

## TAU BETA PI

This is the first in a series of articles on honorary fraternities at Armour.

"To mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their Alma Mater by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character as undergraduates in engineering, or by their attainments as alumni in the field of engineering, and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in the engineering colleges of America" is the purpose of Tau Beta Pi, national honorary engineering fraternity as given in the preamble of its constitution.

The Tau Beta Pi association was founded at Lehigh University in 1885 by Edward Higginson Williams, Jr. In 1906, Armour Tech's chapter, Illinois Beta, was founded.

Two elections of new members are held each year, the first within one month after the opening of the college year and the other within the first month of the second semester. At the fall election, juniors in the upper eighth of the class and seniors in the upper quarter of the class are eligible for membership. Juniors elected at this time are called "Honor Students." At the spring election, juniors in the upper eighth of their class and seniors in the upper quarter may be elected.

In electing men to Tau Bete due allowance is made for students who are self-supporting. After considering scholastic requirements, the selection is based on breadth of interest and unselfish activity in extra-curricular activities.

## Enthusiasm over Student Union Needed

Plans are being formulated among one of the engineering departments to provide a lounge for its members in a suite of rooms in the south end of Chapin Hall. Expenses and upkeep for this venture are to be donated by department members.

Such a move would be detrimental to the well-being of the Institute. In time, it would be a case of each department competing against the others in elegance of lounge rooms. As it is, at the present time, departmental and interclass competition is strong enough. In addition such a plan of departmental lounges would work up to an expensive competition.

The most practical and logical solution is to provide a general lounging space for the entire student body; a place where the student could recline in comfortable chairs, have a chance to peruse current magazines and listen to popular programs or athletic events over a radio. The ideal location for such a lounge is the Mission building. The addition of a spacious lounge together with the Faculty Club, the lunchrooms, the bookstore, and the assembly hall would make the building into a perfect Student Building.

This plan of a Student Union is not inconceivable. The few class rooms that are now in the Mission Building could easily be replaced by new rooms in Chapin Hall. The drafting room would be changed to the lounge, and other rooms scattered through the building would make conveni-

ent meeting places for various organizations in the school.

If such a plan receives the recommendation of the authorities, it would be reasonable to assume that students and alumni should share the expense of this undertaking. Needed now is the enthusiasm of the students over the idea and the showing of their willingness to cooperate with the school if called upon.

## From Druid Fires to Hallowe'en

Halloween is observed today in much the same manner as it was centuries ago in the British Isles, but is practically devoid of the superstitions which brought about the strange festivities.

The night is called Halloween because it precedes All Saints' Day, which was known as All-Hallows, All-Hallowmas, or Hallowmas in old England. All Saints' Day was instituted by Gregory IV in 835 because of the impossibility of keeping a separate day for every Saint. There were not even enough hours in a year to distribute among the canonized.

It being a policy of the Church to supplant heathen by Christian observances, Halloween was made to fall on the same day, October 31, as the ancient festival of the Druids, those strange priests of Northern Europe.

At this festival the Druids built fires on hill-top altars in Britain, France, and Ireland. This fire was carefully kept alive all year, and on the day of the festival, Druids and their people gathered at the hilltop altars from all around. The Druids encircled the fire, and, at a signal, quenched it amid the absolute silence of the assembled people. Then the fire was rekindled and the people gave a great shout. That night the fire was extinguished in every home and rekindled with fire from the Druids' altar. This protected the household from harm throughout the following year.

As late as the seventeenth century, farmers used to walk around their fields on that night carrying a lighted torch and chanting the proper words.

Many Halloween customs still survive. Of course no one believes that by cracking nuts, ducking for apples, pulling kale (a sort of cabbage), or eating an apple before a mirror will induce the spirits to divulge their secrets, but the pleasant revelries survive. In England, Scotland, America, Australia—everywhere the Saxon tongue is spoken—these Halloween festivities are kept up by young and old.

Great bonfires are still kindled, and, as the flames give way before the mysterious embers, weird ghosts dance around the fire on the tongue of the best story-teller of the group.

One of the Halloween frolics of small Scotch boys has long been "turnip bogies." Each boy selected the largest turnip he could find and hollowed it out and cut eyes and mouth in it. A candle was placed inside, making the "bogie" so successful that it persists as a jack-o'-lantern today.

## A Synonym for Work

To soothe the troubled minds of seniors who have noticed that there is no full time placement officer, the Board of Trustees is now considering the problem.

