

## Armour Tech News

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### TECHNICAL VS. LIBERAL

It has been quite a problem for educators to determine the status of technical courses toward liberal subjects, and throughout the various colleges we find varying attitudes, some running to either extreme. While our basis for comparison is not very stable, colleges of engineering might be classed as fairly liberal, well balanced and rather technical.

From the editorial viewpoint, it is not our aim to criticize either type, but merely to draw certain conclusions. It has long been noted that while the alumni of the school speak most highly of the entire curriculum, they seem to lay some stress on the liberal subjects; reference to the various letters that have been published in the *News* will substantiate this assertion.

A man's success out of school is not dependent solely upon his technical ability, but also upon his general ability to converse, or discuss non-technical matters. It is toward developing this background of culture to enable a man to appear intelligent without a demonstration of his ability in calculus that Armour has made such subjects as "History of Civilization" and "General Literature" an integral part of every student's course.

There is an old saying to the effect that you can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink. Similarly, it is no test of the value or appreciation that the students may have for the liberal subject when they are exposed to it as a compulsory subject. It is with keen interest that we have observed the success of a non-compulsory liberal course being offered this semester.

The *Armour Tech News*, as well as being a series of news items, has some cultural material in each issue. We devote these editorial pages solely to material of this type. It is with great pleasure that we realize that some of the men do appreciate a diversion from the straight technical work and delve into such a course as the present one in "Modern Drama." It is the interest of men of that caliber that furnishes the type of men needed on the staff of our paper.

While it may be a far off day until the Institute expands, we hope that the undergraduates of that day may have the privilege of electing more liberal work than the men can at present. While we would hardly approve of the attitude of Dr. Meiklejohn, who advocates four years of liberal work to precede a technical training, a few hours a week devoted to non-technical courses of a varying nature would certainly be a great boon to the men.

We realize that the present situation in the college would not permit any such radical change, but we hope that we may interest more of the men in the

### THE SLIPSTICK

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

### NOT ONLY FLIVVERS

And we've noticed this also  
As sure as you're born  
The worse the flivver  
The louder the horn.

—D. C.

We told you prosperity was in sight—five contributions this week, two new contributors. It won't be long now.

### No Wit Here

Prof: "Now after working through this problem we find x equals o."

Frosh: "Gee, all that work for nothing."

—Micro-Mike

Sap—"One kiss from you, and I could die happy."

Bored One—"Here's your kiss. Hurry up."

—Chester

### (Lucky Guy)

"You can take your finger off that leak in the pipe now."

"Thank heavens! Is the plumber here at last?"

"No—the house is on fire."

—Phil J.

They come too smart around here so we will refrain from printing any more puzzles. That question we had in this column last week, we thought was a hard one and would take a couple of weeks anyway for an answer. But on Wednesday, lo, and behold! The Coed, (a new contributor) says "the waitress knew he was a sailor because he wore a sailor suit." Smart girl, and right you are Coed, says us. Now we will have that prize as soon as we drop our guessing stick again.

P. S.—You can have the other two prizes, too. Thanks, Coed.

If a woman's intuition is so wonderful, why does she ask so many questions.

—R. S. F.

### Soft Job

She: "I suppose you are on the football team?"  
He: (proudly) "Well, yes; I do the aerial work."  
She: "What is that?"

He: "I blow up the footballs."

—L. L.

### Opportunity Is Knocking

Can you connect two points with a single straight line without crossing or retracing a line, putting each pony in a separate field? If so, I can make a Civil Engineer out of you in 10 lessons. Send no money, merely pay the postman ten dollars and forty-two cents (\$10.42) plus a few pennies postage on arrival. Lessons will be sent in a plain unaddressed package with no stamps. Send your answer in now, and try your luck on the Free Buick Car. Ed Curdlecake of Musclebound, Iowa, made four hundred dollars the first day. One thousand dollars in cash prizes for promptness. Don't delay! Send your solution in now to Uncle Joe, Box 6423D, Farmer's Institute of Technology, Paducah, Kentucky.

