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Open Letter to the Navy

Dear V-12:

Many of you came here, as I did, from large and beautiful campuses and were bunked in dormitories, which did not come near to resembling regular university sleeping quarters. Your immediate reaction to IIT was one of disappointment and you have thus far been unable to fully accustom yourselves and join into the many IIT activities. You cannot be blamed too harshly for this.

But in the near future many of the campus leaders will leave, and the civilian enrollment will drop to the point where the ITSA will be unable to carry on. Campus organizations, such as the Integral, Glee Club, Orchestra, Dance Club, *Technology News*, ASSC, and intramurals and athletics may be disbanded unless the ITSA is continued and subscribed to by the V-12.

You are tempted to begin your own newspaper, sports, dance clubs, and so on. However, you will have no treasury which can sign away \$2000.00 as a guarantee for a large dance as the ITSA recently did for the Navy Ball. You will be unable to obtain athletic coaches and the other benefits now derived through the ITSA. But like the man who never really realizes how much his wife does mean to him until she has gone, you will not miss the ITSA until it is gone.

Before it is disbanded, you must voice your opinion for its continuance.

The ITSA will not survive with the approximately 300 civilians expected for next semester. You cannot afford to deprive these students nor YOURSELVES of campus socials, clubs, athletics and fraternities.

Once the ITSA and the other activities have been dropped because of a lack of support, it will be no easy matter to start them again.

Your best bet is to pledge your support now, so that these activities will continue. Remember, it is you fellows who will be here next semester to receive the benefit of these things.

When you graduate, you will receive an IIT degree. Later you will be judged in the light of what your school is doing and has done.

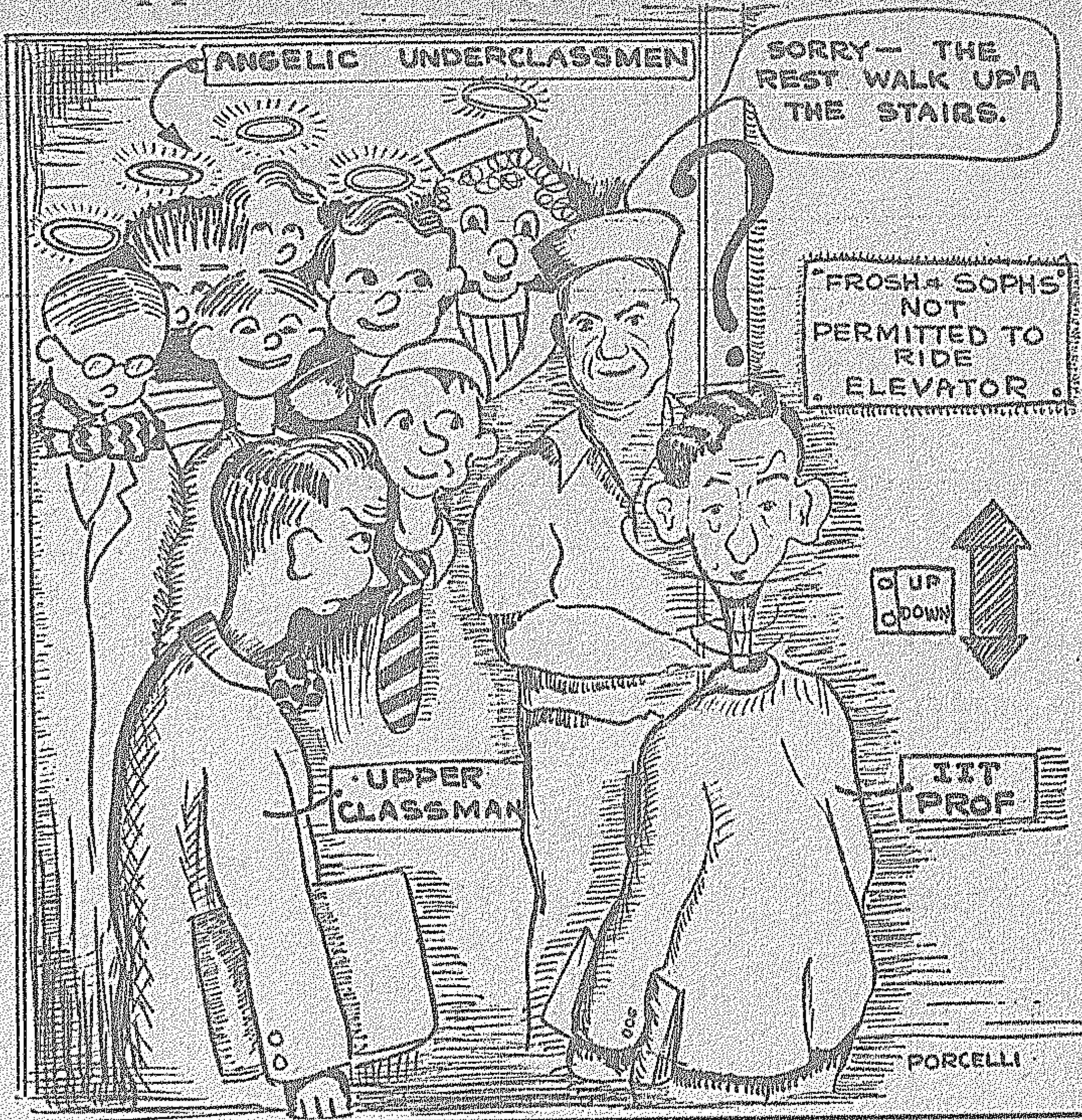
As a college brother, I plead with you to keep up YOUR school's traditions. You are to become the school leaders and unless your full interest is at hand all your functions and activities will rot and die.

