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Chapin Hall—

Overcrowded corridors and blocked doorways have become commonplace in Chapin Hall, but in the last few weeks there has arisen a new hinderance to Institute activities in that building. Objectors to the terrific stench found almost daily in the halls and classrooms have traced the trouble to its source—the new experimental chemistry laboratories on the third floor. Students certainly do not begrudge space to our aspiring chemists, but they do object to being guinea pigs in a large scale test of noxious gases.

We believe that a quick solution of this exceedingly disagreeable annoyance would be discovered upon installation of proper exhaust fans in the offending laboratories. We urge their immediate installation on behalf of many student and faculty complainants.

Semester System—

An announcement by the administration recently that the Lewis division would adopt the semester system next year, has been met by many protests from the members of the student body. Students are raising their voices in complaint; heretofore timid students are speaking up; students who have been working, as well as going to school, are now uncertain of their future plans. This has now become manifest in the form of a petition which is now being circulated among the juniors who feel that they are perhaps the most immediately concerned by the change.

On a campus where a large percentage of the students are from out of town, the semester plan of schooling may be well and good, but in a school where 85% of the students are employed in their non-class hours, the plan can not, and

Student Contest For New Sticker And Emblem Design

Students of Illinois Institute of Technology will be given the opportunity to design a new school emblem for use on windows, briefcases, etc., according to an announcement last week by the Managing Board of the *Technology News*. The new design may be somewhat similar to the "Techawk" sticker formerly used at Armour but will incorporate the name and location of the new Institute.

In order to eliminate future confusion of Illinois Tech with schools of similar names, a group of prominent students decided last week that the designation of the Illinois Tech campus as "TECHNOLOGY CENTER" would be a desirable part of the new emblem.

As minimum requirements, the design should include the school colors (Scarlet and Grey), the name "Illinois Tech" and the term "TECHNOLOGY CENTER" (this should be given preference over the other letters). Entries must be 16 square inches in area or less. With these exceptions the design will be left to the individual.

All designs submitted are to be in colors and are to be adaptable to ordinary reproducing methods. All entries must be in the hands of George Dickel (Arx), Fred De Money (Armour) or Lillian Snodgrass (Lewis) by Monday, January 6. Any further information can be obtained from these people. The design selected for production and distribution to students will bring a cash award to the student submitting it.



will not, be met with a great deal of enthusiasm.

We all know that the semester plan is perhaps the most common among the colleges of the country; however, the tendency has been in recent years to change from the semester plan to that of the quarter. There surely must have been some basis for such a change, and we believe that the merits of the quarter system should not go unnoticed. Under the quarter system the average load of a student is three courses a quarter. He attends every class five days a week, and at the end of twelve weeks he enters new classes with new instructors.

Concentrated study of subject matter is advocated by many progressive educators. On the semester system a student often carries five or six subjects at a time. Thus a question arises, "can a student master five subjects over an extended period of time as well as the student who carries only three courses for twelve weeks?" For some students it is a great deal easier to concentrate on three courses than five, to say nothing of the fact that you can change your professors before you become thoroughly tired of them.

The change from the quarter to the semester plan will create quite a problem for the student who has paid his expenses by either working in the morning before he attends classes or in the afternoon or evening. We all know that it is practically impossible for a working student to carry a full program on the semester plan and still remain in school.

This leads us directly to the crux of the whole situation. When the Lewis Institute of Arts and Sciences adopts the semester plan, what will happen? Either the students who have worked and attended school simultaneously will have to quit their jobs or drop out of school. Naturally this will lead to a situation which is the direct opposite of what for which we had hoped the new Institute was working, that of a Liberal Arts and Sciences division with a smaller enrollment.

The greatest objection to the change, however, is that in translating the credits from quarter hours to semester hours several hours credit may be lost. This has been the basis of the agitation among the juniors because they are the ones who will suffer most through the change.

It is our hope that if the administration did not consider the student in their decision, that they will recognize the problems which it presents.

