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TECHNOLOGY CENTER . . .

Up to the present time, Technology News did not deem it necessary to comment editorially on the new Technology Center expansion plan. The fact that this publication gave to its readers in detail the complete, unadulterated story of the plan in its news columns and also allowed the students to express their opinions of the plan on these same pages seemed in itself sufficient to satisfy the students' lust for proof of the feasibility of the plan.

The plan's value to those who will attend the school in future years cannot be questioned, and this was immediately realized by virtually everyone who read of it in this and other publications. There was no doubt that the new school plant in combination with the present distinguished faculty group would easily out-run other schools of the same nature in the eternal race for greater recognition in industry. On reading of the plan, the average student thought "the plan will certainly be beneficial to students attending Illinois Institute in the future, but what good will it do me?"

The answer to this question may be easily seen. No one can doubt that the expansion plan has opened the eyes of industry to the fact that Illinois Institute is about to become perhaps the greatest technological institution of learning in the country. In the minds of the captains of industry, the fact that we have the largest undergraduate engineering enrollment and one of the largest graduate enrollments in the country is quickly being associated with the idea of the expansion plan. This correlation has had such an effect that if the prestige of this school in industry is not now at a higher level than that of any other technological school in the country, it soon will be.

It naturally follows that, as the prestige of a school becomes greater in industry, the chances for its graduates to obtain positions become much greater. If an employer is in need of an engineer, he will invariably hire the applicant who has graduated from the most reputable school.

Thus it is seen that the new Technology Center expansion plan will immensely aid all students attending Illinois Tech—whether they are now attending or will attend in future years.

DEAR FRESHMEN . . .

Some of us never learn. The temptation to pass on to others advice based on the experiences of those who have gone before is a sinister thing, and there should be a law against it. But, unfortunately, there isn't, and, since we are little more than human, the subtle urge has had little trouble in getting hold of us, especially after the numbing effects of the latest cold wave. With pen in hand, then, we labor to prepare you for the cunning pitfalls and illusions of life and, in particular, those that are likely to sneak up and slug you on the head during your stay at college. First, let us consider the disillusionment which you are almost certain to suffer at the termination of this the last stage of your formal education. It will probably be a miserable few weeks before you recover from the maddening discovery that what you've acquired in the past few years is only an atom of learning in a vast universe of knowledge, and that, if you would still choose to add your substantial amount to man's understanding of his surroundings, your real education has but barely commenced. Of course, there will be a few of you satisfied that you know pretty much. Probably all of you are now, but freshmen can't be blamed for that. The seniors were that way three years ago, bless their little hearts. But we pray that the majority of you, those who will have realized their limitations, will be prepared to withstand the onslaught of hopeless feelings and take unhesitatingly the first step toward the accumulation of this vast additional store of knowledge. As you progress, you will find suddenly the strange joy of creative effort, regardless of what field it may be in, that transcends any exultation you ever experienced from an A in calculus or home economics.

Strangely enough, you will find that the days of college learning bore not the fruit of a way of easy conquest of the world beyond, but of a way of thinking that will protect you from the mad folly of a world gone mad with hatred and envy. Strange words these, bitter perhaps, but it had better soon be recognized that your age of innocence, sophisticated and blase as some of you may think yourselves, ends with the last gay fling at the graduation ball. You, dear children, will be a part of a strange new era, perhaps a different type of civilization requiring as never before minds cultivated such as yours have been.

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

For the first time in any publication, Technology News is presenting a series of articles describing in simple language the set up of the Armour Research Foundation, one of the nation's largest independent research centers. Conceived to acquaint students of IIT with the behind-the-scenes activity of the Foundation's laboratories and the vital service they are performing for countless industrial firms, the first in this series of articles appears below:

Busy men in uniform laboratory coats shuttle back and forth between Research Building and Experimental Engineering Building. Strange devices are hustled across the campus on little four-wheeled dollies. Truckloads of industrial machinery are unloaded. Fluorescent lights burn all night long, and now and then windows reflect the weird blue glare of the electric-welding arc. Just exactly what goes on?

First a little history. In September 1936 the Armour Research Foundation—then under the long name of The Research Foundation of Armour Institute of Technology—was organized as a not-for-profit institution to render a research and experimental service to industry. No enormous endowment attended its birth. It simply started to work on a number of research problems for certain progressive industrial concerns. The problems were solved, and more came in. The Foundation grew.

In the very beginning the Research Foundation had to use its small scientific staff for nearly everything. When a machine needed repairs Dr. Poulter went to work with a welding torch. When a path to the front door was wanted, the staff merely invented a better mousetrap.

The Armour Research Foundation consists of more than sixty industrially-minded research men trained in the various fields of engineering and science, together with four buildings full of laboratories, pilot plants and shops in which these men work to develop new processes, methods and machines for industry. Although affiliated and working closely with Illinois Institute of Technology, the Research Foundation is actually a separate corporation with its own board of directors, officers and staff. This arrangement permits such advantages as confidential research reports and the assignment of patents to sponsoring companies.

