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MARCH 25, 1941

TECH RELAYS . . .

The Thirteenth Annual Tech Relays, heralded for so long by the *Tech News* and the city dailies, are now past history. We salute the efforts of officials, athletes, and publicity men that made this affair as thrilling and inspiring as it was, an event that is the highlight of athletic activities at Illinois Tech. For the great crowd gathered there, young and old, homely and beautiful, no more common basis of enthusiasm could have kept them in their seats, in an atmosphere permeated with the sweet odor of liniment and acrid tang of dust, than this magnificent display of the capacity of the human form.

But, in our jubilation over the success of this meet, we cannot, no matter how hard we try, forget the miserable showing of the host of this great gathering of athletes, Illinois Tech. . . . Illinois Tech, who placed fifteenth in a field of eighteen college entries, with the grand total of three points. Nor can we dull the memory of the unhappy collection in the former Armour Tech Relays of 2-1/3 points in 1939, and a glaring goose egg in 1940. Only 1938, in the past few years, stands out like a great cool oasis, when Armour Tech placed fourth, with 18 points.

Let this, however, not be mistaken for criticism of the individual efforts of the many fine Illinois Tech fellows that performed in this meet, or the Armour Tech lads that have worked in past meets. Rather, they are to be commended for their unqualified grit and courage displayed in battling out what appeared to have been, before and after, hopeless causes. We anticipate that their experiences will stand them in good stead, in the future as hopeless causes seem to be quite the "thing" lately. But, "the moving finger writes, and having writ moves on"; and lest we become resigned to repetition of these sad results, year after year, there must be a dynamic effort and determination on the part of the powers that control to stem this tide of humiliating defeats.

We are inclined to agree with President Hutchins, of the University of Chicago, that the prime purpose of college and university athletics is to provide athletic outlets for each and every scholar, regardless of ability. And we sympathize with his policy of putting this above any honors that

could possibly be gained by the University in inter-collegiate competition. But, frankly, we'd rather join the Navy, than see Illinois Tech repeat the tragedy of the Chicago Maroons, closing up shop under the pressure of ceaseless tail-end performances, particularly in events sponsored by the Institute. And that is just about what the "moving finger" will be writing before very long.

It is no secret that the force of adequate athletic facilities would go far toward stemming that pen. The Ogden dust bowl and the fifth floor play room at Armour that support us now have long been a thorn in the side of coaches and athletes. The necessity of jumping back and forth between the Institute's three campuses and the Armory, U. of C. fieldhouse, and the North side hockey rink has in no small way shortened the available time for practice periods.

The Board of Directors of Illinois Institute of Technology, in their recent announcement of the future campus building program, painted a picture of a huge fieldhouse that might be ours eventually. We urge that the colors be not allowed to fade. We pray, however great the outcry may be for laboratories first, classrooms first, library first, etc., that the still small voice of Illinois Tech's athletics be not drowned out.

And we pause to point out that this argument tolerates no desire for exploitation, commercial, newspaper, or otherwise, of whatever possible future athletic prowess may arise. This is a plea of simple justice for the promotion of healthy bodies and keen competitive spirit through athletic endeavor. There is no college, university, or institute of such high intellectual aims that cannot be benefited by it.

THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Physical studies in the Research Foundation are grouped in two divisions. Investigations in electricity, radio, sound and vibrations are handled by the Electrical Division, while developments in light, optics and general physics fall in the Light Division.

Headed by Dr. George Ziegler, the Light Division staff includes Howard Betz, Dr. Ernest Landon, Dr. Carl Challacombe, Dr. Frank Trimble, Lloyd Lewis, Ralph Erisman and Gardner Johnson. The work of this group is as broad as the spectrum, and includes research involving optics, illumination, X-rays, X-ray defraction, spectrography and virtually every application of photography and photographic processes.

Although occasional long-beam illumination measurements are made in the Experimental Engineering building, the regular light laboratories are all located in the main Research Foundation building, chiefly on the third floor. Largest is the X-ray laboratory, equipped with two diffraction units for determination of crystal structure and orientation, as well as a large X-ray penetration apparatus. The latter is used both for visual observation with a fluorescent screen and radiography with attachable cameras. One of the many applications of the penetration unit is the rapid examination of interior workings in small machines and meters without the trouble of taking them apart.

Next to the X-ray laboratory is the main photographic darkroom, one of the finest rooms of its kind. Adjoining this is the spectrographic laboratory, housing the well-known big quartz spectrograph built by Dr. Poulter, Scientific Director of the Research Foundation. A new item in this room is a precision spectrophotometer, one of the few such instruments in this part of the country. A viewing and examination room connects with the spectrographic laboratory, and includes as one item a motor-driven photoelectric device which transcribes a 10-inch spectrogram onto a 30-foot film.

In the basement of the main Research Foundation building is a special laboratory devoted to the study of Diesel combustion. Here a gleaming engine, mounted on an isolated concrete bed, is surrounded with auxiliary apparatus and instruments. This laboratory has its own darkroom in connection.

