

The Other Side—

Dr. M. Reed Goes from Cowboy, Mountain Climbing to Engineering, Writing

From cowboy to electrical engineer. That is a new version of the Horatio Alger theme, but it applies to Dr. Myril B. Reed, professor of electrical engineering at IIT.

Aside from his classroom work, Dr. Reed is probably best known to students in the EE department in his position of faculty adviser to both Rho Epsilon and Eta Kappa Nu, the honorary radio and electrical engineering fraternities, respectively. However, he is also known and liked by students in other departments, for he is faculty adviser and treasurer for Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity.

His interests are not, however, confined to technical matters. His chief hobby and favorite pastime is hiking and mountain climbing. Whenever he has a chance, he engages in this sport, and after many trips to the Rocky Mountains has pretty well covered them, up, down and crosswise, as he says. Although he has yet to climb the 14,000 foot peak, the highest in the range, he has successfully negotiated one as high as 13,200 feet.

The appellation "cowboy" should not be taken too seriously, for it was only as a boy on his father's 10,000 acre ranch in Wyoming that he occupied himself with the fine art of cow-punching. However, he still likes to ride, and has managed to get back to Wyoming each year, with the exception of the present one.

His desire to enter the field of engineering dates back to his boyhood on his father's ranch, on which there were some 2,000 head of cattle. There, he was much more interested in how the steam engine used to run the threshing machine than in the other farm chores. Sensing



Dr. M. B. Reed this mechanical aptitude in the boy, his uncle, who worked as blacksmith on the ranch, encouraged him to attend the University of Colorado to study electrical engineering.

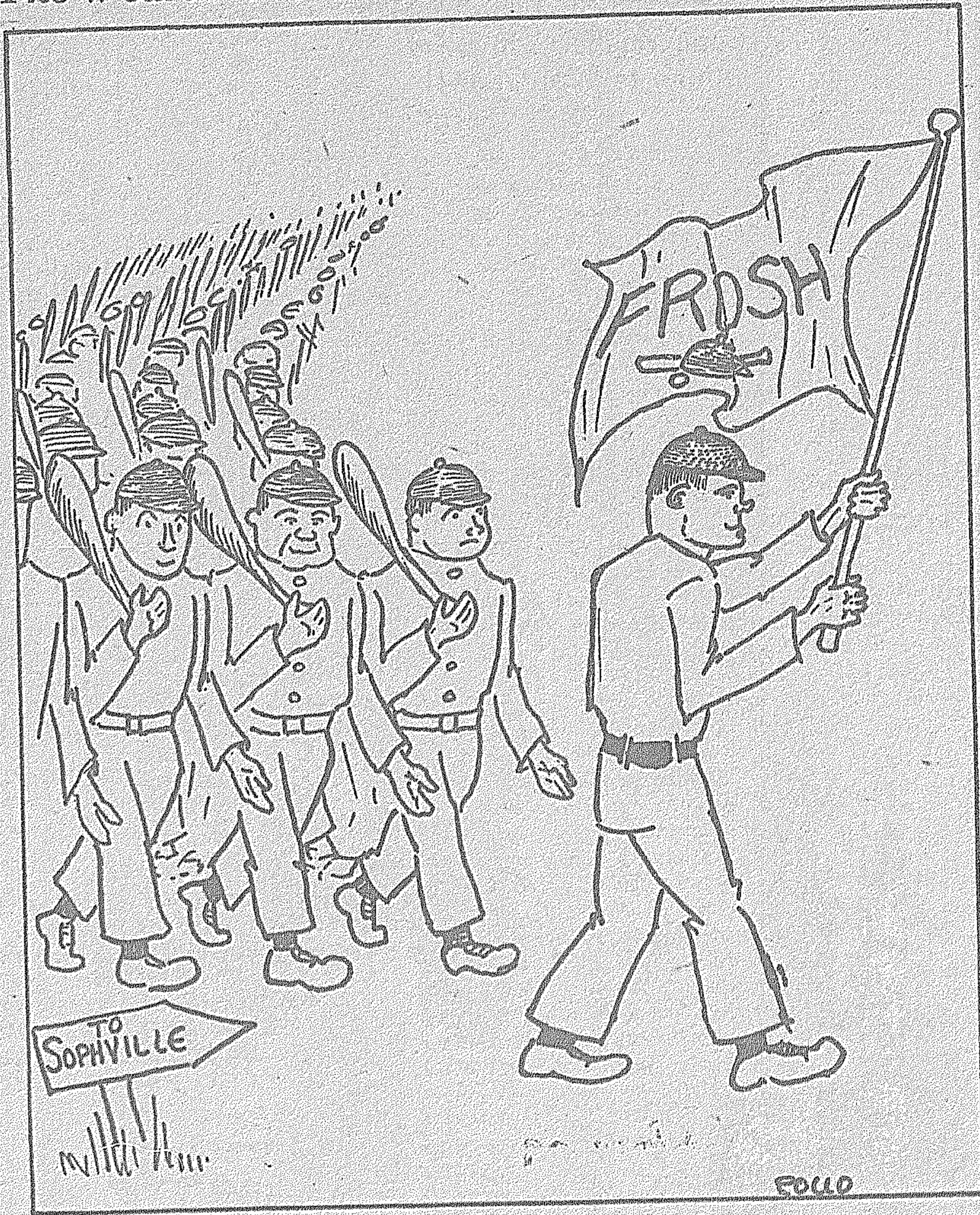
After leaving Colorado in 1926, Reed went out to get some experience in the field. During this time, he worked in hydroelectric plants in Idaho, testing meters in Colorado, and at Westinghouse, in New Jersey. He then went to the University of Texas, where in 1935 he received his Ph.D. He taught at the university for several years and then came to IIT. He has been a member of the electrical engineering department here for the last six years.

