

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Student Publication of the
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
3300 Federal St.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Published Weekly During the College Year

By the Students of I. I. T.
REPRESENTED FOR NATIONAL ADVERTISING BY
National Advertising Service, Inc.
College Publishers Representative
420 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK, N. Y.
CHICAGO • BOSTON • LOS ANGELES • SAN FRANCISCO

"Entered as second class matter October 10, 1940, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879."

\$2.00 Per Year

Single Copies, 10 Cents Each

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VOL 28—NO. 8

NOV. 18, 1941

DEAR POLYGON STAFF

Please accept our profound sympathies in your seemingly endless difficulty of obtaining an even mildly constructive attitude from the students toward the planning of Illinois Tech's 1942 yearbook. Technology News' recent poll requesting comment on the name "Polygon," suggestions for new names if that was unsatisfactory, and other constructive criticisms on the general nature of the last book received a miserably weak response. A recent formal and unanimous protest from the south campus senior class against the name "Polygon" has resulted, for some reason unbeknownst to us, in no constructive approach to the problem. And so it seems that you'll never know until you've done it whether you have done it "right" or not.

The whole situation seems to boil down to this, and only this, if we may be allowed to stick in our little oar. Definitely the 1941 Polygon was unpopular at both west and south campuses. That is all either you or we know.

Apparently, then, it would be a mistake if either the form or name of the last yearbook were to be repeated. The students are, after all, the people you have to please and a wide departure from what they DON'T like is usually a safe policy. And if, incidentally you don't happen to be convinced that the last yearbook was not liked, walk down amongst the masses and talk with them. You will be surprised at the unanimity of dislike. DON'T poll them with ballots. They have to write, then, and think a little bit harder . . . results, Nix.

The opinions of this department on last year's yearbook have not been asked, we admit. As usual, however, we will plunge in with our customary nonchalance and feebly attempt to spread some light upon the subject. To begin with, we might as well go on record as having liked some of the ideas in the 1941 Polygon. But as is too often the tendency in radical departures from the customary style of things, many of the new wrinkles that were

tried went much too far. For instance, from the make-up man's viewpoint, a liberal allotment of white space in the laying out of pages is a very effective trick that affords a pleasant reaction from the reader. The Polygon really did sling that white space around, great gobs of it, sitting around here and there with no place to go. May we point out that in order to obtain the desired effect spacing must be unobtrusively done in such a manner that it sneaks quietly upon the reader and does not burst glaringly out at him? This was a very serious error that we found on entirely too many pages.

The writing in the last Polygon was excellent . . . sparkling and witty, even though, perhaps, too much of an editorial nature for that type of publication. By all means make no sacrifices of quality in the writeups.

With that little breather, let's get back on make-up again. The shape of the book, oblong, was an unfortunate choice in that it limited the opportunities for graceful and beautiful effects. It's a peculiar thing, but the human eyes take in things much more quickly and easily in an up and down direction than from side to side. Consequently no matter how cunningly the pages in an oblong book may be made up, already much of the effect has been lost because it does not instantly project itself upon the reader. Therefore, we strongly urge that the vertical dimension of the new book be substantially larger than the horizontal, as was done in the old cycles and is being done in almost every other college year book.

The important thing in a year book, to our manner of thinking, is to afford the students a pleasant and joyous reflection upon his past year of school life. Accordingly, then, a yearbook must have an air of gaiety and must, in effect, "glamorize" for the student his school life which has previously seemed, perhaps, all too drab "in the daily grind of it all." The rather studiously intellectual and architectural layout of the Polygon defeated this too successfully.

And so we have now spoken our little piece to you brother yearbook, and will now direct our attention once more to our equally doubtful child, the Tech News. Hoping we are still the best of friends and anticipating the greatest success for the 1941-1942 yearbook, we remain

Yours very truly,

Technology Newsboys
Per. T. B.

ONLY ONE PLEASE

Considerable criticism has been leveled at our unhappy ears of late because students coming to school during the late morning hours on Tuesdays have been unable to obtain a copy of Technology News. We wish to stress the fact that we have a standing order of 2500 copies per week. The total number of subscribers to the paper is approximately 2300, which figure includes the entire undergraduate student body of Illinois Tech. In addition, about 100 copies are distributed to faculty members.

There is then a surplus of some 100 copies each and every week. Yet a large number of students find the Tuesday morning piles of newspapers non-existent if they come to school around 10:30 or 11 a.m.

The answer to the problem must be that many a person, whether faculty member or student, is in the habit of securing more than one copy for himself. Now we like to believe that the Tech News is good; but it's not that good. And we are furthermore forced to point out that this paper is operated practically at cost, the budget being figured almost to a hairline on a rather low advertising intake and \$1 per student per semester which entitles him to some 13-15 copies at the rate of ONE copy a week. As much as we would like to increase our weekly order by two or three hundred more copies so that those who so desired might have more than one issue the figures say we cannot without sacrificing the quality of the paper.