Among the varied projects of current or recent date in the Light Division are studies in watch manufacturing technology, three-color printing, Diesel combustion, vacuum pumps, spray gun manufacture, fountain pens, aircraft landing lights, die-casting alloys, paints, lighting fixtures, cameras, shutters, lenses and special optical equipment.

QUOTE & UNQUOTE

IIT Yearbook

A letter sponsored by the Junior Commission of Armour appeared in the March 19 issue of the *Tech News* under the head "Let Us Name It". Objecting to the apparently "high-handed" methods used in choosing the name "Polygon" for the year book, the Junior Commission, in its search for democratic ideals and fair play, overlooked one or two important points. Let us review the situation: With the recommendation of the administration and faculty advisers of the "Cycle" and the "Lewis Annual", the staffs of these publications agreed to work together for the production of one yearbook. Obviously, it would be unfair to impose the name "Cycle" upon the Lewis campus as it would be to ask the Armour Students to accept the name "Lewis Annual". The comparison is not so far-fetched as one might think; the name "Cycle" bearing the full connotation of Armour Institute of Technology. The question of whether the old name should be retained was not presented to student vote for reasons which

should be obvious to the Junior Commission.

The change of name was indicated in an article in the *Tech News* of October 29, 1940, and a request for suggested names was issued. The response, especially on the Armour campus, was so weak that the managing board felt that the student body had no interest in the matter. In all about fifteen names were submitted, three or four of which were facetious, but not very funny, and few of them suited to the tone and policy of the book. It became apparent, then, that the managing board would have to assume the responsibility of selecting a name. This we did, and the choice was "Polygon", a name, we felt which combined the desired factors of euphony, uniqueness, appropriateness and adaptability.

In conclusion, I assure the Junior Commission that the name "Polygon" was backed by no individual or pressure group, but was selected impartially from all the names submitted and those suggested by the staff.

Lionel Naum.

CO-OP NEWS

by Charles Rowbotham

There's gold in them thar' fold-ers. Yes, the bids for the CO-HOP are downright handsome in their gold braid, gold lettering, and frosty celluloid covers. A tassel of old gold proudly hangs from one corner. All this and a dance too for the small sum of \$1.50.

* * *

Acting Dean Peebles received a riot call from the 19th District station where Wasisco, Boyer, and Manstrom all of 5A were spending a few unhappy hours.

It seems that two motorcycle policemen forced the speeding trio over to the curb, flung open the car doors and ordered the boys to come out with their hands up. After being frisked for concealed weapons they were taken to the station. Wasisco then received a ticket for maliciously concealing his license plate. Moral to this story. Shave at least once a week and you might not be mistaken for a criminal.

* * *

Bob Anderson's (2-A) chem breakage card is "punch" drunk after that last mishap. Careful, Bob, every broken beaker is one less drink at the CO-HOP.

When nobody knows the answers in Prof. Yellott's class, ask old KRAEGEL (5-A), he knows.

The progressive element of the junior class, headed by "B. S." Weiss, received a heavy blow when forced to take the rear seats in the class recently.

If the juniors lose another basketball game, coach Wittkindt will be speedily replaced.

For your convenience Jim Ramseseth (3-A) bid chairman, has arranged the following: Bids for the CO-HOP are being distributed to the social chairmen of all classes, day school and co-op.

The co-op office, 206 Chapin, also has bids for sale.

On the Lewis campus, bids are being distributed at the co-op office Room 211. Bids will be on sale at the door for all who wish to attend and are unable to purchase bids before hand.

Incidentally the freshman claim they will set a new record for attendance at the CO-HOP by having at least thirty members present. Of course, Ed Hamzacek,

soph salesman, believes that the smallest soph class can top this attendance.

* * *

The Soph Demons beat the freshman by a score of (41-33) Bill Smart set a scoring record of 17 points. Summers, soph star, who occasionally drops in for a game, led the 2A scoring.

The juniors lost a heartbreaker to the soph Demons. The final score read 29-19. "Dead Shot" Ohgren raced all over the floor for the juniors.

Psychopathic Types —

(continued from page two)

aisle by looping his arms through back of the chair. This done, he's off to the Freudian dream-world.

7. Faker Type. Twiddles thumbs while asleep to prove he's awake. The Supreme Faker, however, takes notes while asleep.

8. Ambitious Type. Does his best to stay awake. However, the average professor is too much for him.

9. Inexperienced Type. (Restricted to the lowly yet flavid freshman.) Foolishly notifies the class and the prof as well of his intention to sleep. Chooses a center chair in front row. Loosens his tie, rumples his hair, yawns, stretches, and falls asleep with a loud crash.

10. Somnambulistic Type. Knows his way about school so well that he doesn't bother to wake up between classes.

11. Talented Type. Has mastered the difficult art of sleeping with his eyes open. This genius is not to be confused with the imperfectionist who dozes behind grime-smutted glasses.

12. Impertinent Type. Sleeps on "L" to school, all classes, lunch, labs, "L" going home, before and after supper, while studying, and finally in bed. His prime ambition is to take a weekend off and really get some sleep.

Sleep is a bad habit to get into. One-third of your life is squandered in sleep. Live life to the full! You can live, mayhap, three-fourths of a normal life-span without sleep. You, too, can be haggard.