However, despite his other activities, Dr. Reed has by no means neglected his own field. He has done much mathematical research in connection with electrical networks. One of the several papers which he has had published is on the application of matrices to electrical networks.

In fact, all of his research has been of a mathematical and theoretical nature, rather than experimental. He has managed to be as active in the power end of electrical engineering as in the communications. His practical experience, while working, has been with the former, while his theoretical work has been concerned with the latter.

However, the thing which is probably nearest to Dr. Reed's heart, at the present time, is the book on which he has been working for several years, "Fundamentals of Alternating Current Circuit Theory". The book, which he is at present using in manuscript form with the EE 306 class, will be published in a few months by Harper's. In it, he has made use of a fair amount of mathematics in order to present a logical development with a minimum of assumptions.

The Wearin' o' the Green



CHICAGO—

"Servicemen, Dance and be Happy"

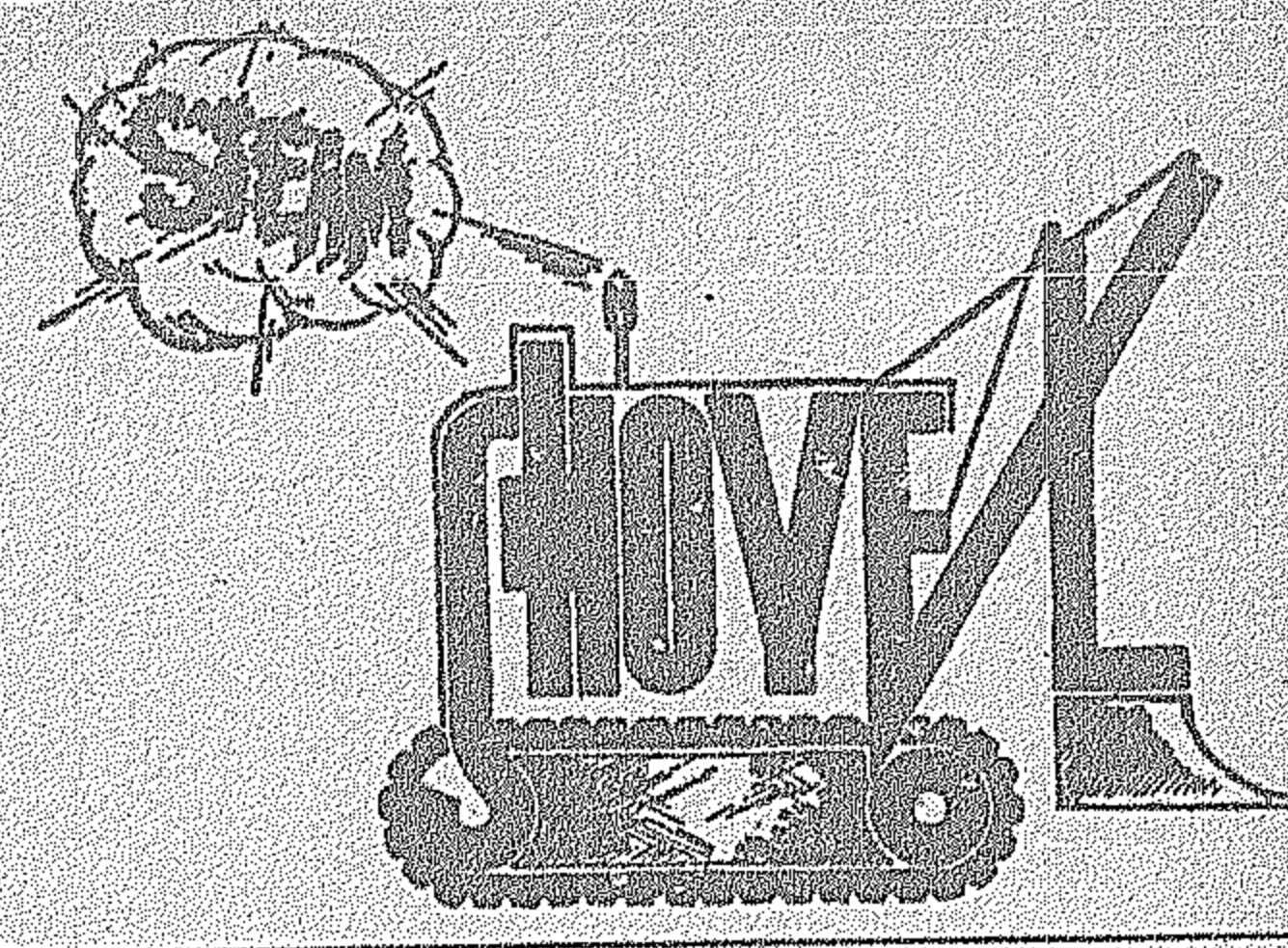
Says Avalon

"WE WISH you a very real success in your commendable idea of providing your students with an investigated listing of 'extra-curricular activities'...

"We would be glad to have representatives from your paper visit our ballroom so that they may add it to their list of south side recreation spots." Such was the way that the managers of the Avalon ballroom wrote *Technology News* this week. Needless to say, a representative is now on the way for this "investigation," and you can expect a full report next week.

names 'n notes

ANTHONY BALINT, technical drawing professor, spent one year in charge of the erection of power plants in the Nile River Delta... The hobby of CARL ALMBLAD, sophomore civil, is collecting ship stamp cancellations. He writes a letter to a ship; after the letter is canceled, it is returned to him... YALE BROZEN, professor of economics, recently received his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Chicago. He was graduated as a chemical engineer from MIT, and then attended Chicago on a scholarship... When ROBERT LOVING, assistant professor of technical drawing, attended MIT as a student, his technical drawing instructor was H. C. SPENCER, who is now chairman of that department at IIT... ALBERT GAIL, mechanical engineering professor, originated a method of dynamically balancing propellers which has been adopted by the major American airlines... President HENRY T. HEALD, Dean LINTON E. GRINTER, and Dr. HAROLD VAGTBORG may have all attended the same collegiate bull sessions as students. HEALD received his master's degree in 1925, GRINTER his Ph.D. in 1926, and VAGTBORG was graduated with a B.S. in 1926, all from the University of Illinois... CHARLES ROWBOTHAM, October senior mech, claims the distinction of being the only IIT student who has lived in Chicago for 22 years and never visited River-view Amusement Park.



