



SIDELINES

By LEROY BECKMAN

WITH OUR PRESENT occupancy as students of higher learning, we have the opportunity of being back and silently observing the facts of government. Government for good and government for bad, both of which would naturally contribute to our perplexity. We observe good national government occasionally, which in turn is counteracted by undesirable local government. Now about the local government—that of the city, county, and state?

THE LOGICAL sequence of local government might be termed as that of a city in a county in a state. The city is fundamental in existence, it is an element of the state. Likewise, the state is an element of the nation. How about the county? Taxes for city, taxes for the state, and—in all its absurdity—taxes for the county. There does exist the possibility of eliminating the burden on the public by consolidation or eliminating entirely, the counties of the state.

THOUGHTS pertaining to county problems have been fairly consistent for the past four or five years, but they reached the peak at the time of President Roosevelt's inauguration. The president is quoted as saying, "We have a system of county government whose general form and structure is no more fit for its purpose than the ox cart would be for the task of supplying modern transportation between New York and Chicago." The president added, too, that a large majority of the states are contending with the same problem, that of financing county administration.

ARE COUNTIES necessary? We venture to say that their existence under present circumstances is not called for. In the city, such as Chicago, we have an organized government in the city hall—a staff of supposed experts, each of which specializes in some phases of city government and all of whom draw heavily on city funds. In addition to the foregoing government there exists another government of similar construction in the very same city—the county administration. In the case of large cities, counties are largely dominated by the city government—which sets the county administration as an exact duplicate and not worth the expenditures incurred in that direction. Most certainly the present county system of government is obsolete.

PROFESSOR T. H. REED of the University of Michigan, an authority on state government, submitted an article recently in a magazine devoted to problems of state government. Pertaining to county government, the authority says: "Modern means of transportation have made obsolete the traditional areas of local government, city, county, township, school district—all once were areas practically adapted to the needs of government. The county—the unit through which the state provides for elections, highways, justice, and for the assessment and collection—was so laid out that a farmer could drive in a buggy or backroad from farm to court house and return between morning and evening chores. . . . Have we that cause for similar conditions today?"

THE DEPRESSION has created a tax-conscious people. Counties have been continually losing population to the towns and cities, thereby increasing the tax burden on the rural districts. The cities do not need the county, and the rural districts cannot support the county administration. Naturally any sane person subjected to taxation would object to present county government—have in the sea of local administrations. Why not be a sane person?

Junior Jacket Bid Given to Mandel's

In a short time another jacket will be seen worn about the campus, as the bid for junior class jackets has been placed with Mandel Brothers by the jacket committee.

This committee under the chairmanship of C. Handler has been working conscientiously for the purpose of placing the bid for jackets. A jacket was previously selected and plans were well under way for the making of it when the junior class decided that it didn't wish to pay the rather steep price asked. The committee, therefore, set about to place the bid with another concern. Marshall Field's offered a sample but this was rejected because it was not the type wanted. It has now been definitely decided that Mandel Brothers will make the jackets.

Moreover, orders will be taken as soon as the buyer returns from New York. It is expected that those who wish to get jackets can be measured next week, starting Monday, April 16. The price will be somewhere near \$5. According to information from the committee it should be a jacket of the class will be well satisfied with in that it will be good looking, made of good material, and last but not least, it will retail at a reasonable price.

It is certain that the jackets will be ready for wearing before Junior Week, which will enable the juniors to show their colors on this prominent occasion.

Societies to Hold Monthly Meetings

Under a plan fostered by Arthur Highman and Roland McFarland the engineering societies of Armour will hold a joint meeting once a month, next semester. The plan is to secure representative speakers from each of the engineering societies to speak before the joint meeting. Thus the engineers will hear a chemist one month, a civil engineer the next and so on.

With this plan the speakers committee will be able to secure the most prominent speakers in their fields, since a large audience will be assured. The audience will also hear more diversified subjects.

The regular meetings of the different societies will be held just as before.

Winner of Contest to Receive Free Bid

Not to be outdone by any of the previous social committees, the freshman and sophomore committees are leaving nothing undone that will assure the success of their dance.

As has been the custom in the past they are fostering a poster contest and to insure participation are offering a prize of a free bid to the winner. No restrictions are placed upon the size or color of the poster. The following information is offered for the benefit of those interested: place, Hotel Knickerbocker; date, April 12, 1934; time, 9 p. m. to 1 a. m.; orchestra, Dell Coon; price of bid, \$1.75.

Entries will not be accepted after April 11, and are to be left in Dean Hella's office.

Chess Club Will Play Return Match Friday

An election of officers took place at a meeting of the Armour Chess Club held last Friday and because of the fact that the majority of members are graduating, R. Hella, the only active student member remaining, was unanimously elected president.

The return match with the Polish American Chess Club, formerly the South Side Chess Club, which has originally scheduled for last Thursday, was postponed until Friday, April 13.

