



By RHODA WEITZMAN



Dr. M. Alden Countryman

One individual at Illinois Institute of Technology is in possession of a new military secret each day—the weather prediction for tomorrow. That person is Dr. M. Alden Countryman, professor of physics, who manages an unofficial weather bureau station which has proven of considerable value to the United States Weather Bureau.

Located on the roof of the west campus main building, the station is now operated on a 24-hour basis. Main purpose of the bureau operated by Dr. Countryman is to record the inches of rainfall for the west section.

Recognizing the wartime necessity for trained and efficient men and women, Dr. Countryman has realized the responsibility of professors to train these persons in the shortest time and most effective manner. Accepting his share of the responsibility, the IIT physics professor has inaugurated a detailed wartime curriculum, including the recently established meteorology course, which Army authorities have praised highly.

Dr. Countryman also assisted in planning the Illinois Tech Signal Corps program and the Navy program. Until recently he served as an instructor in the C.A.A. Navy training program, but a combined Army-Navy set-up has since removed that responsibility.

Dr. Countryman initiated his scientific career by earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Minnesota, but his interest shifted to the field of physics in the early 1930's.

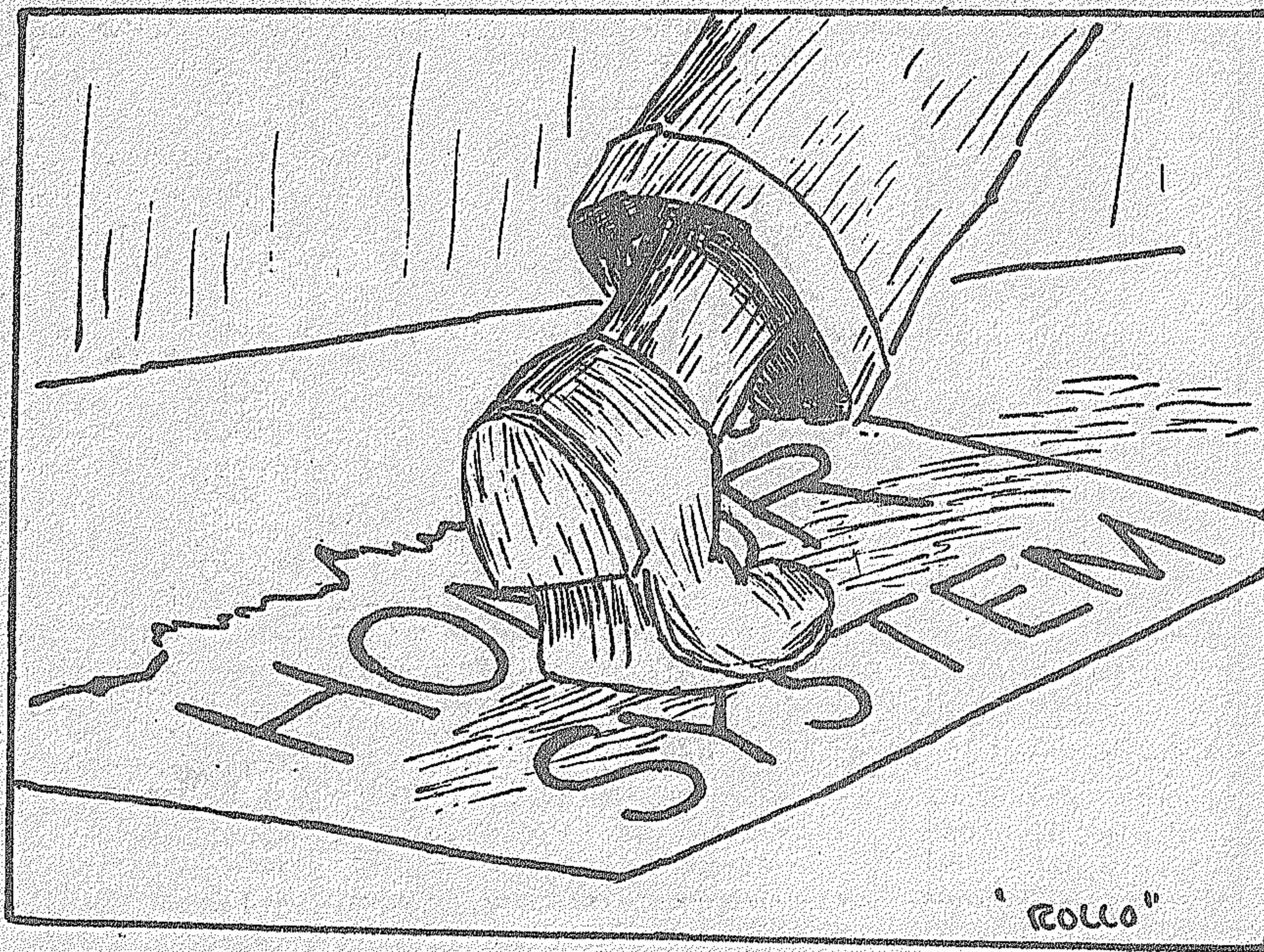
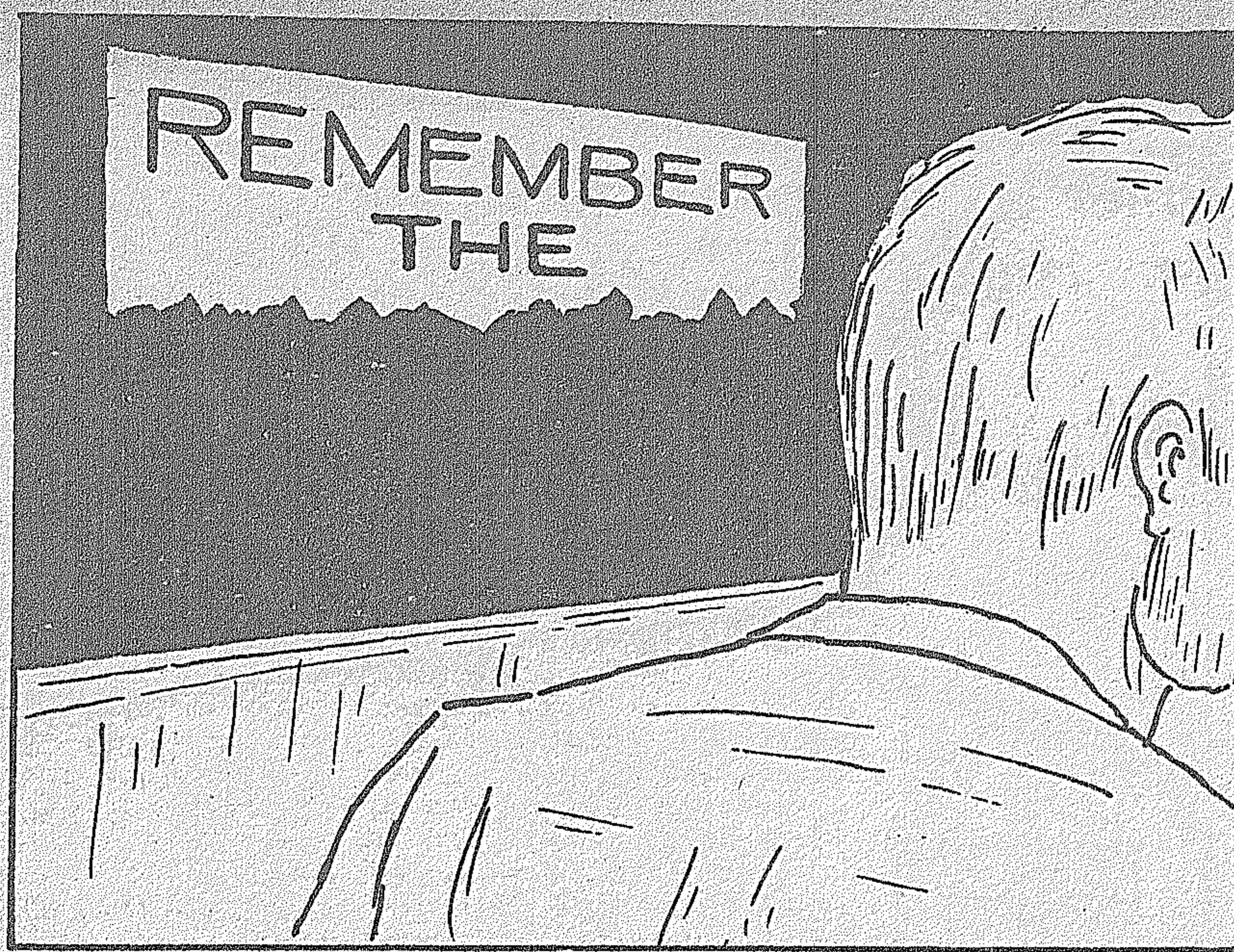
In 1933 Dr. Countryman received his Master of Science degree from Iowa State College, and in 1936 his Doctor of Philosophy degree in physics was awarded. He joined the Lewis Institute staff in the following year, 1937. He is a member of the honorary fraternities, Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Xi.

In addition to being a writer, Dr. Countryman is an excellent pianist, an inventor of mechanical gadgets and an accomplished amateur photographer.

At present Dr. Countryman is engaged in reviewing technical books for the Chicago Sun's Sunday book section. He is chairman of the Lewis scholarship board which supervises examinations and makes final choices, and is also active on the committee of preparation of demonstration apparatus for lecturing purpose by the staff members.

A new and somewhat personal development has taken place recently, for Dr. Countryman has, for the second time, become a proud father. This time it's a baby boy.

Is This Your Choice?



LEWIS SNOOP OF THE WEEK

After years of learning the domestic arts such as cooking, sewing and care of children, and reading such required texts as "How To Be Happy Though Married," Marion Zenziper has convinced a lieutenant that engagements are the style today. Congratulations.

