

# TWO TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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## Changing the Constitution

The ITSA Board of Control has appointed a committee to draw up a new constitution for the ITSA. This wise move was made after the board finally came to the realization that the present constitution was practically worse than no constitution at all.

The old constitution should have been discarded years ago. It served no useful purpose since the present board has been openly violating at least 15 of the sections in it. The board should not be harshly criticized for doing this however. In most cases it was acting in the best interests of the student body.

The constitution committee should try to remedy the fault of the old constitution. The new one should be broad and elastic, rather than detailed and too specific; it should act only as a guide, not as a strict set of rules which must be obeyed.

The main trouble with the old constitution was that it could not keep pace with changing conditions on the campus. The new one should be designed to cope with student problems in the post war period as well as now.

Before drawing up the new document, the committee should make a careful study of similar constitutions used at other colleges. More care should be taken in drawing it up than was taken on the present one.

—H. NELSON

## A Worthy Organization

Organizations on the campus which have been lacking in activity and attendance should take example from the Dance Club.

Ever since the beginning of this semester this group has led in activity and originality and has also successfully joined the civilian and navy students in a weekly social function.

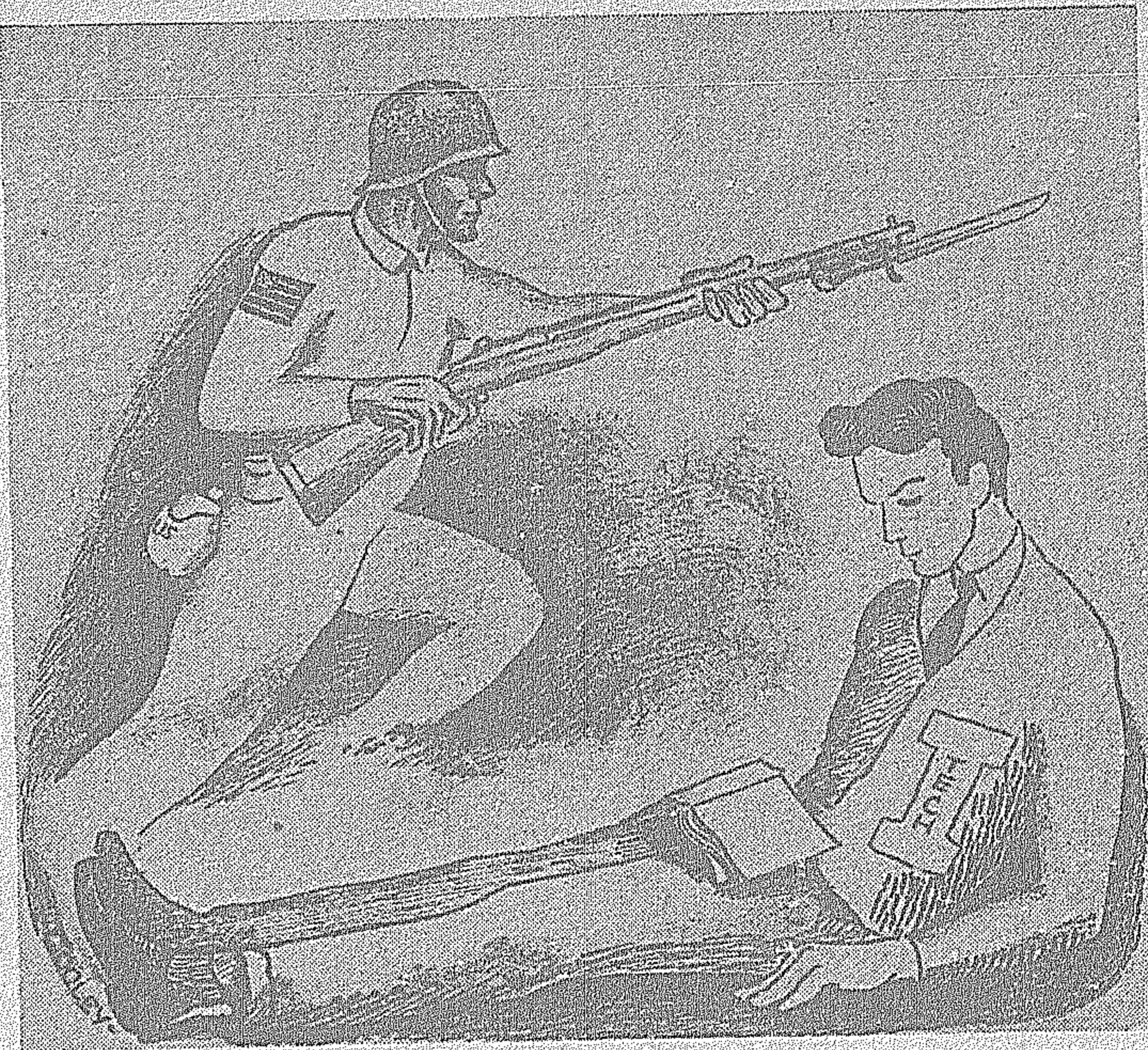
Donald Felsecker a/s, headed the progressive steps taken to create an active group. Working with other club officers he has gathered girls from all sections of the city, brought in dance instructors from downtown studios, and obtained the services of the navy dance band for each weekly meeting.

