



THE MAIL GOES THROUGH—Ann Allman (left) hands a special letter to Miss Hoshour at the IIT postoffice.

## Postoffice expansion matches IIT growth

By Paul Mandelstein

An accurate and swift means to measure IIT's growth is to delve into the saga of the campus postoffice. In keeping with the adage "from little acorns grow big oaks," the postoffice has risen from a substitution of mailbox proportions to a full-fledged postoffice that is easily capable of handling the mail of a small city.

Back in the days of yore when there was no South Union, the postoffice consisted of a portion of a counter in the bookstore which was located in what is now the Executive conference room of the North Union. This pseudo postoffice amounted merely to an accommodation that sold stamps to students and mailed letters.

Six years ago, Jennie Hoshour entered this domain of higher knowledge as an employee of IIT whose principal duty was to act as postmistress of the Center's sub postal station. A year after, foretelling the need of expanded postal facilities, the Institute disassociated the postoffice and the bookstore. It was then assigned its present site on the first floor of the North Union. The office now handles an amount of mail equivalent to that of a town of more than 12,000 people. Former handfulls of mail grew into sacks of mail until the outflow is from 12 to 30 sacks daily. There is such an enormous amount of parcel post coming and going that one could easily mistake the postoffice for a warehouse.

The biggest timesaver in the office is the master machine with which postage is stamped on official Institute mail. With as many as 15,000 letters sent out at one time, it is easy to see that it would be an unpleasant job to lick all those stamps. Added to all this mail, the postoffice must handle intra-campus mail which amounts to a fantastic heap of paper.

The office handles every type of mail and parcel post except packages directed to foreign countries. The latter are excepted because of custom difficulties.

Office Services helps by sending out circulars on which postage is paid by pound weight because the letters are unsealed and meet bulk handling requirements. There are five mail pickups daily—a special one for air mail and four regular pickups. IIT must also transport all mail sacks containing more than a certain percentage of metered letters to the 22nd street postoffice.

Mrs. Hoshour is constantly kept on the go by this overwhelming job as are her assistants, Marty McGlynn, Dick McCall and Wayne Hamilton. Despite the mountainous task before her, Mrs. Hoshour maintains a cool, even-tempered, warm-hearted disposition. No matter how busy, she is always willing to lend a hand to a troubled mailer or to express a cheerful greeting to a passer-by.

Closing of local substations has diverted more trade to the IIT postoffice; this, combined

with Tech Center's growth, means a bigger and tougher job for Mrs. Hoshour and her crew.

Around Christmas time, the Chicago postoffice supplies two helpers for the IIT staff. They are paid directly by the government; the regular staff is paid by IIT, which is in turn reimbursed by the government.

Those who use IIT's postal facilities are requested by Mrs. Hoshour to observe a few simple rules to improve mail service. More prompt and efficient handling will be assured if Tech Center patrons mail early—before 5 P.M., that is. Complete addresses (including zone numbers, etc.) will also expedite arrival of letters at their eventual destination, Mrs. Hoshour pointed out.

Fourth of a series

## IPC board investigates job fields

By Hal Bergen

Individual initiative has been the keynote of this present placement series. The theme hammered at has been that the individual must exploit all the resources available if he is to maximize benefits from the placement program. This becomes more important as resources tend to dry up.

But is there not some way of replenishing the dwindling job prospects? Can't anything be done to bring to Illinois Tech new job opportunities to replace those which have become filled? The answer is a definite, "Yes!" The organization giving the answer is the Placement Advisory board.

This board has been created just this semester within the framework of the Inter-Professional council. The council is made up of the presidents of all campus professional societies, the very societies which have a most direct interest in the placement problem.

The inspiration for the Placement Advisory board came from several student leaders. They theorized that if Illinois Tech were made known to more industrial firms, more of them would come

to IIT to hire engineers. Thus the objectives of the board were clearly set—get local industry familiar with the personnel resources available at IIT.

The method by which this is accomplished is most direct. The Board itself is made up of seniors appointed by their respective societies. In co-operation with Harold L. Minkler, director of placement, the Board assembles teams of three seniors from different departments who then go out and interview prospective employers.

The teams' aim is not to sell themselves to these firms. Their purpose is to sell Illinois Tech. If they can convince an employer that he might do well to interview on IIT's campus, their mission is considered successful.

The measure of success is then determined by how many firms do come to Illinois Tech as a result of the Placement Advisory board team visit. Since this is the first semester this program has been attempted, its results are not to be evaluated yet, but only after a few years have elapsed can its full value be appraised. The principal prospects lie with the smaller firms which do not yet realize the advantage of hiring a college-trained engineer.

The teams thus far organized have met with great success. Those in industry who have been contacted have wholeheartedly endorsed the program and, as a result, think of Illinois Tech in the highest terms. This, then, is how job opportunities for every Techawk are being expanded. The Placement Advisory board is acting in the interest of everyone on this campus. That was its founding purpose and is now its operating ideal. Future articles in this series will deal with industry's reactions in more detail.

## ITSA lists 'Who's Who' committee

A program for the selection of nominees for "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities" was laid out by the ITSA board of control Wednesday. The directions were handed down to a special committee, appointed by Jim Gaffney, ITSA president, for immediate action.

Substance of the ITSA policy is: 1) Only 7th and 8th semester students will be eligible, 2) men on probation are ineligible, 3) previous nominees will not be reconsidered, and 4) preliminary screening will be made on the basis of the dean of students' activity cards mainly but final selection will be based on up to date activity lists submitted by the candidates.

The preliminary candidates have been notified and requested to submit activity lists to the dean of students office by Tuesday. Any 7th or 8th term, not on probation, can however be placed in consideration merely by having an activity list turned in.

Illinois Tech is allotted 24 nominations for "Who's Who." The nominee acquires no obligation by being selected, according to Dean Deakins, member of the special committee. The other members are Fred Travis, John Makielski, Bernard Weissman, and two student members, Lee Jacobson and Joe Bass.

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FOUND—slide rule in NU, Monday, October 31. For information see Frank Janik, ME major; Hillside 1408-R.

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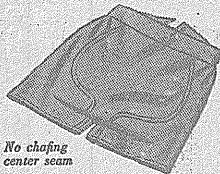
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