

campus 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.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Registration proceeded this year in the traditional IIT manner, namely all fouled up. For the benefit of those persons responsible for this function, I would like to point out spots where improvement is in dire need, so here's the list:

To begin with, classes and their instructors should be decided upon at least three weeks before registration, and this full knowledge sent to each student. Not giving the names of the instructors of each class is criminal. As a result of it, many students will have "profs" this semester with whom they have never gotten along and could never here taken while others who would desire these particular instructors will be in someone else's class. This is not efficiency. It is as important to know who's teaching a course as when and where it is given.

There should be few changes in, or closing of classes. I realize that this is different when one such class is overfilled, but the least the school could do is open another one teaching the same subject at the same time. Then at least no one would have to discard his entire program as is often the case when one class at a critical time. If day is closed. If there are enough students to overflow one class, then a duplicate of it (same subject, same time) is justified. IIT not only closed them when they were filled, but also

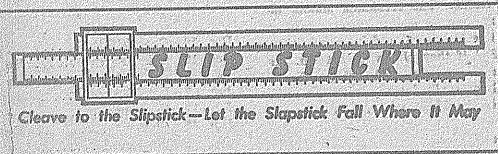
closed them before registration even started.

Don't keep the students standing in line up and down Federal Street. Let them sit in the auditorium balcony and main floor and the lounge of the Student Union Bldg. and give them card with numbers as they walk in. Thus, there will be no cutting in line every time a student sees his buddy-buddy in the line and the students will be much more comfortable during the waiting period. I hate to imagine what would have happened if we had rainy weather last week.

Hire more people. All the jamming and waiting is present only because there aren't enough individuals working to handle the crowd. This can be overcome by advertising through the school at the end of each semester that help is needed during registration and paying higher wages, if necessary, in order to get this added help. The amount of confusion avoided will justify the added expense and a more orderly registration will take place.

Get on the ball, Registrar. You're fouling up too much.

Albert Himmelstein



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

This week I shall dedicate this column to my uncle. He has been married for twenty-seven years and he has never stopped being romantic. Ah me, of course if his wife ever finds out, she'll break his neck.

—II—

He who laughs last has found a double meaning that the censors missed.

—II—

Among the questions asked in an examination on stock-raising was, "Name four different kinds of sheep."

An inspired student answered: "Black sheep, white sheep, Mary's little lamb, and the hydraulic ram."

And now in closing I would like to say that the most potent water power in the world is found in a woman's tears.

—II—

Now that girdles have appeared on the market again, the masculine outlook has contracted.

—II—

Press your cheek against that of a young girl. If she flinches, you need a shave. If she doesn't, you need a guardian.

—II—

"T-e-a-t," the teacher sighed. "Johnny, what does that spell?" "Johnny didn't know." "Well," continued the teacher, "what has a cow four of and I have only two of?"

Johnny's answer threw the class into an uproar and the teacher into a state of embarrassment.

—II—

The local reporter was interviewing the grandfather of a famous Hollywood star.

"Does Bill ever come back to the old farm to visit you?" he asked.

"Every summer," said the old farmer. "Every summer for the past five years."

"And did he bring his wife with him?"

"Every time, and they was drive as purty gals as you ever laid your eyes on."

—II—

A minister who was calling on one of his parishioners was sitting in the garden with his hostess when her small son came running up twirling a rat above his head. "Don't be afraid, Mother, it's dead. We clubbed him and beat him until..." and then catching sight of the clergyman, he added in a lowered tone—"until God called him home."

—II—

A sweet old lady was passing a country stream where a company of soldiers were enjoying a cool evening. Since bathing suits are not GI the old lady was heard to remark with much astonishment, "Oh dear, those must be our shock troops."

—II—

Prof. "When this room settles down I will begin with the lecture." Student: "Why don't you go home and sleep it off?"

—II—

Guest (to host in new house): "Hello, old pal, how do you find it here?"

Host: "Walk right upstairs, and then two doors to the left."

—II—

"I'm really an old fashioned girl—I don't swear, drink, or smoke," she said to the assler. Then she paused to grope in her purse for something that was not there and presently said, "Damn it to hell, I left my cigarettes at the last saloon."

