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Frank Wheeler

# Teaching To Learn

The enrollment at Illinois Tech has reached a new high—2800 undergraduate day students. What does the high figure convey to the student?...to the professors?

The big enrollment means that the student is forced to contend with large classes in which a seat upon the window sill is inevitable unless he arrives at class immediately after the dismissal bell or unless his buddy obliges by saving a seat. It is also more difficult for a student to learn a subject thoroughly since the instructors have little time to spend teaching pupils individually. Usually the quizzes and homework assignments are fewer, and farther apart—seemingly dependent upon how occupied the grader is. These facts all mean that the student has to buckle down to work to gain value from a subject.

Additional responsibility has to be borne by the instructor in putting over a point. Many are often slow to heed the cries of "higher, higher—darker," darker!"—which are not attempts to promote a movement among women's skirts. The fact is that many cannot see the board or decipher the hen-scratching that is being inflicted upon it.

Some instructors try to prove that lecturing is faster than tobacco house calling. The results: poorly written and illegible notes.

Students have been heard to comment that they are assigned homework and it is not explained until after the problems are due. Fortunately, this is not a common practice at Illinois Tech, for it is not wise pedagogy.

Other students complain, with good reason, that their lab work is not fully explained in the one hour lecture in conjunction with the lab. Some examples are the metallurgy and structural design labs. There is no excuse for this —it is difficult enough for the student to complete the experiment or problem in three hours when it is explained. It's much more difficult when the instructors leave the students beseeching their fellows for help. The tragedy is that the others are also in the dark.

It was mentioned that platforms be set up for the instructors and blackboards be raised for the convenience of the students in the overcrowded classes. One such platform was observed to be out of service with the explanation that it was a trap for instructors. Low railings might be ideal for profs who write while not looking where they are going and fall into the abyss below.

Some instructors even furnish an account of their family life and their business enterprises with their lectures. Do they want the students' sympathy or encouragement?

Many of the evils outlined above and others have been mentioned in a mimeographed pamphlet to HT instructors this term. In many cases it is quite possible that the instructor is unaware of his idiosyncrasies, but surely he can read!





Man Of The Week

## President of Alpha Phi Omega, Bourdon Is Active About Campus

by Sid Lewis

Albert Bourdon, 8th semester ME, has been selected for he "Man of the Week."

Exceptionally active, Al is represented in music—he is a member of the Glee Club and treasurer of Pi Nu Epsilon, national

music honorary; photography—he is a member of Armour Eye; mechanical engineering—he is a grader for the ME department and a member of ASME: savvice

—he has recently been elected president of Alpha Phi Omega, national service fracternity; English—he is a library assistant. But that's not all. He has also found time to be the senior class treas-

urer and a member of the ITV club, Newman Club, and Pi Kappa Phi; and he is listed in "Whos' Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities!"

Massena, New York, has the honor of being Al's home town. He left home in 1942 and enlisted in the Navy. He was sent to aviation machinist mate's school at Navy Pier and received advance schooling at the Chicago Vocational building at 87th and Anthony Ave. After he graduated, he was made an instructor at the school.

After four months of teaching, he was transferred to the V-12 and was sent to IIT. He spent six semesters here in navy uniform before being discharged.

After graduating this February, Al plans to do graduate work in business administration at North-western; and judging from the way he has handled his offices as treasurer of several organizations, as bid and publicity chairman for the Integral Ball, and as sponsor of the Community Fund drive, he is sure to succeed.

Steam TIME STATE OF THE DIRT

Today the Digger dedicates the whole column to the wise old doctors, that is the PhD's, meaning: piled higher and deeper.

The custom of Beta Omega Nu is to spread good fellowship among the fraternities on Michigan Ave. After the meeting this past week, which ended about midnight, the spirited BON men, led by C. L. Weeks, proceeded to the Theta Xi house where they serenaded with one of their usual songs. What followed looked like the fluid mechanics laboratory afoot. The additional dampening of their spirits caused them to abandon the idea.

When an ex-G man has his "automobile" stolen from in front of his house, it is time for the Digger to investigate. Especially when the G man is Sonny (Tracy) Weissman. The culprits, a group of afteen year old boys defended themselves by sayling. "We didn't want to steal a good car, so we took this battered up Ford." Such disrespect for athletics directors must cease, someone reported.

