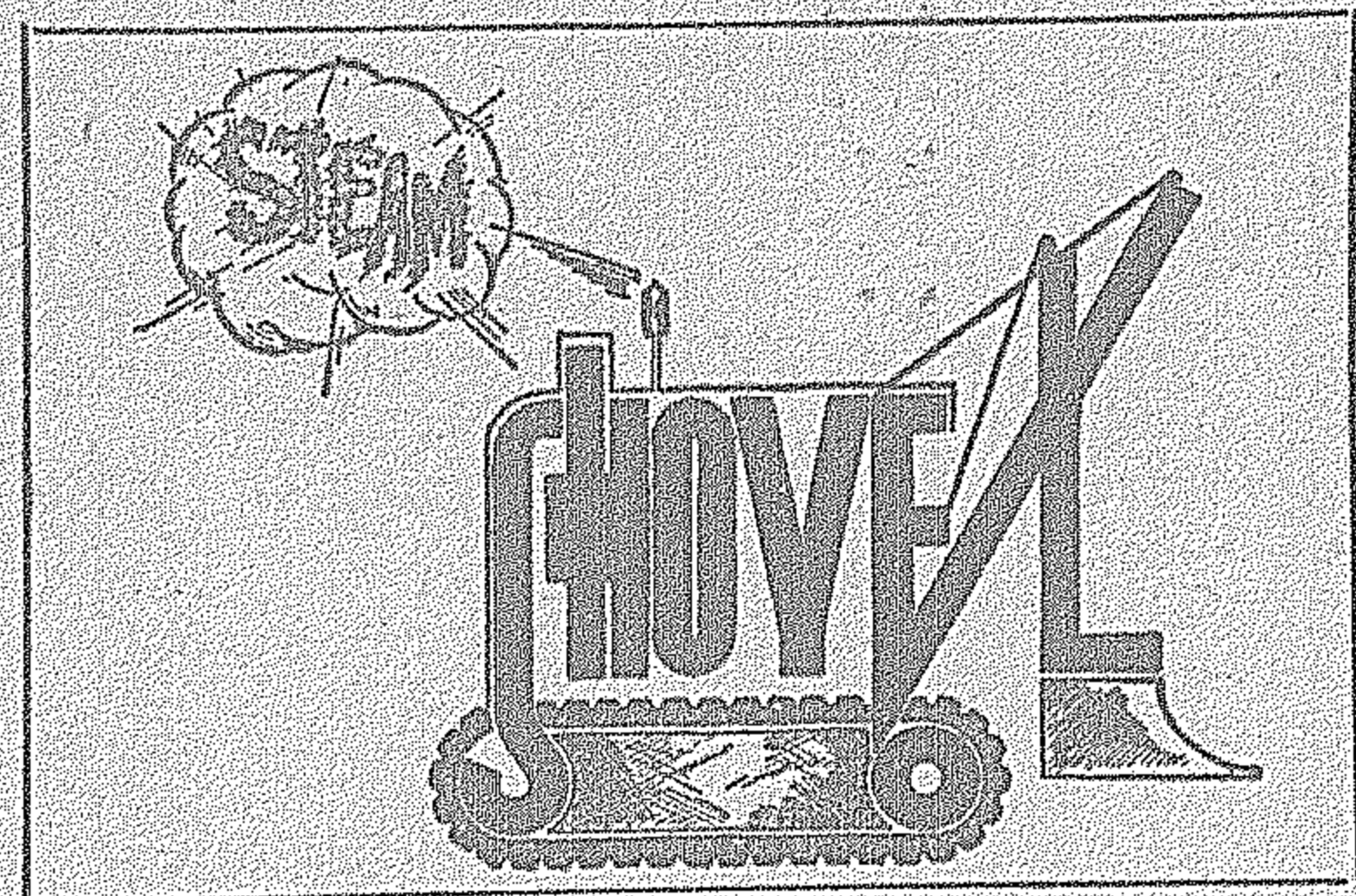


CHICAGO

# "The North Star" Brings the Latest War Message



Louise Kuczera of the placement office has a strange mental quirk contrasting strangely with her feminine charms. Her Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde character revealed itself in urging innocent lads to examine a photograph of a luscious model which had a penciled phone number on the back. Investigation has disclosed this number to be that of the county morgue.

Bemoaning the days of the Rockford concert is Blake Hooper a/s, for at that time he met Mitzi. Two Saturdays ago the girl came in to visit Blake. The evening cost him approximately \$25.00. After escorting her to her room at the Stevens, she opened the door herself and it was only through smooth operations that he managed to salvage one kiss.

