

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Do you think that a poll of constructive student opinion on the teaching ability and personality of faculty members should be instituted at IIT?

Charles N. Widstrand, Soph. IE:
"I believe that it is essential that an instructor know what his students think of his abilities and teaching methods. However, the results of such a poll as suggested, I believe, is a private matter to be known only to the professor concerned. Such results if made public would defeat the purpose of the poll. It would 'only lead to bloodshed' instead of serving any constructive purpose. No petty provocation should be considered by the student when voting."



George Thomson, Junior IE:
"No, I don't believe that a poll of student opinion of faculty personalities and abilities need be taken. It may be that our newest arrivals aren't aware of the attitudes of the student body concerning various members of the faculty, but a few sessions in the cafeteria would fix that up. If this information is desired for publication it could be obtained from the questionnaires provided each lecture section by the respective faculty members during the course of each term."

Charles E. Stewart, Soph. ME:
"Some instructors would become so incensed that instead of improving their technique they would find ways and means of getting even with students who had given unfavorable criticism. I believe it would be a helpful idea if the criticism was constructive and was received in the same spirit in which it was given. There is a definite need for a poll or some other means of improvement but final success depends on the attitude of the faculty."

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● CAMPUS COMMENTS

(Continued from page 2)

not know what kind of a job they would ask for even if they know fairly well what they wish to pursue. Employers and job-seekers spend much time and money trying to get the right person on the right job.

The Illinois Institute of Technology should offer a series of courses to alleviate the above condition, thus producing more capable engineers. Students will be able to execute a wise choice of elective courses, rather than picking them haphazardly.

I believe that at least one such course should be taken every year, making a total of 4 before graduation. Such a course need not be carried on a credit basis. It should include the following: 1) Tours of various companies including their engineering departments. 2) Talks by engineers who have worked in industry a good many years. 3) Suggested reading material on the work of engineers.

After students have been subjected to such a practical program, they will be much more qualified to take their place in society. I'm sure that industrial firms and members of the alumni will be glad to cooperate in a program of this sort.
George A. Koo

Man Of The Week

President of Alpha Chi Sigma, Grant Medin Excels in Studies

During his five semesters of work in the chemistry store-room, Grant Medin has passed out enough ice to provide drinks for many a weary lab section, but he always holds back on a most essential ingredient—alcohol. Grant has been interested in chemistry ever since he received his first amateur chemistry set in elementary school. While at South Shore High School, Grant decided that he would combine his mathematical and chemical aptitudes and follow a chemical engineering career. At South Shore, Grant was a member of the Chemistry Club and the National Honor Society, and was also advertising manager of the year-book.



Grant's first real step toward his ambition came when he won a freshman competitive scholarship to IIT after his high school graduation in 1944. The accelerated program in progress at that time forced him to keep his nose to the grindstone. This, however, did not prevent him from taking part in numerous extracurricular activities. "These outside activities," says Grant, "give a student social and civic experience he could never obtain in a classroom. Illinois Tech offers a number of opportunities along these lines, and everyone should take advantage of them."

Grant is now president of Alpha Chi Sigma, and belongs to Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity, Phi Lambda Upsilon, and Delta Tau Delta. While maintaining a 2.8 average he is also a member of the ACS, AICHE, the Physics Club, and was secretary of his sophomore class. His name can be found in "Who's Why Among Students in U.S. Colleges."

For relaxation, Grant turns to photography, music, and coin collecting. In his high school days he played the saxophone with various dance bands around the city; now, however, the sax doesn't hold that same appeal. He enjoys sports, but is not an active participant, although for two semesters in 1944 he did play on his fraternity baseball team. "That shows you what a sad condition they were in!" he recalls.

Grant's plans for the future are uncertain. He is considering an offer made by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and intends to go to the East coast for personal interviews with that company. But graduate school here at IIT also holds attractions for him. While doing some senior research work, Grant became interested in catalysis, and he believes he would like to investigate the field further.

● INFORMATION FOR FREE

"Wild" Bill Furlong
ambush for wayward freshmen at the elevated station and at the Wentworth Ave. car line each morning. The unfortunates were hastily deprived of their pants and marched in a triumphant procession to a bathtub at the southwest corner of Ogden field. The victims were then dunked and occasionally painted a brilliant hue.

The hysteria spread over the campus. Pants were hoisted to a conspicuous spot on the flagpole and draped from windows. Scantly-clad freshmen and sophomores fitted up and down Federal Street, searching for their own unoccupied pair of pants.