—Freddie the First

A pessimist is a lad who doesn't expect to live the rest of his life.

The trouble with love is that too many people take it to heart.

### No Sale Here

Big Devil: "Who's the new arrival?"

Little Same: "A salesman."

B. D.: "What does he sell?"

L. D.: "Fire escapes."

—Joe

The best thing to take when one is run down is the number of the car.

—Walt

What's the Diff. The Exercise Is Good for Him  
"Al, where's Hal?"

"If the ice is as thick as he thinks it is, he's skating. But if it's as thin as I think it is, he's swimming."

—Phil J.

Micro Mike says that his idea of a most unfortunate case is a seasick person with lockjaw.

### WHY?

Her: "Good night, thanks for the ride."

Him: "Oh, that's all right, I'd like to give you your last one."

—"The Coed"

One lad when told to write an original theme for his English class, did so—even the spelling was original.

'Didja' hear the one about—

—K. K.

courses now offered. They are all well worth while; it is with the deepest regret that we realize the loss of Dean Monin's course in philosophy. Every man has the privilege of acquiring as much of a cultural education as he deems necessary; not solely in the classroom, but also through well chosen reading. A. B. A.

## Professor Henry Leopold Nachman

(A Biographical Sketch)

BY CHARLES BLAHNA, '31

Henry Leopold Nachman, associate professor of Thermodynamics, was born in Sommerfeld, Germany, on March 25, 1879. At the age of nine he came to the United States and attended school at Boston, Massachusetts for a short time. Even at this early age something seemed to draw him to the Armour locality and it was not long after that he came to Chicago, and attended the Mosley grammar school at 24th Street and Michigan Boulevard. From there he went to the North Division high school and the Hyde Park high school, being graduated from the latter in 1897. Lack of funds and an intense desire for a college education induced him to attempt to work his way thru college and, therefore, he registered at Armour during the same year. A short time after the beginning of the semester, however, he decided it would be better to make a little money first and so he devoted his full time to the part time position which he held at the Chicago Public Library. One year later he re-entered Armour, still retaining his Library position, however. He received his Bachelor's degree in 1902 and the degree of Mechanical Engineer in 1906, both from Armour.

After graduation, Professor Nachman went to work for the Fairbanks, Morse Company, of Beloit, in the engine testing laboratory. In 1903 he returned to Armour presumably as an instructor of machine design, but was given a class in descriptive geometry instead. Drawing from the experience later gained in teaching ma-

chine design, he wrote the book which is now a standard text at the Institute.

In 1909, he married Stephanie Freund and they have a son and daughter. The boy attends Hyde Park High School, and the girl the University of Chicago.

When asked what societies and fraternities he belonged to, Prof. Nachman said, "The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Tau Beta Pi, and the best class that was ever graduated from Armour."

His outside work consists of consulting and sales. At present he is on the engineering and sales staff of the Ray Burner Company of Chicago. Besides selling oil burning equipment, playing tennis, and fishing, Professor Nachman stated, with a twinkle in his eye, that he also enjoyed teaching thermodynamics. Possibly he meant that he enjoys the foolish mistakes the students always make in attempting to master the subject, since he was marking quiz papers at the time.

## Professor Ladd Visits Armour

Albee L. Ladd, former Associate Professor of Mechanics at Armour, returned to the scenes of his teaching in a visit last Thursday, March 6th. Professor Ladd is on a four months' vacation from his position in Colombia, South America, and is spending a portion of his time in Chicago visiting friends prior to leaving for his home in Minneapolis, Minn.

Professor Ladd entered the University of Michigan in 1904 and graduated four years later with a B. S. degree. He came to Armour in 1912 as an Associate Professor of Mechanics. He left the Institute after three years of service, and

## Inquiring Reporter

Question—Do you think that Armour should have a debating team?

H. Combs, '32, Ch. E.—Yes. It would be a good thing for the school. Other colleges have them. Why not Armour?

L. Jammer, '32, M. E.—Yes. I think it would be a good idea to interest students along this line.

H. Abendroth, '32, E. E.—Yes. I believe it would be a good idea although it takes considerable time. Time is a trifle scarce for a student at Armour.

