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THE ETERNAL GRIPE . . .

In this modern day and age, when the future of the capitalistic institution of learning is finding itself more and more dependent upon the attitude of its alumni and the public towards it, no school in the position of Illinois Tech can afford to make the mistake of antagonizing its student body by unfair business practices. At Armour College, both the cafeteria and the book-store, owned and operated by Illinois Institute, have long been the subjects of pointed attacks by students. The reason may lie in the fact that neither of the college owned enterprises have been able to live up to the standard set when they were inappropriately placed in the non-profit class. Looking at the other side of the picture, it is entirely possible that there is something really amiss in the management of each of the establishments. Their unwillingness and inability to see eye to eye with the student might be still another explanation of the frequent verbal attacks.

The latter condition can be excellently illustrated by the incident that came up in the cafeteria just recently. It seemed that a group of students—consistent buyers of cigarettes in the lunchroom—put their heads together and decided to ask one of the higher school officials if, after paying the full price for a package of cigarettes, they were not entitled to receive matches with their cigarettes. A trifling matter, you may say, but the fact remains that the cafeteria, after denying matches with the sales offered to SELL the cigarette buyers bulky packages of matches for an additional fee. On talking to this school official the group was assured that the matter would be looked into immediately. Consequently, students trying to to purchase cigarettes the next day found, to their dismay, that they were no longer for sale in the lunch-room. The cafeteria cashier explained the whole thing by saying, "We were told not to sell anymore cigarettes until further notice." Inasmuch as we know the school wouldn't delib-

erately take the cigarettes off sale to show the complaining students that they must appreciate what the school is doing for them in selling them cigarettes, even without matches, we must meekly conclude that the cafeteria was temporarily unable to buy the cigarettes. After a cigaretteless week, the administrative officers comprisingly brought out the cigarettes and put them back on sale—BUT STILL WITHOUT THE MATCHES. This shows what tremendous influence student opinion has over the business affairs of the school.

The book-store, it seems, is an even larger cinder in the eye of the student than is the cafeteria. Its prices have caused more than one student to shout "Why didn't the burglar alarm go off, Jesse." Since its most important single item is probably the sale of books, we decided that a brief survey of book prices was in order. The prices of four different books in five different book-selling establishments were investigated with the following results:

Book	Armour	Greenwood	Wilcox &			
Number	Bookstore	Bookstore	Follett	Kroch's	Brentano's	
1	\$3.40	\$3.33	\$3.25	\$3.50	\$3.50	
2	3.80	3.70	3.55	3.90	3.90	
3	3.85	3.80	3.70	4.00	4.00	
4	3.40	3.32	3.30	3.50	3.50	

Since Kroch's and Brentano's are general book-stores, not specializing in text-books, we may well eliminate them from our argument. It is noteworthy that of the three remaining book-stores, THE ARMOUR BOOK-STORE'S PRICES ARE THE HIGHEST, even though a good part of its over-head is borne by the student body. Although the Greenwood Book-Store, situated near Lewis, is a privately owned business house paying for its own rent, light, heat, etc., its prices are consistently lower than those of the Armour book-store which thrives in the student's own Student Union Building. In order to further cut expenses, the Armour book-store takes a great percentage of its orders for books directly from the professors, thus eliminating the necessity of keeping a large stock of books on hand. With all this, their prices are higher than Greenwood's and do not even rate a comparison with Wilcox and Follett.

We doubt if any such business tactics go to bring about good-will between the student and the school. The alumnus, on looking back, will well remember the nickel-nabbing antics of his alma-mater, and he might find it quite difficult to give his old school the assistance which it so sorely needs.

—D.B.

THE RESEARCH
FOUNDATION

It seems silly to mention anything so trivial as a blood-red trail leading from an open doorway across an unused field. Edgar Wallace could offer an explanation. So also could the Ceramics Staff of the Research Foundation, who made the trail as a by-product in the development of a manufacturing process for red pencil leads.

With recent additions the Ceramics Division has become one of the most completely equipped laboratories of its kind in the Middle West. Its staff, headed by Dr. Henry G. Fisk and including B. S. Radcliffe, W. C. Cress, E. E. Pressler and Joseph Dusek, has in operation no less than eight unit laboratories, together with special apparatus for attacking the diversified research problems of the ceramic industries.

The most technical studies and delicate measurements are centered in the main Research Foundation building. Here is located the petrographic laboratory, with its polarizing microscope equipment, its goniometer for determining crystal angles and refractive indices, and its apparatus for specimen embedding, cutting, grinding and polishing. Here also is the enamel laboratory, provided with an automatically controlled electric enamel furnace, frit furnace, spraying equipment and blast cleaning cabinet. Adjoining these is the preparation laboratory for weighing, mixing, grinding, air-separating and classifying.

