

By DICK LARSON

THE MATTER OF physics-lab reports has been a hot-bed for so long that I can't resist adding my two-cents to the situation.

There is no doubt in my mind that physics is one of the most important of the fundamental sciences. Its place in engineering is unquestioned. It should be given every bit as much prominence in the curriculum as possible.

But is the present method the way most effectively to present the course? I think not. If a truly comprehensive course, embodying all the fundamentals necessary for a sound engineering practice is to be given, it should be presented in two years rather than one.

NO ATTEMPT IS MADE to unduly burden the student in the lecture course. The study is fairly intensive, and the problems are not neglected, by any means. The subject matter is there, and must be presented. The course is treated sanely, with full realization that everything cannot be included in two semesters.

The lab, however, should be a supplement to the lecture, in my opinion. It should give the student a concept of the relationship between the theory he has learned in the lecture and the laboratory methods used in establishing or testing the theory. It should lead a student to a point where he would know how to proceed were he presented with a problem of his own. It should also teach him how to prepare a report correctly.

The course is probably designed to fulfill these requisites; certainly the latter. But I think it fails because it destroys the student's interest in the course by making it a weekly crank-grinding operation that is done as quickly as possible because it must be done, and because there is always another one waiting when the first is finished. There is no time left to learn.

TOTALLY UNFAMILIAR theory, in many instances, is required to be understood and presented flawlessly, or the report is "bounced." Eventually, when the theory is introduced in the lecture course, considerable time is spent on it before the student is assumed to have grasped it firmly.

This, I feel, is a serious inconsistency that has led the students to

(See AS I SEE IT on Page 6)

Wind Tunnel is Work of Many

Additional information on the wind tunnel, which was reported in the last issue of *Technology News*, has been received.

The tunnel was a project of Dr. Linton E. Grinter, vice-president of the institute and dean of the graduate school, and Dr. Hans Reissner, research professor of engineering.

After an inspection trip to see the medium-sized wind tunnels in the east, and a study of recent publications on the subject, designs were made for two different sizes of tunnels and propeller fans by Dr. Grinter and Dr. Reissner. These were detailed with the help of C. C. (See WIND TUNNEL on Page 6)

Fountain in Main Overworked, Fails

The drinking fountain on the first floor of the Main Building was removed September 30 for repairs. According to W. J. Parduhn, superintendent of buildings and grounds, "Tech students have been drinking so much water from it that the spring and valve controlling the water output snapped.

"The fountain will, in all probability, be in use within two weeks," Mr. Parduhn stated Friday.



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October Grads Plan Dinner For Seniors Only

Banquet to be Held at Swedish Club, Oct. 11; Will Plan for Reunion

The October seniors will hold their graduation dinner in the blue room of the Swedish Club, 1258 N. La Salle St. on Monday, October 11.

James Carroll, class president, will act as toastmaster, but there will be no faculty speaker.

Another feature of the banquet, which is limited to October seniors, will be a general bull session. Plans will be made at that time for a class reunion every five years.

The cost of the dinner, \$2.00 a plate, may be paid to the banquet committee, headed by Roger Olsen, and consisting of James Ramseth, Tom Costello, Fred Sternberg, James Johnson, and Jack Byrne.

Senior money will be accepted beginning Tuesday, October 5. The dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m., and approximately 60 men are expected to attend.

Band Plays for Army Groups

For one hour Thursday evening, October 2, the combined bands of IIT, Army, Navy and Civilian, played for the members of the ASTP unit on campus. With a mighty sweep of the baton Mr. Erickson opened the concert with the *Star Spangled Banner*. The other numbers followed in a smooth and orderly manner that lent a professional touch to the entire program.

PROGRAM

"Stars and Stripes Forever"—March Sousa
"Poet and Peasant" Overture—Suppe
Encore: "His Honor"—March
Three Selections by the Glee Club
Stout Hearted Men ... Romberg
Over the Rainbow ... Arlen
From the Four Ways ... Erickson
Selection of Favorites ... Herbert
"The Purple Carnival" ... March Alford

Three Songs—
Stout Hearted Men ... Romberg
Over There ... Cohan
Field Artillery ... Sousa
Adding a great deal to the success of the concert was the well balanced, carefully selected program. The selections were chosen so as to suit every musical taste. Throughout the entire program the enthusiasm of the audience was immense. If this can be used as a measuring stick for return engagements, Mr. Erickson will have found an audience for his combined bands every Thursday evening. The audience was so overwhelmed by the closing numbers that they demanded the playing of the Field Artillery March two times and Stout Hearted Men three times. These rafter ringing songs brought the concert to a close.

Many IIT Identification Buttons Yet Unclaimed

Bernard Weissman, Student Union manager, has announced that many students have not as yet called for their identification buttons.

Students should call at his office for their buttons as soon as possible.

Burkart(s) To Be New Editor(s)

New Tech News Managing Board



Left to right, top row: Milton Burkart, Harold Burkart, Bill Burkart. Bottom row: Jim Oldshue, Burt Fried, Isabella Winters.

Milt Is Named Editor, Harry Managing Ed.

