

Armour Tech News

Student Publication of the
ARMOUR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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SCHOOL SUPPORT

For the first time since our inception, we are forced to admit that the Armour Tech News has not the co-operation of the student body. The News was greeted at Armour by the whole-hearted approval of both the students and the faculty; after a rising and vigorous life of three years it seems that the faculty and the minority of the student body alone have faith in us.

The paper was fostered by the first editor, John Hommes, in an effort to build up an interest in the school affairs, including both the social activities and the technical associations. It seemed to the original staff that if schools of half the size of Armour could edit a newspaper, and make a success of it, that it should be an easy matter for us to duplicate the feat. We have labored under this delusion until the present semester, but our present enrolled circulation has managed to shatter this ideal.

Yet it seems to be consistent with the other actions of the student body. The majority of the Armour athletic events are attended by a mere handful of rooters; the sole showing of any school spirit has manifested itself on the annual class "rush," when a mild majority of the competing classes turn out. However, the athletic teams are luckier than we are, for our very existence depends upon the co-operation of the men of the school, and without their aid it is both impossible and disheartening to publish a newspaper.

It is not for us to condemn the slothful attitude of the slackers, but merely a matter of realizing that all our work has been in vain. We have pursued another fatal "will-o-the-wisp," and it, too, has led us into the bog.

From the present indications we expect to be able to publish the paper for this semester; but it will not be as pleasant a job as it has been in the past. It is much easier for the staff to put in the amount of outside work required to publish this paper each week when they realize that they are backed by the majority of the school. Secondly, the finances of the paper are directly dependent upon the circulation, the advertising being closely correlated with it. Without the feeling of financial security, the editors must skimp and draw their budget as close as possible. It is expected that this is the last issue in which we will be able to have any illustrations or photographs of any nature. We realize that these items are of an unestimable value, for they attract attention as nothing but a blaring headline will; but to have these luxuries we would need a fifth as many subscriptions more than the maximum we expect to get.

Despite the gloomy prospectus facing the staff during the current semester, the greater spectre is that of the future years. We hope that we shall not see the day when the News is forced to close its books and sink into the background, but if the students continue their present attitude of indifference, that step is ultimately due to come.

A. B. A.

"There are a multitude of human actions which have so many complicated circumstances, aspects, and situations, with regard to time and place, persons and things, that it is impossible for any one to pass a right judgment concerning them without entering into most of these circumstances."

—Dr. I. Watts.

THE SLIPSTICK

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

FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

My bonnie leaned over the gas tank,
The height of its contents to see;
She lighted a match to assist her—
Oh, bring back my bonnie to me.

—Phil J.

Free U. S. from dry yoke.—Chi. Daily News. Probably they mean the professor's.

DEFINITION

Nothing—is a bladeless knife without a handle.

Big Shot—"Say, I could get a job with the city, if I wanted to."
Half Shot—"My, what a sweeping statement."

"That's enough out of you!" said the surgeon as he stitched the patient together again.

A CIVIL PROBABLY

Class '30 (to prospective employer): "You'll pay me what I'm worth?"

Employment Manager: "I'll do better than that; I'll give you a small salary to start with." —Chuck.

Barber College Song—"My Face Is in Your Hands."

THIS IS RATHER MATERIALISTIC

Mr. Wood met Mr. Stone. Said Mr. Wood, "Good morning, Mr. Stone. How are Mrs. Stone and all the little pebbles?" "Fine," said Mr. Stone. "A steam roller ran over them yesterday. How are Mrs. Wood and all the little splinters?" Just then a pretty babe passed by. Stone turned to Wood, Wood turned to Stone, and they both turned to rubber. —J. S. McC.

Hear about the fellow who was so tough he uses a blow torch for an atomizer.

When a fellow says that he just cleaned up in oil, he is probably a janitor in a gas station.

TECH NEWS

What is the biggest value you can get for one dollar?

We suppose you saw that new sign in the library regarding noise, etc. If one's fountain pen squeaks, will he be tossed out?

Not-Responsible for Following

A fellow was telling how he received his cuts and bruises. He had his new Ford out on the highway doing about 40, when a Buick went by him so fast that he thought he was standing still. Well, he got out to crank his car, and it ran over him. —R. S. F.

"My father was an animal trainer."
"Know any tricks?"

We wish it always took as long to get rid of any dough as it did on registration day.
What an excellent chance for a slow motion picture.

A rolling pin was the original night club.

"What's the trouble?" asked the excited woman as the street car stopped suddenly.
"We just ran over a dog," said the motorman.
"Was he on the track?"
"No, lady, we chased him up an alley." —Joe

Now Somebody Else Tell One

"So you remember way back to the Revolution, do you?"
"Sure, the Revolution, General Washington and all the rest."
"I suppose you were a witness of the fall of Rome?"
"Well, no, I didn't exactly see it, but I do recollect hearing something drop." —Chester.

