

campus COMMENTS

LETTER OF THE WEEK: Pep Rally

Upon reading the editorial, "School Spirit Again," in last week's *Technology News*, I experienced three distinct emotions: anger, distrust, and pity, in that order. Why any person, so addicted to such childish tantrums, should be on the staff of a paper like *Technology News* is hard to understand. For the benefit of those who missed this verbal chastisement, I quote the first paragraph.

"From the turnout of students at the Pep Rally held last Friday, it is safe to assume that the majority of IIT students are a bunch of conceited individuals who don't give a damn about what goes on in their school and who are only concerned with the idea that they go to IIT just to obtain knowledge."

I have chosen to reply to this unfortunate article because I am one of those dull individuals who are still going to school to obtain knowledge. It is evident by his method of writing that the author is unaware that more files can be caught with honey than with vinegar.

The "Gestapo like" technique of checking student schedules to see if the lunch period alibi, given by some, was true, tells me a great many things, chief of which is that I don't like that kind of organization. If I had felt obliged to give this excuse, I would not have expected to have my word checked on the moment my back was turned.

The author, after condemning the students, launches a vitriolic attack upon the faculty. It would be interesting to know the name of this person, who so stands alone, but that was withheld. It would have been in better taste to have withheld the editorial.

My opinion is that due to the "post card" size of the notices and "one to a building" method of announcing the rally, the absence of

students was unintentional, but after this verbal strong arming, I am sure the next time it will be deliberate.

I am not challenging the statement that a well-rounded personality necessitates some extra-curricular activities. It is the author's method of judging the absentees that I find so distasteful.

Let's have much less of this type of editorial and keep the *Technology News* a democratic and interesting paper. A word to the wise is sufficient, Mr. Editor.

Signed: P. K. Harlow,
and 20 other veterans.

Techawk Booster

I happened to be among the throng (?) who turned out in response to the "Pep Rally" for the U. of C. game.

In my opinion, the fact that the rally wasn't a rousing success was who initiated it. It takes a crowd of enthusiastic fans to put anything like that over—no substitute will suffice.

On the other hand, I was not surprised at the small turnout for the first rally. I'll admit that school spirit has been at an low ebb during the war: it would be expecting too much to ask for a complete change in attitude.

My suggestion is that we should have more frequent pep rallies in the future. With the "red hot" team we have this season it is inevitable that our school spirit will soon come up to the true "Techhawk" level.

—GLENN MAX WOOD



Tommy Dorsey, "the sentimental gentleman of swing", now leads the band which is a contender for the "sweet band" title, but was originally a member of the school of "righteous jazz," with B. Goodman and his boys. The trombonist's present aggregation is about his tenth; it is also most saccharine with a string section that rivals the Philharmonic.

The only shades of the days of Bunny Berigan and Bud Freeman are three part transcriptions of Bunny's "improvised" solos. An outstanding example of this plagiarism is Berigan's classic lyrical improvisation on "Marie."

On the credit side of the ledger there is still much of musical interest to be found in the Dorsey orchestra. Buddy Rich is widely recognized as one of the really outstanding drum world, and Charlie Shavers, while not too consistent, plays a good deal of interesting trumpet. Not to be forgotten is Tommy's own trombone—it's as sweet as ever and hasn't yet given up swing completely.

The band is certainly well rehearsed and has a solid "big band" beat. The music is very danceable, especially the renditions of ballads by Stuart Foster and the "Sentimentalists." While the Sentimentalists don't have the easy sophisticated humor of the original Pied Pipers, they do add something to a song.

The Dorsey men, though not great, cannot be classified as "mickey mouse," and deserve their popularity.

