

By E. R. Johnson and T. H. Watts

From Worcester Polytech comes the following "Student's Definition of Lecture."

...The process by which the notes of the professor become the notes of the student, without passing through the minds of either.

"Bull sessions" are being encouraged at Arizona State College at Tempe by an informal organization formed for the purpose. Go west, young man, but put on your boots!

Two roommates in the dorm have solved the problem of getting up in the morning. Every night before turning out the lights the two put 50 cents in the middle of the floor at a spot equi-distant from the two beds. When the alarm clock goes off in the morning, the one getting to the money first keeps it. And that still fails to determine which fellow has to turn off the alarm clock.

And now comes another survey to reveal that hazing and paddling have practically disappeared from western schools. (Ask any pledge about that!) The highlight of the article revealed that at the University of Oklahoma, where a panhellenic rule has banned hazing, one student said he had a flourishing business in manufacturing "bootleg" paddles.

The drum major of the University of Minnesota band does not practice with the band, but each Saturday morning he studies diagrams and must know where to be in relation to the yard markers and when to be there in relation to the music the band is playing. Next the coaches will be giving chalk talks for the members of the "heavy" checker squad.

An extra rapid system of X-ray photographs has been developed by which pictures of the heart standing still can be taken.

It seems that a young woman student at Cornell University Medical College in New York took a literary test in order to vote at the city elections and made the maximum number of errors allowed. Any more would have classed her as illiterate.

Baker University hopes to build a stadium with the help of a penny chain letter.

Provide Quiet Room For Research Work

To overcome the crowded and rather noisy conditions of the present mathematics office a research room has been provided where members of the faculty who are interested in intensive work in the field of mathematics can work without disturbance. This marks the first step taken by the Institute in this direction.

WELDING—

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subject of the meeting was: "Cutting and Machining with Flame." After talks on this subject were given, the flame cutting equipment was demonstrated by cutting animals in half inch metal with the use of a template. Professor Pearl said that many visitors showed surprise at the way metal could be machined with a flame.

The program of the society is:

Friday, January 24, 1936—8 p. m. Sheet Metal and Automatic Welding.

Chairman: Albert Reichmann, American Bridge Company.

Friday, February 28, 1936—8 p. m. Welding and Cutting on Railroad.

Chairman: R. G. Mason, A. T. & S. F. R. R.

Friday, March 27, 1936—8 p. m. Making and Welding Stainless Steels and Nickel Alloys.

Chairman: W. B. Keeler, Ingersoll Steel and Disc Company.

Friday, April 24, 1936—8 p. m. Design Standards for Welding.

Chairman: P. C. Huntly, Prof. of Mechanical Engineering, Armour Institute of Technology.

Friday, May 22, 1936—8 p. m. Weld Testing and Inspection.

Chairman: T. M. Jones, Welding Superintendent, Carnegie-Illinois Steel Co. South Works.

Professor Dutton Defends Employee

"Who Gets the Breaks?" is an article by H. P. Dutton, social science professor at Armour, in the November issue of *Factory Management and Maintenance*. He presents the point of view of the employee concerning the policy of large concerns as to promotion, training for managerial positions, and increase in pay. Professor Dutton is an associate editor of this magazine.

The article asks why plants employ no organized training program for their own employees, but instead get men from outside the plant. Such a policy induces the employee to look elsewhere—some place where his training and experience will be better appreciated—and consequently lessens the loyalty of employees.

When a "Pull" Counts

Often new men are promoted in preference to equally capable men of longer service. Personal ability and "pull" seem to influence employers more than the less obvious factors of loyalty, efficiency, and actual service.

The article also says that the key men—supervisors and managers are not paid what they are worth because they do not organize for higher wages as laborers do. Sometimes workers receive more income than their foreman. On the other hand some organizations are cluttered up with high-salaried executives who are not even interested in the organization.

A solution to this problem of poor management is, of course, much more difficult than the stating of it; but the only way to stimulate thought on the part of executives as well as employees is to show them the nature of the problem that exists.

Executive Material Scarce

Professor Dutton brings out the two sides to the question of training present employees. Often the employee does not possess the required ability and education for an advanced position even though he is a loyal worker. He says in the article: "In any organization committed to the policy of hiring from within, enough run-of-mine material must be passed through the screen to insure an adequate supply of that not-too-common type, the potential executive."