—II—

To speak with a pleasant voice you must be full and correct value to the vowels. A theatrical producer recently stated that of three hundred girls interviewed he found only two who could say "no" properly.

Not a very high percentage, properly speaking.

Meter Measurers Made Mistakes

It may come as a soul-shaking shock to some home-economics majors but the Meter ain't what it used to be.

People were a lot happier 100 years ago when the bar upon which the Meter is scratched was thought to be the last word in distances, but some jerks had to come along with a new-economy sized edition.

It all started about the time when the United States was whipping up a Constitution. Along about 1787 a French physicist came out with the idea that a system of weights and measures ought to have a firmer foundation than was then in operation.

After four years of palaver the world's leading scientists decided that the idea was passable. As a basis for the meter they decided to use "one-millionth of the earth's quadrant through the Paris meridian, and that the arc measured should be one of the 10 degrees." Sounds good, what?

To handle the measuring the scientists dispatched their star double-ly combination, Casaine, Mechain, and Legendre, to Montjuich, a suburb of Barcelona, Spain. The idea was that they should measure the distance between Montjuich and Dunkirk, France.

So the boys scampered to Barcelona, whipped out their yardsticks and went to work. Fortunately for them a couple revolutions went on in France while they were in Spain and a guy named Napoleon moved in like Flynn.

It took the lads nine years—until 1793—to determine that the distance between Montjuich and Dunkirk was 10, 9, 6, 111 yards and six inches. When they got back to Paris the other scientists gave them a dirty look, and dragged out an iridio-platinum bar and handed them a butcher knife. Luckily the bar was 102 centimeters long or they might have never been able to squeeze the meter out of it.

For about 50 years everybody was happy in the thought that the meter had a firm foundation. Then several lads, who made a hobby of measuring distances, decided that to go over the same route with a foot rule which naturally was more accurate. Imagine their horror when they discovered that the first three (who, incidentally did not get degrees from Illinois Tech) had made a mistake.

That fact threw the calculations on which the Meter was based all out of whack. It caused a few sleepless nights but the scientists decided not to fool with that bar since the bartenders union might go out on strike and let them thirst to death.

In the course of time copies were made of the original bar and whisked off to various countries. The United States happened to draw an iron bar which, of course, has the original mistake on it. Oh, the irony of it all.

Such Is Life

Do you feel slighted when people pointedly refuse to eat in the same room with you? Do you feel embarrassed when you are thrown out of the lunch room for lapping the soup off the floor? Well don't be. You are an engineer, my friend, an engineer and an individualist. You have the constitutional right to eat anyway you please. Exercise the right. It was by bold uprisings against restrictions that made our country such a noble place in which to live.

You freshman engineers who still retain some shreds of decadent politeness must get rid of them at once. Drop all vile and sissified social graces. Step out with the bold free attitude of a true engineer. The most important thing with which the freshman engineer occupies himself is women. Here

IIT "Armour Mission" Began As Community Sunday School Building

Most of us at one time or another have noticed the words "Armour Mission" inscribed in the stone above the front entrance of our Student Union. Many of us often wondered what these words stood for:

Joseph Francis Armour, one of Chicago's late leading citizens and a member of the Plymouth Congregational Church, had been deeply interested in the Plymouth Mission located at 31st and Armour Avenue. When he died in 1891 he made a bequest of \$100,000 which was to be used by his brother Mr. Philip D. Armour, in establishing a Sunday School home for the people of this community. Mr. Armour added a large amount to this sum and sent an emissary abroad to study buildings used for Sunday school purposes in order that the most practical methods of construction might be adopted. When the work on Armour Mission was finally completed it was considered to be one of the finest Sunday School buildings in the world.

The Plymouth Mission with a membership of 500 was then invited to make this new building their

home. It was quite a change from their first house which was a vacated tavern at 361 Thirty-first Street.

There were many clubs and organizations that became allied with the Armour Mission. Among some of the more prominent ones were: The Boy's Brigade, Armour Battalion and The Armour Drill Corps. The kindergarten which was voted for its accomplishments in child welfare work, was responsible for the teaching of many interesting and useful crafts to the underprivileged children.