It's up to you. I am sure you will carry on in the true navy manner. Make your service days furnish you with the complete campus life you deserve.

Yours sincerely,

Sid Baker

It Happens Too Often



Research Reports—

Sterilizing Instruments on the Battlefield Is Whitehill's Work

(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.)

The possibility of battle-front use of commercial disinfectants for sterilizing instruments is one of the research projects of IIT's biology department. The work is being carried on by Dr. Alvin R. Whitehill, biology instructor.

In peacetime, such instruments are sterilized by heat. However, the equipment for heat sterilization is so heavy that it cannot be easily transported, and after an instrument is once used it must remain in the sterilizing oven for two hours before it can be used again. Hence, there is a demand for a sterilizing agent more suitable for use on battlefields.

What is desired is an antiseptic into which the instruments can be placed and then withdrawn in a few minutes for reuse. Most disinfectants which will kill bacteria within a short time also cause severe flesh burns to tissue, and so Whitehill is seeking concentrations which will render instruments sterile but will not irritate animal tissues.

To determine the toxic concentrations, a test sample is inserted into a rabbit's eyes. The concentrations are decreased until one is found that does not cause irritation to the animal. This concentration is then tested to see if it is too dilute to kill harmful bacteria in ten minutes. Lysol, phenol and mercury compounds are all valueless, because in concentrations which are powerful enough to kill pathogens the solutions are caustic to the skin.

Past attempts to obtain sterilizing solutions which did not require the use of extensive heating and electrical equipment have failed because

non-caustic solutions were too weak to kill bacteria quickly.

In the dental profession, also, there is a need for quick sterilization, and reports have indicated that the solutions which accomplished this have had corrosive action upon precision instruments.

* * *

Also in the field of disinfecting solutions is the research done by Melvin Ray Wadsworth, Jr., a graduate student working under Whitehill. Wadsworth is doing his thesis upon the disinfecting actions of cationic detergents. These cationic detergents have a high disinfecting power when in low concentration, but have no effect as bactericides in higher concentrations. Wadsworth's problem is to determine whether there is any association of the molecules at the stronger concentrations which renders them useless as germicides.

* * *

Paul Witt, another graduate student working under Whitehill, is engaged in taking waste products, such as malt sprouts, and subjecting them to a micro-biological growth of yeasts and bacteria. Witt's purpose is to have the growths utilize the pentose sugars and residual starches, thereby increasing the protein and vitamin content. These concentrated wastes would then be available as valuable food supplements for deficient diets.

