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Future Dances

The Holi Hop set a new standard for IIT dances. In the past two years it has been customary for them to stagger with financial failure; this one did not. Equally important it found a recipe for future successful dances. This consists of a good location and a good, but not "name" band. Practicing this policy, any class, with the proper support, can give a good dance.

This dance seems to offer evidence that social activity can be better managed by the individual class than by the defunct ASSC. The acid test will come, however, when the freshmen and sophomore give their dance. They will have a big problem of promotion. If the underclass attendance at the Holi Hop has any significance, then their dance is doomed before it starts.

In order for the underclassmen to make their plans work out as well as those of the juniors, they should follow the junior class in their loyal support. The leaders of the class must show the determined interest of the caliber of Enander, Arends, Knepper, Fairman and other officers.

They should be cautioned not to take up a collection as was done at the Holi Hop to enable the band to play for an hour longer. Such an act shows poor taste in every respect. Another thing which the freshmen and sophomores should try to do is to gain the support of the fraternities to bring out their members.

With co-ordinated action and an excellent example to follow, the freshmen and sophomores should be able to provide another enjoyable evening.

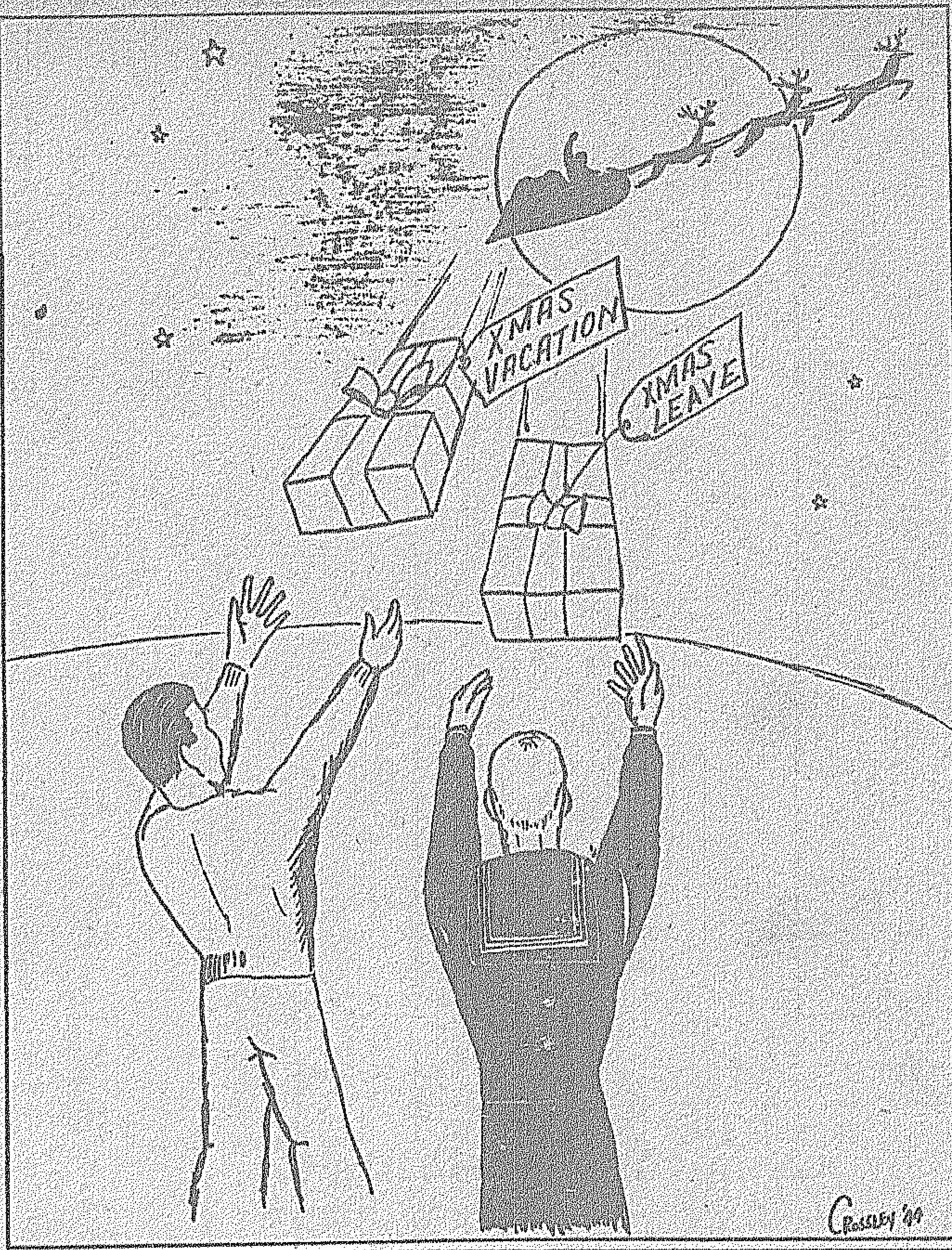
Tribute to "O. G."