This is a difficult time of the year for writing the kind of gossip which makes you read this column with bated breath. Perhaps it's a case of not being able to see the forest for the trees. There've been so many social functions, and "Harry the Wiper" and I have been in on so many bull sessions that it would be hard to betray the drunken confidence of our friends without giving away our own precious identities.

On the other hand it may be that tales of the fickleness of Tech men and inconstancy of the women they love seen trivial against the ominous background of final exams and our friends leaving on camping trips to Texas, Louisiana, and Guadalcanal.

While attending the cabaret style play, "The Drunkard," we noticed: that the faculty, due to some political slipup, occupied tables barely within shouting distance while the upper crust such as the senior Mechs and the 5A Co-ops were close enough to the stage to be kicked in the face by the Flora Dora girls; that Shirley Sexson, during her rendition of "See What the Boys in the Back-room Will Have," made strong men weak by sitting on their laps and chucking them under the chin.

For the enlightenment of the lesser lovers we suggest an intensive study of the BTO. This new organization contains such notables as Chet "Father" Swan, Cliff "Sniffer" Oliver, Jack "Will You" Byrne, Dan "Smooth" O'Connell, George "Dry" Ormbruster, and the rest of the boys who spent the week-end after finals at Clarence McDonald's summer home. As a result of much sleep and good food, all returned in the pink of condition. (The pink color scheme was marred by the dark brown tongue-overcoats.)

In all seriousness we wish to congratulate the members of the Armour Players for an excellent performance. The leads played by

ARMOUR SNOOP OF THE WEEK

Dick Larson, after his recent break-up with Phyllis, discovered that he lacked a companion for the "Drunkard." Brother Mills procured a blind date for him and this beauty so captivated our hero's heart that the old arrow marks have healed.

shy Tim O'Leary and boisterous Chet Swan kept the audience on the edge of their seats while Emcee Roy Boedeker and the "ole gal in green" pulled down the house with their stuff.

Showing ruffled panties, hairy legs and a fine co-ordination, the "Can-can" dancers lived up to all our expectations . . . One other individual who provided the spark and drive for this success played a traditionally thankless role. A bouquet to the director, Miss Lou Meyers, for her devotion to the cause.

Well, Bob King finally met her; remember "dizzy" with the shoelaces around the ankles. The former Notre Dame smoothie is out to steal Mike Coccia's thunder although we have been wondering whose ring she has been wearing.

If "Miss" George Prochnow could keep her sweater and skirt together, and "her" hair from straggling, "she" would be as lovely a woman as could be found on West Madison Street.

"Superman" Lajone is so enthralled by "Miss" Prochnow's beauty that he insisted they go steady. The lovely costumes worn by "Miss" Prochnow, "Superman" Lajone, "Sleepy-time" Murlin, and "Miss" Kayser were all conceived by Jim Roman, pledge master of the Daedalians fraternity.

We don't like to be squealers but the two Jacks, Eulitt and Foxgrover, have been wasting flashlight batteries. The gentlemen in question made themselves innumerable enemies when they invaded the lounge during Junior Week dance. Oh well, they had to amuse themselves in some way.

—The "Window Washers."



By BILL BURKHART



Vivian I. Lippert

Death, taxes, and finals are said to be the surest things in life, but to these, one more should be added—eating. Since people must eat, Miss Vivian I. Lippert, Director of Food Service at IIT, decided that if she made food her career, she would never starve.

At present, Miss Lippert manages the Armour and Lewis cafeterias. This is a man-sized job under normal conditions; in wartime, it becomes a Herculean task. The same rationing problems which confront every housewife are multiplied several hundred-fold. In addition, there is a tremendous labor turnover. Miss Lippert must estimate each day how many employees are likely to leave,

and then must see to it that the necessary work is done anyway. A position such as Miss Lippert holds calls for a person who combines the qualities of an expert dietician

with those of a capable administrator. Considering the training and experience she has had, she is well fitted for this job.

As a student at Oklahoma A.&M. university, Miss Lippert had little idea of the sort of work she would like to do. However, during her first year she met a dietician, and becoming interested in this work, resolved to choose it as her career.

After graduating in 1938, she went to Michael Reese Hospital for graduate training. Here she learned how to apply in practice her knowledge of dietetics.

Completing her work at Michael Reese, Miss Lippert went back to Oklahoma A.&M. for a year and a half, but this time not as a student. She was dietician for the boys' dormitory and managed the cafeteria. For a time she was also assistant dietician in the same dormitory in which she had stayed as a student.

Miss Lippert not only had the experience of going back to work at the same college where she had done her undergraduate work. She next went back to Michael Reese Hospital, where she had done her graduate work, and worked for a year and a half as a staff dietician.

On October 28, 1942, Miss Lippert was appointed Director of Food Service for IIT.

Miss Lippert likes dietetics work in an institution, such as IIT, better than hospital work, because of the administrative duties which go with the former. In her job at IIT, she must, among other things, plan the menus, buy all of the food, manage the employees, and provide for parties and other social affairs held in the cafeteria. Her greatest problem is that of expecting, and preparing food for, 150 people and having 500 show up. This is quite likely to happen around registration time.