FROSH-SOPH HOLD MEETING; DISCUSS DANCE AND HATS

Six Frosh Teams Enter Interclass Soft Ball Tournament

LUKAS ADDRESSES FROSH

In a peaceful and business-like session, the freshman and sophomore classes met last Friday, primarily to talk over their coming dance, but also, for the freshmen, to hear something on the subject of green hats and the coming inter-class, inter-departmental, intra-mural soft ball tournament.

Michael Lukas, chairman of the freshman board of control, told the freshmen that the upper classmen had no desire to force them to wear caps, but hoped rather that they would wear them of their own accord, recognizing in them a device promoting class unity and school loyalty. He stressed the fact that the time until the rush is short, and that the freshmen have generally won the rush in the past.

Lukas also mentioned that the freshman student activity fee would probably cover the cost of the hats in the future, and the hats would be served out to them on the first day of school.

Harry Tice and John Larson, freshman and sophomore presidents, also mentioned the hats, and talked about the baseball tournament.

Larson, on behalf of the *Armour Tech News*, announced the tournament and explained how the freshmen might participate. Six men were chosen by acclamation to take charge of the freshman team.

The two social chairmen, Murray Hughes and Paul Reh, had previously opened the meeting with an appeal for the loyal support of both classes in the Soph-Frosh dance, to be held April 27 at the Knickerbocker hotel. Both promised that the dance would be one of the finest Armour has ever seen.

Eta Kappa Nu Pledges Five Men At Meeting

Delta Chapter of Eta Kappa Nu, national honorary electrical engineering fraternity, pledged the following men at a meeting held last Friday: D. N. Chadwick, '34; J. H. Morrissey, '34; V. A. Hedlund, '35; and L. F. Higgins, '35.

Opportunity Exists in Oil Fields For Graduates of Engineering Schools

Since graduating students of engineering have, in the last few years, experienced difficulty in procuring positions in their fields, they should investigate the opportunities of applying their engineering knowledge to other industries. Among these are the drilling and production branches of the oil industry, which according to J. B. Wells '07, has openings for graduates in mechanical and electrical engineering.

Project Strikes at Great Depths

The future outlook in this field is better according to the opinions of the best informed men in the industry. They believe the discovery of new oil fields will not be confined to the depths of 2,000 to 2,500 feet as they have been in the past. It is their belief that depths ranging from 12,000 to 20,000 feet will be common, since many wells are now deeper than 7,000 feet.

This trend toward deeper drilling calls for a great deal of work on the part of designing engineers to collaborate with the oil company engineers. A thorough knowledge of the equipment used in the field is of great value to designers and since many of those employed at present have had no practical experience, the

Tau Beta Holds Initiation Rites

Formal initiation ceremonies of Illinois Beta of Tau Beta Pi were held last Friday evening in the chapter rooms for A. J. Anderson, G. F. Kojnik, W. R. Aborn, A. E. Lauchlin, B. N. Searl, and G. W. Wheaton. These men were pledged publicly two weeks ago after a consideration of the qualities of scholarship, character, and activity about Armour.

Following the ceremonies a banquet was served in the Faculty Grill. About thirty men attended. Norman Colburn, chapter president, served as toastmaster, calling on the various faculty members present on their behalf. The responses were almost all in the nature of reminiscences of early chapter or school activities. The faculty members present were Professors Head, Leigh, Libby, Moreton, Nachman, Penn, and Wells.

After the banquet, the group adjourned to the Curt theatre where they witnessed a performance of the romantic comedy, "The Curtain Rises."

A. I. Ch. E. Hears Talk on Bombs

An address on bombs and explosives was presented at the A. I. Ch. E. meeting of last Friday by Dr. Clarence E. Madsen, an Armour alumnus and head of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratories at Northwestern university. He is also the coroner's chemist of Cook county.

The types of infernal machines used in commercial warfare were discussed by Dr. Muehlberger. The engineering of the infernal machine is of a high class type. It is necessary for the analyst to prescribe ingenious methods in opening these bombs. A stethoscope is used to determine any familiar ticking which would identify an infernal machine under investigation as a time bomb. It is often necessary to take x-rays of an explosive to see the wiring.

The tear-gas bomb, which is a common type of explosive, has a very great power in blinding eyesight. It is impossible, no matter how hard one tries, to open your eyes in the vicinity of an exploded tear-gas bomb. In closing his lecture Dr. Muehlberger displayed a new bomb, one of which had not been analyzed as yet but had been aged. Diluted nitroglycerin, a few explosive powders, a bomb capsule, a fuse, a loaded stench bomb, and a few other minor explosive articles completed the exhibition.

