

EXTRA

Armour Tech News

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Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, May 18, 1938

HAIL STUDENT UNION

Hold Mass Meeting Tomorrow; Set Plan Before Student Body

After the Student Union plan was presented to the class officers and A. T. S. A. representatives last night, a notice from the Dean's Office indicated a mass meeting would be held Thursday morning.

It is expected that all students will be in attendance at that time to hear the plans submitted by President Heald, Prof. Moreton, Prof. Schommer, Dean Tibbals, and C. Dunbar, A.T.S.A. representative. After the plan has been thoroughly discussed, students will have the opportunity of asking questions not already considered.

Passed by the executive committee and approved by the men representing the student body, the final decision will rest with the students.

Friday morning the students, voting by ballot, will determine whether the Mission Building will remain as it now stands or whether a completely remodeled building will be found when students return to school in September.

For years plans have been submitted, but the problem of financing such an undertaking could not be solved. With the present solution, and the need of lounges, recreation and study rooms provided for, this project should meet with the approval of the entire student body.

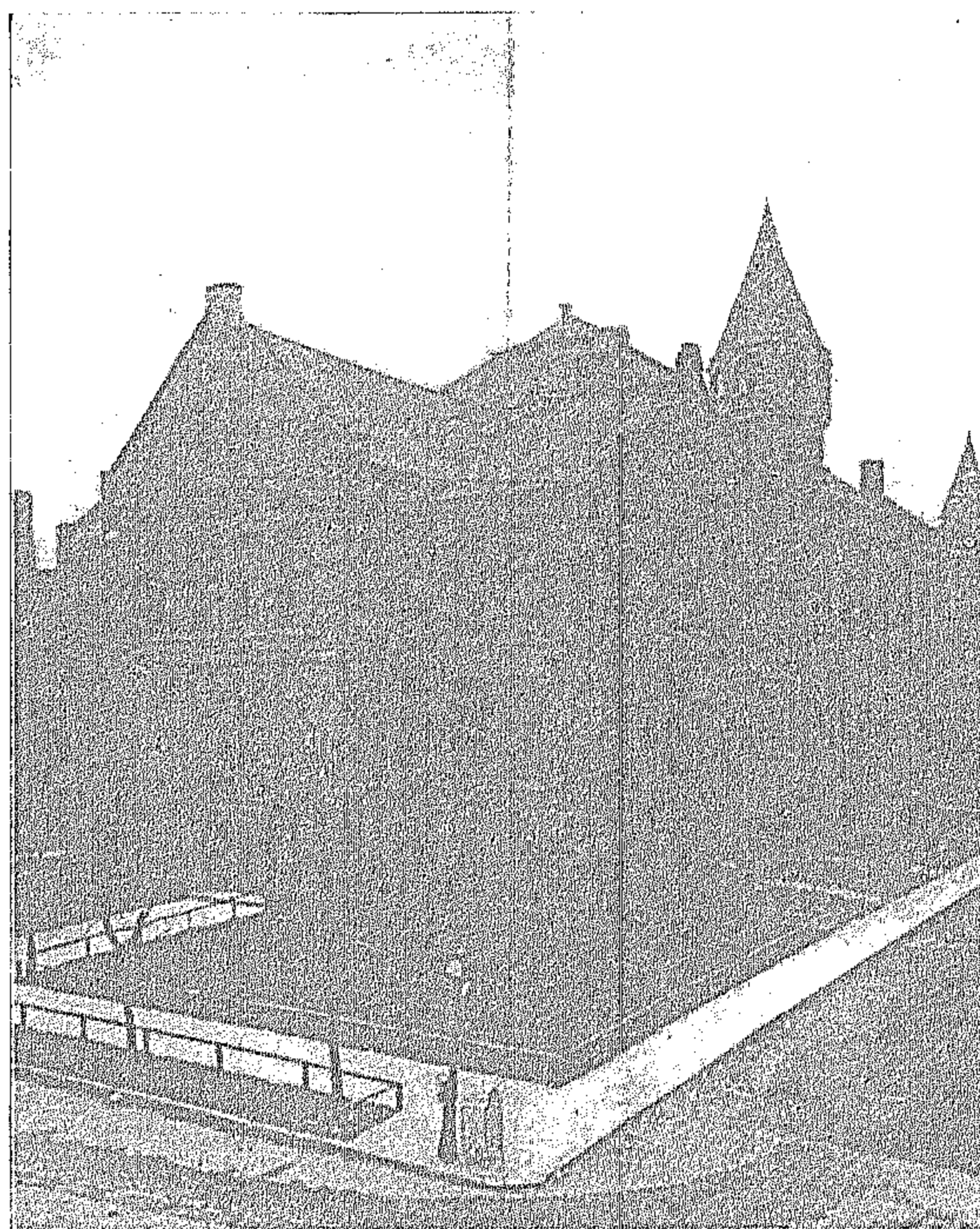
Plan Approved at Trustee Meeting

The plan for the remodeling of Armour Mission into the Student Union was originally presented to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees at a meeting in the Union League Club last Monday. It was unanimously accepted, and the committee gave its approval for the starting of construction.