Every year since 1933, when O. Gordon Erickson became director of the Illinois Tech music clubs, the IIT music organizations have presented a Christmas program of exceptional quality. To all appearances they will surpass previous achievements Wednesday when IIT students will hear the 1944 concert.

The habitual success of the clubs is of course to a great extent due to the members' good work. However, for the most part, the credit should go to "O.G." He is a "shining example" of what an active and interested leader can do for an organization. Instead of allowing the war to curb activities, Erickson went ahead and organized a navy band, a glee club among the signal corps girls at Lewis, a civilian-navy-army band while the ASTP was on the campus, and now a glee club composed of workers at the Research Foundation. All this has been in addition to the regular activities or the orchestra and glee club.

Our hats are off to O. Gordon Erickson. Students who hear the Christmas program Wednesday will undoubtedly remember it for some time to come.

The Best Gift of All



Man Of The Week—

Activities and Leadership Rank High in Norm Schmitz's IIT Life

Norman Sturmen Schmitz is one of our active IIT athletes. He is president of Honor I and has a major letter in baseball.

Born 21 years ago in Cassville, Wisconsin, Norm was practically forced into athletics. High, early winter snows made him take up skiing, and late winter ice made him a speed skater—starting at the tender age of four. Naturally, he is also a hockey fan.

A good athlete has team spirit and school spirit.

Schmitz enjoys playing the game and watching the game. He wishes that more of his classmates would do the same.

Norm is now a senior chemical. He is a graduate of Fenger High School and entered Illinois Tech in the evening division. During his sophomore year he became part of the V-12 unit at IIT. After serving eight months in the navy, he again became a civilian in February of this year. His plans for the future include graduate study in his chosen field.



In the meantime, Norm is engaged in many activities. He is president of Alpha Sigma Phi, a member of the Alpha Chi Sigma social committee, chairman of the senior curriculum committee, and member of the Illinois Tech Vets. After losing quite a lot of money on the last presidential election, Schmitz is also planning to become a member of the Young Democrats Club.

A gentleman and a scholar, Schmitz enjoys reading scientific matter and current novels. Admittedly not knowing classical music very well, he prefers popular pieces. Norm also likes to dance, which brings us to the subject of women. But that's enough said.

Hobbies? What, with all his other activities, about all the time Norm has left is for collecting 1892 issues of a three-cent Afghanistan stamp.

—EDWARD SHORE

... After Today What?

Chicago is the leading center of the metallurgical industries in the Middle West. For this reason it seems quite likely that a great deal will be done on IIT's new campus to establish a modern school of metallurgy.

At the present time the two leading schools of metallurgy are Carnegie Tech and MIT, both being in the East. The need for a modern and extensive school in the Middle West then becomes apparent and IIT becomes the logical place for its location.

At the present time there are no students in metallurgy at IIT and only one instructor teaching the subject. After the war, however, the prospects appear much brighter. Metallurgists are very scarce and they receive very high salaries as compared with many other technical men.

This metallurgical center could probably serve another need in this area; that is to train men in industry. There is considerable demand for this since the field of metallurgy is so new that many older engineers have had no training in it at all.

There are plans for a metallurgical building in the new Technology Center. These plans are quite indefinite, but James Waber, a graduate student, has a great many ideas concerning the development of the school. He suggests that some of the equipment which will be needed in this school will be X-ray diffraction, radiography and electron diffraction instruments for studying the surface structure of metals. For research and graduate work a quenching dilatometer will be useful. This is used for studying the allotropic changes in steel.

