



By Paul Schultz

ONE OF THE chief questions of the present day is that of academic freedom. Just what are we to be told and what truisms are to be withheld from us? The federal commissioner of education recently defined academic freedom as "the freedom of the learner to learn, not the freedom of the teacher to teach." The superintendent of Washington City schools voiced an opinion on this vital question when he said, "Teachers should confine themselves to giving pupils a clear idea of existing social order and some understanding of its strength and weaknesses." In contrast to this, a professor of Columbia, the academic cradle of so many of our leaders in the New Deal, stated that "powerful forces" were at work to destroy the freedom of the schools and demanded more of that freedom for the teachers to speak their minds in the classrooms.

THE COLUMBIA professor went further and said, teachers cannot be neutral when "Fascist rule by some privileged group" or government by the people is at issue. Whatever the basis for his arguments may be, his views were basically torn down by the stand which he takes. What the students want and should get is not the opinion of the instructor, but rather the unbiased facts and then the right to think and decide unswayed by the private opinions of other individuals. What this champion of academic freedom wants is not freedom of the learner to learn, but the freedom of the teacher to impress upon immature and easily swayed minds his own notions.

THE SUBJECT of academic freedom ties in intimately with one of the most sacred rights of the constitution, namely—the freedom of speech. It is for us, the voters of tomorrow, to decide. There seem to be only three choices before us. We can receive the facts from sources which withhold the evils, and never quite realize the faults and avoidable evils which we entertain, or we can receive the facts from sources which withhold the benefits, and which try to make us change radically from present forms and seek far afield for solutions to our problems, or we can receive the facts from unbiased and competent sources which not only show the benefits and evils of the present conditions but also point out the true conditions under those plans which radicals exalt as "idealistic."

THE QUESTION cannot be answered by quick and unmediated thinking but rather a correct and suitable answer can only be given after careful consideration and analysis of the situation. Neither can the question be thrown lightly aside for in that action would lie the greatest of all evils.

Chemical Fraternity Secures New Rooms

With the aid of Mr. G. S. Allison, Alpha Chi Sigma, national professional chemical fraternity has secured a suite of three rooms in Chapin hall. Previously they had shared a wing with Phi Lambda Upsilon and Salamander.

The new rooms are located on the first floor of 3339 Federal Street, the former Civil Engineering Museum. The members are busy redecorating the rooms with new style panelling to replace the old wall paper. They have purchased an entire living room, suite and other furniture from Theta Xi, the financing having been made possible by an intensive drive to contact old members. The fraternity is increasing its activities, especially its placement service.

A smoker to which a selected number of sophomores are being invited is to be held next week at one of the fraternity houses.

Stahle to Talk on Marine Insurance

At the next meeting of the Fire Protection Engineering society, on Friday morning, March 8, the members will hear the romantic story of the development of ocean marine insurance. The speaker, Mr. T. Alvin Stahle, of the Insurance Company of North America, is well qualified by experience and training to speak on this subject.

The society is fortunate in finding, in this inland area, a man familiar with ocean marine insurance. Because of his work in the Western Marine department of his company, Mr. Stahle is familiar with each of the allied subjects of inland marine and ocean marine insurance. He has lectured in the School of Commerce of Northwestern University.

The meeting will be at 10:30 A. M. Friday morning in the physics lecture room, and all students are welcome. Sophomore, junior, and senior fire protects are especially urged to attend.

Plans for the society smoker will be made after the dues, one dollar per year, have been collected. John Morrison will collect the money from the seniors; Raymond Peterson from the juniors; and George Svehla from the sophomores.

The meeting which was to have been held last Friday morning was called off because increased activity at the fire department drill school prevented Captain Arthur Brady, the speaker, from being present.

Civils and Archs to Hear Talk on Friday

Mr. J. J. Schmitt Jr. of the Federal Housing Bureau will give a talk on housing problems in "B" Mission next Friday morning at 10:30.

The talk should be of particular interest to all civils and architects. However, students of all departments are invited to attend the meeting. Chicago is recognized by the Federal Housing Bureau as a leader in housing projects and a number of engineers will be employed in carrying on the work.

Mr. R. A. Kirkpatrick will give his lecture on Boulder Dam, which he gave here recently, before the Chicago W. S. E. at the Engineering building in the near future.

Professor of Purdue Visits for Discussion

Armour was host last Friday to Professor R. Norris Shreve, who is connected with Purdue University as a professor of chemical engineering. The purpose of the visit was to discuss with Professor Harry McCormack the program for the Chemical Engineering division of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education which will convene at Purdue University on April 6. Mr. Shreve also spoke with Professor Finnegan, who formerly was in charge of arrangements.

Professor Shreve expressed his interest in Armour, especially certain features of the chemical engineering department which he said could be instituted to good advantage at Purdue, notwithstanding the size of that school as compared with the Institute.

Senior Mechanicals Inspect Boiler Plant

On Wednesday, February 27, the Senior Mechanicals, under the guidance of Professor Nachman, inspected the Laska Boiler and Engineering Corporation at thirty-second and Lincoln Streets. A test run was performed on a steam jet refrigerating machine for the benefit of the group, which consisted of about twenty students. A small group later made individual tests on various machines. Such inspection trips will be undertaken at regular intervals during the course of the semester. They will be under the direction of Professor Huntly.

