

# TECHNOLOGY NEWS

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## Lack of coal causes no cold here— IIT converts to oil, saves electricity

Coal-crises vacations, such as last Saturday's, were ruled out for the remainder of the shortage by the announcement Monday from Walter Parduhn, superintendent of buildings and grounds, that Illinois Tech's heating system has been converted to oil.

The converting process was responsible for the hastily-called recess. Engineers worked day and night Saturday and Sunday remodeling a coal boiler in the old main building heating plant. Completion of the job brought the number of oil furnaces to two, since one oil burner has always been in operation.

Delay of coal deliveries because of previous days' snows brought Illinois Tech a perilous three hours from shutdown. The school had been receiving 150-200-ton hand-to-mouth deliveries during the emergency.

Emergency coal-saving measures instituted prior to the conversion called for shutting off the boilers from 1 p.m. to 5 a.m. and maintaining lower room temperatures. The measures were reportedly causing some inconvenience to dormitory students.

A high grade of coal, which is twice as expensive as the low grade normally used, has been the only type available during the shortage. The higher heating costs have added to the larger difficulty of obtaining an adequate daily supply of fuel.

The shortage has delayed use of the new heating plant, idle since completion for want of coal. As soon as conditions permit the building up of a stockpile, the long-awaited plant will be pressed into service.

The general city-wide dimout has been felt at Illinois Tech as instructors are cooperating with a school order to shut off unnecessary lights and conserve electricity in all possible ways.



IIT COAL STOCKPILE at power plant was bolstered by a bushel delivery of the local merchant pictured here.

## Tech elects pair of year this month

In a very few weeks the IIT student body will elect its man and woman of the year, and this couple will be installed as king and queen of Junior Week at the opening of the event. The campus-wide election will be held on or about March 16, but the ballots will be counted in secret by the ITSA election commission and results will not be released until Junior Week in May.

Nominations are now being solicited among student groups. These will be screened for a final selection of candidates of each sex by the election commission. This entirely student handled affair is to be conducted by the election commission.

## Design Institute elects Lewis Hill to presidency

After a quiet pre-election period, the student body of the Institute of Design elected Lewis Hill president.

In a tight contest, hill edged out his opponent, Al Kaplan, by twelve votes.

For the vice-presidency rocco smith defeated lynn montgomery. Treasurer bob saichek beat rita guff, and sophie schwender captured the office of secretary from bob jones. A total of 296 votes and 45 abstentions were tallied.

(The winning candidates, members of the "Liberal" party, insisted that their names appear on the ballot in lower-case type.)

Lester Laskey, retiring president, declined to run for re-election. It was during Laskey's term in office that the school merger occurred. The many complications arising from the merger were handled by Laskey and his fellow officers.

Hill released the following statement, reflecting the attitude of the new Institute of Design officers:

"We will endeavor to develop the Institute of Design student government to the fullest, as a semi-dependent organization under ITSA. With this in mind we hope to have a program for the coming semester that will be of benefit to the entire student body—not only socially but educationally as well."

## Concerts big hit; students gather to hear classics

People who like good music are gathering every Thursday at 1 p.m. in 131MC to listen to the record concerts sponsored by the English department. Messrs. Stevenson, Hixon and Knepler are handling these concerts, which were inaugurated this semester by popular demand.

The music is primarily in the classical and semi-classical vein. This week's program features Petrouchka and a selection of ballet music. Next week's program will be devoted entirely to songs from the stage hit, "South Pacific."

## Managers sought for Junior Week

"Technology Center on Review" will be the theme for 1950's Junior Week-Open House activities.

H. C. Spencer, general chairman, and Lee Richards, general student chairman, announced the decision of the central planning committee for the affair this week.

Selection of the theme clears the way for work to begin on staging the Junior Week and Open House activities. Marty Hoeffl, student chairman of Junior Week, and George Aravosis, student chairman of Open House, report that despite the setting back of the Junior Week date two weeks to May 5, 6 and 7, behind the scenes activity is gaining momentum. Volunteers are now needed to plan and run such diverse Junior Week activities as interclass athletics, the baby contest, the barber-shop quartet, the turtle race and the fashion show. Application for positions can be made in writing through IIT mail box 197 in the NU lobby postoffice.