Considerable activity has been seen in the Physics department during the past few months, both in the development of courses and in testing work of various kinds. This year several new pieces of equipment have been added.

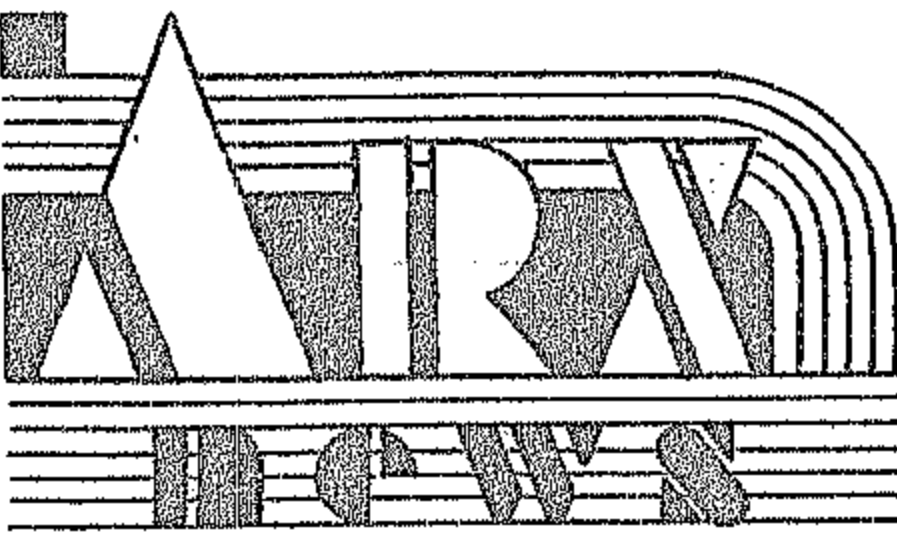
In the Heat Laboratory a new vacuum jacketed calorimeter allows the measurement of specific and latent heats with notable precision, both by the standard method of mixtures and by an electrical method. By means of this equipment the specific heat of corn meal was recently measured for an air-conditioning company which had been unable accurately to calculate the cooling of the substance. Also in use in the Heat Laboratory is an apparatus constructed in the shops of the Institute for measuring the conductivity of metals. This same apparatus has been used to measure the conductivity of some Lead-Tin alloys, the values of which were not known and which had previously aroused some litigation.

Obtain Equipment for Physics Lab

In the Light Laboratory several gratings and spectrometers are now in use for obtaining spectra of various materials. A considerable amount of work has been done in examining brass alloys for small amounts of aluminum detected by photographing the spectrum. For obtaining a good source of monochromatic light, a new sodium arc is now in use.

The course in Electronics will be offered during the second semester as an elective. This work is mainly on the physical principles of vacuum tubes. Much laboratory work is done on electron constants, vacuum line work and in electric discharge of gases.

A long test has recently been run on the life of some special portable storage batteries under specified charge and discharge conditions.



Well here we are, back at the old "grind" again, forsaking all earthly pleasures, going "on charette," cramming for finals and getting nowhere in a hurry. We all agree the recent vacation was "the nuts," but there are a certain few who would have it to start with New Year's day, since they needed the extra time to recuperate.

Speaking of Charettes though, reminds us that the Arx are presenting a dance to be known as "The Charette," which is appropriately characteristic of the night life of the Arx. So, once more, the boys will go on Charette, February 7. See you there!

Pausing for a moment from this mental jaywalking we notice Lennie Kaplan running about, not watching where he is going, and finally colliding with none other than Mr. Reed. Probably the effect of getting a mention commended on his Recreation center.

This calls to our attention that Johnstone and Kichaven received first mentions on their water colors and that Mott Sumner received a "First" on his arches.

Sometimes the boys are in a playful mood and finally wind up by playing a prank on some one, and these pranks have varied results. For instance when Pfendts' rubbers were filled with water his face turned a bright Pink.

"Pink" reminds us of "One Pinch" Lischer, who, very characteristically, wrapped a package containing a "Steel" problem with pink ribbon. Below the plate Dick placed a handful of nuts and then handed the package to S. M. Spears. "And nuts to you too," shouted S. M. in return.

Little Cuneo got his trousers wet in a sinking party led by the Seniors. Now "Little Minister" Johnstone conceived the bright idea to "sink" Joe Wagner. Better watch out Joe, Johnstone is a tough hombre.