SEE TRIUMPH OF ENGINEERS' SKILL IN BOULDER DAM

Bitter Political Fight Precedes Passage of Enabling Act.

W.S.E. SPONSORS TALK

Through the courtesy of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, the student body and faculty of Armour Institute of Technology was able to hear an inspiring lecture on Boulder Dam by Mr. R. A. Kirkpatrick, special representative of the company, last Wednesday morning. It was through the efforts of Dean Heald and the Armour branch of the Western Society of Engineers that this talk was secured.

Engineers Needed Soon

After being introduced by Dr. Hotchkiss, Mr. Kirkpatrick began by assuring the audience that there would be a need for engineers very shortly. He said that the Union Pacific Railroad lost many good engineers in the past few years, and that the company is anxious to rebuild their competent engineering staff with technical school graduates.

Corrects False Impression

In opening his lecture, Mr. Kirkpatrick corrected several wrong impressions that most people have about Boulder Dam. He explained that the dam is not located somewhere in the interior of the state of Colorado as commonly believed, but is about 30 miles southeast of Las Vegas, Nevada, in the canyon of the Colorado River where the river is the Nevada-Arizona State boundary. He also stressed the fact that Boulder Dam is not being built for the purpose of generating power, and is not being built for irrigation purposes, but is being built primarily for flood control.

The greater part of the talk consisted of a survey of the climatic and topographical conditions and political situation concerning Boulder Dam.

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Permanent program cards are overdue. Hand them in at once!

All seniors who expect to graduate in June should check their credits with Mr. Kelly at once.

Students who are interested in elective courses in English should leave their program cards with Professor Hendricks.

Civils Experiment On Expansion; Prove Courage Under 'Pressure'

By Norton Gerber

While it is a well known fact that metals expand according to the equation $l = l_0(1 + \alpha t)$, it is not a well known fact that gas tubing expands as it darn well pleases, especially if it is weak. Since Armour is fortunate in having two reputable civil engineers, S. S. and F. X. P., who are interested in physics, it may be very instructive to follow the "researches" of these intrepid engineers.

Not content with performing one physics experiment, these aggressive scientists decided to institute an experiment of their own—for the advancement of science. This experiment is one of the best ever devised for any course, because it involves the principals of mechanics, calculus, and the scientific method. In fact, more fame redounds to this experiment because of its origin in the brain of F. X. P., celebrated C. E., otherwise known as a musical note. (N. B.—A musical note is a periodic disturbance—Physics def.)

The experiment itself is quite simple—a true characteristic of genius (or imbecility). Gas tubing is firmly attached to the water faucet with rubber bands; the other end is firmly closed with a screw clamp;

Index of Seniors Nears Completion

During the past few weeks the Senior Placement committee, headed by Albert Lauchiskis, chairman, has been completing plans for the publication of a pamphlet which will contain information about the graduates that is of interest to the prospective employer. This pamphlet will be mailed to concerns throughout the country and will contain only such information as each senior may care to supply about himself. This information will consist of such data as: practical experience; membership in social and honorary fraternities; membership in technical and engineering societies; age, height, weight, nationality, and religion; activity in school life, such as athletics, publications, or clubs; proportion of tuition and expenses earned; and other miscellaneous information.

The actual cost of publication will be \$3.25, and the cost of mailing will be seventy-five cents. Since actual work on the publication cannot be started until the \$4 is paid, Lauchiskis requests each senior to make his payment as soon as possible.

Harmonic Motion To Be Math Club Topic

"The Analysis of Harmonic Motion" is the topic to be presented by Mr. Bronwell, a post graduate in the Electrical engineering department, at the next meeting of the Math Club at 10:30 Friday in Science Hall.

The program committee is developing the schedule for the rest of the semester, and will have it completed in a short time. Those who will have a place on the schedule include professors, students, and outsiders.

Everyone is invited to attend the meetings.

Civils to See Railway Association's Exhibit

Students in the Department of Civil Engineering will pay a visit next week to the exposition of the American Railway Engineering Association. Arrangements for the trip are being made by Professor Stevens.

Beginning next Monday, the Association will place on exhibit virtually every type of modern railway operating and maintenance accessory. The exhibit is being held in connection with the annual convention of the society.

A. S. M. E. Program Features Speaker

Mr. F. M. Van Deventer of the Cities Service Oil Company will be the principal speaker at a meeting of the Armour branch of the A. S. M. E. next Friday, March 8, at 10:30. The talk, one of a series of addresses which the speaker is making throughout the middle west, will be on the subject "Carbon Monoxide as a Contributing Factor in Highway Accidents," and will be illustrated by the use of lantern slides.

"Personal Rating" Investigated

One of the most important topics discussed at last Friday's meeting of the society was brought up by A. M. Lane, who introduced to the members a pamphlet published by the Engineers Council for Professional Development. The latter, composed of representatives from various engineering and educational societies, has compiled a questionnaire and outline to be used individually by junior engineers as a means for a personal appraisal of their own character and abilities. One of the booklets in which these questions are printed may be seen in the library, or additional copies may be obtained from the publishers directly.

