LL&P Department Head Replies To Calls for Speech Courses

by Dr. Walter Hendricks

The department of Language, Literature, and Philosophy is pleased to respond to the inquiries in recent issues of the *Technology News* regarding courses in speech.

A correction should first be made, however, of the remark that speech is "never offered." Up to the beginning of the war, courses in speech were given practically every semester. The wire recorder was used in all its experimental models, in course after course; and it is only a few years ago that Dr. Hayakawa and Dr. Meech conducted sections in speech correction.

Moreover, the work in speech has been a matter of deep concern not only to this department but to the curriculum committee as well, and particularly to our former dean and vice president, Dr. L. E. Grinter. Many hours were spent investigating the programs of other schools, particularly engineering schools; and men trained in speech were invited to the Institute for an interview.

No definite action resulted from these inquiries and interviews principally because the war was upon us and it was not possible for the Institute to set up the kind of program that its standards required.

For creditable work in speech, trained men would have to be hired, men who are familiar with psychology and physiology, men who are methodical and scientific. They will need a sound laboratory, recording devices, anatomical charts, as well as proper rooms or auditoriums with adequate acoustic, lighting, and ventilating facilities. Besides, the work must not be offered to a mere twenty or thirty students, but required of an entire class, whether sophomore or senior. Only such a program would be worthy of inclusion in our curriculum.

That is the type of program the Administration and this department are working on. But such a project to be done in the way I have mentioned would require the services of probably fifteen or more instructors, as at Purdue, and would demand three or six classroom hours of every student's time.

If it had not been for the war, doubtless some such program—probably somewhat limited to begin with—would have been set up. Once the war was over, the avalanche of students figuratively rushed us off our feet. Now trained men are very difficult to find, and our room problem is critical. Notwithstanding, some definite steps toward offering such a course in the second semester will doubtless be taken.

If, in the meantime, a student is really serious about the matter and would like to obtain some training, he should investigate the opportunities presented by the dramatic organization, which, according to the latest issue of *Technology News*, is planning to produce three plays.

Finally, a kindly word of warning or advice. Speech is merely a technique or a training. In technical drawing it would be the equivalent of instruction in handling one's tools. That may be important, but more important is the intelligence behind the tools.

Hitler, for example, knew how to speak, but what he needed was an education to make him a good man. A course in Shakespeare might have told him that a cruel and unjust man cannot get away with murder. Such a course might have saved millions of lives and billions of dollars.

Walter Hendricks

Newman Club Hears Discussion of Russia By Guest Speaker

Dr. Mogilnitsky, guest speaker of the Newman Club, discussed the causes and the results of the Russian revolution at the club meeting last Tuesday. Dr. Mogilnitsky, who taught for twelve years in Russia, now teaches economics at Loyola University.

Communism in Russia was traced from its state immediately after the revolution in 1917 to its present form.

"Only two percent of the Russians are members of the Communist party," Dr. Mogilnitsky stated, "but this does not indicate a lack of faith in communism by the people, since only extremely rabid communists are permitted to join. This permits the party, while extremely small, to be extremely strong. In the United States," he continued," a person can state his beliefs and form groups to further develop these beliefs, but he cannot resort to violence. In Russia, however, the exact opposite is true; the only groups that are permitted are those organized in conjunction with the Communist party, while the government has continually resorted to violence to further its aims."

The next meeting of the Newman Club will be a mixer, planned for Tuesday evening, November 19, said James Hartnett, president. Girls from the Chicago Teachrs College have been invited, and dancing will follow the discussion.

Pledges of APO Will Compile Directory of Profs, Senior Students

Entering freshmen will soon be aided in the task orienting themselves on the campus by a large detailed map of IIT on their bulletin board. Directories of senior students and faculty members will also be published and distributed to the student body.

These are two of the projects being undertaken as pledge duties by the following men who are pledging Alpha Phi Omega: William Andrews, Dudly Budlong, William Dassie, Emil Donkers, Roger Dreffin, William Goldman, Peter Krakowsky, Paul Meyer, Lavern Miller, David Pasik, Carl Pearson, DeWitt Pickens, Richard Poedtke, and Carl Weber.

Other projects on the activity list are the construction of Alpha Phi Omega plaques and the designing of a chapter flag.

The fraternity is planning to have a wienie roast on November 3, at one of Chicago's forest preserves, according to Ed Knocel, social chairman.

Funds for the fraternity will be raised by selling boxed Christmas cards on the campus. A sales booth will be set up in the Student Union lobby in the near future.

Pan-Hell Plans to Hold Monthly Social

The first of the newly scheduled monthly afternoon socials to be sponsored by the Pan-Hellenic council will be held in the East Dining room, tomorrow, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. announced Miss Mollie Cohen, Pan-Hellenic sponsor. These affairs will be open to all students and faculty members. Refreshments will be served and there will be music throughout the afternoon.

Funds to sponsor the afternoon socials were voted the Pan-Hellenic council by the ITSA at the last regular meeting. John Makielski, president of the ITSA, in speaking of the party, complimented the group and voiced the opinion that these affairs should become permanent popular gatherings.

Juniors Meet Friday

A meeting of the junior class will be held Friday at 11 a.m., announced Harry Twickler, president. The junior class sponsored dance is just a few weeks away, so this meeting will be very important in organizing the committees. He added the meeting room will be posted on bulletin boards and signs reminding the class will also be posted.

Pi Delts Meet Tomorrow

Pi Delta Epsilon, national honorary journalism fraternity, will meet tomorrow, announced Bill Burkhart, president. The meeting will be held at 5 p.m. in room 105 Chapin.

Illinois Tech Branch of SAE Being Organized

A student branch of the SAE, Society of Automotive Engineers, will be organized at IIT this Friday at 11 a.m., in room 217 Chapin Hall, said Hans Wenzel, acting chairman. All members of SAE and those interested in joining are urged to attend this meeting. Officers will be elected and activities for the semester planned.

The aims of the SAE are to promote the arts and sciences, and engineering practices connected with the design, construction and utilization of automotive apparatus. The term automotive includes automobiles, aircraft, trucks and buses, tractors, and other vehicles powered by internal combustion engines.

ASCE To See Movies of Bridge Failure at Meeting

Movies of the failure of the Tacoma Narrows bridge will be featured at the meeting of the IIT student chapter of the ASCE this Friday at 11 a.m.

The location of the meeting will be posted on the civil engineering and main bulletin boards today. In announcing the program, Henry Hawry, president urged all civils to attend and view the fatal classic bridge collapse. He added that persons still desiring membership in the group could obtain it at this meeting.