Several weeks ago 200 men and women attended, while the following week more than 60 couples were present for the three hours of dancing, proving that if an organization produces something of merit, the student body will support it.

The Dance Club has made its greatest contribution in combining the navy and civilian students in an atmosphere which has been sought ever since the V-12 unit arrived; an atmosphere whose essence is cooperation and brotherhood.

—S. BAKER

## He Isn't Letting Down



## Research Reports—

# Efficiency and Quality of City Governments Studied by Simon

An interesting variation from the research in the physical sciences is presented in this column this week.

The field of research of Professor Herbert A. Simon of the department of political and social sciences is concerned with measuring the efficiency and quality of city governments. In such measurements, a city government cannot be regarded in the same light as a private business, run with the primary purpose of making a profit. In the latter, one can judge its success simply by looking at the financial records. However, since the purpose of a city government is not usually to make a profit, this criterion cannot be used.

Simon uses a technique of measurement wherein he first defines the purpose of a given government agency. For example, the purpose of a fire department is to extinguish fires. Then the next step is to measure the achievement of the purpose, that is how many and how well were the fires put out. Following this, it is necessary to decide and evaluate how other variable factors effect the results. In other words, at the present time there are more fires, not necessarily because the fire department is not functioning as well, but because there is more industrial work going on, thus causing a greater probability of fire.

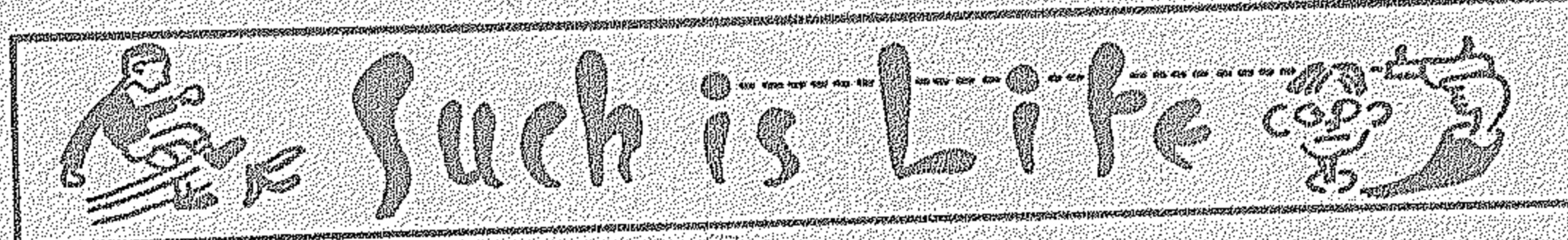
Finally, after the preliminary steps are taken, the problem reduces to one of adequacy versus efficiency. It must be found how efficiently the service will be performed and with

what degree of excellence. In the expenditure of the city's money the place must be found where one gets the best quality most efficiently. In Simon's research he has found that many cities stick to rules such as one policeman per hundred capita whether the need is present or not.

Simon has done considerable work in applying these principles, studying the city of San Francisco. In considering a welfare agency he found that under-staffing was poor economy, since the lack of proper investigation caused aid to be given where it was not needed.

Another of his projects has been to compile statistics on the relation of building structures to fire losses. This work has never been done before except by insurance companies who are inclined to be reticent with their information, Simon said.

Research has also been carried on to find out the desirability of consolidating smaller communities surrounding the central city. In this study, Mr. Simon has concluded differently from many others in saying that it is often unfair to the smaller communities when forced into consideration. He found that in general the taxes were low in the smaller communities and that in consideration of the lower land value it cannot be justified that they be forced to pay the higher rates of taxation of the city.