The Red Cross Mobile Unit extorted varying effects on Tech's students. All of us feel the inner satisfaction of having "done our parts" but for Art Slingerland, senior mech, there was created more than that.

Art, who can hardly be called a wolf, nevertheless displayed wolf-like tendencies in gaining the attention of Genevieve, a pretty Red Cross nurse. He was so captivated that he had been tapped of a quart and a half before he noticed what was going on.

Imagine his despair and chagrin then, when the lass informed him that her love was for another—her husband in South Africa. While South Africa is far away, Art hasn't reached first base yet, hence his "low man on a totem pole" appearance. Such are the miseries of unrequited love.

An urgent masculine voice pleaded with the Lewis Switchboard for Dr. Gibson's office immediately. When told that Dr. George Gibson, Lewis chemistry professor, was not in, the voice moaned, "Oh, what will I do! My wife is having a baby and I need Dr. Gibson!" Either this man had the wrong number or the good doctor is using his title for a little business on the side.

To the Lewis operators such strange calls are almost routine. Rhoda Weissman and Clare Houlihan like to tell about the people who want the toy department, while Al Weiss and Blanche Fried had a chance to hire a bartender when that job hunter called the wrong number.

Ordinarily, Steamshovel doesn't make a lost and found department out of this column, but there are exceptions. The thought of a young engineer eating his heart out in anguish while the object of his ambitions is unaware of his situation is just too much. For that reason, the following letter, which was found in a deserted corner of the Armour library, is printed.

"My Dear Patricia,

"I do not know if my actions have revealed the secret of my heart, for my lips have told it not. But I can endure this silence no longer. Above all, I beg you to believe that I am honest and that my intentions are sincere.

"If I say I love you, it is because that is the truth.

"I tried hard to resist, I have suffered in silence, I have sacrificed myself; but your beauty and your character were superior to my will, and I must write you what I cannot say when I see you. Will you say but a word that will encourage me to hope? But till I hear from you the uncertainty will be agony and I will suffer miserably until I have some word from you. Surely you will make me the most envied of men.

"Waiting then for this word, I remain for life,
yours,
CHET SWAN"

Steamshovel doesn't know just who "My Dear Patricia" is, but, if she will call at the *Technology News* office, she can retrieve her lost mail and put her poor swain out of his misery.

A big red kiss on a bright blue envelope—that is the nauseating sight that greets the Lewisites every morning just after breakfast. These special delivery airmail letters from Hollywood are the property of Al Weiss; that little lady who is gaining a foothold in the movies will also be the property of Al if this keeps up.

Bob O'Donnell's farewell celebration was a brawl to end all brawls, according to the reports which are trickling in. Bob, who received his commission in the navy was sent off, but good, by his former classmates and comrades in arms.

Among the navy men present were Nat Ratner, Tim O'Leary, Jim Bell, Jerry Houle, Jack Shepard, Bob Burkhardt, and Mike Coccia. Instructors John "Lonely Hearts" Butkus and John Volakakis were also among those gathered for the festivities.

'Tis rumored that the bartenders' union is after Dan O'Connell, Cliff Oliver, and Jack Byrne for working without a license. The dishwashers' local is after Ulysses Backus for the same reason. It would appear that the patented "Backus Two Headed Penny" came down tails, and landed him in the kitchen instead of behind the bar.

Florence Bartusek, the Lewis "floating secretary," has been shifted from M. Leo Howard's office to the Lewis War Training Office under Paul Jones. Remarks Bartusek, "This new boss hasn't quite the looks of my old boss, but he is just as nice."