A new managing board will take over the reins of *Technology News* at the end of this semester. This will mark the end of one year of service by the present board.

The new board will consist of Milton W. Burkart, editor-in-chief; Harold Burkart, managing editor; Burton Fried, business manager; Bill Burkart, feature editor; and James Oldshue, sports editor; and Isabella Winter, Lewis managing editor.

Milton Burkart, senior in chemical engineering, the new editor-in-chief, started with *Technology News* in his sophomore year as a reporter. In his junior year he was made the assignment editor. During that time he was also made a member of Sphinx, honorary journalism fraternity. This year he was made an honorary member of the managing board of *Technology News*.

Burkart is a member of Alpha Chi Sigma, professional chemical fraternity. When this group formed the Flask and Beaker Society, he was elected secretary of that organization.

He was chosen last semester as chairman of the freshman advisory committee. As a junior, he was secretary-treasurer of the Dance Club. He has also been a member of the Rifle Club.

The new managing editor, Harold Burkart, is a junior in electrical engineering. He is the president of the junior class. He has been a member of the staff since his freshman year and became copy editor last semester. Recently, he was pledged to Rho Epsilon, honorary radio fraternity. Burkart is a member of the All-School-Social Committee and has been a member of the Dance Club.

(See BURKART(S) on Page 6)

Sphinx to Become Chapter Of Pi Delta Epsilon Oct. 10

A chapter of a national collegiate journalism fraternity at Illinois Tech is now a reality. The acceptance of the Sphinx petition for a chapter of Pi Delta Epsilon was announced today by Charles Rowbotham, president of Sphinx.

Edward E. McDonald, national secretary-treasurer of Pi Delta Epsilon, will travel from Pittsburg to install the Illinois Tech chapter. This ceremony will be held Sunday, October 10, at the Swedish Club of Chicago, 1258 N. LaSalle Street.

Paul O. Ridings, faculty advisor of *Technology News*, will represent the petitioning group in the ceremonies. He will be assisted by three Pi Deltas on campus; Jeanette Lowry, Mary Reynolds, and Elinor Bishop; all of the Illinois Tech News Bureau.

The program of events is as follows:

- 4:00—Initiation of new members
Installation of the new chapter of Pi Delta Epsilon
- 5:00—First meeting of the new chapter to elect officers and to discuss projects for the coming year
- 6:00—The newly initiated members will be honored guests at the *Technology News* Banquet also at the Swedish Club.

Camp Films Shown At ASCE Smoker

Films illustrating the activities of the civil surveying groups at Camp Armour were shown to fifty members of the ASCE assembled in the Student Union Lounge last Friday evening.

Camp Armour, located in northern Michigan, is the home of junior civil engineers of IIT for five weeks every summer.

Another film gave the ASCE members an excellent view of the conditions preceding the collapse of the Tacoma Narrows bridge. Deflections of 50 inches and 32 cycles per minute vibrations were noticed. The bridge twisted to such a degree that cars slid from one side of the bridge to the other.

Navy V-12 to Register First

"The navy men will be the first to receive their programs for the new semester," reports the Registrar's Office. The navy registration will take place on Friday, October 29. All registration of the navy will be completed on that day.

Seniors and Juniors will be taken care of on Saturday, October 30; and sophomores on Monday, November 1. The freshmen will register on Tuesday, November 2. Plans have been formulated to finish all registrations on the day assigned to them.

Army, Navy Men To Receive Photostatic Copies of Records, C. W. Kepner Says

All army and navy students will receive photostatic copies of their academic record sheets at the end of the semester, it was announced this week by Dr. Charles Kepner, registrar.

These photostatic copies will show the student his exact grade record as it appears in the registrar's files. Any errors that may have occurred can be detected and immediately corrected.

By the end of this year all students who have a legitimate reason for wanting to view their scholastic record will be able to do so. "This system," says Dr. Kepner, "is already in effect except that an office clerk isn't always able to stand and watch the record while the student looks at it. This will be corrected by building an appropriate place beneath the glass top counter where a student can look to his heart's content."

Dr. Kepner also stated that a very large staff would be required if each and every student, from the freshman up, would be running in and out of the office to check his point average. "A point average isn't as important as the student's correct record," stated Kepner, "and the records are correct except for isolated cases."

Dr. Kepner is very anxious that all seniors view their four year record sometime during their fourth year.

In regard to Mr. John J. Schommer's requests for averages, he emphasized that they were double checked for accuracy.

The Inter-honorary Council's request for lists of averages has been fulfilled.

The registrar wishes that those who have any feeling that his office is not performing correctly or who have any suggestions for improvements in methods, would see him. He will be only too glad to discuss matters of this sort, he said.

Navy V-12 to Attend N.U. Sorority Dance

All navy men at IIT have been invited to attend a dance sponsored by the Lydians, a sorority at Northwestern University, on Sunday, October 17.

The dance will be held at Wieboldt Hall, 339 E. Chicago Ave., from five to eight p.m. Tickets may be obtained in Bernard "Sonny" Weissman's office any time before the dance. They are free of charge.