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ON POLITICS

With the changing in the system of elections, much has been done to clear up class politics at Armour. In recent years, the way in which the class elections have been conducted has been hardly creditable to the school. The casting of more votes than there were voters was entirely out of keeping with the conduct of college men. The noise and disorder prevalent at the class meetings, causing the elections to be spread over two or three weeks was absolutely unnecessary.

The new method calls for a poll officer to watch a central balloting box. Each voter has his name checked on a list as he casts his vote. This ought to be a great improvement as duplication is prevented. The class officers are to be commended for their work in this direction. Armour is too large a school to conduct such matters in a manner befitting children. Now that proper action has been taken, we are forced to wonder why such steps were never taken before.

However, there are still some matters about our politics which are very unsavory. The method of nominations, remaining as it does in some classes, is very unfair. The man in the chair at the general class assembly, allowed his choice of the numbers who clamor for recognition, is very liable not to see his political enemies, trying to nominate their slate, until after nominations are closed. Whole tickets are run in that manner, while the majority of students have no voice in the matter.

After all, political offices really mean little, but no matter what their worth, they should be run in a fair and honest manner. If school politics are worth conducting, they should be worth conducting rightly. Why not have nominations made in the manner suggested by Dean Palmer? Have petitions, for nomination, signed by at least ten students each, with election by ballot, each man voting by name. A much fairer representation would be obtained, time would be saved, and rule by closely organized majorities would be ended. The voting system as introduced this year is excellent; the nominating system of all classes should be brought up to the same level.

EXPRESSION

It is a debated question in Physics whether a device makes a sound unless there is some one to hear it. Can there be sound without reception of it? Similar to this question is the one of expression of thought. Does a person really think if he can not express this thought? If he thinks, how is he to prove the fact unless he can present his thought to another?

The most brilliant scientist in the world if he were without means of communication would be as useless to humanity as the most ignorant savage. Our thoughts and our means of expressing our thoughts are so tied together that we subconsciously form word pictures in our mind. Our only means of expression is our language.

We are not judged upon our mental ability, but upon the reflection of our mental ability as given to our spoken and written works. Without the ability to speak and write, a man is powerless. With an inferior training in either, a man is greatly handicapped.

Engineering students are prone to leave undeveloped their ability to speak and write efficiently, not realizing that their effectiveness is limited to this ability.

English is not a difficult subject to master. There are no deep and unfathomable secrets about it, nor are there long and tedious formulas to memorize before one can write with accuracy and clearness. Inadequacy of vocabulary is one common fault that holds many back, but it may be overcome if one is observant in reading and conversation.

“THE SLIPSTICK”

Cleave to “The Slipstick”; let
the Slipstick fly where it may.

MORAL—NONE

Cheer up. It might be worse,
Even though it's mighty bad.
Don't sit around and curse
And say that hard luck is all you've had.
Roll up your sleeves and get to work;
At least it's no disgrace.
We sure hate any man to shirk
'Cause it's low and mean and base.
Now here's a good example,
For as I write this verse,
I keep on saying to myself,
“Cheer up! It might be worse.”

KEEN REASON

There was a time we wondered why the fellows didn't object to 8:30 classes. But did you ever ride the Normal Park trains in the morning? Me for early classes.

Apprentice: “I couldn't find the leak on the sixth floor.”
Plumber: “Why didn't you look on the fifth?”
Apprentice: “Oh, that's another story.”

TOUGH! AND HOW!

Don't make any passes at me, big boy, 'cause if you get me roused, you'll be aged in the wood.

“How do you like your new job?”
“It's a snap.”
“Why, what do you do?”
“I sort rubber bands.”

Smiling Freshmen, proud in the fact that they are now in college, eagerly display a brand new shiny Armour “sticker” on the side of their brief case and proclaim to the world that now they are “big shots.”—Sophrs, not caring to notice, in their opinion, the lowly frosh, present a battered and almost obliterated banner that cannot at best be recognized as once a bright yellow one.—Juniors, no brief case at all, just carry a book or two under their arm, and a slide rule protruding from their inside coat pocket.—Seniors, no books at all, and going about as though they owned the world. These are the students here at Armour. You can recognize them all, just look around.

She's only an electrician's daughter, but she knows watts watt.

ALL CUT UP

Judge: “With what instrument or article did your wife inflict these wounds on your head and face?”
Crippled one: “With a Motto, your Honor.”
Judge: “A what?”
Crippled one: “A motto—one of those frames with a ‘God Bless Our Home,’ in it.”

A freshman is as impossible to disguise as an old fivver.

Epitaph

Here lies Bill Brown. He wanted to see if he could jump across the third rail. He didn't. April 1, 1929.

Ashes to ashes
Dust to dust
You don't have to read this
But write it we must.

Every cloud has a silver lining, but the pessimist will say that it's only nickel plated.

