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## COMMON SENSE . . .

Like a cue ball ricocheting about a pool table, the hysterical forces of Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Japan rebounded from the irresistible legions of China and Russia last week to loose their frustrated anger on the United States. As one man, the population of this country has rallied to the single purpose of annihilating them.

Let us think clearly. The problem of self-preservation against the onslaught of the modern war machine is fraught with complexities. Ours is perhaps the most difficult task of all, for as nearly as can be found on this planet we are a free-thinking nation. Our task is not only to fight more efficiently than the enemy, but to retain through and after the hell of it the phenomenon of 130,000,000 independent minds.

Democracy cannot survive the present crisis if America does not have an almost fanatic faith in its heritage, a faith which is deeper, truer, and more tenacious than any devotion which a Japanese or a Nazi might have for totalitarianism. The thoughts of every American must constantly dwell on the vigorous maintenance and amplification of democracy in America, so that our strength may be moral as well as material.

We must never forget for a single moment that America has another enemy fully as great as the nations with which we are now at war.

We must never relax our vigilance toward this psychological enemy dwelling constantly within ourselves insidiously suggesting that the civil liberties framing our way of life be temporarily forgotten.

We must insist that labor's legitimate rights to organize freely, and to bargain collectively be protected.

We must stamp out wherever it looms, the suppression of the American's right to constructively criticize the government's war and peace plans. That right exists nowhere else in the world but in America and in Britain. The annihilation of that liberty in the totalitarian countries is one of the

mighty forces now causing their rot and decay.

We must be ever alert to prevent selfish interests from hampering vital output and causing unreasonable increases in wages and prices.

And finally, after OUR VICTORY, we must see to it that never, never can there be a peace dictated as that of the first World War. A repetition of the mistakes the Allies made then will only lay a foundation for World War III. The insurance of equitable access to raw materials and markets for all peoples and the elimination of the opportunity for the present aggressor powers to ever again threaten the world's peace MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED.

T.B.

## SLACKER? . . .

A word of caution at this time is perhaps apropos to the engineering student seeking draft exemption against allowing the application of the word "slacker" by uninformed albeit well meaning citizens prevent the student finishing his technical education.

Slacker is a common phrase in war times that automatically springs to everyone's lips when they cannot easily and tangibly see evidence of another's sincere efforts to protect his country in the best way he knows how.

Both the national government and industry realize the importance of the engineer and the student engineer in swelling America's and allied powers' military might. For every man at the front it is estimated that 87 are required to remain behind and equip him. Don't underestimate the importance of President Heald's remarks on the fourth column of this page. The prospective ability of the student engineer to increase the cunning of America's war implements should outweigh the influence of idle words flung from idle minds.

T. B.

## SIDELINE CHATTER

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. This broadcast is coming to you from the scene of the greatest brawl ever staged by ye old Illinois Tech. Yea man but verily!!! Tonight's battle is taking place between Butch McTechawk and half the beautiful girls in the city of Chi and surrounding territory. Referee Rey and company has brought the two into the center of the ring—but definitely—he raises his baton and their off.

One of the first things that caught our eye as we entered the arena was a quicky glimpse of Lil Snodgrass and her latest—a yokel boy who seems to know all the tricks of the game. Claude Anderson having himself a hot time in the old town with his pretty Armour secretary, Jean Lund. Doc Davey making a very impressive entrance with delovely Mary Rita hanging onto him with that certain look in her eye. Frankie Lasker (remember him?) and Helen Nichin (who doesn't remember her?) floated around the barrom as in days of old. Tech News well represented with everyone from the editor to the kitchen sink swinging and swaying to the scintillating rhythms of Aivie (we had to resort to the rhetoric in talking about your humble servants). "Uncle John" parading a colossal stogie about the jernt. Morrie Horwitz spending the whole evening wholing hands—kind of expensive at \$2.25 but plenty all right if you like that stuff. Coach Remie Meyer feeling so good hearted that he even let his first stringers steal a smoke or two. The Mechs of '40 there, too, Lenny Wolniak, Gus Galandak, Bill Mashinter, and all the rest of that gang of masher. The horse opory put on by Rey and company really laid 'em in the aisles.

Pretty Sylvia Weislo attracting attention by just standing around and smiling in her own patened way, and then there were the King sister—WOW!!! I'll bet quite a few of the boys got called down by their dates because they paid too much attention to those four beautiful screwballs of rhythm. Oh yes, they sing, too, incidental but true.

Saw Belke and a gang of fellow frosh heading for Ye Olde Rail—a bad habit for a frosh to develop, but we'll forgive them because they showed the right "spirit." There was to have been a queen picked but this fell through, according to the committee, because of a slip up in the preparations, but we know different—picking a queen out of that bevy of lovelies was a job for a much braver man than any Illinois Tech man we can think of. The usually rough and ready civils were behaving like gentlemen artists—drunk probably. What happened to some of these boys who swore on a stack of bibles that they 'would be there,' but then petered out? Shame! Earle Huxhold and his fiancée, Viola looking at each other as if they were all alone on the Sahara rather than in the middle of 1000 music hungry engineers and prospective engineeresses.

And then the theme song for the last time and everybody leaving for parts unknown. It seems as though half of those at the dance went to Isbell's and scared the daylight out of the waiters who thought that another Courtney ax raid was on. And then to bed, tired, but happy to have attended this shindig deluxe and to have added another square foot of brickwork to the west wall of the new IIT fieldhouse.

PRESIDENT HEALD URGES DISCRETION  
REGARDING ENLISTMENT OF ENGINEERSXmas Rail Fares For  
Students Again Cut

The increasing use by students of the reduced round-trip "College Special" fares prompted the railroads to again offer them for the school year of 1941-42. However, during the coming Christmas-New Year's holidays the railroads report that a very heavy volume of military furlough traffic is expected and suggest that those who can possibly do so should travel on or before December 17, and on or after January 7.

The "College Special" plan makes a big saving possible for you by purchasing a round-trip ticket from your home town to college and return. Those who have already return portions of tickets purchased in the early fall should use them and then buy a new round-trip ticket at their home before coming back to college at the end of the Christmas vacation. The return portion of this new ticket can be used on the trip from college to home, either at Easter or close of school.

Cites Vital Need For  
Trained Technicians

President Henry Townley Heald has declared that for the duration of the war, "every person in the United States has a job, and the engineer has a special one."

Pres. Heald shares the opinion with the majority of military and naval officers: that future engineers can be of most service to their country, not by leaving school and volunteering, but by finishing their education so that they can competently fill both military and behind-the-line defense positions. We are now facing a shortage of engineers and in a very short time this situation will become acute. In the event of a long war, the country would have to recruit its engineers from the ranks of the students of today, and it therefore becomes a duty of every engineering student to finish his education.

ITSA GRANT TO DANCE CLUB OBTAINS  
FAMED PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR

Closing the books on the very successful Turkey Trot, the Dance club continued its active social program by signing a contract recently with one of the city's foremost professional dancing instructors.

He is Mr. De Wald of the De Wald Studios, located on North Michigan avenue. Heretofore, the Dance club has been run on a non-profit, catch-as-catch-can basis, all duties being done by the students themselves. This year, an exception to the rule has been made. Because of a generous grant from the ITSA, the Club has been able to obtain the services of Mr. DeWald for the duration of the scholastic year. This grant was made at the recommendation of President Heald. What with the influx of girls from Lewis, St. Lukes, and other places, and the help of Mr. DeWald, members of the Club would appear to be assured of becoming the nonpareil of socialdom.

## Instructor Praised

At his first session in the S. U. building the new instructor was a huge success. With a satisfaction amounting almost to ecstasy, President Herman Tauchau declared that the obtaining of Mr. DeWald's services is the best thing that ever happened to the Club. From the freshman wall-

flower to the blase senior who considered himself a past master of the art of dancing, all present at last week's meeting had nothing but praise for Mr. DeWald.

From now on the Dance Club will meet every Wednesday at 5 instead of the semi-monthly policy followed in past years. At this time there will be a period of dance instructions with classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced. Following this each time will be a short informal dance.

ASME MEMBERS  
HEAR STEEL TALK

The principal speaker before the A.S.M.E. meeting last Friday, was Chief Metallurgist Booth of the Jackson Iron & Steel Company. His lecture stressed the important progress that has been made in the steel industry since its inception.

Mr. Booth began with a brief history of pig iron production and its origin. He described how the steel industry began in the United States and gradually grew to the mammoth size that it has reached today. A remarkable comparison was struck between the early equipment and quality of the product and the present-day equipment and quality.

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