It won't be long before colleges will require as an entrance credit, the ability to punt fifty yards.

First: "Absolutely, I'm not the least bit superstitious."
Last: "I'm glad to hear it; lend me thirteen dollars, will you?"

BUM ENGLISH

"Say," one neighbor asked another excitedly, "do you know a fellow down your way with one leg named Oliver?"
"I'm not sure," returned the other doubtfully, "what's the name of the other leg?" —R. G. K.

Each year the number of traveling salesmen is decreasing. Who says the world isn't getting better?

"I take a cold shower every morning."
"Well, why brag about it?"
"Gosh, that's why I take it." —R. G. P.

Wasted energy—a bald-headed man reading a hair-raising story.

Far be it from us to give free advertising but that show named after eggs fixed a certain way is one full of laughs (Maybe we will rate a free ticket).

We can be humorous only if you are serious and come across with your buck. —K. K.

Mr. James Stratton Thompson

(A Biographical Sketch)
BY P. EMIL SEIDELMAN

James S. Thompson, instructor of Physics, was born in Bedford, Iowa, on November 13, 1896. He graduated from the grade and high schools at Bedford and entered the University of Chicago in 1917.

In the fall of 1918 he entered the Coast Artillery Officers' Training School, at Fortress Monroe, Va., where he finished the course in heavy artillery. However the armistice had been signed before the class could complete the entire course, so in December of 1918 Mr. Thompson was granted a commission as second lieutenant in the officers reserve corps. He then returned to the University of Chicago, where he majored in physics and mathematics, receiving his Sc. B. degree in 1922.

Mr. Thompson has been doing graduate work under A. J. Dempster at intervals since his graduation. He has also been laboratory assistant at the University of Chicago and reader for Dean Gale of the Physics Department. In the fall of 1927 Mr. Thompson came to Armour as an instructor in Physics.

In 1926 he married Miss Mildred Voltaire of Chicago. They now have one son, James S. Jr., who is two years old.

Mr. Thompson has worked on various research problems at the University, such as the production of active nitrogen, Beta-ray Spectra, and on the absorption of positive ions in gases. An account of this latter work was recently published in the "Physical Review," and was presented at the meeting of the American Physical Society. He has also written an article on

Radioactivity, which appeared in the Armour Engineer some time ago.

Mr. Thompson is now physicist for the Chicago Radium Institute, having charge of the radium and the preparation of radium treatments. He is a member of the American Physical Society, also Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and Sigma Xi Fraternities.

The collisions of the ion is closely allied to the bouncing of the tennis ball, so it is only natural that this should be his favorite sport. Then, billiards is also in harmony with his study of the angles of incidence and refraction. He confided, however, that in his opinion the positive ions were usually kept under better control than those little red and white balls on the table. To climax his outside interests Mr. Thompson is a keen collector of books.

COMPLEX

Most "hard-boiled" policemen have an inferiority complex, said Prof. A. G. Barry, of the department of sociology, Extension division, U. of Wisconsin, to the convention of the American Sociological association in Washington, D. C., during vacation.

He prophesied that the big copper who growls, "What d'ye think you're doin'" will be replaced by a scientific and sympathetic gentleman. Inferiority complex, he said, makes the policemen vicious when they see a law violator.

"The arresting officer will be intelligent enough to recognize the different causes of violation," he said, "and apply the proper treatment in each case."

His ideal police department would consist of specialists on finger prints, forgeries, bullets, documents, photographs, and chemical analysis.

Inquiring Reporter

What is your opinion of the new arrangements in the Library?

F. O. Zimmerman, '30, E.E.—Fine if it works, but it won't.

H. Marshall, '33, F.P.E.—There is more room to study now.

H. H. Slavitt, '32, Arch.—The room may have some aspect of being a library now, for I'm sure the noise will be practically done away with. The students who come to the library to study and concentrate (?) will especially be thankful.

