

Armour Tech News

Student Publication of the
ARMOUR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Published Weekly During the College Year



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$2.00 Per Year Single Copies, 10 Cents Each

MANAGING BOARD

Editor-in-ChiefOrville T. Barnett, '33
Associate EditorJames W. Juvinall, '33
Managing EditorRobert F. Rychlik, '33
Business ManagerRaymond E. Nelson, '33
Faculty AdvisorProfessor Walter Hendricks

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

News EditorE. E. Eberth, '33
Assistant News EditorN. E. Colburn, '34
Copy EditorF. W. Paine, '33
Assistant Copy EditorW. T. Dumser, '33
Assistant Copy EditorE. G. Avery, '34
Feature EditorHarold W. Bodinson, '33
Architectural AssistantE. C. Kubicek, '33
ReviewsR. B. Tague, '34
.....H. Monger, '33
ColumnistG. L. Bonvallet, '32

Reporters

H. Fishman, '33 B. B. Abrams, '35
J. J. Bachner, '34 C. K. Goldberg, '35
W. Krol, '34 R. Kercher, '35
V. Rimsha, '34 E. N. Searl, '35
J. A. Scheyer, '34 G. W. Wheaton, '35
D. G. Storey, '34

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Sports EditorH. F. Becker, Jr., '33

Reporters

C. H. Fox, '32 S. J. Viktora, '34
H. W. Davidson, '34 R. Armsbury, '35
R. A. Fleissner, '34 T. F. Jones, '35
B. Hanson, '34

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Advertising ManagerM. A. Collick, '32
Asst. Advertising ManagerJ. L. Kampwirth, '33

Advertising Assistants

L. Ingram, '35 T. F. Quilty, '35

Circulation ManagerR. Dufour, '33

Asst. Circulation Mgr.M. J. Erisman, '33

Circulation Assistants

C. B. Sommer, '33 J. Schreiner, '34
L. Marcus, '34 E. A. Svoboda, '34

Vol. IX FEBRUARY 23, 1932 No. 2

There is a spectacle grander than the ocean, and
that is the conscience.

Victor Hugo,
Born Feb. 23, 1802.

The Student Activity Fee

Why do we pay, in addition to our tuition and laboratory fees, a sum totaling seventeen dollars each year that is known as the student activity fee? What do we get for our money? Why no football team at Armour? Why do we not have student government? The answer to all of these questions is the A. T. A. A.

The Armour Tech Athletic Association was organized by Professor John J. Schommer and Harold W. Munday '23 to secure for Armour newspaper publicity through a football team. Although this objective was never reached, it is well that you know all the details connected with the A. T. A. A. so that each of you may become better members in that organization. The association as it now stands provides for student government. Because of a very negligent president of the Association several years ago, many of its powers fell into disuse and its constitution became dust-laden along with the disappearance of two important offices in the student governing body.

After the payment of all costs for the teams already in existence at Armour, a surplus was to have been built up so that a successful and well-equipped football team might be launched. But, as fast as this surplus was built up, organizations sprang into being and drew upon the funds of the A. T. A. A. These groups were the band, the glee club, the orchestra, the tennis team, the swimming team, the track team, the golf team, the boxing team, the rifle team, etc.

Do you get your money's worth from the A. T. A. A.? That is an important question which might be answered by the average student in the negative. Again this negative answer is an indication of lack of school spirit upon the part of the person who answers in that manner. This lack of school spirit has resulted in the actual overlooking of two officers for whom provision has been made in the constitution of the A. T. A. A. The lack of one of these officers is directly responsible for the fact that two dances were omitted last year; while at least one dance is not being scheduled for the same reason this year.

You, students, know that you receive the *Engineer*, *Cycle*, and free admission to all athletic contests, concerts, and plays as a result of this activity fee. Do you know that it also provides for student government? Do you know that the thankless job of collecting and spending class dues is done by the A. T. A. A.? Have you as a member of the Armour Tech Athletic Association ever seen the constitution of that body? Are you interested in the seventeen dollars that you spend? Are you a thinking student or a robot? Your reaction to our next editorial will determine that question.

O. T. B.

"The Slipstick"

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

The Lady That's Known as Flu

A bunch of germs were hitting up
In the bronchial saloon,
Two bugs on the edge of the larynx, too,
Were jazzing a ragtime tune,
Back to the teeth in a solo game
Sat dangerous Ack-kerchoo,
And watching his pulse was his light of love
The lady that's known as Flu.