A great deal of equipment will be needed in obtaining adequate shop facilities. Converters, induction heating devices and electric arc furnaces, for accurate control of melting, will be an integral part of the new plans. Another part of the shop may be devoted to a small experimental foundry and a small rolling mill.

By Henry Freund



The Rod is well oiled and full of holiday cheer (the bottled variety), and it is only appropriate that we should begin this week's diggings by delving into the goings on at the recent Holi Hop.

Bill "Whatta Man" Atchinson, that handsome devil from Granite City, Illinois, was observed introducing his beautiful blonde friend Connie to everyone, whether he knew them or not. Bill came awfully close to being refused the date when he told his girl that seniors usually become inebriated at such affairs, and as he was a senior, he would be forced to follow suit. All was serene once more when our Bill, then and there, took the pledge. Latest reports are that Bill did not deviate from the straight and narrow at the dance, but what he and Bob Algren did, till 5 a.m. has us mighty interested.

This week's "Delicious Dingleberry" award goes to Lennie Donarski. At the recent dance his ever loving Lil and another girl were discussing the abilities of their respective boyfriends in the art of love making. Not to be outdone, Lil came up with the prize retort of the week that Len's dad could neck much better than Len himself. His face was seen to turn crimson; and being so terribly embarrassed, was seen making a hasty exit, girl in tow.

Anticipating the enjoyment and fascination that usually accompanies an IIT social affair, a future engineer brought along his Elementary German book. In case the dance became extremely dull and boring our man had only to dash to the cloakroom, grab his book and then escort his girl to a nice quiet corner and start reading. Things being as enjoying as they were, our boy A/S Don Gipple forgot to claim his book, and as a result we have had numerous calls from the hat check girl exhorting us to send someone to claim it.

Latest of the budding romances on the campus—Joan "Lana" French really has been receiving plenty of attention lately. The young casanova who has been noticed casting furtive glances in her direction is none other than the IIT playboy, James Waber. It looks as though Jim's long search for the "right girl" has finally come to an abrupt end, as they look like they were meant for each other. It will be a terrible blow to the secretaries here, Jim; but they'll just have to forgive and forget.

Forrest "The Lover" Neil is promoting the good neighbor policy with his sixteen year old next door neighbor. They spend quiet evenings discussing the foreign situation over a bottle of "Virginia Dare." That's potent stuff, "Lover", so be careful. Apparently her mother hasn't been informed as to your coveted reputation as S.O.B. (Smooth Operating Boy).

Bob De Boo has been completely fascinated with Herb Schoen's collection of pin-up girls because his girl had him firmly convinced that thinner girls could not have wonderful curves. She probably wanted him to believe that he couldn't get a girl who had everything plus beauty. In order to prove to her that there were such things as attractive and appealing girls, Bob has borrowed a few of Herb's pictures to show his girl. We just wonder how you made out, Bob!

Blame it on the cigarette shortage again. For a very amusing sight drop around to 114C at one o'clock and observe Dr. H. S. Wall, mathematics professor, as he tries to roll his Bull Durham cigarettes. First thing he does before embarking upon this ordeal, is to figure out the probabilities of not spilling the precious tobacco on the floor. Wall says, "It isn't easy" when asked how he likes rolling his own. He would surely appreciate a real packaged cigarette, that is, if one of you fellows can spare one.

Rex Gourley recently talked George Slaughter into accompanying him on a blind date which resulted in catastrophe for George. In retaliation, Rex was asked out on a blind date. The damsel was a ravishing beauty and has since invited Rex to dinner several times and best of all, has given him several cartons of cigarettes. Still trying to get even, George tried again, but the same thing happened and Rex's date was far more beautiful than George's. George's motto is, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." All he needs to do is stay in there pitching and sooner or later the worm will turn.

As this will be the last issue until classes are once more resumed, hearty greetings are hereby extended to all. Here's hoping you get that most worthwhile gift of all, a beautiful doll to sit on your lap. Not the type that cries "Mama," but the type that will say yes.

—THE ROD