We therefore send forth a general plea to every reader of Technology News. PLEASE limit yourself to only one copy. After all, if you pick up two, or three, or four copies each time so the family or girl friend can have some, too, it just means that some student who has paid for the paper isn't getting one.

YOU'LL NEVER GET RICH

but you certainly will obtain a wealth of pleasure and experience working on the

1942 Yearbook

WRITERS—See

DAN BROWN, Editor-in-chief
WARREN SPITZ, Armour Editor
PATRICIA ARNS, Lewis Editor

PHOTOGRAPHS—See

BOB ROSE on South Campus
HOWARD REISER on West Campus

Frosh and Soph Writers Will Be Met with
Outstretched Arms

Student Opinion on National Defense

Student opinion is rapidly gaining momentum in the United States, particularly at this time, when events are taking place with such rapidity. It would be rather gratifying if we could in some way, detect the pulse of the nation. As an attempt to find a solution to this problem IIT has affiliated itself with the Student Opinion Surveys of America. Sponsored by the University of Texas, the poll reaches out into every corner of the nation.

Tech affords an ideal situation in that it brings together a quality of men unlike that of other schools. It represents a substantial cross-section of the mid-western thought among the young engineers. This being the case, each individual approached on the campus should do his part in giving his fullest cooperation. All questions asked are strictly of an impersonal nature. Their weight is purely of statistical value and in no way will they be used against a person.

The S.O.S.A. has been operating for some time and has gathered some interesting results. Among the most recent, was the report that at least half of the U. S. college students are opposed to a change in the neutrality law. Nearly eight out of every ten believed it was more important to supply the allies than to join the fight. It is interesting to note that college women (57%) are more eager than men (50%) to have prospective draftees deferred until graduation.

Selecting a sample of college men in proportion to enrollments in the six geographical areas of the Census, the Surveys asked, "If the United States declared war and sent out an expeditionary force, would you volunteer or wait until you were drafted?" These were the results:

Would volunteer 28%
Would wait for draft 64
Undecided 8

The American student opinion maintains that college men should be allowed to complete their education before they are inducted into the army. Even if war should be declared and an expeditionary force sent out, Student Opinion Surveys of America discovers that nearly two-thirds of college men today say they would wait their turn in the draft rather than volunteer.

In a nation-wide poll from Maine to Oregon on this question of deferment, the answers on a percentage basis were as follows: Defer them until their education is completed 54%
Defer only those being trained in fields vital to defense—science, medicine 24
Simply being a student is no ground for deferment 4
Make students subject to the draft between high school and college 12
Something else 5
Undecided 1

DEFENSE PROGRAM DOES NOT CAUSE INCREASE IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The nation's defense program—the emphasis the war is placing on scientific advancement—seems to have had little effect on what students believe colleges should offer.

The S.O.S.A. reveals that during the last two years there has been a very slight increase in the number of collegians who believe higher education should stress technical and professional training. The response to the interviewers question, "Do you believe college background should be mainly technical and professional training, or should it emphasize a wide cultural background?" showed the following results:

	1939	1941
Technical & professional	17%	19%
Cultural background	46	42
Both	37	39

Less than 2 per cent were undecided; so these no-opinion answers were not included in the tabulations.

Men students, nearly one-fourth of them, want technical and professional training, while only 16 per cent of the women do.

From the comments made by many students contacted, the reason for the small number who want the technical side stressed is that undergraduates do not want the arts and the social sciences overshadowed during this period of strife.

A freshman at Pomona junior college in California told interviewer Donna Peirsol, "If we lose sight of the basis of education and let war hysteria dominate our better judgment, we will find when the national emergency is over that we have lowered the level of education unnecessarily."

West Campus Students See Novel Motion Picture

Organs contract . . . bones in motion . . . hearts beating . . . a meal passing through the digestive tract . . . were shown in the moving picture, "Moving Ex-rays", which was presented last Friday by the Medical Arts Guild, an up-and-coming organization of pre-professional students on the liberal arts campus. The picture was so enthusiastically received that it had to be run through a second time. The response shown by pre-professional students has led to a demand for future activities of this sort, and the officers, headed by Tad Nozniak, have already made arrangements to show a sound movie entitled "Men In Medicine", on December 12.

This movie, "Men In Medicine", is a dramatized picture showing the training of the medical student; his early days of practice and some of the problems of present day medicine. This is a MUST for every "pre" student.

Techawks Seek Win Over Chicago Teachers

Seeking to begin the season with the kind of performances they have been accustomed to finish with, the Techawk cage squad looks for a win over a fast and versatile Chicago Teachers team when they open against them on Thursday, December 4.

The Techawks have a special motive for victory in a desire for vengeance for last season's setbacks at the hands of the Colonels. The opening game last year was bagged by them in a hard fought game in which the Techawks vainly tried to overcome the deficiency incurred in the first half.

Techawks Seek Edge in Series

While the Techawks have split with the Colonels in their last four starts, an improved and more experienced team than last season's will be out to stop the Colonels quest for three straight over them when they clash in the season's opener December 4.