Tom Tax.

A CHALLENGE

The N. Y. A. boys of the Mechanical Engineers' Department ("The Huntly Hunters") hereby challenge the N. Y. A. stooges of any department to any sport, pastime, or play—from football to ping-pong; from snowball fights to tit-tat-toe . . . anything . . . we'll win!!

For example one of the challenges no doubt will be basketball. Let us draw a radio picture for you. (No Ripleys from the balcony.)

To the theme song "A Huntlyng We Will Go," we, the Huntly Hunters, hurry and scurry down the floor until the poor Libbyng creatures, the on-comers, slowly Perrysh trying to catch us "Demons of the National Youth Administration!"

As soon as news of such a game gets around, Peebles from all over will Roesch to see us play!

We H. M. offer a special challenge to the N. Y. A.'s of the Civil Department. Of course the lads will leave Wells enough alone. It would be the Enaz of them if they did accept . . . they would be called "The Grievin' Stevens" afterwards.

Well G. S. (as good a name now as later) you can easily see who will win the Pennant. All we have left to say is, "If there are ten events, we will Wins-ton."

Capt. J. Heverdejs
Mgr. J. Lopina

A 7½-ton air conditioning unit was recently installed by the U. S. Army's Signal Corps in their telephone exchange at Fort Riley, Kan., to protect the equipment from possible recurrence of the damage caused by the dust storms of recent summers.

MUSICAL CLUBS—

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of O. Gordon Erickson, opportunity is offered of developing their musical talents in an atmosphere of congeniality.

"Secondly, as already pointed out, the musical clubs feel that in giving such a concert they are adding to the list of Armour's social events an entirely new note. They are looking forward to the further and continued development of their organizations made possible with the proceeds of this type of concert, and hope to finance trips to towns and cities around Chicago. It is hardly necessary to point out the value of such publicity as would be entailed by these trips, not only to the musical organizations of Armour, but to Armour Institute itself. With such incentives continually before them as preparing programs for tours and theater concerts, they might well be expected to make great improvements in the presentation of future programs. There is nothing like having a goal for which to strive.

"The organizations are indeed appreciative of the support given them in their new undertaking by the Women's Faculty Club of Armour. This is not the first evidence of their whole-hearted cooperation in fostering musical developments of the Institute. Those who attended the Spring concert in May, 1935, will recall that this same group of women made possible the hospitable social hour which followed that concert.

"The musical organizations are confident that they will have the whole-hearted support of Armour students as well as their relatives and friends. The organizations themselves are thoroughly in accord with the movement as shown by their enthusiastic acceptance of the idea. Already they alone have guaranteed the sale of half the tickets, the total number of which is 750."

Talk on Fireproofing Delivered to W. S. E.

