

# 'Uncle John' says good bye to Tech

By Joe Bass

John Joseph Schommer, director of placement, director of athletics, member of the board of trustees, and professor of industrial chemistry at Illinois Tech today announced his retirement, effective September 1.

Renowned as one of the Midwest's greatest athletes, first 12-letter man in the history of the University of Chicago, and well-known football official, Schommer has seen 37 years of continuous service to the Institute in his many capacities.

The big man with the ready smile joined the staff as an instructor in 1912, following his graduation from Tech (then Armour) with a B.S. in chemical engineering. For many years he coached single-handedly all athletic teams. In 1922 he was appointed athletic director and later was named to the board of trustees and the position of director of placement.

An authority on football rules, Schommer served as an official in the Big Ten for 35 years and has been on the National Intercollegiate Football Rules committee. In addition, he has officiated for the National Professional Football league, working most of the Chicago Bear games the 1941-42 season, his last active one as a whistle blower.

As Illinois State Occupational advisor for four and one-half years, Schommer was responsible for the deferments of thousands of engineers and scientists during the war, thus maintaining a steady flow of trained personnel at a critical time.

Schommer matriculated to Chicago from the Central Y high school, where he completed the course in two and one-half years. At the Y he captained the basketball team which won the world's championship at the St. Louis Fair in 1904 and also held the

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## Start new probe of cheating

An investigation of cheating at IIT has been started by the Illinois Tech Student Association, with the creation of a special committee at its last meeting.

Attention has been focused on the matter in recent weeks by a disciplinary committee ruling regarding the conduction of all quizzes, providing for inspection of blue books and the use of different colored alternate quiz sheets.

Solutions to the problem were discussed at length at the annual meeting of the faculty held April 7. Eugene D. Pare, assistant dean of students, stated, "The IIT faculty on the whole was favorably inclined to an honor system rather than the recent directive sent out by the disciplinary committee, and it was realized, of course, that such a plan must be initiated by the student body."

Faculty reaction to the recent quiz directive has been of varied character. The chemistry department adopted most of the provisions; many other instructors have outspokenly denounced the ruling and ignored it.

According to George Bowman, ITSa president, "We are taking this investigatory action to determine the extent of cheating on the campus and the feasibility of an honor system or other methods of solving the problem." Bowman stated that while an honor system would probably be the most desirable alternative, little could be done in the remaining time of the semester.



JOHN J. SCHOMMER

## Present famed labor case

Union management relations, considered by many economists as the very crux of our economy, will be the theme of an all-school assembly on May 3 in the NU auditorium.

Entitled "From Conflict to Cooperation," the meeting will feature Herbert J. Buchsbaum, president of S. Buchsbaum and company, and Samuel Laderman, president of the International Chemical Workers' Union No. 241, AFL. The discussion will center about the relations of the Buchsbaum company with the union.

The company had fought the union for nearly 20 years prior to 1941 and had used all the anti-union tactics at its disposal. This included labor spies, blacklisting of employees, and hired detectives.

Due to circumstances that will

be revealed at the meeting, the company extended whole-hearted cooperation to the union in 1941. Since then profits have increased through union efficiency measures, and the company has enjoyed complete freedom from any form of labor strife.

"This particular case is considered to be a classic demonstration of successful union-management cooperation and is referred to in all courses that deal with the relationship of the worker and the employer," stated Richard Golick, chairman of the arrangement committee for the assembly.

Sponsoring this discussion are the Society of Automotive Engineers, Western Society of Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Business and Economics club, and the So-

cietly for the Advancement of Management.

Selection of this topic by the six sponsoring organizations is based on the ideas of many con-



SAMUEL LADERMAN

temporary authorities in the labor relations field who have asserted that voluntary settlement of labor-management problems is a basic contingency for the existence of the American system of free enterprise.

## Opportunity knocks for repulsive IIT men

Are you the ugliest man on campus?

Illinois Tech's first "Ugliest Man" election, under the sponsorship of Alpha Phi Omega, will be held during the week beginning May 16.

"Ugliest Man" elections have proved very popular at other schools," stated Gene Shastal, APO president, "and we're aiming at a similar success. The money raised will go towards establishment of the APO student book exchange."

To vote for an "Ugliest Man" candidate, the voter deposits pennies in the jar just under the candidate's picture. Each penny will count one vote, nickels five, and so on.

To enter the competition, a candidate must submit a petition with ten student's signatures plus his own and two 5x7 inch photographs to the Technology News office by the deadline, May 2. Alpha Phi Omega will supply the entrant with pictures if he has none available.

A beautiful loving cup will be awarded to the winner, according to Shastal. He stated that if

the competition was "good and fierce" he would add as additional reward a fitted makeup kit.

Alpha Phi Omega's proposed student book exchange will be conducted as a cooperative service to the student body and will be most active at the close and beginning of each term, although it will probably remain open throughout the year.

Use of the service will be available to all students. Under the plan, any book may be left with the exchange for a five cent fee, and the book or the specified price will be returned to the seller.

"It may be possible that APO will raise enough initial funds in the Ugly election to do away with the book fee altogether," Shastal stated. "The contest really provides opportunity for some inter-organizational warfare."

## ITSA changes up for vote Monday

Ratification of a new student government will be up to the Tech student body in a special election to be held Monday. The polls will be open in the North Union lobby from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The measures, a series of constitutional amendments, have been approved by the Illinois Tech Student Association as needed changes in the character of campus student government.

Briefly summarized, the amendments include:

• **Splitting up of all classes into single units, each with its own elected officers, who would serve for one-year terms. At present the senior class is split up in this way.**

In addition to lengthening the term of office, this measure increases the number of students serving on the ITSa Board of Control inasmuch as each class is represented by its president on the board.

• **The second major provision of the amendments curtails administrative and faculty representation to two members rather than the present six. Under the new government, the dean of students and one faculty member selected by the faculty council will be the only such members.**

• **Two new members-at-large have been created by the measures, each of whom will serve for a one-year term. One to be a freshman or sophomore at the time of taking office, will be elected at each winter election. The second is to be a junior or first term senior at the time of taking office and will be elected in the spring election.**

Ratification of the amendments Monday will mean that the regular class elections will put into office candidates for entirely new positions. Although all offices are to be of a one-year length in the proposed government, those offices normally terminating at the end of the fall semester will be filled for one term in the first election under the new system.

The constitutional amendments are the work of an informal committee consisting of Lee Jacobson, Bill Dossie, 4B class president; Bob Schuldes, ITSa vice-president; George Bowman, ITSa president; and Dave Pasik, editor-in-chief of Technology News.

The work of the committee included an analysis of the functioning of the present government, a study of systems in use at other colleges, and final drafting of the proposal.

Principle aim was to secure greater student participation in the machinery of the ITSa board. As stated by the writers of the amendments, the "know-how" acquired by administrative members has freed the students from many of the normal legislative responsibilities, tending to cut down the student voice in matters of student policy.

Division of classes was decided upon, according to the committee, because this would provide a full year term for officers, as well as increasing the number of class representatives. The one year term is intended to give each officer "more time to utilize the abilities and knowledge that it takes weeks to acquire."

Although the plan cuts down the administrative voice in ITSa sharply, it has received the endorsement of President Henry T. Heald, Student Union Director Bernard Weissman, and other present voting members of the student government.

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