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TECH SPIRIT

As the last cheers and songs faded out of the student union auditorium last Friday morning, and the towering tongues of flame of the huge bonfire in Ogden Field dimmed into glowing embers, it began to dawn on us that now, at last, the final element necessary for the growth of Illinois Institute of Technology was beginning to take form. We refer to that intangible and indefinable something known as school spirit.

Of course, there have been pep rallies and there have been pep rallies, but as John Schommer remarked on the platform, never in the history of Armour, Lewis, or Illinois Tech had there been any such demonstration as the students put on last Friday forenoon. All the others pall into what might be called feeble attempts to scratch the surface of student inertia that has so sickly prevailed up to this time.

The great pep rally, however, is not the only indication of an ascending student "punch", here. As the events of the preceding weeks are reviewed, it cannot be overlooked that at all campuses students have been showing a rare interest in every phase of their life at Illinois Tech. The lunchroom demonstration at south campus demonstrated conclusively that, regrettable as such an occurrence is at any school, the students are really alive to the conditions that surround them. At Lewis, the need for a student lounge has inspired much active support in attaining one. In addition, the spreading to the south campus of the cooperative system used at many other universities for student supplies, cannot be underestimated as to its effect in unifying student thought and action. Coming next Friday is the first all-school dance ever thrown here. It is conceived in a style that not only eclipses its predecessors but promises to rank at the top with the best social affairs of larger universities. And last but by no means least, the student fieldhouse fund now has achieved complete and un-

qualified backing of the board of directors.

Let's not forget where we're going. Everyone, from President Heald down to the students, is out to make Illinois Tech the world's finest educational institution. We have said it before and we will say it again: One of the most vital factors in accomplishing this is to present to the outside world the picture of a student body packed with zest and enthusiasm for the little community in which they spend that four years of their life . . . not merely in respect to their professional studies but for the social and athletic life that surrounds them. The greatness of any school is dependent on more than fine buildings, faculty, and students, and it is up to us to leave a momentum of school spirit behind us, now at the beginning of the expansion program, that will be stamped immediately and indelibly on each entering class.

We've made a swell start. Now let's get out and YELL OURSELVES HOARSE AT THOSE GAMES, PACK THOSE DANCES, AND SINGE THE HAIR OFF THE HEAD OF ANYONE WHO SAYS WE HAVEN'T GOT SPIRIT PLUS AT ILLINOIS TECH.

—T. B.

THE CURRICULUM

A difficult task now faces Illinois Tech's senior curriculum committee. The committee's newly-appointed chairman, Charles Ball, might do well to start his committee working very early, because the job that must be done is perhaps the largest ever delved into by any similar committee at this school.

Many curriculum changes have been made at Illinois Tech during the past year. A technological school must make such changes quite frequently to keep up with new developments and the opening of new fields. It is only natural that as a school's teaching program is sharply altered, many problems should arise. Sometimes new courses are introduced which are beyond the mental capacity of the undergraduate student. Difficult courses are sometimes offered which would be within the mental range of the student if "teachers" instead of "authorities" on the subject were teaching the course. In such cases, the school usually sees and remedies the error at the end of the semester in which the course was being taught. This was done in the case of last semester's mechanical vibrations course. It is sometimes up to the student body, however, to help effect a change in an undesirable situation by giving voice to its opinions.

It is the purpose of the Curriculum committee to locate flaws in the system through the student body. It is undoubtedly true that students do not know much about the problems of school administration, but, at the same time, they do know enough to be able to differentiate between excellent and poor instructors, between well-taught and poorly-taught courses, and between courses inside and outside of their mental range. Much of a student's time and money can be needlessly wasted by requiring him to take a course which is on a graduate level. Much of his time and money can be wasted if he is required to sit hopelessly befuddled in a classroom with an instructor who "knows his stuff" but simply cannot teach it.

If student opinion or curriculum can be intelligently compiled and interpreted, it should constitute a valuable source of information for those whose job it is to make ours the best program offered anywhere.

D. B.

FACULTY BRIEFS

Dr. J. E. Hobson, director of the electrical department, is now conducting a series of lectures on "Symmetrical Components and Power System Problems", in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The lecture series, to last throughout the year, is given at the request of the Wisconsin Utilities Association for members of their electrical section. More than 100 power company engineers from the Wisconsin companies are attending. The lectures are given on alternate Monday evenings at the Public Service building in Milwaukee. Mr. H. N. Miller of the Western Electric Company, is assisting Dr. Hobson.