Placement of students and alumni is a part of the school program. With the details necessary and the time required to interview heads of the personnel departments of industries, a full time man is preferable.

However, if seniors do not fill out placement forms with the picture attached, the placement office is helpless. When would-be employers look over the records around February, many of the forms are missing or without pictures. Getting work and filling out placement forms seem to be synonymous.

## Oh, We Don't, Don't We?

Rousing, enthusiastic applause at the close of Dr. Stefansson's colorful presentation of his adventures in the land where cold shoulders are the natural thing, bore anything but mute evidence that such assemblies are vigorously appreciated and much to be desired.

When Dame Education comes to us in so pleasing an attire, man, we're dating her steady!

A shortage of football shoes will apparently force a large portion of the Gooding College football team to play barefooted. The "large portion" being George Blankley, who stands 6 feet 3 inches barefooted—barefooted because he needs a size 14 football shoe.

## The Slipstick

Cleave to the slipstick; let the slapstick fly where it may.

'Mornin', fellahs! The indiscriminate and liberal distribution of broken noses, weirdly shaped knog-gins, and the flapping of dislocated wrists and independent knee-caps is sure-fire evidence that foot-ball is definitely with us . . . in fact, all over us. We have succeeded in stealing, at great effort, no expense, and at no little risk, a Chinese poem of infinite charm and tenderness giving a chop-suey version of foot-ball as it is today. We proudly present.

Velly noisy yellee  
Muchee kickee blawl  
Lunny down to chusee  
Makee enemy glawl.

Buttee in le tummy  
Clackee on le shin  
Pilee on like woodpile  
Tuckee shirt-tail in.

Catchee 'lound le windtipe  
Gougee in le eye.  
Jumpee on to holdce  
Smashce like le fly.

Pushee in le wishbone  
Pullee on le leg.  
Make nose all over face  
Scrambled like le egg.

'Melican give to football  
All he have to give.  
Chinee stick to washee job,  
He still wish to live.

News Item.—Explorer has discovered an African tribe of men who beat the ground with sticks as a sign of anger.

Well, for the love of Frankenstein! So they play golf in Africa, too. . . .

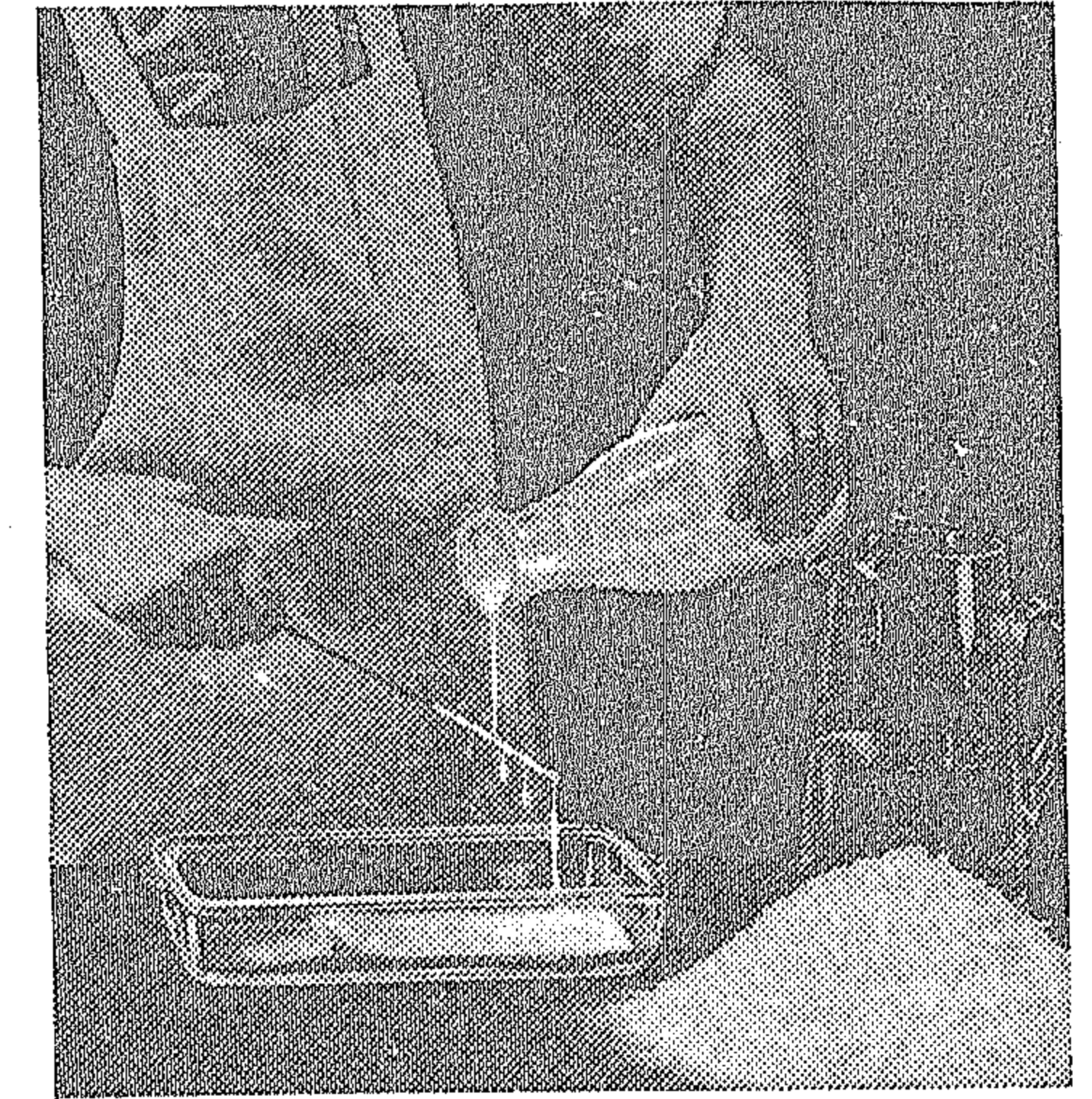
Silas Clam  
Lies on the floor.  
He tried to slam  
A swinging door.