“What's the difference between a pro and an amateur?”
“An amateur is paid more.”

He turned and glanced into the waters rushing beneath him. How they writhed in their course like tortured demons. He shuddered. But a step and all would be over. The shore lights, reflected in the murky water, beckoned to him. But he was finished painting the bridge; besides it was time to go home and eat.

He Got \$*&& Too

Arriving home from the party, the wife confronted her husband: “I'll never take you to another party as long as I live.”

“Why?” said the husband.
“You asked Mrs. Jones how her husband was standing the heat.”
“Well?”
“Why, her husband has been dead for a month.”

Seen In An Exam

Parallel lines are lines which don't meet unless you bend them.

Lack of logical construction of subject matter impairs the work of students only because the majority do not take the time and trouble to work out a satisfactory sequence of thoughts and ideas in their work. Mis-spelling of words, incorrect punctuation are minor troubles that are remedied by a little study. Similar study will improve a person's pronunciation.

If the men at Armour realized to what an extent they hurt themselves by their lack of ability to write and speak, they would surely work on these subjects with the same interest that they give to strictly technical subjects.



Fletcher W. Pearce

(A Biographical Sketch)

By Stephen Janiszewski, '30
Mr. Fletcher W. Pearce, Instructor in Surveying, was born at Lake Linden, Michigan, in 1899. He attended the elementary school there and was graduated from the Lake Linden High School in 1918. He entered the University of Michigan the same year and took a literary course.

In 1920, Mr. Pearce registered at the Engineering College, University of Michigan, from which he graduated in June, 1924, receiving a B. S. degree in Civil Engineering.

Following his graduation he was employed for one year by Berryman, Peterson and Suhr, Consulting Engineers, in Chicago. He worked on a sewer system for Barrington, Illinois. From 1925 to 1929 he was employed by the Sanitary District of Chicago, working in an office for two years on specifications, plans, estimates and survey notes. The balance of the four

years with the Sanitary District was spent working in the field on surveys and sewer construction.

Employed by the Board of Assessors of Cook County for a period of nine months, Mr. Pearce terminated his work there and came to Armour Institute this semester as an Instructor in Surveying on the Civil Department faculty.

Mr. Pearce is a lover of the out-of-doors. With the exception of the Southern states, he has toured throughout the whole of the United States visiting historic and scenic places. He is also an enthusiastic fish fan.

Mr. Pearce has no matrimonial connections—as yet.

U. of I. Political Feud Ends in Jailings

Four University of Illinois students, members of the campus Old Line party, were arrested Saturday and placed under \$1,000 each bonds on complaint of John Granata, Chicago, the Independent party leader.

The four students were charged with burglary, it being alleged they raided campaign headquarters of the Independent party and carried off typewriters and campaign literature.

The students arrested were C. F. Edwards, Kansas City, Mo., president of Illinois union; W. K. Jordan, Oak Park, Ill.; V. L. Kretschmer, Elgin, Ill., and William Cameron, River Forest, Ill. Friends furnished bond.

Nearly 6,000 people are expected to attend the eleventh annual convention of the American Gas association to be held at Atlantic City, Oct. 14 to 18. According to association officials, this will be the largest ever held.

James J. Davis, secretary of labor, and Dr. George Edgar Vincent, president of the Rockefeller foun-

LETTER BOX

To the Letter Box:

The Library administration has the rule that all reference books must be returned by 9:30 o'clock the following morning if taken home overnight. Granting that this is the only means to assure the proper distribution of the limited supply of these books, I will suggest a system which will not only aid the library in collecting them, but will also be a great convenience for students having 8:30 classes.

Open the library at 8:00 o'clock or at least at 8:15. This will give the students an opportunity to return them before their first period. This is practically the only time for most students to comply with the rule, because the 10 minutes between 9:20 and 9:30 are usually lost for various reasons. One of them is having the first two lectures in any of the following buildings, Machinery Hall, Mission, and Chapin Hall. Because there is no bell system in these buildings, the classes are frequently held over several minutes. It is readily seen that these students have not much of a chance to fulfill their duties if they are deprived of it before 8:30.

Perhaps it can be arranged that one of the librarians starts earlier, or if that is not possible, leave the library in charge of an upper-classman for the extra time. I am quite sure that this change would be very much appreciated by a great number of students.

W. R. T.



Both are lines of national defense

THE Mississippi was a menacing flood. The telephone was the first line of defense, for over its wires the work against the flood was directed. Maintenance crews performed the same service as did telephone men in the signal corps in the war.

In the daily life of the nation, just as surely as in emergency, the telephone

meets an ever-growing stream of demands.

To do this successfully the Bell System's expansion program embraces trans-oceanic telephony through the ether and under the sea, to ships at sea and planes in the air—and above all, wire facilities that will carry the voice, the typewritten word, the picture to every corner of the land.

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