"Theodore Zaggy," alias Ted Strutter a/s, made a date with a certain beautiful blonde the week before Christmas vacation. When he came back from his leave he was informed that his blonde bombshell had married an Army lieutenant. The moral: time waits for no seaman; neither do blondes.

Since all sorts of titles are being made, there might as well be one for the "king of the blind dates." It goes to Marvin ("I hope she's pretty") Quateman. In the last twelve weeks he has had seven blind dates; the other five weeks were required for recuperation. The "king" keeps trying, but can't seem to find a girl that he'd care to take out the Sunday, Monday or Always. At least that's what he says. The girls haven't told their sides of the story as yet.

Recognizing the need for a pretty nurse, John Butkus and Ulysses Backus have been expounding the advantages of the profession to a certain lass whom Ed "Casey" Puchalski calls his own. Foresighted "Casey" has been preaching to the contrary, without results. Backus and Butkus are now getting sick, probably from swelling with pride over the accomplishment.

The title of M.P.O. (Most Persistent Operator) goes to Edward Kepil, freshman mech., this week. He has a system all of his own in dating the fair sex. One evening as he was entering a show he chanced to gaze upon a sweet maiden, and rather nonchalantly remarked that the girl was wearing a beautiful dress (while most of the time it was her legs he was looking at). Thereupon the gal pivoted around and dealt "Wolf" Kepil a sharp slap in the face. Undismayed, however, he started a conversation, sat with the girl in the theater and then escorted her home. Now that Eddie knows where she lives, he is planning on bigger and better tactics.

Robert ("Stag") Reynolds, mathematics instructor on the west campus, showed his dancing skill at the "Snow-Ball Dance" last week. He was surprised to find that no female would dance the "Hypurbola." As a dancer, Reynolds makes a good mathematician.

Last Saturday after the Institute team played at Naperville, they had almost 45 minutes to wait for a train. Al Zorbuntz a/s, and several others went to the local soda fountain to kill time. They all went to the station but when they got on and the train had started, Al was found to be missing. He got home sometime later in the night via "The Thumb." Al claims that he left his bag and equipment at the soda fountain, but he's having a hard time convincing the boys that it wasn't the lassie behind the counter that he went back for.

Gene Nolan, the boy with the southern drool who wants to know if the rest of the United States is allied with Texas in this war, developed a new dance at the Snow Ball, the "sommambulists' stomp." Isabella Winter received such a workout holding him up at the dance, she hadn't recovered in time to come to school Monday.

A sight for sore eyes was Dick Flaskamp last week when he came to school dressed rather oddly. The consensus of opinion was that Dick was in a great rush to get to school and while dressing he forgot to remove his sweet little nightie of blue.

Working in a psychology laboratory really effects some people. Frank Luccotacto walks through the Lewis halls mumbling "What a beautiful curved figure." Could he mean the Mexican maiden in that lab?

—BROTHER TINSLEY PHENORTEN

Latest of the war pictures, and latest of the pictures bearing "a stirring message" is "The North Star." It's another story of the little people in the world and how the war is hitting them. This particular picture shows the action taking place in Russia, and the little people are the Russian peasants.

Various critics are battling back and forth over just what kind of a production "The North Star" is. Some claim that it is an accurate picture of war and the effects of war, while others maintain that it reeks of Soviet propaganda. Both sides have their points, and if a person is to be satisfied after seeing the picture, he will have to make up his own mind.

It is true that the plot has been run into the ground a bit. The picture presented of the peasant life seems just a bit too slanted; it reminds one of the "before and after" photographs which plug everything from vitamin pills to girdles. It appears to be trying to give the impression that everything and everybody in Russia was just too happy for words before the Nazi invasion. It then goes on to show just how the little people banded together to defeat the Nazis when their children were threatened.

On the other hand, some critics will point out, the story could take place anywhere, given a similar set of conditions. Americans would fight back the same way, they point out. Besides, you can't show everything at once in a motion picture. Even Longfellow used the same device of slanting his view of the little French-Canadian village in "Evangeline," and he got away with it.

While the motives behind the filming of "The North Star" are hard to pin down, the acting and direction are tangible. Anne Baxter, Dana Andrews, and Walter Huston do good work, while Erich Von Stroheim does his customarily fine supporting work in the role of the German army doctor.

\* \* \*

For those who care for a riotous evening of merriment, Olson and Johnstons "Sons O' Fun" is now playing at the Civic Opera House. Their claim of "tons of fun for everyone" is really true.

## Research Reports—

### Mechanics Department to Begin Research on Tank Stresses Soon

(Editor's note: This column will present each week a brief report of the various research projects being carried on at IIT. Since *Technology News* is the student newspaper of a technical school, these articles will be of a more technical nature than would be possible in an ordinary newspaper, but they will nevertheless be written in such a manner as to be accessible to the majority of the student body.)

