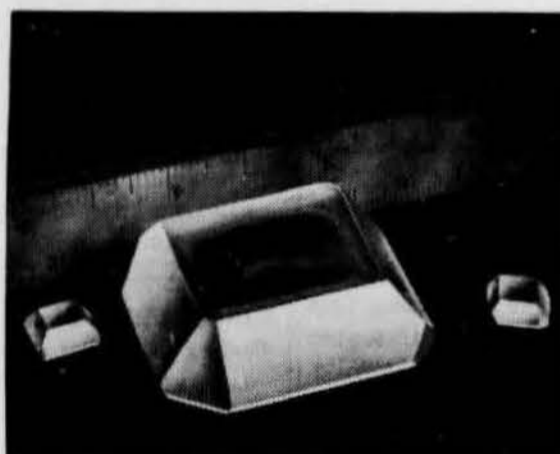
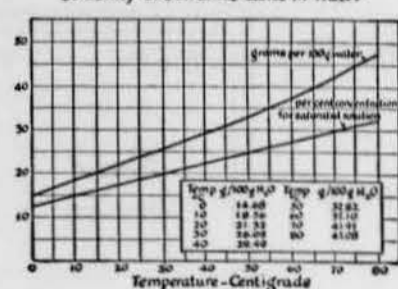
Sulfamic acid, which for years was merely another obscure laboratory chemical, is today being produced in carload quantities for a constantly growing list of uses because of a discovery made by a Du Pont chemist.

Believing that urea could be sulfonated to give a product which might have commercial utility, the chemist treated urea with fuming sulfuric acid. The reaction was exceedingly violent, and it appeared that decomposition had taken place to give ordinary ammonium sulfate. However, the chemist noted that the white precipitate which had formed did not dissolve rapidly in water as ammonium sulfate should, and further investigation proved that he had obtained sulfamic acid.



Thus the way was pointed to an inexpensive method of making this

Solubility of Sulfamic Acid in Water



Crystals of sulfamic acid

scarcely known chemical, and an intensive study of its chemical and physical properties has led to its development for a wide variety of industrial uses.

First Industrial Applications

The salts of sulfamic acid are being used extensively as flame-proofing agents. Highly compatible with cellulose, ammonium sulfamate is unique among fire retardants in that it does not cause stiffening or otherwise adversely affect the hand or feel of textiles and paper.

Another outstanding use for ammonium sulfamate is as a weed killer for the control of poison ivy, ragweed, and a variety of noxious annuals. Its effect on poison ivy is unmatched by any other product.

One of the most important industrial applications for sulfamic acid is based on the fact that it reacts quantitatively and very rapidly with nitrous acid. This has led to its wide use in eliminating the excess nitrite employed in diazotization reactions

for dye and colored pigment manufacture.

Soluble in Water and Non-hygroscopic

Sulfamic acid is a strong acid, and despite the fact that it is exceedingly soluble in water, it is a solid non-hygroscopic, non-volatile material which has found application as a laboratory titrimetric standard. Additional information will be found in the bulletin "Sulfamic Acid and Its Salts." Write to 2521 Nemours Bldg., Wilmington, Delaware.

Understandably, men of Du Pont are proud that their work in the laboratory has created and developed many products like this "chemical curiosity" to help make life safer, more pleasant and comfortable for all Americans.

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FRESHMEN: Let's stay after dinner to meet the fraternity men.

SPORTS

Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors are needed on the Cheerleading Squad. Come on over and try out.

November 27, 1946

TECH NEWS

Page Five

AROUND THE BLOCK

By LOU BLOCK

By far, one of the most important of the extra-curricular activities carried out here at Tech is that of the intramural sports. These activities enable many individuals who do not have enough ability to compete in a varsity sport to participate in sports of their choice. The athletic department has done a grand job in this respect, in keeping a steady flow of intramural activities—from the relay meets in the fall, continually through the softball competition of mid-summer.

There seems to be, however, one sport which they have seemed to overlook for intramural competition, i.e., handball. When the Naval students were at Tech, this was a favorite sport among them, and numerous contests were held to determine the champion handball player. These contests were held on an elimination basis, with those interested in competing submitting their names to Professor Carpenter, whereby he made out a schedule of play with winners playing winners until the final champion was determined. Another contest could be conducted in this manner today with the individuals who are interested submitting their names to Professor Carpenter. If, however, the interest were great enough it could be conducted on an interfraternity and interdormitory-floor basis.

In the latter case each fraternity or dorm team could be represented by two players who would compete, individually or in doubles matches. Personally, I believe singles are preferable because they offer a better test of an individual's skill. Whatever the case may be, a regular schedule could be drawn up similar to that of other sports, and these matches could be played after school.