E. J. Schofield, '33, Ch. E.—It is much easier to find a place to sit and gives one a better chance to study.

V. M. Kerrigan, '33, E.E.—The new arrangements enable one to utilize time in study that was wasted previously.

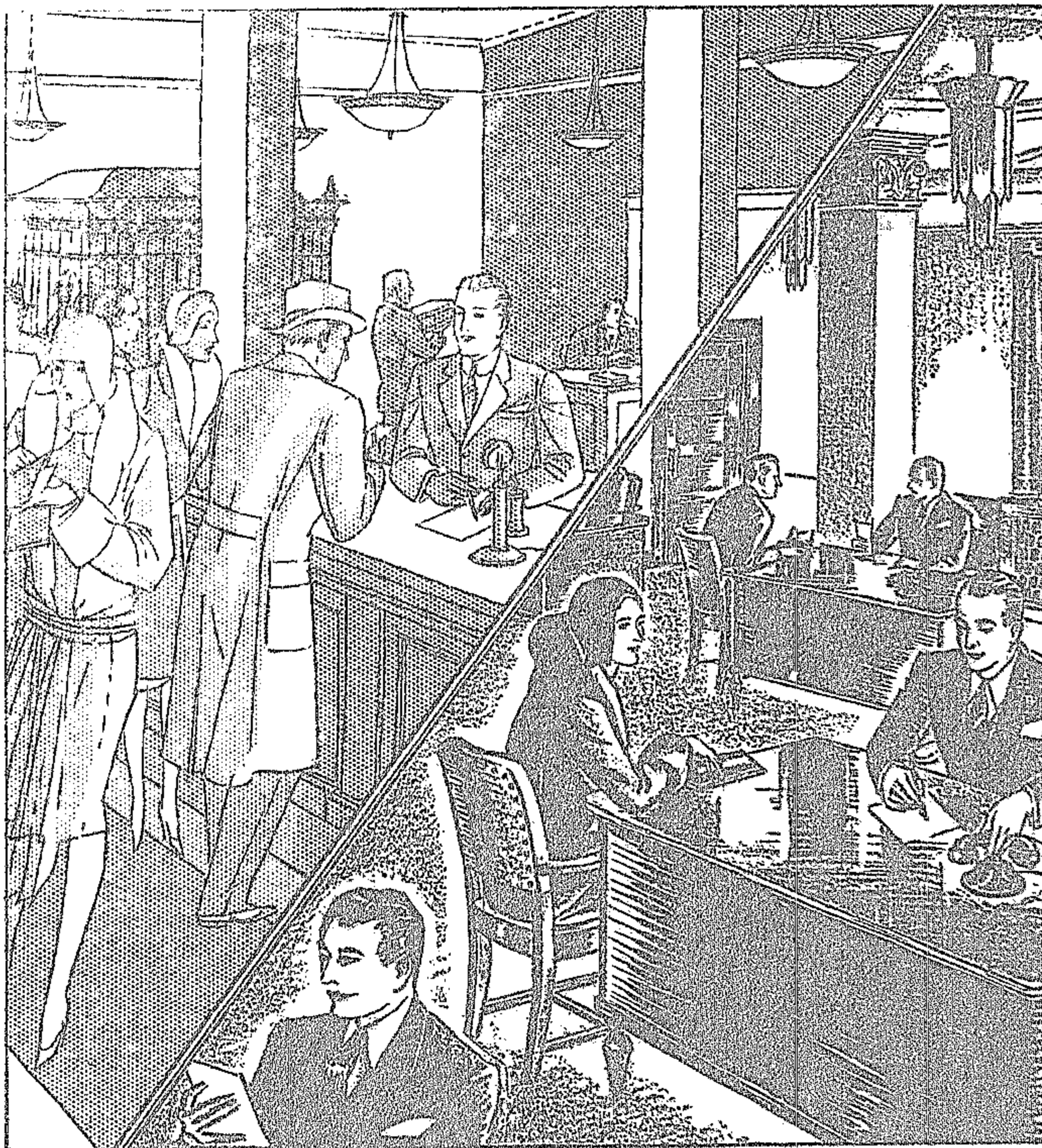
C. S. Morris, '30, Ch. E.—While it gives more opportunity to study, quietly and privately, the new arrangement does not seem to accommodate so many students as formerly.

E. E. Paschke, '31, E.E.—I think the new regulations are wonderful. The students can concentrate more and make better use of their time.

Avron Simon, '32, Arch.—Being an architect, I rarely use the library for study. From an artistic standpoint the room now is pleasantly presented and suggests a room of study.

Professor Colvert Married January 31

Professor W. W. Colvert, instructor in the physics department, was married January 31, 1930, to Miss Lila Bannen. Professor Colvert tried to keep the news from the rest of the faculty until after his marriage, but was not successful.



Removing mental barriers

In the Bell Telephone System men are constantly studying new ways to make the customer's dealings with the company easy and pleasant. The new "counterless" idea, now being introduced in the telephone company's business offices, is a case in point.

Here the customer is placed at once on a friendly personal basis with the company

representative. He is invited to sit down comfortably and discuss his business. Certainly more satisfactory than standing at a counter.

This single instance represents a point of view which telephone men think is important. Telephone service calls for engineering skill and more—it needs human understanding.

BELL SYSTEM

A nation-wide system of inter-connecting telephones



"OUR PIONEERING WORK HAS JUST BEGUN"