Plasticity in tank structure is the subject of a research project soon to be undertaken by the department of mechanics. The project is sponsored by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works, and will have as its aim an investigation into the distributions of stress and strain in tank structures when loaded beyond the elastic limit.

Details of the research project will be worked out by H. C. Boardman, research engineer of the iron works and Dean Linton Grinter. As yet, no limit has been set on the amount of the grant.

Le Van Griffis, assistant professor of mechanics, has stated that he expects that the first year will be taken up mainly with analytical work, with actual experimentation to follow after that. Because the project will be conducted in conjunction with the Armour Research Foundation, the actual starting date of the work will not be set until the Foundation is assured of an adequate labor supply.

Another project of the mechanics department dealing with tanks, the

## the alumni corner

Eugene Worcester, IIT '40, is now the safety director at the U. S. Rubber Co. at their Elkhart plant. He returned to IIT recently to interview students. His brother Bob, A '38, is an engineer for the United Airlines at their modification center at Cheyenne, Wyoming, where last minute changes are made in planes "fresh off the production lines."

—IIT—

Robert I. Jaffe, A '39, former editor of *Technology News*, was recently awarded his Ph.D. in metallurgy at Harvard. He is now teaching at Ohio State University.

—IIT—

Peter Woods, IIT '41, is now plant manager for one of the new engine plants of Allis-Chalmers Co. He is also a former editor of *Technology News*.

—IIT—

After forty-six bombardment missions in China, Burma and India, Lt. Robert J. Shimanek, IIT '40, has returned to the U. S. on a three weeks furlough, wearing the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal.