The Executive Committee has for its members James D. Cunningham, Henry T. Heald, Alfred Alschuler, Harold Munday, Alfred Eustice, Charles W. Hills, and John Sanger. Cunningham, who is president of Republic Flow-Meters Co. and Autogas Corporation is chairman of the Board, and Heald is, of course, the new president of Armour Institute.

Munday, an officer of the McGann Manufacturing Co., Hills, of the firm bearing his name, and Sanger, vice-president of U. S. Gypsum Co., are the other members of the Executive Board. Professor D. P. Moreton, who has become greatly interested in the Student Union idea from his observations at other colleges, presented the project to the board in the letter which is printed in this issue. Although a board of control for financing and construction will be set up, composed of senior members of the Institute and the board of directors, the chief control in maintaining and governing the Student Union will be put into the hands of the students themselves.

ARMOUR MISSION, BUILT IN 1886



'MISSION', PART OF ARMOUR SINCE 1892

Originally conceived by Joseph F. Armour in 1881 and completed in 1886 by his brother, Philip D. Armour, the Armour Mission opened its doors as a Sunday school in connection with Plymouth Church. The

building was erected after a study of European mission buildings. In addition to a library, activities sponsored by the Mission were reading, clay modeling, wood-carving, tile-

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Heald, Moreton, Present Idea For Class Officer's Approval

Elected officers of the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes, and the A.T.S.A. board pledged their whole hearted support to the conversion of the "Mission" into a student-administered Student Union Building at a special dinner meeting in the faculty grill last night. It was announced that if the plans met the approval of the student body, the Student Union would be completed by next September.

Intense interest grew and climaxed with Prof. D. P. Moreton's report of the definite plans for the Student Union Building and the plan of financing the enterprise. Jerrold Loebel, '21, and Norman Schlossman, '21, architects have inspected the Mission and have submitted several tentative plans. R. C. Wieboldt and Company contractors estimated the costs.

Expenses for remodeling the "Mission" have been estimated at \$40,000. This money according to the plan would be raised by issuing interest bearing debenture bonds to be retired in seven to ten years. It is proposed to add from \$2.50 to a maximum of \$3.00 to the student activity fee each semester. This part of the activity fee would be earmarked for the Union and be used for paying interest and retiring the bonds and maintaining the Student Union. The managing board of the alumni reports that the students would not carry the expense of remodeling the kitchen and dining room.

A beautiful picture of the Student Union as planned was described to the group. On the first or ground

floor, the entrance to the building will be revamped. Double stairways from the first floor will rise to the third floor. Removal of the walls of D Mission, the faculty grill, the kitchen and the east corridor wall will make possible a large cafeteria or banquet hall. New floors will be laid throughout. It is planned to run a hallway through the south or north end of the book store from Federal Street. A barber shop may also be made available. It is planned to leave the faculty club and the washrooms in their present position.

Upstairs on the second floor, the plans provide for the conversion of the assembly hall by removal of the fixed seats, the laying of a new hardwood floor, and removal of the partitions under the balcony with the exception of the balcony supports. Portable tables and chairs with proper lighting will be placed under the balconies. Movable seats will be provided in the assembly hall proper. After concerts, the seats could be removed and the orchestra could swing into the "Big Apple" for the crowd. The hall would be entirely redecorated and relighted. The two class rooms at the north could be used for club meetings and a storage room would be provided for the musical and dramatic clubs.

On the third floor, the plans specify a beautiful student lounge decorated in club style properly lighted and furnished with sofas, checker tables, and radio and with current magazines for the students' enjoyment.

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Debenture Bonds, Student Union Fee To Finance Project

Present plans call for an estimated maximum cost of \$40,000, which would include all remodeling, rebuilding, furnishing, and equipping. As the Institute has not available funds for a project of this nature, the following plan has been suggested:

1. The Alumni Association, and possibly others, will lend Armour Institute of Technology \$40,000 for the project.

2. Each student will pay to the Institute, as a fixed sum for his membership to the Student Union, a maximum of \$3 per semester as part of his student activity fee; night students, \$1.50. Such membership fees would amount to about \$8,500 or more each year.

Payable in Ten Years

To each alumni, or other person, who lends money for the purpose, Armour Institute of Technology, a corporation, will issue a debenture bond, payable on or before ten years from date of issue, face value \$100, bearing at least 4 percent interest, payable annually. Such bond, and interest, will be payable solely and exclusively out of the dues collected

from student members of the union. Bonds, by lot, will be paid off at a minimum rate of \$4,000 per year. These funds paid in on the student activity fee will be set aside exclusively for the Student Union, and will under no circumstances be delegated to any other fund.

The initial estimated cost will not be borne alone by present students and those of the next five or six years, but the extra fee will be charged continuously through the coming years to all students, surplus being set up in a Student Union Fund for future expansion and maintenance.

Submitted to Alumni

Tentative plans call for a program to be submitted to the Alumni Association, whereby the Student Union Plan will receive their whole-hearted support for the present year. Each year the association will set itself toward some goal useful to the school, and this project would be the one of paramount importance at this time.