This poem (?) is respectfully dedicated to all those students who have been absent from classes this season on account of flirtations with "the lady that's known as Flu." We are a member of this tribe but (unfortunately for you readers) we only had a touch of it.

Joe Fagen said that the best thing to do was to eat oranges and drink warm water. We drank warm water and ate oranges until we were blue in the face, and as a result we were out of school for two days. After this we'll take the advice of Joe Fagen.

The perception of the ludicrous is a pledge of sanity—Emmerson.

So that any of you fellows who can't "see" our jokes know where you belong.

Clerk: "Can you let me off tomorrow? My wife wants me to go shopping with her."

Boss: "No. I'm sorry, but we are too busy."
Clerk: "Thank you sir. You are very kind."

SPEED PLUS

"And how," asked the lawyer, "did you hear or figure that you heard the bullet whizz past you twice?"
"Once," began the dorky, "when it whizzed past me, and once when Ah passed it."

—Wattsit Tuhyuh.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT—

Club member: "I say, old man, a fellow I know is charged with stealing whiskey. Will you take the case?"
Lawyer: "Certainly. Send it around to my office."

An Irishman coming out of the ether ward after an operation, exclaimed very loudly:

"Thank the Lord! that's over!"
"Don't be too sure," said the man in the next bed, "they left a sponge in me and had to cut me open again."
"Why they had to open me, too, to find one of their instruments," added another patient.

Just then the surgeon who had operated on the Irishman stuck his head in the doorway and yelled:

"Has anybody seen my hat?"
Pat fainted.

Juvenile Education Department

Teacher: "As we step out of doors on a cold winter morning and look around us what do we see on every hand?"

Boy: "Gloves."

Same teacher (helping boy to fasten coat): "Did your mother hook this coat for you?"

Same boy: "No mam, she bought it."

Prosperity and depression will always be here, Undoubtedly produced by financiers.

These ups and downs are like the sine wave, Why don't they square it and keep it up grade.

If they knew math and the equation of life. The tricks they'd perform could end our strife.

So I'll recommend a reform to them.

Exam in Calc I. for assistants to come.

Colligator.

SPIRITUALISTIC MEETING

Speaker (at labor meeting): "And where, I ask you, is Julius Caesar? Where is Attila, the Hun? Where are Moses, Robert Bruce, Charlemagne, and Hannibal?"
Enthusiastic usher: "Stand up, boys, so's the boss can see you!"

Judge: "Pat, I wouldn't think that you'd hit a man like that."

Pat: "Suppose he called you an Irish slob?"

"But I'm not an Irishman."

"Suppose he called you a Dutch slob?"

"But I'm not a Dutchman."

"Well then suppose he called you the kind of slob that you are?"

Some Privilege

Judge: "You are charged with running your car sixty miles an hour, smashing a telephone pole, going through a plate glass window, and injuring six people. What have you to say?"

Sweet young thing: "Well, doesn't the fifteen dollars I pay for my license entitle me to some privileges?"

—To Be Prepared in the Future

Diner: "Waiter, will you put a sample of this gravy in a bottle for me?"

Waiter: "Yes sir, but for what reason, may I ask?"

Diner: "I want to get a vest to match."

It's tough, men, with no more vacations for a while. Christmas, Mid-term, Lincoln's and Washington's Birthday vacations prevented our doing any work at all. But we have hopes of doing a little yet.

THE BONGINEER

REVIEWS

MEN OF ART

By Thomas Craven

Did you ever take a trip through the Art Institute and wonder just what the bother was all about? Although you may have felt it, you probably did not voice an opinion that these paintings and exhibitions were downright nonsense. You felt that surely the great stone building would not have been erected for nothing; those two majestic bronze lions could not have been cast solely to decorate picture post cards. Art must be something which to someone is both a useful and an important thing.

Study Art Through Books

Inside the Institute, you gaze at the various pieces with a curious wish to know if you are expected to feel any unusual sensations mentally. Perhaps, you think, one ought to be able to go into a state of raptures for the sake of education, or culture (or something). But your native American sincerity forbids; you can only stand silent before the "masterpiece" and shuffle on to another after a moment.