It is of great interest to find that Dr. S. I. Hayakawa of the English department has made quite an impression in the field of literature. At present about 200,000 copies of his book, "Language in Action", have been sold. The volume has been extensively reviewed in newspapers and magazines throughout the nation, including the New York Times, P. M. and the Chicago Tribune. Samuel Grafton of the New York Post has reviewed it in his nationally syndicated column.

In the Financial Weekly, Dr. Hayakawa's book was highly recommended in the "Books for the Business Man" column. The book has been the feature in the Saturday Review of Literature. The manuscript must be really of great value—even the freshmen are said to appreciate it.

HUGH PEP MEET STIRS SPIRIT IN DRIVE FOR TECH FIELDHOUSE, SPORTS VICTORY

"This is the biggest pep assembly in the history of Illinois Tech or of Armour," said "Big Chief" John Schommer to the massed students in the Student Union last Friday. The Big Chief added that the most important thing to do is to stir up active interest in the school and to get a new fieldhouse.

Official Beginning

Five minutes after ten, on December fifth, nineteen hundred and forty-one will go down in history as the official opening of the Fieldhouse Fund. At that time, a giant snake dance was started in inauguration of the fund. To the tune of blaring bugles, booping basses, and rhythmic drums, the ponderous chain of students swayed and shook. After starting in the Student Union lobby, the cheerleaders led a zig-zag path through the Union and down Federal Street, entering Ogden field at the north gate. Here, Administration II, goat-mascot, led the parade restrained from his goat-like antics by the less war-like braves, Huxhold and Vizard.

Placards of protest and demand fluttered in the air as hundreds of students joined the parade. Such phrases and chants as "we want a fieldhouse," "Our gym is too small," and "Beat Chicago," rent the atmosphere asunder.

Council Fire Surrounded

The dance proceeded slowly and circled the council fire, building up the rhythm and enthusiasm all the while. The human chain circled the fire many times and finally unwound. From the council fire to the council ring the braves carried their burning desire for scalps (money).

Going into the ring, the braves gave away some of their scalps in to the fieldhouse wampum box. Then the auditorium was filled

with shouts and endless chants changed tempo to the tune of a South American conga. As soon as the braves were packed in, the council ring broke out in the Illinois Tech wreck song.

War Whoop Pierces Air

A seven rah war whoop wrought the air which was heard all over the campus. IIT's Vicory song came to life and then the Big Chief in his war paint and bonnet spoke. The wise words of the chief came forth telling of the need for a large athletic center.

"When I was here in '08 there were around 650 students at the Armour Institute," said the Big Chief. "The athletic facilities were the same. Now a school which is the greatest in the United States has come into being, the Illinois Tech Institute of Technology. Our enrollment is now 13,000 students or twenty times as many as in '08. Nevertheless, the athletic facilities have not improved. We need a fieldhouse now. President Heald and Chairman of the Board of Trustees have given their approval, so now we can go ahead under full steam." Big John concluded by introducing the basketball coach, Remie Meyer.

Coach Meyer promised a win over Chicago, especially after the rousing send-off which the students had given. The basketball team was introduced.

Big John came forward again and spoke of the Winter Informal. "The Informal not only affords a way of supporting the fieldhouse fund but also gives an opportunity for the whole school to get together," he said. "All the spirit we can possibly get is needed in support of the fund and all the teams." Then he called Sonny Weissman to come and introduce the wrestling team.

Informal—

(continued from page one)

The King Sisters, those lovely advocates of song, will be the center of all eyes on Friday night, and they do merit this attention. Exceptionally beautiful, these famed sisters (they really are!) please the ears with their lilting renditions as well as impress the eyes. Some little-known facts concerning the quartet: Their ages are—Louise, 25; Alice, 23; Donna, 21, and Yvonne, 19; Loise is married to Alvino Rey; their musical background is fostered by a music teaching father and a cello playing mother.

The mouthing of all these words becomes futile and trivial when compared with the exhilaration and boundless joy to be experienced by the "attendee."

Research—

(Continued from page one)

ate of Ohio State university, and author of numerous publications in ceramics, has joined the staff of the metallurgy section as ceramist. Dr. Earhart comes to the Foundation from the Edward Orton, Jr. Ceramic Foundation.

Clark E. Thorp, formerly in charge of research for the Ozo-Ray Process Corporation, has joined the chemical engineering section. His work will be concerned with unit processes, and pilot plant development studies.

Dr. Clyde W. Leaf, formerly connected with Givaudan-Delawanna, Inc., has been appointed organic chemist. Dr. Leaf's new research will form a link between problems in chemistry and metallurgy.

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