"Uncle Jawn" Schommer reached a new high in puns when he leaped into a classroom moments after a student had seen his trousers go the

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of Junior Weeks of yesteryear;
A veteran campaigner of '35
Says hardly a man did then survive.
Who held not for his pants a mortal fear.
A rich mixture of tradition and blood highlighted the Junior Weeks of a decade or more ago—the more blood the better.

Johnny Ahern, boss-man of the Fire Protection and Safety Engineering departments, managed to survive the Junior Weeks of 1931 to 1935 without appearing too much the worse for wear. There are those among his students, however, who hint darkly that those dimples are not dimples at all, but scars.

In recounting tales of the Junior Weeks of an earlier era Johnny cannot repress a chuckle—and a shudder. The races, contests and games of today are offsprings of more quaint demonstrations such as "pantsing," kidnapping and a generous helping of mayhem.

Freshmen were pitted against sophomores in those days with the juniors acting as careless referees and the seniors throwing in their pennies. Members of the lower classes did not dare stir about the campus unless they were adequately armed. The climax came with the class rush and the crown went to the group that retreated with fewer casualties.

Since there was strength in numbers the strategists of each class planned to deplete the forces of the foe by various means—legal and otherwise. One of the favored "otherwise" means was kidnapping. It was not unusual for wholesale "rides" to be given to the combatants with a one-way destination of Joliet, Waukegan, etc. It was a long walk home.

Boat rides were another form of diversion. One class was generous enough to rent a barge and cast their foes adrift on Lake Michigan for a day or more.

Before the advent of girls on the campus "pantsing" was a cherished custom. Sophomores once waited in



By Lou Fisher and Tom Marchwick

Lou Fisher on Memorium to F. D. R. . . .

Over the PA system at three o'clock, April 12, 1945, came the announcement, "Attention all hands, President Roosevelt has passed away." A stunned silence showed that the impossible had happened, our leader during the most trying years of the 20th century was no longer with us.

No more could there be those fire-side chats, the cheery smile, the inspiring guidance towards a greater America and a better world. Somewhere between the rantings of his enemies and the effusive compliments of his friends lies the true greatness of F.D.R. This is in the confidence, friendship and support of the millions of Americans who elected him to four terms in office. One has but to recall an October evening in 1944 when over 200,000 people waited inside and outside of Soldier's Field on the occasion of F.D.R.'s visit to Chicago. It was a serious and earnest crowd, and showed the broad, universal basis of the president's following.

Franklin D. Roosevelt took men from industry, labor, and the professions, regardless of party affiliations and united them in the New Deal to face the country's problems in an attempt to solve them. There were some errors made, but the efforts are best judged by comparing the accomplishments with those of previous periods.

The U.S. has come a long way since the boom of the twenties and the bust of the early thirties: social security, TVA, employment, fair labor acts, and even public housing that was stymied by the war and bungled by the peace.

Roosevelt's leadership was always within the framework of American tradition, of the people, by the people, and for the people. His leadership during the crisis cost him his life, but helped make the U.S. the hope and symbol of freedom throughout the world. The engulfing menace of fascism was overcome, although to this day some of his critics are defaming the record in a manner that denies the spirit of truth and reason.

F.D.R.'s death two years ago left a void in the hearts of most Americans. His ideals are best expressed by his words, "We shall create a new world in which there is freedom of worship and utterance, freedom from want and fear, for all peoples everywhere in the world."

● SLIPSTICK

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in tones audible throughout the car: "Oh, please excuse me! I mistook you for the father of two of my children."
She got out at the next corner.

Judge: "What is the charge against Mr. Tight?"
Gendarme: "Stealing nine bottles of beer."

way of all pants. "Well," he roared, "I've seen a man get caught with his pants down but never with them off!"

Long since these customs have been retired to a well-deserved grave not to be resurrected until the girls become so numerous that the sororities begin "skirting" their rivals.

Judge: "Discharged. I can't make a case out of nine bottles."
—IIT—

In the same vein,
Tourist Guide: "We are passing the largest brewery in the United States."
Chem. E.: "Why?"
—IIT—

A young man, whose father had been hanged, was filling out an insurance form. After the usual hereditary questions there was one asking the cause of his parents' death. He thought and finally put down this answer: "Mother died of pneumonia. Father was taking part in a public function, when the platform gave way."
—IIT—

Confusion say: Man who row boat with evil thoughts in mind is vulgar boatman.
Tiene Ud. suficiente?

Relax...
have a Coke

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