If you have a sincere desire to appreciate art you should study its principles and personalities in advance. No one should visit an art museum or gallery with a guide book tucked under one arm like a high school history teacher traveling in Europe. The great personalities of art, the worlds they lived in, life as they knew it, and the work they accomplished can all be found in the book of Thomas Craven, "Men of Art". How these things found expression in their painting and sculpturing is also explained in a clear and easily read fashion.

The man of average intelligence and above average curiosity will recognize Thomas Craven for superior work in simplifying the subtle ideas in which an artist deals. He has made that difficulty a pleasant study.

The volume consists of twenty-one chapters, 500 pages, and covers artists and art from the time of Giotto, about 1200 A. D. to the modern mural paintings and futuristic cubism.

Da Vinci Was Well Versed

Leonardo Da Vinci was an architect, engineer, painter, mathematician, and poet. We might well say, "What a man." He invented the parallelogram of forces, designed several excellent buildings, made some powerful military machines, composed some fine sonnets and wrote a most original application for a job. He originated the method of sketching and illustrating his ideas about mechanics and machinery; mechanical drawing starts with Da Vinci. As an artist, his work has not yet been surpassed for imagination or drawing technique.

Michael Angelo also was an archi-

Radio Stars and Band on Vaudeville Tour

New York:—Box office drawing power of radio's big names will be given a thorough test when the Camel Quarter Hour goes on an extensive vaudeville tour of Mid-Western and Eastern cities, opening in St. Louis February 19. Morton Downey, Tony Wons and the orchestra under Jacques Renard will all be included in the stage invasion.

During the 12-week trip the program will be broadcast regularly from CBS stations in the various cities. Eight weeks of work have been definitely scheduled, calling for stage appearances in RKO theatres in St. Louis, Cincinnati, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Albany, Boston and Buffalo. Other cities which probably will see the act are Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore.

Arrangements call for the group to leave New York after the regular coast-to-coast broadcast of Tuesday, February 16. The following night they will broadcast from Cleveland and on February 18 they will transmit their program from St. Louis. Their theatre opening in the Missouri city will be the following day, Friday, February 19.

Officials of the vaudeville circuit are confident they will draw capacity houses during this tour of one of the

Armour Musical Club Heads Meet

Officers of the Armour Tech Musical Clubs are to meet today at a convenient hour. The purpose is to consider a revised constitution prepared by E. W. Carlton, business manager. The previous constitution was so antiquated that it was inadequate for proper operation at the clubs.

Tryouts are still being held previous to the regular rehearsals of the clubs. Those interested in music are urged to enter the clubs which appeal to their fancies. In addition to other advantages of a more cultural tone, gym credit is given for participation.

Armour maintains four distinct musical organizations which cooperate together under the title of the Musical Clubs. The orchestra, which has played for several assemblies this year, has been organized for several years. The band has been reorganized this year and is now in a healthy condition. The glee club, under the direction of Dr. Protheroe, has obtained some new music and is planning for an engagement of some sort in the near future. The fourth organization is "Stress and Strains," the student dance orchestra.

Regular practices and tryouts are held weekly at 5 o'clock in the Assembly Hall, as follows:

Orchestra—Tuesday.

Stresses and Strains—Wednesday.

Glee Club—Thursday.

Band—Friday.

tect, painter, sculptor and poet. He had not the genius of Da Vinci and kept a safe distance from the physical sciences. His strength was herculean, at sixty he could work a full day with his mallet and chisel sculpturing marble as fast as the best men of twenty-five.

Titian, the Business Man

Titian, the Venician portrait artist, had a shrewd eye for business. He painted the ugly wives of Doges making them beautiful and charming in oils without losing the resemblance.

Rubens, who operated a portrait factory, could work all day without letup. His assistants did the routine work but his masterful touch was always needed to give the work its distinctive character. This clever Belgian amassed a fortune and a fame unequalled by any artist before or since.

Suggested Art Subjects

Rembrandt, Goya, Velasquez, several Englishmen and Frenchmen are discussed by the author in his specific and clever style. Throughout, his favorite creed seems to be that only real men can produce real art. No room for sissies, dilettantes, red tie intellectuals, or "Bohemians" in his world of art. That explains in part its decline in the modern world. The best men have been attracted to other more profitable and useful fields. However, to offset this tendency there is a rising movement under way to employ the artist in assisting the architect and in mural decoration.

