

# TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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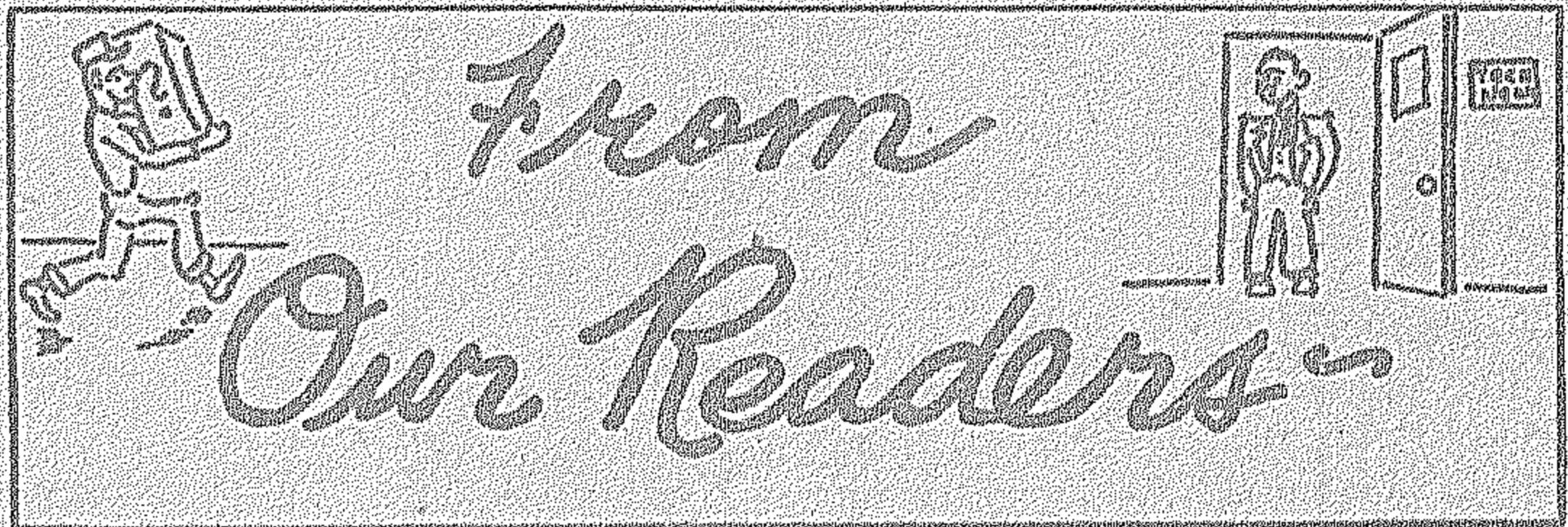
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## Woman Of The Week

# Original Member Shirley Evenstein Becomes New President of Medical Arts Guild

## Christmas Eve 1943



## What Does Christmas Mean?

It's another Christmas, and another Christmas in a world at war. Since this time last year much has happened: Armies have advanced and retreated, been created and destroyed.

It will be a different Christmas this year for many of us. Many of our friends and brothers have left for foreign duty with the armed forces. Some have been killed, some are dying now, and still others will not return home.

This year, more than any other, Christmas should make us think. We should give some thought to what the idea of Christmas means to the men who have seen battle and have stared at death. How many of them still regard the holiday as a commercialized affair of exchanging gifts while the merchants rub their hands, listening to the ring of the cash register?

"There are no atheists in foxholes" has become more of a truism than an evangelistic phrase during this last year. Men who have lived through battle while their friends dropped around them, have come to regard religion as more than a sermon or a collection of hymns. It is men such as these from whom we could learn something.

It was two thousand years ago that there was a period of peace—the longest the world has known. It was as if the petty bickerings of men had been put aside for a short time and a truce had been called. But the peace was an enforced one, based upon the unstable authority of the Roman governor. The misunderstandings, the racial animosity still lurked under the surface. Into such a world came the first Christmas.

The angels sang their glad tidings, the star gave forth its light, and the wise men paid their homage at the birth of the Christ child. Still the world went its way, and finally the accumulated hatreds broke forth.

Back in his foxhole, the soldier can see just how much of a difference the Christ has made. He comes to realize the importance of having an ideal and a guide bigger than oneself. The wounded marine feels that there is a power that looks after him and protects him. These men have learned the hard way. Must we?

Perhaps if we think over just what Christmas means to us as individuals, we will discover that it means more than we have been accustomed to give it credit for. Perhaps we will realize that Christmas marks the advent of the opportunity for the correction of the mistakes made by each individual.

Man, at best blunders his way through life. He keeps making mistakes and continues to make them when he recognizes them as such. His is an inefficiency which cannot be measured by a laboratory instrument or computed by a sliderule. The birth of Christ, the Saviour, on that first Christmas day marked the chance for man to have a guide, a standard, and a redeeming forgiver of mistakes. How many of us here realize it?  
 W. BIRKHART

To the Senior Civils and All Concerned:

I am of the opinion that all necessary apologies have been made. The civils maintain that *Technology News* "reflected upon the ability" of Professor Stevens by reporting what happened in his classes. The civils nowhere deny that card playing is a practice of the members of the class. Are they trying to tell us that the act of playing cards does not make any reflections upon the students' attitude or the methods of conducting the class while the reporting of the fact does?