To date nearly a thousand companies, individuals and associations of manufacturers have used the services of the Research Foundation. The work, coordinated by Harold Vagtborg, director, and Dr. Thomas C. Poulter, scientific director, is organized into seven divisions, each with its division director, staff and facilities. A description of these divisions will follow in succeeding issues.

QUOTE & UNQUOTE

HOW ABOUT IT ARMOUR?

In the last issue of the Technology News there appeared an article concerning class jewelry. We would like to correct it as follows: The jewelry mentioned was conceived only by the Armour committee; the Lewis jewelry committee was not invited to participate in the selection of class jewelry. Therefore, the Armour selected jewelry cannot be considered as the "official" jewelry of IIT.

In keeping with a previous agreement made with the Armour committee head, Lewis has had, since the first of the year, the class jewelry for June 1941, and almost the entire senior class is either wearing its keys or rings, or have them on order.

Now, we ask you, is it fair to us, the Lewis jewelry committee, after trying wholeheartedly to get the cooperation of the Armour committee, to have them practically tell us to our faces that our jewelry is obsolete; that it has no meaning what-so-ever? Is it fair to those who have invested their money in this jewelry, believing they were purchasing something which is representative of IIT? Speaking of IIT, we would like to ask the gentlemen of Armour this question: "Who was the originator of having 'Illinois Institute of Technology' outstanding in the jewelry instead of the individual school's name being prominent with only a small 'IIT'?" The Lewis Committee!

Another thing that seemed to be quite mysterious to us is the seal of IIT. When we asked for it so that it may be made a part of the design on the key or ring, we received answers (even from the school office) such as this, "I don't know anything about it", time and again. Now that Armour has its jewelry selected, it seems to have even the "official" seal on their accepted and approved design making it "official", jewelry.

It is a great disappointment to us, and the students of Lewis, to find such lack of cooperation from the Southside campus.

We would like, in conclusion, to quote President Heald as saying, "There is no official jewelry for Illinois Institute of Technology".

Lewis Jewelry Committee

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS FOR ENGINEERS

Civil service examinations are being offered by the government to young men and women who have completed a four year course in a recognized college or university. These examinations are for positions in engineering, business, radio, public health nursing, and home economics departments.

Salaries in the engineering branch range from \$2000 a year for a junior engineer, to \$4600 for senior civil engineers. There are many positions open for aeronautical engineers. For dieticians and other home economics specialists there are openings in senior and associate home economics departments with salaries ranging from \$3200 to \$4600 a year. Students of marketing may apply for positions as marketing specialists with a salary of \$3300 a year.

Those who wish complete information about these examinations may inquire of Miss Cadigan at the information desk in room 215 at Lewis.

HOW ABOUT IT LEWIS?

Significance of the term participation can only be realized when there is a true understanding of the term democracy as it applies to student government. Only after deep and intensive cogitation, your correspondent brought himself to put his true feelings on paper. It seems that the students at Lewis are afflicted with a rare disease called "non-participationitis" and a diagnosis must be made as to the cause.

Usually the attempt to discover the symptoms is the first step in a diagnosis. How these symptoms manifest themselves and the changes they bring about in the organism is the second step. The symptoms in this case are: non-attendance at class meetings, and the attitudes of "I don't care", "or little me doesn't count" and "they wouldn't listen to me."

When the Lewis students are called to the task and asked to join in the democratic way of life by expressing their ideas on student government and school problems, they seem to suffer from that terrible malady of "non-participationitis." And after measures have been taken, they come around and ask, "Why didn't you consult me?"

This is, my friends, a picture of the situation at Lewis. You are as much responsible for what goes on at this school as administrative heads. They have granted you the privilege of holding class meetings during scheduled time, to prevent remaining after regular class period. But where are you? Yes, that's right—you are made conspicuous by your absence. You, and only you, are responsible for what goes on in this institution dedicated to the purpose of higher learning. When are the students of this school going to wake up to the fact that if they do not participate now, they will regret it later on?

This article is the first in a series on student participation, and as a test of the democratic procedure, why not answer this article?

Saul Benjamin Cohen.

Lewis Players Plan Modern Comedy For Production In April

Two plays are under the consideration of the Lewis Players for their spring production. Either Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, or Philip Barry's *Spring Dance* will be chosen for presentation early in April.

Helen Jerome, well known in literary circles, has rewritten *Pride and Prejudice* for the stage. Regardless of the play chosen, the group intends to add original creative touches in the form of substitution of lines.

One of the determining factors in the Players' selection of the next presentation is the size of the cast it will require. The group is composed of about thirty members and according to Mrs. Olive Pierce Hazel, director, unusual talent is available. The modern tendency in college dramatics has been to lay too much stress upon the adolescent type of comedies. For that reason, the Lewis Players feel especially confident that the type of play written either by Austen or Barry will be enthusiastically received.