TECHAWK BASEBALL TEAM TO PLAY SEASON OPENER AT UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Meet Maroons in First of Two Game Series This Afternoon; Chicago Normal on Thursday

NORTHWESTERN IS OPPONENT FOR NEXT MONDAY

All members of Home "A" are requested to attend a meeting of the society tomorrow morning, April 11, at 10:30. The place of the meeting will be announced in the bulletin board.

Deans to Attend Iowa U. Ceremony

Next Friday and Saturday Deans Penn and Head and Professor Finnegan will attend the laboratories open-house at the University of Iowa which has recently installed new and improved hydraulics and mechanical engineering laboratories.

A program has been drawn up that will include speakers from all the prominent universities of the middle west. The principle speaker is Dean Willard, newly elected president of the University of Illinois and Dean of Engineering. He will talk on "Laboratory Practice" and a general discussion will follow. The Dean of Engineering at Iowa, Dean Williams will conduct the program. J. M. Woodward, consultant for the Tennessee Valley Project, will point out the inaugurations in the new Hydraulics laboratory.

The following heads of the different mechanical engineering departments from mid-western colleges will discuss the new laboratory: Larson (Wisconsin), Schrage (Missouri), Craft (Iowa) and Barker (Iowa).

There will be entertainment in the evening which will also be attended by the wives of the educators. The meeting will be concluded Saturday afternoon with a golf game.

Plans Completed for A.S.M.E. Convention

Mr. R. N. Leonard, field secretary of the A. S. M. E., presented a plan last Friday morning to the Armour branch for the coming convention to be held in Chicago at the Allerton hotel, April 23-24. The convention is known as the Midwest A. S. M. E. student branch conference.

Seventeen midwestern engineering schools will send representatives to the Convention, Armour Institute and Lewis Institute acting as hosts. An important feature of the Convention will be the awarding of three prizes to be presented for the best papers—given orally—on some mechanical engineering topics. One student from each college will be permitted to present a paper, and the one having the best formulated topic and whose manner of presenting it to the audience is judged best, will receive the first prize, which is \$50. The second prize will be \$25 and the third prize \$10. In addition to this, students who have contributed most to the welfare of their student branch will be awarded the Brashear Biographies.

Campus Club Resumes Its Social Functions

Campus Club social activities were resumed once again at an initiation smoker held last Friday evening in their rooms in Chapin Hall. Four pledges were conducted through the formal initiation which was sponsored by the club members, those initiated being: J. E. Malovec, E. A. McMullen, G. Olafsen, and M. V. VanAllen, was the honored guest at the proceedings, and took an active part in the evening functions.

Diverse weather conditions necessitated the postponement of the initial practice game of the 1934 baseball season against Northwestern university at Ogden Field last Friday afternoon. Weather permitting, the Engineers will engage the Wildcats next Monday and Tuesday afternoons, the first of the two games to be played on the home diamond. Coach Kraft's proteges will travel to the Midway this afternoon to play the "opener" against the University of Chicago nine, another Big Ten opponent. Armour Tech will be hosts to the Chicago Normal team at Ogden Bowl next Thursday afternoon.

10th Season for Kraft

Bill Kraft, veteran baseball mentor, who is celebrating his 10th season as baseball coach at Armour, believes in the old saying that the bigger they are the harder they fall. Armour ball teams of the past few seasons confirmed this statement to the letter by continually rubbing their Chicago cousins in the dust. It may rightly be remembered that last year's encounters between the two schools resulted in two victories for the Techawks.

Tech Impressive Against Maroons

Without any outdoor practice worth speaking of the Tech nine functioned in mid-season style to defeat the Maroons 3 to 2 at Greenwood Field in last season's opening game. Mayer, Baumel, and Bushnell divided the pitching assignment and handed six hit baseballs to the opposition down to a pair of tallies. The Hawks scored a run in the eighth inning which later proved to be the winning margin on a timely hit by "Lefty" Mayer, scoring T. Omiecinski, who had opened the inning with a hefty double to deep left center.

In a return game at Ogden Field (Continued on page 4)

Plan Establishment of Radio Club Here

Plans for the establishment of a radio club, and later of a licensed amateur radio station at the Armour Institute of Technology have recently been made by a group of about 20 students who are interested in this field of engineering. The work of the radio club will be to build the station, and then to carry on experimental investigations along the lines of radio engineering.

Norman Pulliam, a freshman in the electrical department, is the leader of this group. He said that before the club can be formed, it will be necessary to secure a professor as sponsor, and a room for meetings and laboratory space. In regard to the latter, Pulliam has been asking for having any information about a room which will be available, to please inform him immediately.

"About nine tenths of the colleges in America, including the non-technical ones, have amateur radio stations and there is no reason why Armour, an engineering college, should continue to be without one," he said.

Ticket Sale for Play to Start This Week

Tickets for "The Roman" will be placed on sale the latter part of this week. This three-act production will be presented by the Armour Players on May 11, the Friday before Junior Week. General admission will be twenty-five cents, with a section of reserved seats at thirty-five cents.