Yup, there sure are some queer people in this world, and they sure do write some queer sounding books for you and me to read. The great libraries have shelf after shelf of obscure titles, yet even our own comparatively small collection seems to have its share.

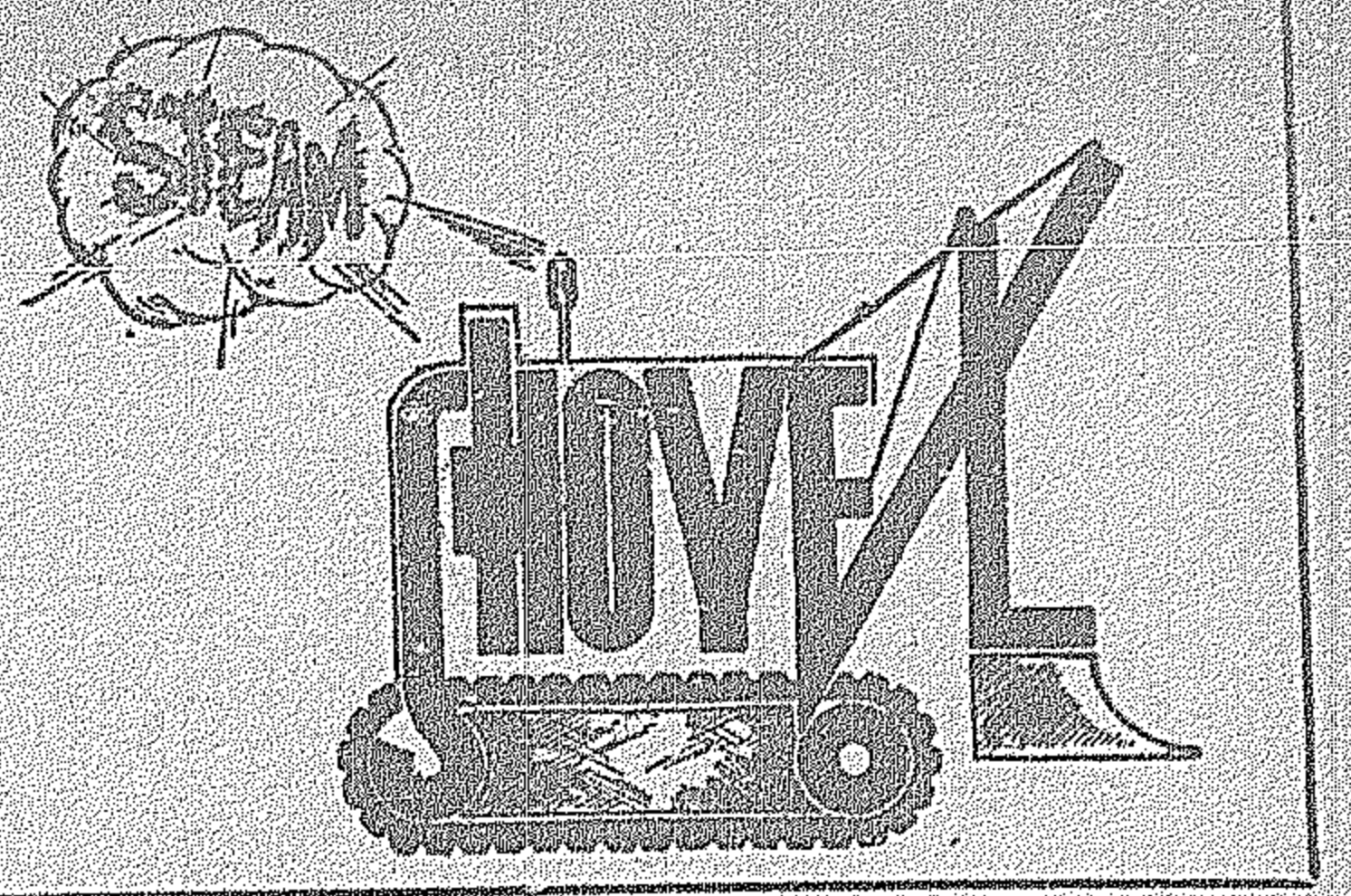
Take for instance, "The Life of the White Ant," a thrilling treatise on industrious small pests, to be found with 227 pages in 595.73; M26. If that one isn't to your liking, try the one in 621.84; K83 "How to Draw a Straight Line," a real one volume killer-diller that you can't put down until the final page. The Bureau of Standards has out a fascinating bulletin entitled "The Luminous Efficiency of the Firefly."