At the dark cubicles where a group of men were hidding out, trying to conceal their gory thoughts of writing today's Tech News, there was a sudden scream and collapse of the assignment editor. The secret of the hideout and the reason why there is a lack of news was found in a note from the copy box.

"This ain't a letter to the editor-

Can't find Friedman, can't find any info about AIEEE or Ets Kapps Nu, Davis can't turn in story about G and B, can't come up tonight, have test. This has been one hell of a week for failures."

Recently Marv Hagan felt the pressing need for feminine companionship but since he was on the outs with his girlfriend, but being a true IIT engineer, Marv went to the girl's house Saturday afternoon to kindle the old flame. At four in the morning Marv walked out with a red smudged handkerchief and a smile.

Editor's note: This proves the motto: cleave

Editor's note: This proves the motto: cleave to the lipstick, let the slapstick fly where it may.

It seems that Richard Solomon, as part of his job for a ventilating plant, had to measure the waitresses? room at the Blackhawk. He was too busy to notice anything about him but his work, yet when he returned to the office to compare his measurements with the original plans, the room was found to have shrunk three feet in length.

The junior commandos of this school had a meeting to discuss Betty Zimmerman...said Leon Sternick: "Lana Turner has nothing on her."

Jerry Kantor added: "Gosh, I wish I had the courage to talk to her." The Brain suggests that the two boys go to the registrar's office to pick up a catalogue said break the ice.

Leo "Smiley" Martiniak hit upon a new system to keep himself deeply interested in his studies. He purchased a small cutout picture of a girl wearing blue shoes and holding a blue bathing suit in her hand. Before Leo commences his studies he has someone place his suitless bathing beauty between the pages of his book. Then says Leo, "It's just a game, every page I read brings me closer to her."

Dust be surprised to see Tony Clotola working late in the physics lab. The Digger has learned that he is trying to live up to his middle name "Galileo". Serious, tight-lipped Tony had this to say about the work: "Oh fudge."

Ted Restarski, defending his position as the super wolf of Elston Avenue, claims that his bridesmaid would not kiss him at a recent wedding he stood up to because her father would not allow it, says that: "She was just a bobby soxer and I don't neck with high school girls."

Concluding the operations, the Digger reflects that next week's edition will be like the other degrees, namely, B.S. and M.S. meaning Bigger Shovel and More Scraps.

The Broken Spade.

### Fraternities & Sororities

THETA XI

Pledging of Robert Liska and Robert Mathias last week brings the total of pledges to Theta Xi up to seventeen. The other fifteen are: Donald Arthur, Frederick Baas, Charles Burgesser, Bruce Conners, Edward Dwight, Peter Grafton, Richard Fanning, Ralph Hines, Ralph Lindsly, Floyd Meller, Lloyd Shook, Jim Snyder, William Sponseller, John Stern, and Charles Wolk. To promote the fraternity spirit these men have voluntarily formed a male choir to entertain at the various fraternity social functions.

A fraternity stag party is being planned by Pat Porcelli, chairman of the social committee. This affair will be held on November 8. President Paul Boggess urges all the Theta Xi men on the campus to attend the party as a good time is guaranteed.

#### PI KAPPA PHI

Pi Kappa Phi pledged seven men this term, namely: Carl Clifton, Ed Morse, George Hallian, Stewart McDonnel, Frank Roubic, Ted Zegulla and Robert Ross. Pledge Captain Stu (The Crue)) Von Ness is taking good care of them. In the first game of the touchdown tournament the Pi Kaps handed Theta Xi its first defeat, 25 to 8. Sports Manager Paul Kirby was extremely elated over the team's first showing. George Schober was selected to organize the basketball team.

John Sachs, social chairman, has planned an informal dance for 8:80 p.m. Saturday. The dance is to be informal with refreshments and a full evening in store for all.

### PRAETORIANS

"If our first meetings are any indication of what we may expect from the fraternity." states president Herb Reisman, "this will be one of the Praetorians' biggest semesters on the campus."

The organization started the term with two smokers one in the Fine Arts building and one at Louis Sopkin's home. Both were termed "terrific" successes and it was immediately decided to hold others soon.

The Gamma chapter was well represented at the De Paul Practorians' dance at the Continental hotel last week.

The HT Praetorians' first big affair of the semester will be held Saturday. It will join with Phi Beta Pi sorority in holding a dance on the north side.

Plans are also under way for (See FRATERNITIES & SORORITIES, p. 5)