



HISTORY OF THE SENATE



AFTER the enthusiasm, due to the opening of an institution of learning such as the Armour Institute, had practically subsided, after instructors had been met, books procured, and the general newness of things had worn off, it occurred to some of the students that the formation of a debating society was the next thing in order. Accordingly word was passed to a few who were similarly inclined, and a meeting was called. From this meeting dates the acquaintance of many of the men who laid the foundation of what is now known as "The Senate Society of Armour Institute of Technology."

The object of the Senate, as stated in the Constitution, is to "study the Arts and Sciences, to debate, and to advance the social welfare of its members."

The charter members were as follows:

Messrs. W. S. Ferris, W. T. Apmadoc, A. R. Shannon, J. R. Hauch, R. N. Stewart, W. J. Gordon, H. H. Barclay, W. H. Fiendt, Jr., J. W. O'Leary, and C. L. Tarbell.

All male members of Armour Institute of Technology are eligible to membership, but it was thought best to limit the number of active members to twenty-five, in order that each man might take part in the literary program as often as possible and consequently acquire the ability of addressing an audience.

Notes are not allowed to speakers without special consent from the Literary Committee. This is seldom sought, however, since the members appreciate the value of being able to follow their subject unhampered by papers, and are eager to avail themselves of the advantages which the programs and open meetings offer to them. Members are called upon frequently by the chair to speak extemporaneously upon miscellaneous subjects; also after every vacation each member gives the society an account of what he has seen during that time.

The new organization started into work as unconscious of the pitfalls of parliamentary law as though "Roberts' Rules of Order" had never seen the light, but one day a certain malicious member found the volume, and for no other reason than to see the "chair in doubt," brought up a motion whose order of precedence none but himself could tell. The excitement was intense! Pandemonium reigned, and the air was full of question marks and tooth picks! From whence comes this being, and continuing thus, where shall he end? (Loud cries of vengeance.) Shall we be run to death by being compelled to follow at the