In 1905, in a report on Armour Mission, it was stated that, "The community may undergo many changes, and conditions may change, but none of them nor anything can change the destiny of Armour Mission. It must continue as it began—a Sunday School."

Fraternities & Sororities

PI KAPPA PHI

Active members of the IIT Pi Kap chapter and current rushees were the guest of the Pi Kappa Phi Mothers Club at a buffet supper last Friday evening. The purpose of the supper, according to representatives of the Mother's Club, was to introduce the mothers and the actives. The Mother's Club has aided in the renovation of the new chapter house, and has made the drapes for the living room.

TRIANGLE

Triangle fraternity held a rushing dance last Saturday evening. Refreshments were served and music was provided by a juke box. The girls of Sigma Omicron Lambda sorority were guests and helped to make it an enjoyable affair.

This week marks "informal initiation" for the nine Triangle pledges. One of their duties is to wear the traditional "whiff" card. Formal initiation will take place next Sunday, stated Bob Backlund, president.

Last Saturday terminated three weeks of hard work in preparing the fraternity house for the fall term. Painting, wallpapering and other types of work were in evidence up to three a.m. on many evenings. The house is now in tip-top shape for the housemen.

DELTA TAU DELTA

With brothers Austin, Baker, Doane, Kozinski, McLain, Mikalek, Neighbor, Taylor, Gunner, and Newcombe back, Delta Tau Delta is well set for the semester. Pledges Fenton, Garnier, Sellstrom, and Hamilton are also back. Having re-furnished and redecorated the house, the chapter has turned to appointing the various committees. To keep up the chapter high grade average, a scholarship committee has been formed with Kurt Kuhle as chairman.

Tom Galavan heads the social committee with Jim Bagamery and Bob McLain adding to the confusion.

All in all, it should be a big semester for the Deltas.

politeness is the custom. A well mannered engineer will always whistle first to give one a running start. After that, of course, there are no restrictions. It is, naturally, not sporting to hook onto a woman that another engineer, especially an upper classman, has flushed. Some times the temptation is too strong, however, and for such emergencies the rule has been made if the girl passes within ten feet of you it is perfectly legal to make a try.

ALPHA SIGMA PHI

Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity has once again set up housekeeping in their chapter house at 3154 S. Michigan Avenue. After three weeks of tedious preparation by the actives, the house is once again in fine shape.

On September 11, a formal meeting was held at which time the keys to the house were presented to the active chapter by the alumni. Present were actives, alumni and guests including Ralph F. Burns, national executive secretary of Alpha Sigma Phi. Mr. Burns informed us that the Centennial Convention at Marietta, Ohio had just adjourned and that Alpha Kappa Pi, an Eastern and Southern fraternity, had affected a merger with Alpha Sigma Phi which will bring the roll call of active chapters to sixty-five.

As have all other fraternities on the campus, Alpha Sigma Phi conducted a Rush Week for new members this past week. Entertainment included sports and travel movies, cards and music.

Thursday evening, a father and son get together was held and was well attended. Several members of the faculty who were also present were introduced to the new fellows and their fathers. Saturday evening, the Ballroom was reactivated with a record dance.

PHI KAPPA SIGMA

After much hard work this summer to put the Skull House back to its pre-war standards, the Phi Kaps once again threw open its doors to the campus of IIT and welcomed the new freshmen to the Phi Kap hours. With the house back in their hands, they are looking forward to a successful year.

The entire chapter attended the fifty-eighth national convention of Phi Kappa Sigmas held at the Drake Hotel from the 27th to the 31 of August. One of the many events held at that time was an initiation performed by an initiation team composed of the Phi Kaps from the various chapters in Chicago. During the initiation four members of the Alpha Epsilon chapter were initiated. They are Bob Mielke, Paul John, Ed Zeitz and Jim Toerper.

RHO DELTA RHO

The Rho Delta Rho fraternity inaugurated its social season by formally initiating Louis Brody, Walter Doren, and Maier Margolis at a meeting held at this house last Tuesday. Ken Eaton, Rho Delta president, said this addition brought the total number of actives in the fraternity up to 40.

The fraternity's rushing activities commenced with a luncheon on [See FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES page 5]