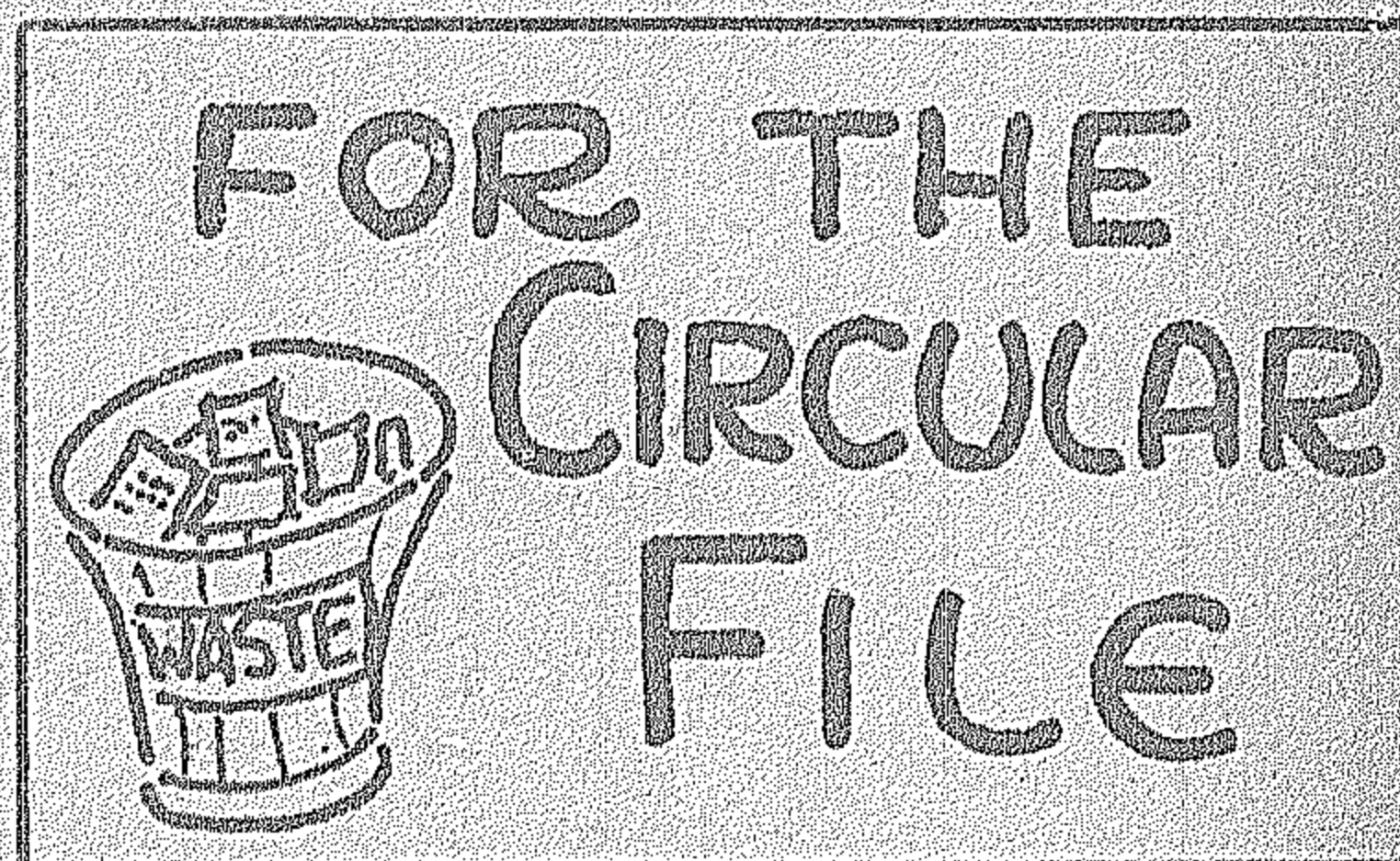
## Such Is Life

Words have been thrown around quite a bit lately, concerning the subject of sailors and civilians sleeping through lectures. Of course everybody realizes that this favorite student pastime creates a bad impression, but no one has tried to correct either the sleeping or the impression.

Perhaps the easiest solution to the problem would be for those individuals who must sleep to cultivate a dignified attitude while indulging. Some might favor the time honored dodge of shielding the closed eyes with the palm of one hand. This often gives the impression that the sleeper is really deep in thought and listening to the lecture.

Another possible approach to the problem is to have the potential sleeper use more of his outside time for sleeping. He can then attend to such matters as writing letters and reports when a particular lecture becomes rather boring. At least his time is not wasted.

The final suggestion which has been made is rather impractical, but might be developed sometime in the future. It has been suggested that the easiest way to keep the class awake is to have an interesting lecture well prepared. But who ever heard of such a revolutionary procedure carried out in every class of any institution?



"What was the first story you remember hearing?"

Such was the question asked in a survey recently, and the answers were most revealing. While the best remembered stories range from Mother Goose to the affairs of the traveling salesman, the fairy tale appeared to have made the most lasting impression on the most people.

Realizing that the average student has little time to peer beyond the edges of his textbooks to learn of the cruel exigencies of the outer world, there is a definite trend toward the teaching of valuable lessons through this medium. Now the reader will please throw away his comic book and get himself educated:

Once upon a time there was a king. He was king of Yamgania, which is a country between Ireland and North America. It would be better known to Americans as east of "Joisey". This king was a very wise ruler but he had one weakness—potatoes. The king loved potatoes. He ate them boiled, mashed, fried, baked, and what have you. He called the queen his little sweet potato, he tied his shoes with shoestring potatoes, and he played poker with potato chips. In fact, it was rumored throughout Yamgania that the king was potato "bugs."

One day, however, a fairy appeared before the king and told him that his people were not eating potatoes.

"What in the world are they eating, then?", said the king.

"Oh, various edibles", replied the fairy.

"Well I'll soon put a stop to that!", said the monarch, and a stop to it he did put, by the simple expedient of declaring a law against eating edibles.

For a while all the people of the kingdom starved, then an agitator for the Communist party, who, incidentally, had spent six months in the royal kitchen peeling potatoes, convinced them to overthrow the king. They did, and the king was sentenced to be mashed to death in a giant potato masher. Just before he was to die the executioner asked the king if he had any last words. "Yes," said the king, "just what made my people turn against me? I always thought they liked me."

"It was that law against eating edibles", the executioner replied, "they didn't mind starving so much, but they did mind the way you flaunted your royal immunity."

"What do you mean, 'flaunted my immunity'? All I ate was potatoes", said the king as he reached for a french fried. "You know that". The executioner then explained to the king that the potatoes were edibles.

"Well I'll be a boiled spud", said the king as the masher descended.

Moral: Never trust a fairy.

determination of weld stresses, has been carried on for two years, and is now almost completed.

Publishing a magazine is not usually considered to be a research project, but it is one of the research activities conducted by members of the IIT department of language and literature. The editing of the magazine "Etc." and the "Review of General Semantics" represents one way in which the latest findings in the field of semantics are being distributed.

Reports on the relation of general semantics to military life have come to the offices of the magazine. Dr. Samuel Hayakawa, assistant professor of English, and editor-in-chief of "Etc." states that examples of personal problems in military life have been coming in from all fighting fronts.

A discussion of the study of semantic reactions to earthquakes has arrived from the South Pacific, and an air corps captain in Alaska has proven through tests, the semantic factors in the teaching of physics to air corps trainees.

Referring to the association of semantics to earthquakes, Dr. Hayakawa explains that the symbol reaction to an earthquake is quite similar to the symbol reaction that one feels about words.