Know Your Fraternity

Theta Xi Fraternity Stresses Leadership and Advancement

On April 29, 1864, at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the fraternity of Theta Xi was formed by eight students of the school. All founders were formerly members of Sigma Alpha fraternity. For the first sixty years of its existence, Theta Xi

Hope . . . for women

—HOPE IVERSEN

There was a meeting last Friday, during the free hour, for all women students. The Red Cross had wanted a meeting to introduce their activities to the freshmen, and the PT department wanted to find out what athletics the girls are interested in, so the two were combined. Jeanette Mac Luckie, alumni secretary, spoke of the athletics that are possible for the women. Then Claire Brinkerhoff introduced the RC speaker, Miss Katherine Jaynes, from the RC speakers bureau. Her speech was illustrated by kodakrome slides of a typical day in Red Cross during the war.

The attendance at the basketball games seems to be increasing by leaps and bounds. Next Wednesday we're playing Chicago, and we must beat them. We need an audience, the nice little German Band that was at the game last Wednesday, and some cheerleaders. Last Wednesday, two fellows made an attempt at being cheer leaders; but nobody knows the cheers, so they gave up the attempt. There are a few girls who are interested in being cheer leaders—how about giving them a chance? With IIT's colors there could really be some sharp uniforms, and scuttlebutt has it that there is a whole book of IIT cheers—how about publishing some. That little German band is really something—but what about the school song? It's really a terrible thing to admit you haven't heard the school song, but I've been around here three years and have never heard it. Would someone who is slightly inclined to the musical side of life please give a rendition, so that we could at least recognize it. That German band is really something—wouldn't it be different if they showed up at one of the games in costumes appropriate to the music they play—that really would be sharp.

strictly limited its membership to students of engineering and science, but in 1926 this policy was changed and the fraternity was opened to all fields of learning. With this new policy Theta Xi grew to its present strength of thirty-nine chapters throughout the United States and Canada.

The Alpha Gamma chapter of Theta Xi was granted a charter at the Armour College of Engineering in 1922. This chapter was formed from the affiliation of Theta Xi with a local but powerful group on the campus, known as Omega Lambda. Before the war, the fraternity occupied the second floor and basement of the house located at 3254 South Michigan Blvd., but with the coming of the navy, they were forced to give up their quarters. Their policy, throughout the war, has been mainly one of existence. Since their present roster consists of twelve actives and nine pledges, they seem to have done a good job of it.

With the end of the war, Theta Xi looks forward to a bright future and it expects to receive a new house to replace the quarters it once had. It is also pioneering in a new field, that of inter-campus fraternity socials; and to further this it has planned a social with the Alpha Kappa chapter at Northwestern.

In accordance with its policy of leadership and advancement, Theta Xi faces the future with high ambition and hope.

—HENRY KUDENHOLDT

Card Playing OK In Student Lounge

The Student Union Board of Control announces that card playing will be allowed in the Student Union Lounge at all times of the day. It has also been stated that no card playing is permissible in any other parts of the building.

The juke box will also have new hours. It will be usable from 9:00 a.m. to about 2:00 p.m. The regular rules of order have not been changed and are still expected to be adhered to.

NAVAL NOTATIONS

Quarters #2

That lucky seaman, Warren Witus, has acquired an interest in Deatur. He met her on the train where she took a "motherly" interest in him.

Thomas B. White doesn't seem to know where he will spend his Christmas leave. His folks may be anywhere from San Diego to Fredricksburg, Virginia or points between.

Quarters #4

Fred "Baling Wire" Sheedy has been nominated for the "Order of the Greasy Gear" by his quarters' mates because of the glorious battle that Fred waged with the recently repaired wash machine. Though almost blind, Fred fought grease and gears, oil and comments, and today the wash machine really runs. Says Fred, "Shucks, I'm just bull-headed; Dee Hayes said so."

Quarters 4 is rapidly becoming one of the foremost rodent dens in the country. Sunday morning, Lloyd Giegel caught a mouse in a GI can and about fifteen minutes later Don Emmert caught a rat by its tail. Giegel's mouse escaped but

After a futile attempt to domesticate the rat, Emmert disposed of it.