Young lady (on first ocean voyage): "Could I see the captain?"  
Steward: "He's forward, Miss."  
Young lady: "I'm not afraid. I've been out with college boys."

"Oh, dear, I've missed you so much!"—and she raised her revolver and tried again.

We'll be seein' you under the goal-post. You'll recognize us by the red nose in our face. Rah, rah!  
Eejay.

# The Last Word is never spoken at Western Electric



## The urge to "make it better" is always there

WHEN you approach old problems with a fresh viewpoint, you often get outstanding improvements.

For example: wires for telephone cable had long been insulated by a spiral wrapping of paper ribbon.

Refusing to accept this as the "last word," a Western Electric engineer mixed a wood pulp solution in a milk bottle—poured it on a wire—the pulp stuck. The systematic development of this idea resulted in a new and more economical insulating process—making an insulating covering of paper right on the wire!

Such originality leads to improved manufacturing processes and better telephone apparatus for the Bell System.

Manufacturing Plants at Chicago, Ill., Kearny, N. J., and Baltimore, Md.



## Armour Tech News

Student Publication of the  
ARMOUR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Published Weekly During the College Year

1936 Member 1937

Associated Collegiate Press

\$2.00 Per Year Single Copies, 10 Cents Each

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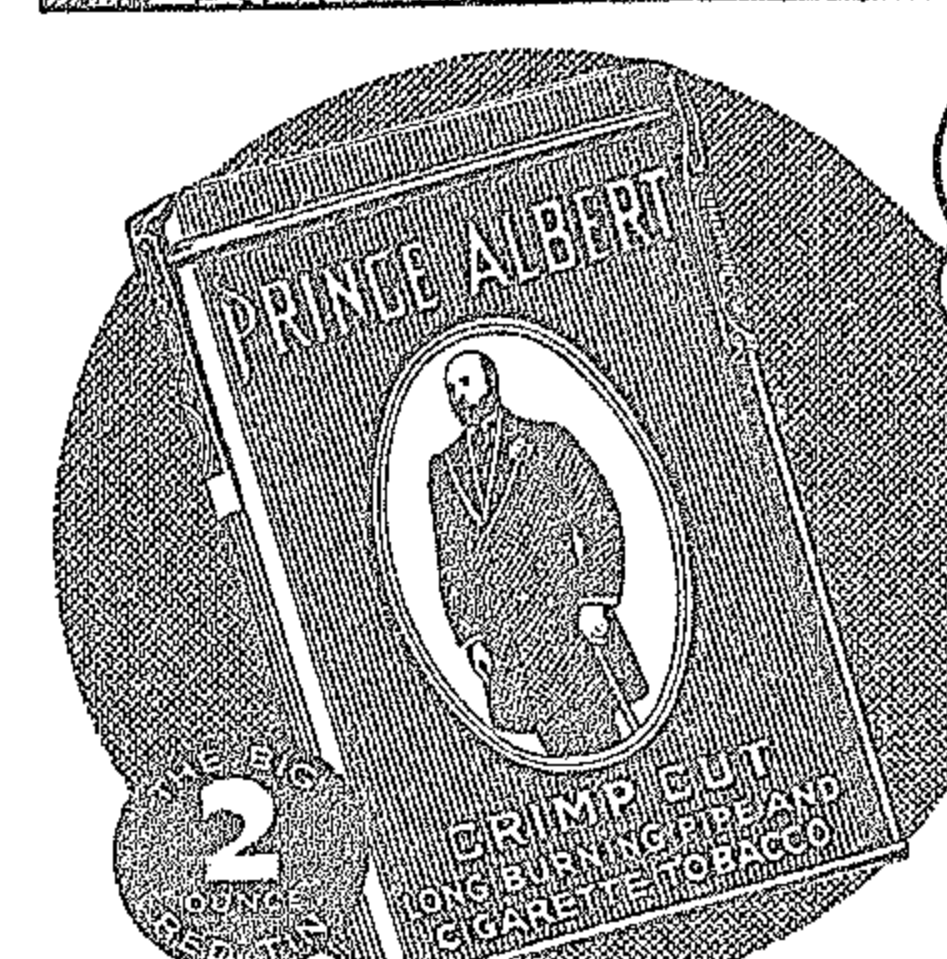
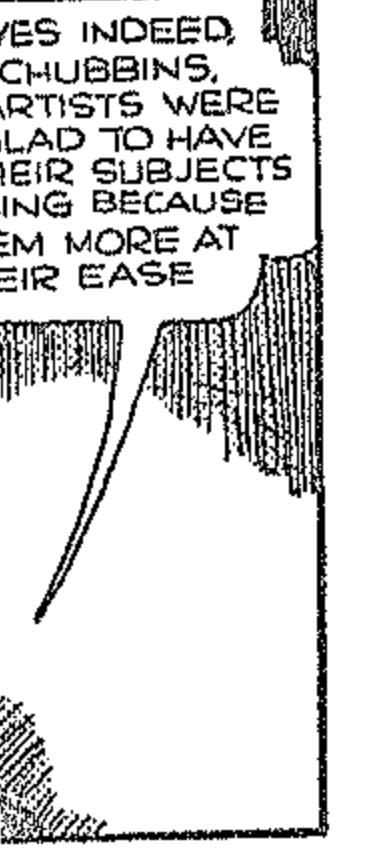
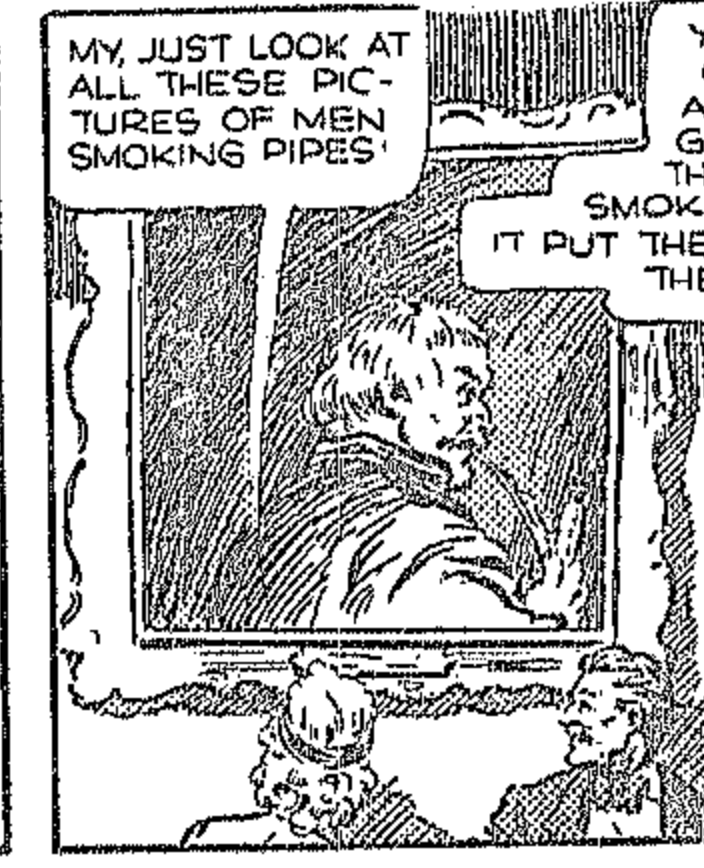
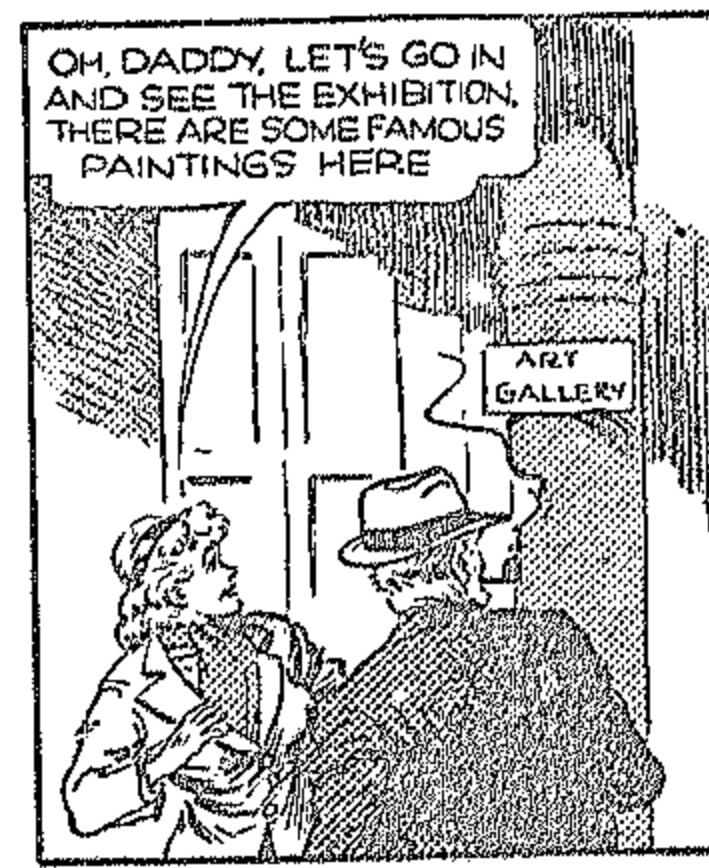
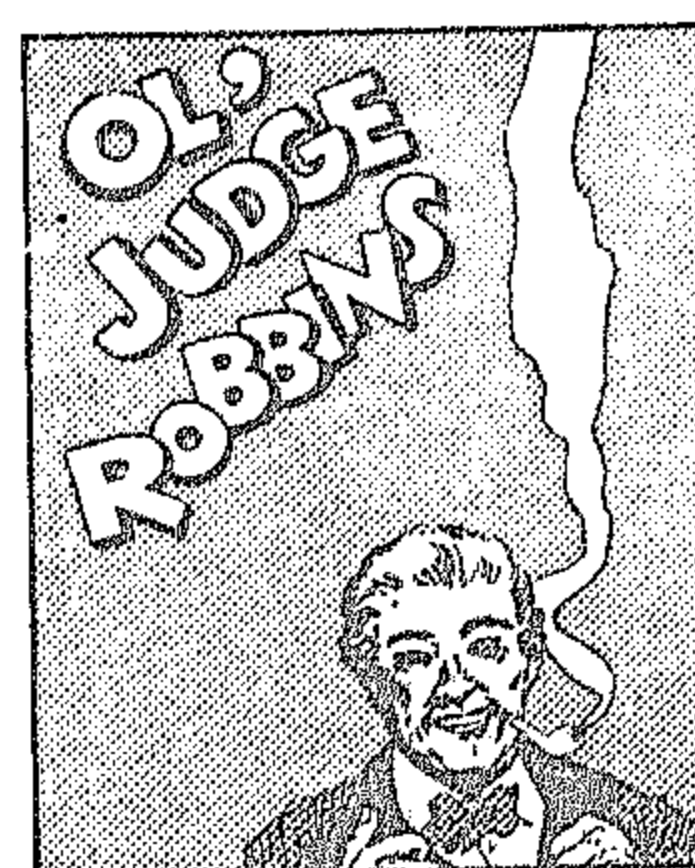
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Vol. XX. OCTOBER 26, 1937 No. 6



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