Another advantage of handball is that it offers a chance for some fellow, who normally never would have done so, to represent his fraternity in a sport. Handball is a game which requires certain skills which are quite different to those needed in other sports. Someone who may be quite poor at running, bowling, or playing basketball, may be quite proficient at the art of handball. Consequently, this sport could be carried on right now during the winter months, with every team having little fear of being unable to have their best players represent them.

Handball cannot be played simply by someone reading about it or talking about it. I feel quite sure that the athletic department would not object to any competitive matches if sufficient interest were shown in their wanting to be played. The manner in which this competition could be held can be determined by the type of interest that is shown.

HERE AND THERE: Arnie Jones, former Tech star, really racked up

some points against his former mates last week when he starred for the Norton Abrasives five in their practice game against the Techmen. Coach Stagg certainly could use Arnie's experience and height this season. . . . Bill Stone and Marty Wilson, two former Tech hoopsters are making a strong bid for leading roles in Clark University's basketball plans this season. Stoney used to be the ideal guard; never coming too far down the court and with a dead eye for mid-court long shots. We sure could use him this year. . . . One of the last times that W.P.I. played another local college in basketball was in February, 1944, against Holy Cross when George Connor, now starring for Notre Dame, was one of the Crusader hardwood representatives, while Hal Fleit, who tallied twenty points that night before being forced to leave the game on fouls three minutes after the start of the second half, Jack Laffey, Charlie Schmit, Howie Swenson, and Bob Twitchell were some of the Tech stars. The Techmen eventually won the game that night by a 55-47 verdict. Can we do it again?

TECH TANKMEN DEVELOPING FOR WINTER MEETS

With two weeks' practice behind them, Coach Grant's natators are showing very definite possibilities. George Schupp, only letterman of previous years, has lost none of his ability in the breaststroke. Tom Hunter, who starred in the Interfraternity Meet last year, is developing rapidly and should finish well up in the dashes. Logan and Hassan have also been showing well in the dashes, and together with Hunter should give Tech strength in these events.

Coach Grant has been especially pleased with the large turnout of Freshmen and Sophomores. Just how good a team Tech has this season will depend largely on these new men. One handicap facing the team is the lack of a springboard. With the old one suffering from a compound fracture, and the new board "delayed en route", just who will be entered in the diving is a matter of sheer speculation.

Mass. State will be here for the first meet of the season on Jan. 11. Big attraction will be the meet with our rivals, M.I.T., here on March 8.

The complete schedule is as follows:

Jan. 11—Mass State	Here
Jan. 18—Amherst	Here
Jan. 25—Springfield	Away
Jan. 31—Boston Univ.	Away
Feb. 15—Trinity	Away
Mar. 8—M.I.T.	Here
Mar. 14—N.E.I.S.A. Meet	At Williams

W.P.I. Salts Prepare For Victorious Spring Season

Embryo Sailors Headed By Commodore Bob Miller

Surging back to the fore, after some lean war years, is the Nautical Club. There are some thirty-five salts on hand at present, who are feverishly getting ready for next spring so that they can sail Tech's pride and joy over the finish line in front of M.I.T., New Hampshire, etc.

In charge of all this preparation is Commodore Bob Miller. Assisting him are George Pano, who is Vice-Commodore, and Dan McQuillan, who is Secretary-Treasurer. Professor E. C. Brown is the faculty advisor. While sailing itself will not be possible during the winter, the embryo John Paul Joneses will spend their time learning the rules, regulations, and techniques of handling boats. The club has one boat of its own, a fourteen footer, and will have the use of half a dozen more craft next spring, which are being donated by friends. M.I.T. also lets us use their craft for practice whenever feasible.

During last fall, our boys participated in three meets, the last being held in the Charles River basin at M.I.T. Next spring the schedule will be expanded. These meets are held among the members of the "Intercollegiate Yacht Racing Association," of which Tech is a member. It also includes M.I.T., Yale, Michigan, New Hampshire, and seventeen other members with nine associate members. These meets also have their share of glamor, with some of the schools sporting feminine crews.

Some of the high point getters of the club are Herb Cahoon, and the Beckwith brothers, John and Walter. Francis Holden accumulated sailing experience in those beautiful, romantic lagoons of the Philippine Islands during the war. Another member who gained additional experience during the war is W. A. Underwood, who was a member of the club during 1941 and '42. He was a skipper on a P.T. boat in the Navy.

The club extends a welcome to all who are interested in sailing, whether or not they are experienced.

Basketball Team Getting in Shape For First Game with Springfield

RIFLE CLUB ORGANIZES

Membership Swells to Forty As Opening Match Approaches

The Tech Rifle Club made a start on what it hopes will be a successful season at a recent meeting in Higgins 109. The club president, Arthur H. Burns, presided at the meeting and introduced secretary Edward H. Dion, treasurer Robert N. Gowing, and the new faculty adviser, Major William F. M. Longwell, all of whom spoke briefly.