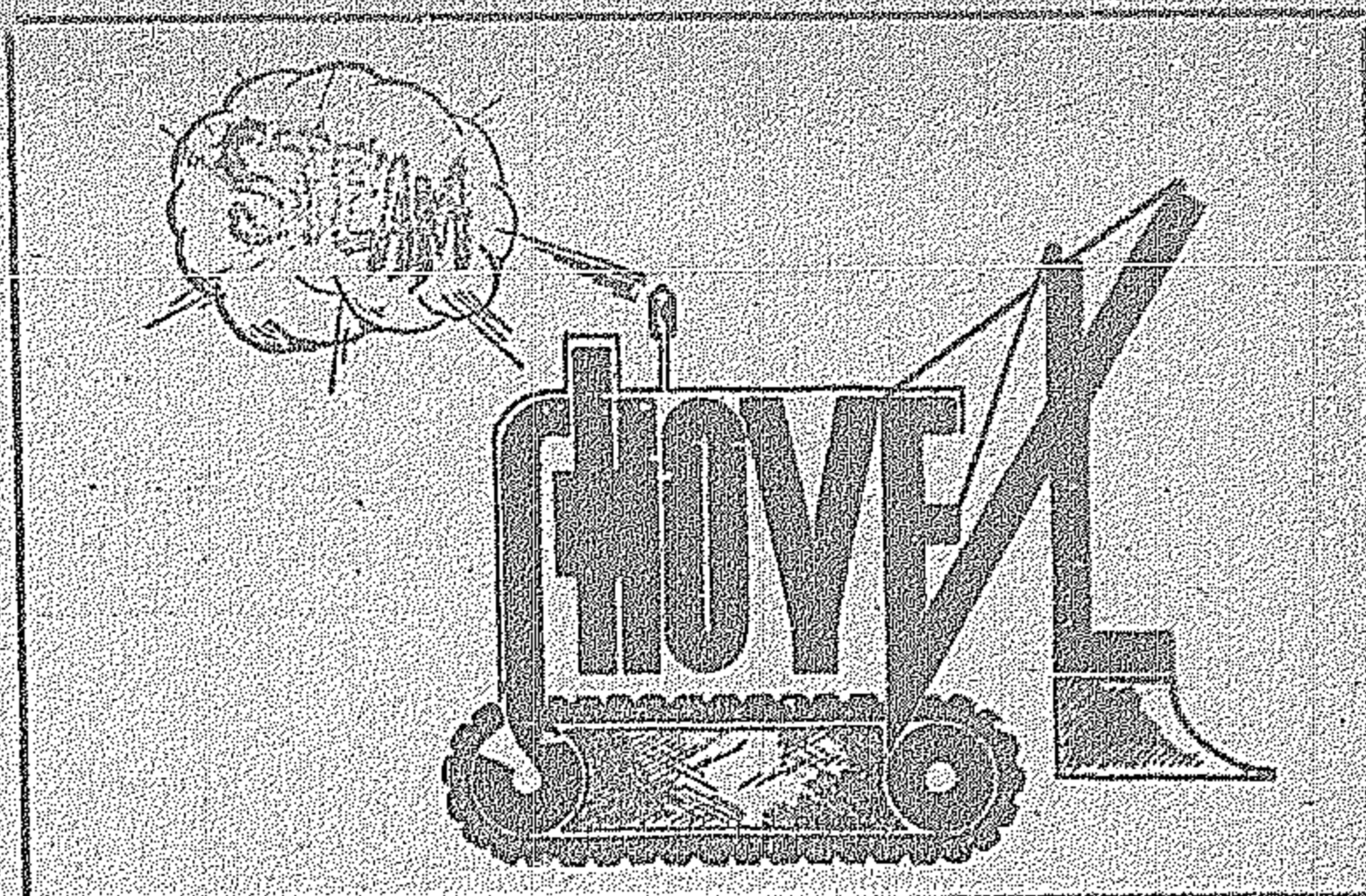


Yup, life among the molecules must indeed be interesting. Just imagine being projected into space with a velocity approaching that of light if you happened to fall into the hands of a physicist. Or being mistreated by the wee folks who inhabit the freshman chem lab. Yup, it certainly must be horrible.

Did you ever take a look into the atomic spectra books? Well, the boys who play with particles have them doing some of the darndest things. If you, dear reader, were a self-respecting hydrogen molecule and you had to do some of the things the physicists said you had to do to obey all the laws that they have worked

out, well, you would be embarrassed to say the least, and busy as he--to say the most.