A. Reglein, '30, F. P. E.—Yes, if there were more hours in a day.

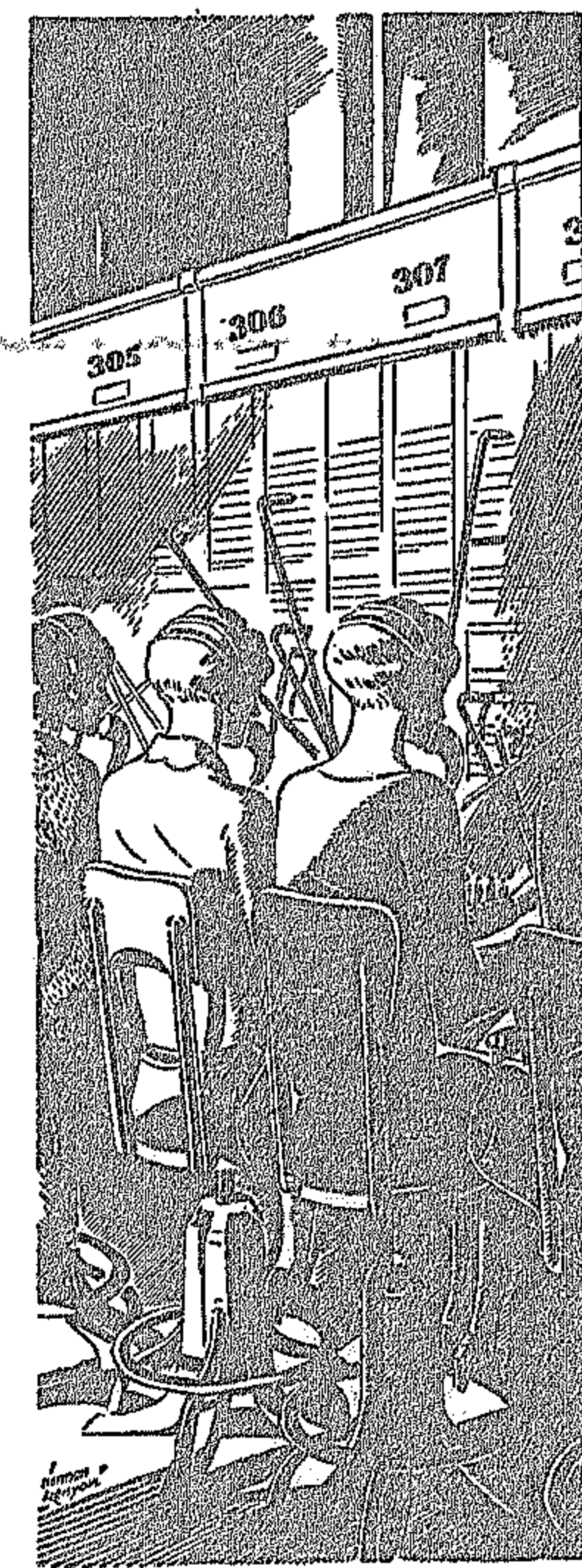
H. Fishman, '33, Ch. E.—A debating team proves that the students think of something besides technical subjects, but I think that a student does enough debating on his homework problems.

Gus Jensen, '33, Ch. E.—Yes, I do. This helps the student equip himself to sell his idea to others which is quite necessary to the engineering profession.

went to Fort Sheridan, the Reserve Officers Training Camp. He received a commission as captain and served overseas during the war. His excellent record caused the war department to commission him as a Major. After the war, he returned to his home, where he worked for the State Highway Department. After several years, he was selected by a Minnesota concern to supervise highway and railway engineering construction in Colombia, South America. Accordingly, he went to South America and is able to return to the United States every four years, a four months' vacation each time. Professor Ladd enjoys his work very much and has many interesting events to mention concerning his work in Colombia.



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An interesting example of organization is the development of long distance telephone business. Men and women of the Bell System made this service worthy, and the public has recognized this by its greatly increased usage.

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