

September 25, 1944

Campers COMMENTS

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This column is for expression of ideas from readers. Letters containing not more than 250 words will be printed. Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication, although a writer's name will be withheld from publication if desired. The Managing Board reserves the right to select and edit the letters to be printed).

LETTER OF THE WEEK: Senior Troubles

What kind of Illinois Tech men do our seniors claim to be? The senior social committee after securing the so called verbal support of the class at a meeting went ahead with the senior farewell by getting a good band and a fine room for the event in a senior's career.

Collegiate World

For many years colleges have elected "Queens" for their various dances and balls. However, Indiana University has a new idea for their sophomore dance, "The Sweater Swirl," they will elect the "1944 Sweater Girl." Each sorority and dormitory will select one of its number as a contestant. The winner will be decided by the entire school in a campaign to begin a week before the dance.

Transportation may be different up North, but it's much worse down South. For example, a girl attempting to reach Alabama Polytechnic Institution missed her train. The next regular scheduled train would get her to Auburn, the town where Alabama Poly is located, late at night. After a great deal of inquiry and waiting, she found that a baggage train was going to Auburn in the afternoon. She then had to persuade the conductor to take her along. He eventually agreed to this unorthodox method of going to college. Her travelling companion was a long, grim-looking box covered with flowers. What price education!

A tradition at Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh was upheld when boys of a campus fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, serenaded the new freshman girl students. Their repertoire included ballads, love songs, and songs of the fraternity.

—A/S ALLAN KUKRAL

dis & data

Illinois Tech was the first college in the nation to offer courses training women for specific, technical war jobs. It trained 1060 women in these tuition-free, full-time courses for jobs as industrial chemists, draftsmen, ordnance inspectors and metallurgy technicians.

Illinois Tech was also the first college to offer "white collar" men a war training course. A sort of "industrial officers" training school, this course, formally known as "Fundamentals of Industrial Engineering," adapts a "white collar" man's peacetime talents for a position of leadership in war industry. A total of 678 men, whose ages have ranged from 19 to 69, with an average age of 41, have been trained in these courses.

Illinois Tech also offered the first training courses in synthetic rubber, food dehydration and ordnance inspection.

—dis & data—

Until the Army took over all such training, Illinois Tech conducted the largest and most advanced Signal Corps training program in the Sixth advanced Signal Command. From May, 1942, to July, 1943, Illinois Tech trained 4316 men for the Signal Corps.

For the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, U. S. War Department, Illinois Tech conducts and administers the nation's only School for Safety Auditors. Generally known as the "Explosives Safety School," this school trains experts for the nation's 600-odd munitions plants. Only personnel of the armed services or civil service appointees attend this school, and 366 persons have trained here since the school was established in August, 1942.

A truly Chicago institution, more than 90 per cent of Illinois Tech's civilian students are always from the greater Chicago area.

Armour Tech was founded through the famous "million dollar sermon" by the Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus. Rev. Gunsaulus, pastor of the then fashionable Plymouth Congregational Church, preached a sermon on "What I Would Do If I Had a Million Dollars," and proposed to start an engineering college where deserving boys could earn a college education. Philip Danforth Armour provided the million, and the college was born.

—dis & data—

Designed by the famous Mies van der Rohe, the campus will be of modern, functional buildings. So revolutionary is its construction that "Architectural Forum" has asked for a "first crack" at publishing reports on each building as completed—and devoted a three-page spread in its November, 1943, issue to telling about the first, the Metals and Minerals Research Building.

IIIT Inquiring reporter

QUESTION

Should we keep the selective service after the war and why?

ROBERT BROWN, Junior Mechanical: I believe that selective



service should be kept after the war. One should have about a year of training but this training should be given to a fellow just when he gets out of high school. College students should not be drafted when they are going to school. One of the reasons why everyone should have some military training is because it gives one a different outlook on things.

BOB KASNICKA, Senior Mechanical: It is hard to say whether selective service is a good thing or not in time of peace.

There is no doubt that some sort of system will be needed after the war in order to maintain a sizeable fighting force. There are a number of reasons for a maintenance of this army. First, a large army of occupation will be needed for the defeated countries for quite some time after the end of hostilities. Secondly, men must be procured to replace the fellows who have spent a year or more in the army already.

WILLIAM KRONE, Senior Mechanical: Yes, we should have selective service after the war. Our peace time selective service should be set up so everyone should have at least one year of service. For college students there should be some plan whereby the student would have to take ROTC or during his summer vacations have to go to a military camp.



ROBERT E. LOOMIS, Sophomore Fire Protect: High schools are often said to be a stopping off place for children during their transformation into adulthood. If this is so, what better method for assisting a fellow in his growth could be used than having him serve his summer vacations in military training. Before this present conflict broke out, the CMTC (Civilian Military Training Corps) in conjunction with the ROTC was doing great work along these lines.