In addition to the regular members, the meeting was attended by a number of men interested in shooting. Eighteen of these men made treasurer Gowing quite happy by paying their dues and becoming active members. This boosts the club's active membership to forty. Some of these men have had experience in competition, and it is hoped that they will assist the team to a successful season.

Instruction will be given on Friday afternoons at 4:00 P.M. by Major Longwell who has had considerable coaching experience while with the U. S. Army. Major Longwell coached at N.Y.U. from 1936 to 1938, and at Virginia Polytechnic Institute from 1938 to 1942.

The club's members expressed an almost unanimous desire to become a Class A Club in the National Rifle Association. This will entitle the Club to the use of two caliber .30 Springfield rifles, two caliber .22 Springfield rifles, and a small quantity of ammunition at no extra charge. The rifles and ammunition are supplied for the National Qualifications.

The club is a member of the New England College Rifle League and has eleven matches scheduled. The members of the winning team will receive medals. Individual awards will be given the League's highest scorers. The schedule is as follows:

Nov. 30—M.I.T. and Harvard
Dec. 7—Yale
Dec. 14—Bowdoin and Norwich
Jan. 11—Vermont
Jan. 18—New Hampshire
Jan. 25—Mass. State
Feb. 1—Coast Guard Academy
Feb. 8—Rhode Island
Feb. 15—Brown

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ON AND OFF THE RECORD

By JACK SAUNIER

Does this look familiar to some of your returnees and upper-classmen? Here we are back again at the same old stand, after a two and a half year lay-off, pounding out bits of news and comment on this and that in the field of music,—jazz, classical, popular, and most anything that comes under the heading of pretty noises. We'll try to keep you slipstick slaves up to date on local doings and some of the best recordings as they appear in the shops.

Currently, the Christmas boom is on in the record marts, with a plethora of new albums and singles of the old stand-bys and a few newcomers to add variety. Bing Crosby sounds just a little older but still as tasteful as you could wish on the newer numbers, but most of the album is re-issue of records the Groaner has already had on the market for years.

Perry Como's album of Christmas songs for Victor is a very strong contender, and may well outsell Der Bingle, on the momentum of Perry's current popularity. There is another album that promises to be a big seller, on Decca again, but rather undistinguished performances by Deanna Durbin, Judy Garland (who is playing ball out of her league here), and Kenny Baker leave the listener unimpressed.

Best offerings in the Yuletide spirit are on single records by Sinatra, Jo Stafford, and Les Brown's band. Frankie sings *White Christmas* so well that one would have to be a dyed-in-the-wool Bing fan and Frankie-hater to give Bing the nod here, and when you consider backgrounds there just isn't any argument after you've heard Axel Stordahl's lush and beautiful arrangement behind Sinatra. Jo Stafford's disc of the same tune is a very straightforward treatment, with some excellent choral work by an unnamed group we suspect to be the Lynn Murray chorus; a polished, soothing three minutes of Irving Berlin's best.

Les Brown's band has a tuneful coupling of *When You Trim Your Christmas Tree*, a danceable ballad with a nice arrangement that interpolates some of the traditional carols in the background of Jack Haskell's vocal, and *The Christmas Song*, which impresses us as the top new tune of the season. Doris Day sings the lyric so perfectly in imitation of King Cole's vocal style that it's almost a shock when she departs from the melodic line used by the King at the end of the tune. However, if that's all she can be criticized for (and it seems to be), it leaves the record with about sixteen stars, five bells, or whatever might be used to signify a top-notch performance. Again the Les Brown band supplies a fine backing, with *The First Noel*, *Little Town of Bethlehem*, and a few others intermingled in one of those modern dance arrangements that is putting this band up where it belongs in the orchestra ratings.

The King Cole recording of the same tune departs from the usual Trio style and adds a brilliant string section to give you that Christmas-y

feeling. It's a marvelous record in anyone's book, and Nat Cole sings one of his finest vocals to date.

Apart from the seasonal offerings, you may find on the record shelves such first-rate items as the new Stan Kenton "Artistry" album, featuring

the top swing band in the country and its formidable array of solo stars: Vido Musso, Boots Mussulli, Ed Safranski, Shelley Manne, Kai Winding and of course, Kenton on piano. It is a definite bid by Kenton to enter the ranks of concert jazz orchestras, like Duke Ellington and Woody Herman, and it's a solid start. And speaking of Herman, his 12-inch recording of Stravinski's

Ebony Concerto (written for Woody's band by the famous composer, and conducted by him) is now available, and will undoubtedly confound a good many people.

Ellington is playing a Symphony Hall concert in Boston on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 1, featuring the great Django Reinhardt, French gypsy guitarist. "Great" is not an empty word, but one this column compiler

uses advisedly, on a background of four months of sitting in little Paris bistros listening to Django's variety of jazz. He's a weird and wonderful person, and his will-o'-the-wisp character sings out of those guitar strings with a touch of genius.

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