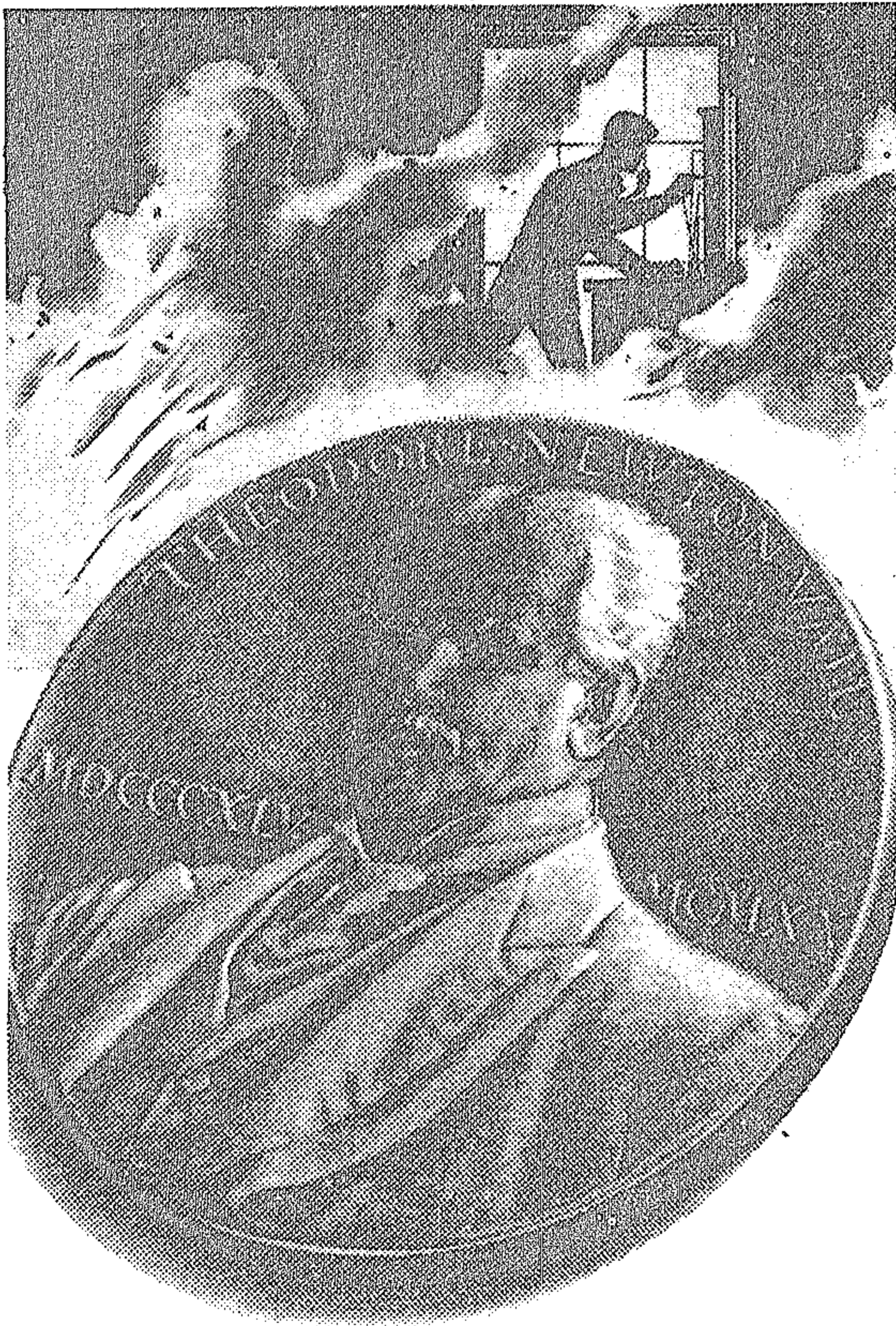
"Fires of six hours duration of warehouses are not uncommon, yet buildings such as these are considered fire-proofed when they are protected enough to withstand a blaze of four hours." This was brought out in a discussion of fireproofing of steel at the meeting of the Armour W. S. E. last Friday by Henry Penn, brother of John C. Penn, head of the C. E. department. "What's more," he said, "office and apartment buildings where conflagrations seldom last more than an hour or two at the most are protected to withstand a fire of four hours duration. This rather incongruous fireproofing design in Chicago is due to the antiquated Building Code Laws."

Mr. Penn who is the district supervisor of the American Institute of Steel Construction, and who was formerly an instructor at the Institute, revealed the fact that steel works as well at temperatures up to a thousand degrees Fahrenheit as at ordinary temperatures. For fires at which the maximum temperature is no higher than this safe temperature, steel need not be fireproofed.

Machine Shop Given Electric Pyrometer

Through the courtesy of Mr. James D. Cunningham and the efforts of Mr. Gately, machine shop instructor, the Republic Flow Meters Company has donated an electric pyrometer to the Armour machine shops, which reopened this year. Mr. Cunningham is chairman of the Board of Trustees and president of the Republic Company.

The pyrometer is used in the measurement of very high temperatures, particularly during the heat treatment of tools.



Back of a Medal

FIRE was raging through a Virginia village at midnight. A telephone workman sped there from his home . . . found the central office in danger.

Relieving the girl operator, he handled all calls . . . summoned help from nearby towns . . . 'til buildings on both sides collapsed and the telephone building caught fire. Quickly he disconnected the small switchboard . . . moved it to safety . . . improvised a telephone station in a field.

In 20 minutes he re-established communication. Next morning, the rescued switchboard was installed in new quarters . . . telephone service was resumed as usual.

That telephone man received the Vail Medal . . . one of several awarded each year to Bell System employees for outstanding public service. Devotion to duty . . . day by day as well as in emergencies . . . has given America the world's finest telephone system.



BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM