

West Campus Seniors Approve New School-wide Dance Organization

At a meeting of the class of '42 last Friday, Bob Meyer, President of the Lewis Student Council, reported that the second-floor lobby has been suggested as the place for a Student Lounge and that plans are being formulated along this line. Architects have been contacted to consider the possibilities of remodeling the lobby so that the windows of the business office will face directly onto the corridor, and to partition off the spaces between the columns so as to provide the entire area to the north of the columns for lounge space. Remodeling will begin as soon as estimates, which are acceptable to the administration, are submitted.

Seniors Support Lounge

A motion was made and passed to the effect that the secretary should send a letter to the Lounge Committee supporting the establishment of a Student Lounge, and expressing the willingness of the class members to pay a lounge fee, not to exceed \$1.00, for the purpose of furnishing said lounge when the remodeling has been completed.

Elect Reiser Treasurer

As a result of Anne Anderson holding the joint office of secretary-treasurer, the senior class has had only three voting members on the Student Council. To obtain full voting power, the office was separated into its com-

ponents, and Howard Reiser was elected treasurer by acclamation, Miss Anderson retaining the position of secretary.

No Lewis Prom

After a lengthy discussion, a motion by Tom Cafcas was passed that there shall be no traditional Lewis Senior Prom this year, but that a committee should be appointed to work in collaboration with a similar committee from the south campus for a school-wide IIT Senior Prom.

This decision was made in accordance with a recent suggestion in the Tech News that organizations of IIT should not attempt to run a large number of small dances in competition with each other, but rather to concentrate on a few large, well-organized affairs to which the entire school would lend its support. A suggestion of holding a closed Senior Dinner met with warm approval, but, due to more pressing business at hand, no committee will be appointed until possibly the next meeting.

Appoint Committees

President Steve Mendak reported that selection of class jewelry is now under consideration. The Jewelry committee consists of Bob Meyer, Chairman, Mae Krueger, and Florence Moss, ex-officio. Appointments of the remaining committees will take place in the very near future.

ELECTRIC STRAIN GAUGE WORK OF FOUNDATION LABS

Answering the need for an accurate method of measuring strains caused by transient loads on beams, the men of the Armour Research Foundation have developed an electrical strain gauge. Although mechanical gauges can be used with static loads, no true determination can be made when the material being tested is undergoing strains from moving loads.

Tiny Gadget

This new instrument is tiny in size, the part attached to the beam being about one inch long, but very effective in operation. A fine wire is molded into a short plastic bar, and leads are attached to the wire. The plastic bar is cemented to the structure being tested. Strains in the beam cause either a lengthening or contracting in the wire according to the position and direction of the load. The resistance caused in the wire due to the change in length is amplified and the current passed through a cathode-ray tube. The deflection and curve of the cathode ray oscillations are photographed and a study can later be made of the finished print.

Practical Applications

It is possible to record strains suffered by a railroad rail while being passed over by a train. Using a mechanical gauge, the indicator needle would point wildly across the dial, and it would be impossible to get an accurate reading. Although the same unfortunate results would be obtained using an electrical gauge, the solution is found with the use of the cathode ray. The curve of the electrons follows a pattern which can be photographed at any instant of the train passing over the rail.

Mr. W. R. Mehaffey of the Foundation was able to adjust the oscillations so that the gauge could be used with static loads as well as transient loads. The project has been under the direction of Dr. Clayton O. Dohrenwend of the stress analysis department.

Rear Admiral Erie Talks On Navy History, Policies, And Equipment

By Stephen Mark

At a special assembly last Wednesday, Dean Peebles introduced Rear Admiral Erie of the naval reserve who spoke on his association with the navy. Erie began his career as a bluejacket in the Spanish-American War. He is the only man in the navy to rise from a seaman to admiral.

Volunteers in Our Navy

Erie stated that all the men in the navy are volunteers. Following this idea of volunteers, the rear admiral described the early history of the navy. He told about an Irish settler in early America named O'Brien who organized a party and captured a British frigate which raided his colony.

The first sailors in the United States Navy worked without pay. Among these early volunteers was John Paul Jones who was probably one of this country's most famous sailors. These men did not receive any pay but became wealthy with the prize money received from raiding enemy ships.

Naval Reserves Since 1893

Rear Admiral Erie told how the present naval reserve system was established in 1893. In the original setup there were naval reserve units in Boston, New York and the other leading cities. After the success of the naval reserve in the first world war, the working reserve of the navy has been kept at a maximum in the event of another war.

Last year, the navy started taking engineers from all the technical schools in the country to train them in the intensive courses of the naval reserve for active duty. Fifty-five men were taken from Armour and altogether twenty-five thousand students were taken from engineering schools throughout the country.

Reserves Are College Grads

Abbott Hall has a four months naval training course for deck officers. All men in training at Abbott Hall are college graduates.

Rear Admiral Erie asserted that "We're going to have the biggest navy in the world." He told of the navy's twenty thousand officers and added that the navy is a "wonderful" place.

There are seven reserve officers training corps in the United States. All these trainees are college men and are taking courses in naval tactics and science.

We Have Finest Ships

The rear admiral told about the ships of the navy and mentioned that "the navy is building the finest ships in the world." The Graf Spee, a German built warship, had welded construction and didn't last one battle. Erie described how this pocket battleship of the German Navy was literally shaken to pieces by the vibrations of its own gunfire.

American built destroyers have returned to port after being torpedoed. Erie spoke of the excellent construction of the "Kearney" and other ships of the navy. The rear admiral told about the test run of the "North Carolina" and how it successfully withstood the tremendous vibrations set up in her hull by firing all guns at once.

The admiral spoke briefly about engineering graduates being accepted by the naval reserve. He described the program as being similar to last year's program when physical examinations were given to students. He added that last year's students were put immediately onto the navy's payroll. He said, however, that the program was not definite as yet.

Professor Lee Says Labor All-Important In War Emergencies

By Bud Carlson

(The fourth of a series of interviews with Illinois Tech professors upon the relation of national defense and their special field of study).

Dr. Judson F. Lee, professor of business administration, expressed the belief that American labor today has attained a greater degree of democracy than any other laboring class in the world and this "degree of democracy" is being scrutinized by all other countries to see labor's reaction in this world crisis.

Although the AF of L has pledged its support and the CIO has representation on the OPM board, the laborers have shown that they are using this crisis to attain their demands on industry. In regard to the railroad strike, Mr. Lee said, "This strike if allowed to go into effect would bring to a standstill the transportation of the nation. If this situation is tolerated, why should we worry about convoying our goods across the Atlantic when we could not deliver the products of the factory from points within the country to the coast line for reshipment?"

Proposed Coal Strike

"If this strike and John L. Lewis' proposed strike in the captive coal mines are permitted," he continued, "we cannot deliver or even produce the needed steel."

"Will the people of our great country," he asked, "tolerate this delay in this defense program?" The settlement of these problems is of a very serious nature and must be met by the majority in order that we may continue the defense program. Dr. Lee concluded with this statement: "Whatever the solution, the threat of a minority 'power group' is very real and the issue must be fairly met."

FACULTY BRIEFS

At the invitation of Mrs. Anna C. Orcutt, school psychologist, the staff members of Illinois Tech's library gave talks to the freshmen psychology classes during the past week on how to use and obtain the maximum benefit from the library.

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Mr. Richter of the English department announced last week that in the near future he will read a paper before the German Literary, sponsored by the German department of the U. of C. The subject of his discussion is the life of Herman Stehr, a German writer who died five years ago.

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Professors McCormack and Peck of the department of Chemical Engineering attended the fall meeting of the A.I.Ch.E. at Virginia Beach, last week. While in the east, Professor McCormack addressed the student chapter of the A.I.Ch.E. at Pratt Institute. His subject was: "Technique Used in Heat Transfer Measurements."

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Last week a meeting of Gamma Theta, honorary dramatic fraternity, was held for the purpose of deciding on a play to be held in the near future. At this meeting it was also announced that Mr. Richter will act as faculty adviser for the Armour Players.

LEWIS STUDENTS STRESS NEED FOR STUDENT LOUNGE

Simultaneously with the seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen held their respective meetings on the liberal arts campus last Friday. All of these classes unanimously agreed that there is a definite need of a student lounge on the West campus, and the members of these classes are willing to assume an additional reasonable fee in order to secure and maintain the above mentioned lounge.

Highlight of the Junior class meeting was the election of a new vice-president. An unusual situation had arisen in this class; for Art Petterino, who was elected president at the first meeting of this class, has since been called to the army, thus leaving the position vacant. As a remedy for this situation, the class decided to elect a new vice-president, and to have Bud Carlson, former vice-president assume the duties of president. Patricia Arns was elected to the position of vice-president.

Further business of the class was then taken up. Dorothy Giambelluca, activities chairman, then explained the reason, and announced the time, place, and orchestra for the first official dance of the school, the winter Informal, the proceeds of which will go to the student Fieldhouse Fund. Also discussed was the possibility of the selection of jewelry during the students' junior term.

Members of the freshmen class discussed the possibility of a dance, the Freshmen Frolic, the proceeds of which would go toward the student lounge. A committee was elected to further this plan. The committee is as follows: Earl Siminek and Maxie Smith, co-chairmen, Norma Cooper, James Christianson, Ted Barzinski and Virginia Pochelski.

Tis A Geat Day For Irish As Frosh Elect Gibbons And Murphy

In typical IIT fashion, the freshman class went to the polls on November 11 and succeeded in electing a president and a vice-president.

In the primary, held October 31, every race was neck and neck except the office of ITSA representative where Harold Skinner was swept into office with a three to two vote. James McNerney was elected social chairman, and Eugene Andre nosed out Sidney Collins by eleven votes for the office of treasurer. For secretary, Herb Post took the race from James Ford by seven votes.

The run-offs last Tuesday were very close, as James Gibbons was elected vice-president, and William Murphy took the presidential race.

Special Aptitude Tests Planned For Pre-Meds

Special tests given specifically for those students who failed to take the test last spring but who are planning to apply for admission to medical school during 1942 will be given Dec. 5, at 3:00 p. m. in room 535. The Association of American Medical Colleges' sponsors these aptitude tests each year in order to determine the aptitude of the pre-medical students throughout the nation.

Pre-medie students should make application immediately at the registrar's office. As has been the practice in the past, a fee to be paid at the time he takes the test is required of each student. Dr. Leslie L. Hedrick, chairman of the biology department, may be consulted for further information concerning the test.