For those interested in the social side of things there is "What Price Alcohol" in 616.86; G23, and after one has had enough of this subject,

one can always turn to "The Value of Pure Water" to be located in 613.31; W 57.

Students who wish to become adept at fooling a lecturer might try "You can Sleep Well" 613.79; J13, or over a few volumes in 613.65; J79 there is "Why be Tired?" The professor, on the other hand, might do well to look in 808.7; K67 "Humorous Hints and How to Hold an Audience."

Along about the time when grades come out, the recommended title is "Letters from a Hard-boiled Teacher to His Half-baked Son," found in 371.1; M61. But the one at the head of the circulation list these days is in R 355.45; Un3se, "Selective Service and Training Act of 1940, as Amended," which has all the latest dope on the draft laws in loose leaf form. Yup—such is life.



Fellow draftees: I now bring you the intelligence report of the week.

Who said Jim Oldshue is a hooked man? Why that is an absurdity. What if he does do anything that Betty's family asks. Also it doesn't mean a thing if he takes her out every evening. He is obviously being only minutely friendly.

Among the many activities of the week has been the highly educational power conference. The scene of this affair was one of mob intelligence, in fact some of the doctors in mech seemed to have puzzled expressions on their faces at the lectures. But on the lighter side of things we found out that the conference was being held at two locations. This no doubt was to make the initial gathering less crowded, or was it a mistake of address. However, if it was, the boys at the Rialto really heard and saw the most power.

Bob Sach's reason for his refusal to join the honor board this semester has been a secret till he was heard to say that scandal would reign high if a member of the honor board were caught playing cards during restricted hours.

At the Dance club this week a new figure was seen, that gay hermit Joe Algino. Occurrences from then on were:

Joe grabs girl.

Joe waltzes? girl onto floor. (Comment here restricted)

Joe gets slightly tangled up.

Joe winds up in perturbed state

Joe leaves the girl standing in the middle of the floor, obtains his return of a dime and heads for home.

Joe still a hermit, also now a broken man.

Has anyone noticed Shirley Sexton's pursuit of the switchboard job? Just because one of the operators obtained a husband by this means does not mean this is the only way. Shall we inform Shirley?

That gay Lothario has been at it again with a cute little blonde number. As we all know Al Roberts is the intellectual type and last week he demonstrated some of his knowledge of the vast electrical field namely in the line of television to this beautiful blonde. Rumors have it that the sparks flew as the miracles of television passed before them on the screen. Little do we know if he was sparked to other developments.

Marie Seaberry, secretary to Paul Overton Ridings, was once elected to the title of "the girl most safe to be caught in a dark room with". However, at the present time we wonder if this could be even slightly true, since she has literally thousands of those gay things called boyfriends.

Wine, women and song has been running rampant this week with two of the Senior Chems namely Jim Cowie and John Roach. It seems that with their induction looming up before them they have decided to let all studies fly to the wind and enjoy themselves. This is all well and good, but does Jim's little woman see him every night? All I can say is that eagle eyes should be kept on these lads.

During a recent chat between Bob La Civeta and Doc Reed's wife the potential events of the AIEE stag leaked out, namely a strip tease, etc. After a minute's thought Mrs. Reed eyes shone with generosity as she said "Bob, would you care to have Mr. Reed's ticket to this lovely affair?"

Since the daring expose of Jerry Schneider and his chorus girl, he has suddenly dropped her, claiming that she lives too far away and is too extravagant. We all know that he couldn't have been embarrassed when she tried fanning the love of his glowing embers.

Scoop:

Gill Katz is definitely contemplating marriage to Miss Frances Pechter. Contrary to all his denials, friends are absolutely positive of the ring presentation. We are sure that the navy will be interested in this announcement as Gil has already passed his V-12 examinations.

Recently a number of IIT men received tickets for traffic violations that are good for the local courts. Do you suppose that when the officer asked them how fast they were going, they didn't get away with their little tale of woe, (I was just going 35, when along comes a gust of wind)? These culprits, as found in the police files, are Robert Deubler, Norman Boron, Sol Yanoff and Perry Winston.

—BROTHER ALOYSIUS