It appears that the civils are much more interested in white-washing their class than protecting the honor of their professor. If they consider that Mr. Stevens's reputation has been injured by the incident, they formed the opinion themselves. There was no comment made in "Steamshovel" or anywhere else about whether the professor is teaching his classes in a correct manner. That is for the Department of Civil Engineering to decide.

If the civil engineering students feel so badly about the affair, they are the ones to apologize. They are the ones who are being deferred to study engineering (or is it pinochle?) and they are the ones who will be judged by the profession as to whether they have learned their subject. If they, and the department, feel that they are learning the subject, well and good. If not, the action should come from there, not the student newspaper.

I will not knowingly print anything on the feature pages which would mislead people, but neither will I cut an item because the truth might hurt certain small private interests. *Technology News* is sent to individuals and schools throughout the country, but the feature pages are not going to be run as

a propaganda agency for IIT in order to impress these subscribers.

If the truth hurts, Civils, correct the causes, don't come around demanding that I apologize for stating that the condition exists.

Feature Editor.  
 W. L. Burkhart,

Dear Editor:

It occurs to me that the dance at the Drake Hotel on Dec. 11 deserves some comment. To begin with I might say that the bids were the best we've seen around here for quite a while. The music even surpassed my expectations of fine dance music. Carl Ravazza plays the type of music to which most people really enjoy dancing, but there lies the crux of the whole matter. Who could really enjoy dancing to anybody's music on a floor that was as overcrowded as the dance floor of the Gold Coast Room was for that party? When four hundred couples are expected for a dance, why isn't a ballroom obtained in which four hundred couples can dance with moderate comfort? The Gold Coast Room of the Drake is without a doubt the shoddiest place in which I can remember that Illinois Tech held a downtown dance. It is noisy, the service is rotten, and it has all the romantic atmosphere of a Thompson's Restaurant.

If 450 bids were sold at \$2.75 there was a gross take of \$1,237.50 (after taxes had been taken out). That is a great deal of money to spend on a dance that turned out as this one did. I am not suggesting dishonesty on the part of anyone on the ASSC, but so that the members of the ITSA may know the cost of each of the items connected with the dance, I would like to request that the ASSC submit an account of the funds connected with this dance in next issue of *Technology News*.

When the next big dance is held in February, let's make it one against which these complaints cannot be registered.

Don Haack,  
 Junior Mech.

"East side West side. . . ." and this week it's the west campus which takes the honors with Shirley Evenstein, a biology major at Lewis as the "Woman of the Week."

Shirley entered IIT in the fall of 1941. She was one of the original members of the Medical Arts Guild which was founded when she was a freshman. In her sophomore year, she was secretary-treasurer, and now as a junior, she is president of that organization, having been elected several weeks ago. She is also a member of the IIT Chemical Society, as well as being assignment editor of *Technology News* on the west campus.

When Shirley was six years old she attended the Children's Civic Theatre where she studied dancing and music. Here she was discovered by a Viennese musician, Madame von Stechow, who presented her with a scholarship in ballet dancing and music. She attended John Marshall High School for two years, and then one day, while supervising a blind children's picnic she was stricken with infantile paralysis.



Shirley Evenstein

She was completely paralyzed at first, but has regained, through treatments, the use of most of her muscles, and when her doctor comes back from the war, she hopes to be completely cured. Shirley, however, proved her irrepressibility by winning a vocal scholarship with Mr. Stults, of the Northwestern Academy of Fine Arts.

Probably because of her own misfortune, Shirley has been particularly active on the behalf of those who have fallen victim to polio. She was chairman of the Mile of Dimes committee at Lewis, and has given eleven blood donations to the Polio Center, and was also on the committee for Red Cross Blood Donors.

Besides her studies and extra curricular activities, Shirley acts as student assistant in the Biology laboratory. Somehow, she manages to keep house for her father and sister in between times.

Musically inclined, her natural avocation is music. She collects records—from Beethoven to boogie—and enjoys listening to them. She also relishes testing out her scholarship winning vocal cords by a lusty rendition of "Pistol Packing Mama" and others of the more singable ditties with the gang around the piano.

Most people collect something, and most women collect men. Shirley also collects perfumes. What fascinates her the most in probably not so much their appeal to the oscillatory senses, as the names; and why not? *Forbidden Fruit*, *Allure*, et al do have a certain fascination.

Shirley expects to graduate next fall and then become a laboratory technician.



VIRGINIA PETZING, freshman chemistry major, is the first girl in the history of IIT to enroll at her father's alma mater. Her father, Erwin Petzing, graduated with an B.E. degree in 1919. . . JOHN DOLCEY, director of physical education at the west side campus, once coached European All-Stars who came to the U.S. to compete in boxing tournaments. . . A freshman mechanical, JOHN FARLEY, has traveled through every state in the U.S. except Maine. . . ROBERT ROSE, graduate assistant in mechanical engineering, has purchased \$100 worth of War Bonds through the saving of Jefferson nickels.