The Open House phase of the annual spring holiday is also swinging into action. Department heads have been alerted to appoint faculty and student chairmen and start work on organizing their exhibits. Descriptions of exhibits and requests for space must be returned to John J. Ahern before March 15.

Evaluation of the exhibits will be conducted again this year on the basis of attractiveness, originality, effectiveness and degree of student participation, and the winning department will be awarded a plaque. Second and third place awards are also given. The appearance, competence and showmanship of student exhibitors will be stressed in the competition.

Campus publicity operations are already under way as Richards and Hoeffl met with Mel Friedlander and Dave Miller of Technology News.

Plans were drafted for a four-page Junior Week special edition similar to the one inaugurated last year by Dave Pasik, then editor-in-chief.

## Wardell named social committee co-chairman

Richard Wardell, fourth term MetE, was appointed co-chairman of the social committee by the ITSA Feb. 15. The committee, composed of the social chairman of each class, was recently created to control social activities of classes and ITSA-dependent organizations. Don Lynch is the other chairman.

The major job of the committee will be the running of two or three off-school dances per year, which are to be held jointly by all the classes. Profits or losses are to be shared pro-rata among the classes. Two of the possible three off-school dances are the Junior Prom and the Integral Ball.

Campus dances and all other all-school activities must be registered and okayed by the social committee. The committee will do the scheduling so as to prevent activities from interfering with each other.

## 'Farewell' a sellout; payment deadline set

A limited number of extra bids will be put on sale Monday for the Senior Farewell at Tam O'Shanter Country club. A sellout of 200 bids occurred so far.

The committee, beleaguered by disappointed ticket-seekers, engaged the upstairs ballroom and bar of the Tam, thereby providing accommodations for 50 additional couples.

Going ahead with plans for the dance, the committee decided thumbs down on reserved tables, with the explanation that they cut down the party-like spirit. Del Reno's orchestra, which performed at the Winter Whirl of December 16, has been engaged to play until 12:30 a.m. After that "Musak" (canned music) will take over until

## Popular prof Meister new physics fellow

When Arnold G. Meister, assistant professor of physics, was recently elected a fellow of the American Physics Society, it was a case of a home town boy making good. Chicago-born, he attended Central YMCA College. Upon receiving his bachelor of science degree there, he came to IIT in 1942 as an instructor in physics, meanwhile doing graduate work. He received his Ph.D. in 1948.

Although he is not too well known among lower termers, due to the subjects he teaches, his reputation with upperclassmen is one of the best. He is well known for his thorough preparation of lectures and his habit of avoiding long derivations, that common nightmare of all Tech-hawks.



MEISTER

Dr. Meister has two major pre-occupations besides his teaching: his family and a mysterious something known as "Vibrational Spectra." It was his work in the latter, incidentally, which was responsible for his election into the aforementioned American Physics Society.

According to Dr. Thompson, chairman of the physics department, the society is the principal organization of physicists in the country, and membership therein is considered quite an honor.

Dr. Meister's work in "Vibrational Spectra" is purely theoretical, and consists of a study of molecules under certain conditions. Complicated as it may be, though, you will find Dr. Meister ready to discuss it at the drop of a hat. But heed this warning: Unless you are a senior, majoring in physics, it will be as Greek to you as the Phoenician alphabet.



OLD MASTER PAINTER Nate Mann tests a color to replace garish pink on columns decorating new ticket booth in North Student Union.

## It's a lovely pink, really

By Don Carlson

Much controversy has arisen since the construction of the modernistic sales booth in NU. Certain members of the student administration do not seem to appreciate the artist's value of having the poles of the booth painted pink. Other members of the student administration claim that the color "grows" on them and, therefore, want it to remain.

John Christian, designer of the

structure, receives the credit for the color combination. His selection of the pink color may suggest that his major, fire protection engineering, has had a profound effect on him. He states that an alternate use of the booth would be to use it at dances for a coke bar. In this capacity, however, a brass rail would help considerably.

Could this innovation of pink posts and other artistic improvements have been the influence of the Institute of Design?