Have you ever enjoyed whipped cream cake? Jack Seaggs was introduced to this delicacy last Saturday afternoon, and it made a tremendous hit with him. He says he ate whip cream cake from Saturday noon till Sunday evening, at which time he said, "I never want to see another piece of whipped cream cake." However, just two hours after making the foregoing statement, Jack was overheard inquiring as to the possibilities of getting a piece of the subject delicacy.

Quarters #5

The latest word from Quarters 5 is that a part of the hold is to be turned into a recreation room. A ping pong table will be set up, but a problem in logistics must be solved first. The welfare representative has issued a request for several volunteers to bring in the ping pong table from Quarters 7, but there have been no volunteers.

Ed Davis returned Tuesday after a four week visit to the hospital at Great Lakes, where he was quarantined with diphtheria. According to Ed, he did not have a very enjoyable trip, being on liberty only one night

out of four weeks. After surviving 131 shots of penicillin, he received an official membership chart to the "Order of the Perforated Posterior."

Quarters #6

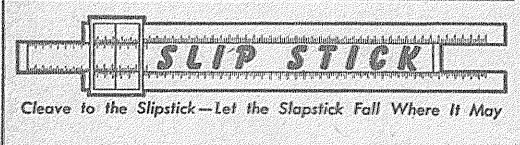
The topic of discussion in Quarters 6 last Tuesday night was the American Legion Sport Show. The majority of the fellows from Quarters 6 attended the show and, evidently, all were satisfied with the "Entertainment" following the boxing and wrestling matches.

A/S Ed Toops reported to sick bay last Wednesday morning with a swollen neck which proved to be the mumps.

A/S Victor Sklair, of Quarters 6, was welcomed back by his buddies last Thursday, after he returned from the hospital where he spent nine weeks with a fractured collar bone.

Quarters #7

The change in name from Quarters 6 to Quarters 7 has also brought about a change in the conduct of the men living there. What formerly was the noisiest quarters is now by far the quietest. Inside sources report that the only activities within the quarters are sleep and study.



Word has it that many of our students are worried over the difficulties they're encountering in engineering studies. Fellows, your worries are trivial compared with that of the aeronautical engineer who was all confused because the girls with the most streamlined figures usually offered the most resistance.

Professor to students: "Always use graduates instead of pipettes for measuring cyanide solutions; for if you use pipettes, we won't have any graduates."

Here's to Dan Cupid, the little squirt He's lost his pants, he's lost his shirt, He's lost 'most everything but his aim

Which shows that love is a losing game.

Sailor: (at sick call)—I want something to quiet my nerves.
Doctor—An aspirin?
Sailor—No; a discharge.

A maiden filed a breach of promise suit against a sailor, who denied everything.

"Didn't you tell her that you were going to take her to Florida?" queried the judge.

"No, sir," explained the sailor, "I just said I was going to tamper with her."

Stenographer: "Your little girl wants to kiss you over the telephone."

Busy Executive: "Take the message. I'll get it from you later."

Girls who are fit as fiddles sure draw the beaus.

The wife of the absent-minded prof cooed sentimentally, "Do you realize, dear, that it was 25 years ago today that we became engaged?"

"Twenty-five years?" said the prof. "It certainly is time that we got married!"

No doubt you've heard of the dull character who hid under the bureau and waited for his collar button to come and find him.

He: "We can't have any fun this evening. All I have is some small change."

She: "Well, what do you think it takes to send my kid brother to the movies a five dollar bill?"

Advisor: "Lad, this is an age of specialization and specialists. Is there anything you can do better than anyone else in the world?"
Lad: "Yes sir, blow my own nose."

Mary had a little dress, Dainty, chic and airy. It didn't show the dirt a bit But gosh, how it showed Mary.

And so in closing let me tell you of the second-hand man's daughter who knew her furniture. She wouldn't allow much on the old sofa! And so to bed-lam.

THE VICIOUS VIPER Emmert's rat was not so fortunate.