Certain laboratories are now located on the Lewis campus, including the plaster laboratory, casting room, kiln room, and two preparation rooms. One of the latter is devoted to clays, while the other is for preparation of glazes, bodies, and dental porcelains. The research activities of these laboratories are soon to be housed in a special portion of the new Experimental Engineering building, thus consolidating the facilities of the Ceramics Division.

Among the research projects in ceramics are studies of dolomite refractories, pencil lead manufacture, laboratory ware, open-hearth slags, enamels and porcelains.

STRESS ANALYSIS LAB AT ARMOUR

Armour's civil engineering department has recently been enlarged by the addition of a stress analysis laboratory.

This laboratory is an expansion of one originally housed in the basement of Chapin Hall. It is used in a graduate course on "Experimental Stress Analysis" as well as an elective senior course on "Applied and Experimental Stress Analysis".

The work in the laboratory is related to machine and structural design where it is necessary to know, among other factors, the mechanical properties of the materials used and the stresses produced.

The material testing laboratory under the direction of Professor Huntly deals primarily with the determination of mechanical properties of engineering materials. The new stress analysis laboratory deals with the determination of stresses in machine and structural members. Stresses and deflections in various types of beams and frames are determined experimentally and compared with the theoretical values. The experimental method is sometimes the only one available since in some problems the mathematical theory is too complicated or it is impractical. It is in these problems that it is important to have available equipment such as photoelastic apparatus and membrane analogy apparatus.

This equipment is available in the new stress analysis laboratory as well as equipment for determining stresses by the strain rosette method and an Eney and Beggs deformer for obtaining influence lines mechanically.

Nell Steele Now On Library Council

It has been announced that Miss Nell Steele, Librarian of Armour College of Engineering, has been selected to serve on the Metropolitan Library Council for the Chicago area. The Council, formed by the Chicago Library Club, is composed of twenty-five members. Miss Steele was selected to be one of the five members representing libraries of institutions of higher education in the area other than the Northwestern University and the University of Chicago Libraries.

The Council was created for the purpose of doing special work in the field of library conference and cooperative action. Since its membership is by invitation only Miss Steele's appointment represents an outstanding honor for both herself and the school.

Of the Council's twenty-five members, one member each is chosen from the Chicago Public Library, Crearer Library, Newberry Library, Northwestern University Library and the University of Chicago Libraries. Five members are chosen to represent public libraries other than those mentioned above, five members to represent libraries in institutions of higher education other than the Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, three members to represent two representatives of the State Library advisory committee and three representatives to be chosen at large. The different groups of representatives were selected by the Executive Committee of the Chicago Library Club. The first meeting of the Council will be held this coming Thursday, April 17, at 3:30 p.m. in the Directors Room of the Chicago Public Library.

REQUIREMENTS OF CHEMISTS MET

The Armour College of Engineering has met the requirements specified by the American Chemical society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and as a consequence, all students satisfactorily completing courses in chemistry and chemical engineering at Armour are eligible for membership in these societies.

Experience Necessary
Students receiving a Bachelor's degree from institutions whose eligibility has been approved by the Committee on the Professional Training of Chemists become qualified for full membership in the American Chemical Society following graduation and two years experience in the field of chemistry, chemical engineering or post-graduate study. Students who graduate from unapproved institutions can qualify only after a longer period.

Qualifications for Membership
The requirements for recognition by the society are very complex, but can be given briefly as follows:

- 1) The members of the staff of the department are probed as to honorary society affiliations, degrees possessed, works published and other general information which will prove helpful to the committee in judging the staff member's knowledge, experience and personality. Graduate assistants are likewise thoroughly scrutinized.
- 2) The curricula of the department is closely examined as to the number of semester hours of chemistry students are required to take, the quality of the students in the department and the prerequisite subjects.
- 3) The examination also extends to an investigation of the equipment possessed by the department. Its quality and quantity are the prime concern of the committee.
- 4) Although the library is part of the equipment, it is examined separately for books, periodicals, magazines and other publications concerning the field of chemistry, which are deemed necessary by the investigating committee as essential for an eligible institution.

These requirements are time tested, for the American Chemical Society was established in April of 1876 and has grown into the largest organization of its kind in the world.

Freshman Dance—

(Continued from Page One)

ing in the Marine Dining Room of the Edgewater. Because his style is smart, his music sweet, and up to the minute, he is constantly engaged to play for private parties and fashionable country club dances. His orchestra is well proportioned and with Jack and Mary Jane Brown, his featured singing stars to do the vocals, we feel sure he will make a hit with the Tech dancers. He promises to play an tune on the "Hit Parade," any request, old or new, made by by dancing couples.

The date is April 18th from 9:30 'til 1:00. The bids, printed in pink and white, are in the hands of the Frosh Social Committee as well as the other social chairmen and representatives from the upper classes. The bids are a dollar-fifty a couple which provides three and one half hours of entertainment and pleasure. In the event of a sell-out, extra bids will be on sale at the door on the evening of the dance.