A committee, composed of E. P. Auler, J. M. Birdsong, F. D. Cotterman, W. J. Gartz, R. Hella, J. Hlousek, A. M. Lane, B. L. Messenger, H. S. Nachman, and P. A. Reh, was appointed to discuss the "personal rating" pamphlets and to obtain the opinions of various employers on the qualities for which they look in hiring an engineer.

To Hold Smoker

Plans have been laid for the annual A. S. M. E. smoker to be held for all students in the mechanical engineering department on March 19. An admission fee of twenty-five cents will be charged, and may be paid to any member of the smoker committee, composed of R. Hella, A. M. Lane, F. L. Leason, A. S. Majerick, and H. L. Mayerowicz.

At the smoker, which is the only one to be given by the society this semester, the student speaker who will represent the Armour branch in a contest during the annual A. S. M. E. convention will be chosen.

Win and Loss Result from Rifle Matches

Last week Armour's Rifle team competed in two matches, beating the University of California, and losing to the U. of Iowa by a small margin. This week the team will shoot against the University of Iowa in a return match, and in the successive three weeks there will be matches with the Jefferson City, Mo., Rifle club. A meet is also scheduled with the Humboldt Park Rifle Club on March 7. This meet is being looked forward to with anticipation because of the keen rivalry of the two teams over a long period of time.

The officers of the club urge all men interested to make application on March 20, at 12:30 in the range. At this time a meeting will be held for the election of officers and the introduction of new men. Most of this year's team members are to graduate, and new material is necessary to uphold the records established by former teams.

Musical Clubs Score Success With Women

Fame, or maybe notoriety, seems to spread rapidly. Anyhow the Armour Tech musical clubs have found that their services are much in demand by members of the fairer sex. An organization of college women in Chicago is sponsoring a concert to be held at the McCormack Y. W. C. A. on Friday, March 8. The program will consist of selections from their large repertoire interspersed by new numbers never before used.

Dancing is to be enjoyed upon completion of the concert.

ARMOUR PLAYERS TO PRESENT TWO ONE ACT FARCES

Actors Go Frivolous in Presentation of Comedies

GIRL TO PLAY LEAD

In spite of sines, cosines, and the plate to grid transconductance of a duplex diode-triode, the Armour Players will take time out for the production of two diverting comedies, which will be presented at 11:30 Friday, March 8. The boys have been working conscientiously for a long period of time, and have refined their technique to a state of professional perfection.

Present Burlesque

These comedies are of distinctly different styles, one being a modern American type of burlesque, while the other, a Russian play, "The Boor," by Chekov has a more disguised humor. It is mocking and satirical, making light of human frailties. The situations, though not involved, are extremely amusing, and any person of perceptiveness will not fail to thoroughly enjoy both plays.

Girl in Cast

Of special interest to those astute burners-of-the-midnight-oil, the Armour firstnighters, is the fact that the lead of "The Boor," is played by Miss Martha Naylor, a talented young actress who is making her initial appearance behind the footlights of the "Mission" stage.

Tom Jones, Butler Girl in Cast

"Dress Reversal," the other comedy, discloses the grief of a director attempting to co-ordinate the actions of a group of amateur actors. The progress marches on backwards, and before the play is over, the wild eyed, frenzied director is in a state of near lunacy. Sidney Miner, who plays the part of the director and has studied Professor Hendricks' technique in producing plays, should well be able to give a realistic performance. Tom Jones, who was seen as "Baron Kassel," in the last production given by the players, plays the part of a butler who does not know the difference between "Ooglesnoops," and "Snooglesnoops," and pronounces the name "Dr. Middleburg," as "Drumblry."

List Both Casts

The cast for "Dress Reversal" is as follows:

Mrs. Van de Vander.....
.....William Emmerich
Dr. Middlebury.....Albert Schreiber
Prompter.....Sidney Kreiman
Miss Van Porter.....Budd Sills
Mr. Peterkins.....Joseph Haase
Coach.....Sidney Miner
Detective Munro.....Joseph Kubert
The Professor.....Herman Ross
The Butler.....Tom Jones

The cast for "The Boor" follows:
Elena.....Miss Martha Naylor
Gregory.....John Styrsky
Luka.....John Speropoulos

Tickets for the performances are now available at ten cents.

Chess Club to Meet Farragut Next Week

With its membership growing rapidly, the Armour Tech Chess club is now conducting a series of club tournaments among its members. N. Gerber, one of the outstanding players, is leading in the contest.

Having defeated the Farragut Chess club in January, the team is scheduled to play a return match on March 14. A return match with the Polo-American chess club is also planned for the near future.

To expand its club activities further, the Armour Tech chess club has now become a member of the Illinois Intercollegiate Chess Association. Four leading universities in the Illinois area are represented. They are, besides Armour Tech, Northwestern, Chicago, and the University of Illinois. Robert Hella and Prof. Ensz represent Armour in the Intercollegiate chess association.