L. S.

President Heald Announces Defense Training Classes To Be Opened At Armour

President Henry T. Heald recently announced that Illinois Institute of Technology is adding a special national defense training program to its well-rounded curriculum. This innovation is in keeping with the current campaign of preparedness and is a concrete, living example of the patriotism and Americanism which can be found on both the south and west side campuses.

New Subjects

President Heald revealed that tentative plans for the courses have already been submitted to the War Department in Washington for approval. It is expected that official confirmation will enable the new system to begin functioning about January 6 of the coming year. The new subjects will include drafting, time and motion study, tool design, inspection of materials, and similar studies. Mr. Heald smilingly added that even a course in the construction of bomb-proof structures has been submitted to Washington officials, but he has no idea as to whether or not it will be approved.

The courses are open to everyone and will not require the enrollees to dig into their pockets for anything greater than the cost of text books and other supplies.

No College Credit

The classes are under the direction of Professor Finnegan of the department of fire protection engineering. Notices giving full particulars to interested and qualified men will be posted at both campuses in the near future. Each class will probably meet about three evenings per week so as to avoid interference with the regular daytime jobs of the students. Naturally no college credit will be given the students when they complete the courses which last about twenty weeks (one semester) because the work is highly specialized and does not approach a general engineering education in scope nor in magnitude.

As all students at Illinois Tech well know, the members of the faculty are working at top capacity with even the present curriculum, so it has been decided to hire instructors directly from industry for the defense program. These men can feel proud that they are doing their part for national safety.

Skilled Engineers Needed

Although these courses are intended to supply hungry national defense industries with food in the form of many skilled workers, President Heald emphasized that the regular engineering curriculum is even more vital. Thus, he urges all engineering students to continue with their studies, if possible, because it is the firm conviction of leading American educators that engineering schools can best aid the nation by continuing to supply highly educated men with complete engineering education rather than with the highly specialized knowledge provided by the new program. Mr. Heald especially believes that any engineering student who intends to exchange his slide rule for an army rifle is definitely not con-

sidering the best interests of his nation because he would be infinitely more valuable to America as a skilled engineer than as Private Jones, number three, rear rank in an infantry squad.

With the appropriation of \$9,000,000 to be used by technical colleges for training in national defense, action has now been taken to make use of the money throughout this country. The object of this appropriation is to provide courses designed to meet the shortage of engineers with specialized training in fields essential to the national defense. With this in mind, questionnaires were submitted to the leading industries for defense, to find out what training would be needed for an engineer to aid in this program. Among the most important things needed are men trained in metallurgy and tool and die making.

Among the subjects to be offered in this program will be courses covering machine designs, marine engineering, materials inspection and testing naval architecture, production engineering, production supervision, and tool engineering.

For administration purposes under the plan now being organized, the country will be divided into different areas. The Chicago area will include Illinois, part of Indiana, and part of Wisconsin. Since Illinois Institute of Technology is the largest technical school in the district, it is likely that it will receive a large share of the funds to be distributed in this area.

DEFENSE MEN ADDED TO IIT RESEARCH LAB

In line with its progressive policy of expansion, the Armour Research Foundation has recently hired a number of outstanding men to work in the various laboratories and departments. A total of five men have been added to the staff in the last several weeks.

When research activity begins in the newly-constructed diesel research building, one of the chief workers will be Norman C. Penfold, chief engineer of the Auto Gas Corporation, Republic Flow Meters Company. Mr. Penfold is a graduate of Armour Institute of Technology. Doing important work in metallurgy will be a graduate of the University and Technical Academy at Zurich, Switzerland, and the Technical Academy, Germany—Dr. George H. Zirker. Before coming to the Armour Research Foundation, Mr. Zirker was a metallurgist for Carnegie Illinois Steel Corporation at Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

The most important research project at Lewis Institute prior to the consolidation was ceramics. With the consolidation of the two schools, this work was combined with the non-metallic work being conducted at the Armour Research Foundation.

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