The idea of a Student Union, and a Student Union Fee, is not new with Armour Institute, but is in practice at all leading schools throughout the country. Armour Institute, in undertaking this plan, is falling into step with the more progressive educational institutions in giving the student a better away-from-classes school environment. Obviously such a Student Union will greatly add to the social life of the Armour student.

A.T.S.A. Run-off Election, Friday

Yesterday, Tuesday, May 17, witnessed the primary election which determined the men who are to be the finalists in the Armour Tech Student Association election run-off which is to be held Friday, May 20. These finalists are E. Worcester and L. Nor-kus for the office of first vice-president; T. Collier and P. Henriksen for the office of second vice-president; D. Mackey and F. Opila for the office of secretary. These finalists were nominated from a group of four men for each office. These men, in turn, were nominated by an election board consisting of E. Worcester, W. Chelgren, N. Rice, P. Henriksen, and R. Vandekieft.

The first vice-president is elected from the present Sophomore class and is a Junior when he takes office. The first vice-president serves as chairman of all committees pertaining to the A.T.S.A. and automatically succeeds to the office of president in his Senior year.

The secretary is elected from the present Sophomore class and is a Junior when he takes office. The secretary keeps a record of all proceedings of the A.T.S.A. meetings.

The second vice-president is elected from the Junior class and is a Senior when he takes office. It is the duty of the second vice-president to assume the office of president in the absence of that member.

Final balloting for these offices will be held in the Main Building, Friday, May 20, from 9:30 to 2:30.

Inasmuch as these officers represent the entire student body, every student should turn out and vote for one of the two men nominated for each office.

Do not fail to check one of the spaces provided opposite the pertinent questions proposed at the bottom of the ballot!

PLAN TO ATTEND THE
MASS MEETING THURSDAY
MORNING. VOTE FRIDAY!

MISSION—

(Continued from page 1)

making, freehand and mechanical drawing, designing, dress-cutting and millinery. When Armour Institute of Technology opened its doors in 1892, the Mission was included among the campus buildings.

At one time, the Mission Sunday School was the largest in the world. Church services, under the direction of Dr. George L. Scherger, pastor of the Mission, were held in the assembly hall until five or six years ago.

Since its construction, the Armour Mission has already undergone several changes. In 1900, the bookstore was moved from its initial location in the basement of the Main Building. The faculty club was inaugurated in 1905 and was installed in its rooms in the basement of the building. The faculty club now includes a card room, billiard room, and reading room. In 1933, the cafeteria was moved from its location in the field-house at the north end of Ogden Field.

Now in 1938, the Armour Mission will maintain its exterior appearance as a sacred tradition, but the interior will be remodeled in keeping with a Student Union ideal.

Action Follows Recent 'Tech News' Campaign

Discussed and thought of for many years, the Armour Student Union Plan cannot be traced to any one person or group. Almost all colleges and universities have a student gathering place or social building, and it has been evident that Armour lacks such facilities. However, until this present school year, no definite steps have been taken towards the formulation of a program. This year, various student groups have talked among themselves and with Institute authorities about plans involving a rehabilitation of Armour Mission, thus transforming it into a spacious student building. The Student Union idea has been brought before the eyes of the student body through the columns of the Tech News.

May 16, 1938

To the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the President, and the members of the Executive and Finance Committee of Armour Institute of Technology:

Gentlemen:

As you know, one of the greatest needs of the student body at Armour Institute is a common meeting place—a social hall, which is ordinarily called a Students' Union.

As you also know, some of us have been considering carefully the feasibility of converting a portion of Armour Mission into such a meeting place.

I estimate the cost of the conversion at not to exceed \$40,000, including furnishings and equipment.

I know that Armour Institute of Technology has not the funds available for the purpose, but I believe that, with your approval and assistance, the money can be raised.

The suggested plan, in general, is as follows:

I should like to submit to the Alumni Association the idea that they, and possibly others, should lend Armour Institute of Technology, \$40,000 for the purpose.

I should like to submit to the student body that each student pay to Armour Institute of Technology a fixed sum as his membership fee for belonging to the Student Union. I think that a semester fee of \$3.00 for day students and \$1.50 for night students will be adequate for the purposes. Such membership fees should produce \$7,500 or more each year.

To each alumnus, or other person, who lends money for the purpose, Armour Institute of Technology, a corporation, will issue a debenture bond payable on or before ten years from date. Each debenture will bear interest at a fixed rate, say 4% or 5%, payable annually.

The debentures will be payable solely and exclusively out of the dues collected from student members of the Union. Thus there will be no general obligation on the part of the Institute—no increase in its general corporate debt.

Details of the plan necessarily must be worked out later. Such details, among other things, will include reasonable assurance that the moneys derived from dues will be segregated and a fixed percentage thereof made available for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds. I calculate that \$4,000 is the least that can be retired annually.

I have discussed this matter with general counsel for the Institute and find no objection in principle to the proposal.

Will you therefore consider the matter at your earliest opportunity and let me know what disposition you make of this proposed plan for a Student Union?

Respectfully submitted,

D. P. MORETON

Director of Public Relations.