JACK SCHMIDT, Sophomore Mechanical: The selective service act should be kept in force after the war for national security. Not on the assumption that we will need to fight another war, but that a war can be avoided if because of our military strength, no other nation will dare to provoke a war with us.

—LEONARD BROWN

Slapstick Note

A/S RICHARD KUBA, senior electrical, played freshman end for Wayne University . . . While in high school A/S DON LANGE, junior mechanical, won a four year scholarship to Harvard University . . . BILL CHRISTENSEN, freshman mechanical, is called both William and Bill, but only his draft board card reveals his correct name, Billy . . . R. A. BUDENHOLZER, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, lived for five years in a log cabin which was fifteen miles from the nearest town and forty miles from a railroad; he lived here from the age of one to six . . . R. V. PERRY, professor of machine design, was the only member of the first graduating class from Armour Institute to become a teacher. He graduated in 1897 . . . ELIA STERNBERG, instructor of mechanics, has studied in universities in three different countries, University of Vienna, University of London, and the University of North Carolina . . . A/S RICHARD PETERSON was circulation manager of both his high school paper and the Daily Maroon at the University of Chicago . . . PERRY WINSTON will start his junior year at IIT next November, but at present he has not graduated from any school . . . At one time the basement of Main Building was also used as a cafeteria.



Cleave to the Slipstick—Let the Slapstick Fall Where It May

Let's have a little cheer! Too many of you are going around with sad expressions, and troubled minds (obviously from homework). So for the moment let's forget all our cares and take a gay attitude. Off we go with some of the specials I've been saving.

—IIT—

Overheard in Placement Office:

Perturbed Senior: Where in h— is Economy Fuse Co?

Helen (very nonchalantly): Oh, they just blew out.

—Attention Seniors—

Drunk Story:

Policeman (to intoxicated man who is trying to fit his key into a lamp post): I'm afraid there's nobody home there tonight.

Whiskey Willie: Mus' be, mus' be. Thersh a light upstarish.

—Merriment—

Stanislavas: Why don't you like girls?

Jonas: They's too biased.

Stanislavas: Biased?

Jonas: Yes, bias this, and bias that — until I'm busted.

—Gayety—

A mother was recently disturbed over the two day absence of her daughter, but everything was all right when the girl returned with a Gideon Bible under her arm.

—Relaxation—

Restaurant Note:

Young, very shapely, exotic waitress: How many lumps shall you have in your tea?

Quiet Lad: I'll take mine smooth, please.

—Amicability—

Military Note:

Guard: Who's there, friend or foe?

Voice: Foe!

Guard: Hey, corporal of the guard, what the h— do I do now?

—Delight—

Tattoo artist to departing sailor: And remember, don't sit down for a couple of hours. Give Hitler's face a chance to dry.

—All—

Cry of the wolves: "Melske-mas mus" (Let us prey)

—At—

I like the football season. It's the only time of the year when you can walk down the street with a blanket on one arm, a girl on the other without having people ask you so many dog-gone questions.

—Senior Farewell—

So they say:

Fifty percent of the girls smoke. But the other fifty percent aren't so cold either.

—IIT—

He fascinated me, so I kissed him. Then he started to unfascinate me, so I slapped him.

—IIT—

Back to your work now fellows, for you know that engineering is just like women, in that they both require hard work.

—LARRY VYTAUTAS CERNAUSKAS

Illinois Tech Vets

THADDEUS PERRY

Thaddeus Perry, sophomore ME aero, recalled last Thursday the invasion of Vilno, Poland, by the Russians in 1939.

Perry and his mother had gone to Poland in 1935 to take charge of his paternal grandfather's estate, his father being unable to leave his business in this country.

In a period of less than two days, Vilno was subjected to two air raids and a heavy siege by the Soviet army, before the city officials ceased the useless fighting and surrendered the town to the Russians.

During the first air raid on September 15, the populous was strafed. The raid was principally aimed at the railroads and stock yards, where the damage was small. The anti-aircraft defenses were silenced. The second raid was by nine light bombers and seemed only for observation, but a church was bombed. The city could only resist with anti-aircraft fire, for the Polish planes had been taken to the Western front.

Two days later, word was reached that the Russians had broken through the border only a few miles away. During the ensuing two day siege against the town, Perry helped dig ditches for the populous and anti-aircraft positions.

When the fighting had ceased openly, sniper groups sprang up and harassed the invading army. He saw one tank crash through a bridge and plunge into a river when the driver was shot in the head by a patriot.

When the Soviets entered the town, they immediately confiscated everything, including all the food.

The estate in Poland which had 350 acres and a large sixteen room house, is now in the hands of the Russian government.

Perry finished grammar school and the first two years of high school in Vilno, moving to the city during the school term, and back to the estate during the summer vacations. He recalled that he started his third year of high school just two days after the declaration of war. However, school was closed within the week, for most of the professors were in the Polish reserve, and the children were needed for aircraft observation.

—A/S TRENT KNEPPER