Fine, virile men of keen imagination can save art from the hold of the effeminate by using these novel and original forms. They can use as subjects "... the immensity of New York, the racketeering and banditry of Chicago, the cotton belt and hill billies of the south, the tractors of Kansas ..."

most popular programs on the air. They point out that never before has a radio act including three stellar performers been routed over an extensive circuit. They plan to place all of the strength of their exploitation department behind the act.

One of the interesting features of the tour is that for the first time a radio act will be billed under its commercial name. This will also be Morton Downey's first big vaudeville expedition since he has gained his huge radio following, although he has been featured in New York theatres frequently during the past year. Tony Wons has a considerable following in the Mid-West where he built up his early radio reputation. He has made personal appearances there. Jacques Renard will be seen in the middle west for the first time, although he has made public appearances in New York and Boston.

Theatre

What may be the greatest play of modern times is now in Chicago—the Theatre Guild's production of Eugene O'Neill's trilogy, *Mourning Becomes Electra*. Your critic, who frankly prefers lighter forms of the theatrical entertainment entered the Blackstone at the 4:30 opening, expecting to be bored by the fourteen acts of hate, murder, suicide, and inexplicable workings of the New England conscience. He found it, instead, gripping tragedy, in which the somewhat over-deadly aspects of the plot were made to seem logical and convincing by the great O'Neill.

O'Neill Uses Freud

The trilogy consists of three separate plays, all related however. They are *Homecoming*, *The Hanted*, and *The Hunted*; the first is given before the famous dinner intermission, and the other two after. Those who have taken Dr. Scherger's History of Civilization course are well prepared to make interesting comparisons between the Greek legend of fate, and O'Neill's modern interpretation of it in terms of Freudian theories. General Ezra Mannon, a Civil War hero of stern aristocratic Puritan family, corresponds to Agamemnon; Christine, his wife, to Clytemnestra; Lavinia, his daughter, is the Electra referred to in the title, while her brother Orin represents Orestes; and Captain Adam Brant follows the Greek character of Aegisthus. The Greek comparison is carried still further in the use of the Greek Revival style, which was the rage in this country up to Civil War time, for the settings representing the Mannon house, described by Christine as a home that is a tomb, a pagan temple front masking Puritan gray ugliness. These sets, by Robert Edmond Jones, are of exceptional quality, and should be of especial interest to architectural students.

General Is Poisoned

The plot, which follows the Greek, and is not meant to be a dark secret to you as you enter the theatre, begins with General Mannon's return from the war to a daughter with an abnormal love for him, and a wife who has grown to hate him; the latter helps nature along, during the General's heart attack, with a little poison. When Orin returns from the front, sister Lavinia, who despises her mother, persuades him to kill Christine's lover, Captain Brant. As a result of this, Christine commits suicide; Orin feels responsible for this, and is taken by his sister on a trip around the world, but winds up suicide himself.

This leaves Lavinia, the last of the Mannons, to spend the rest of her life in the old house, with "the Mannon dead." Thus it is said that mourning becomes her, as the title states.

Character Studies Are Good

O'Neill has made some remarkable character studies going into the Puritan conscience (or lack of one), in a way that corroborates my lifelong opinion of Puritanical righteousness. Lavinia is a strong, masculine, and relentless character, tough enough to live on in remorse after the others have been killed off; Christine is the only consistently human character in the family, but she is not of Mannon blood; Orin, with his jealous dislike of his father and Captain Brant, and his morbid devotion to his mother, and later his sister, is a weak character, easily influenced by the domineering Lavinia and the sentimental Christine.

Techniques Contrast

Some interesting comparisons can also be made between *Electra* and *Grand Hotel*. O'Neill's masterpiece is slow and detailed, lingeringly gruesome, though it holds your interest all the way, no small accomplishment; the Vicki Baum melodrama is more superficial, glancing with lightning-like rapidity into the various keeholes of the hostelry, and relying to a great extent on trick staging and mechanical scene changing. Both techniques are effective, but more unlike plays in the smash-hit class are rarely found.

In conclusion those not afraid of a little, or should I say a lot of heavy, thoughtful, and at the same time gripping, drama should not miss *Mourning Becomes Electra*, which is said to be in for three weeks only.