You'd have to vibrate in nine different directions all at the same time, and if you ever got hitched to some other poor atom, they would have you going around together in a way that even Winchell couldn't put on paper. What's even worse, the molecule chasers seem to enjoy the pranks they play, and sit around trying to see who can think up new and different ways for the particles to chase each other. The guy who dreams up a new one first may even get a prize for so doing, provided its complicated enough.



This week we have scoops galore and I beg of you to hear the latest dope—dope.

Professor Alfred C. Ames has a unique rule for the development of a paragraph. This rule is as follows:

"A paragraph may be compared to a woman's skirt. It should be long enough to cover the body but short enough to hold interest."

Robert (alias "Bubbles") Backlund, of Peoria, really did the trick last week end. He got himself married on Sunday and, believe it or not, he was back at IIT on Monday attending classes. Married life must not be as "interesting" to those engineers as we thought. What's the matter Bob, are you used to "it"?

Several of the Pi Tau Sigma pledges, recognized by the red bandannas and the whistles, namely Vince Biccichi, Joe Algino and Jacob Dumelle are proud of their powers of oratory.

Offering the "Dutch" haircut of Dumelle as evidence, they insisted to fellow pledge Bob Zundel that such a hair trim was a requisite of the pledging procedure.

So earnest was their spiel that two days later Zundel appeared with a beautiful crew cut. To date he's still wondering why the others haven't had their hair cut too.

Have any of you wondered what Prof. Andres found so interesting that he had to sit in the front row for the floor show, at the AIEE smoker? Perhaps he found the breeze from the swirl of the dancer's veil most refreshing. It must have been a good show though, because Prof. Higgins did not read his *Time* magazine, as he did last year.

We wonder what Joe Centa has, considering that the "uncover girl" at the AIEE smoker should toss him the pert little bow that had been cleverly attached to her upper extremities.

Cernauskas Revealed:

Many statements have been made concerning that dear little Slipstick and its new trend in language, and this snooper has taken it upon himself to see that everything is on the up-and-up. Contrary to your thoughts, Larry isn't adding those little tid-bits as a secret love message to an unknown lady nor is the language Sanskrit, as many may think. After night and day research, we have found it to be Lithuanian.

Upon the incrimination of Doc Richter in a joke he stood amazed at a conglomeration of letters that were meaningless. He said "This is neither Germanic, Nordic, Scandinavian nor Roman, mein Gott in Himmel". But let it never be said that we were stumped, as we have a translation of last week's cryptogram. "Of all the things that you should do when you go out never do anything that isn't good." Somehow or other, with this translation in mind, we can almost believe Larry is a philosopher; but knowing hiw we know better.

Besides his steady cadet nurse and several slick chicks in and out of uniform at the various USO centers, Eddie Ahlers has a cute brunette in a blue dress lined up for his Wednesday night amusements.

Joe Levine, of the freshman class, brought a fair miss to a fraternity party last Saturday. The girl, seeking still more action, decided that she would go to a night club. Taking hold of the ring in Joe's nose, she led him to the Rio Cabana. (Poor Joe had only \$4 in his pockets.) If any IIT students have money to burn, Betty can be reached at Fairfax 4194.

More card playing can be done in the short space of ten minutes between classes by Roy Berg, Ben Borgerson, Earl Schlosser and John Schwenberger than any other of the "Let's have a short one" boys.

If one of these days you come into one of your classes and see four fellows from the previous class sitting there, don't disturb them till they finish, for a beautiful bridge hand is in the making.

Conny Bell, graduate student, had her picture in the *Herald American*, as a result of attending the official opening of the Pasadena exhibit, where she assisted Prof. Mies van der Rohe. Some unknown character saw her picture and decided to write her a letter. In the letter he states that he will write a new song and dedicate it to her. Conny is now busy trying to find out who this hunk o' man is.

Herman Nelson, Phi Lambda Upsilon pledge, would give anything to know what a "street L" is. Seems every time one of the actives signs Herman's pledge book they ask him some question about plumbing, a subject in which they feel every budding chemical engineer ought to be well-versed.

—BROTHER ALOYSI