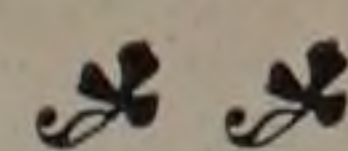
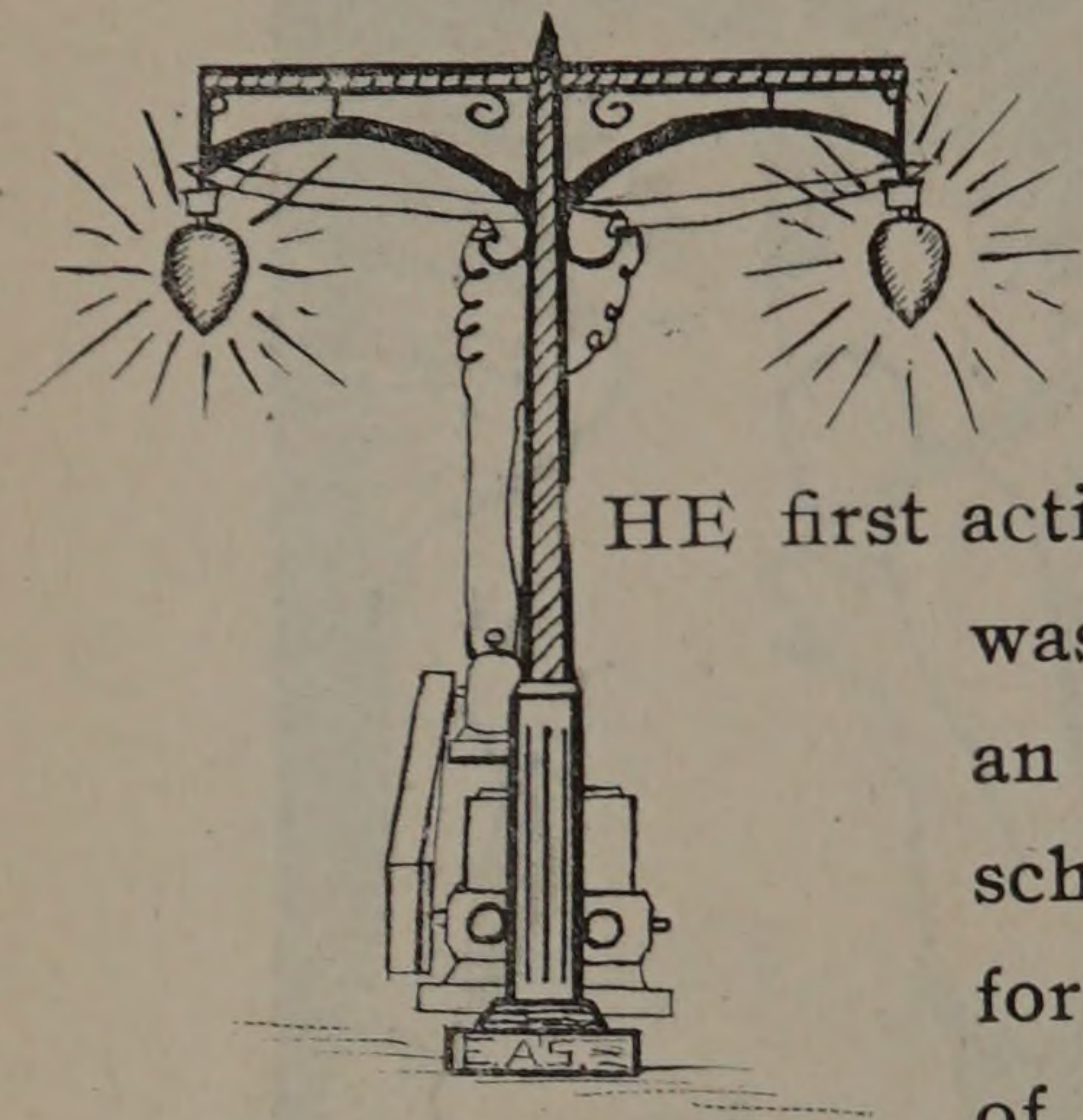


The Technical Society



THE first action toward the formation of a purely Scientific Society in the Institute was in the Fall of 1893. At that time Mr. Rice conceived the idea that an association of students, selected from those most interested in their school work, would be beneficial to its members. The aim was to form a company of students who would be willing to devote some portion of their time and energy to the study of subjects closely related to those under discussion in class-room and laboratory. This society was to be auxiliary to the regular school work and was to supplement and add interest to that work in any manner that seemed feasible. By a free discussion of school-room topics and related subjects it was thought that considerable interest might be aroused which would stimulate to greater efforts.

Such a plan was outlined and presented to the Dean of the Faculty, by whom it was received kindly and given careful attention. A quiet canvass was made of the College Freshman class—which at that time comprised all the College students—and the general sentiment was greatly in favor of such an organization, but a feeling was shown that its maintenance would require more time than was then at their disposal. The class, owing to unavoidable circumstances, had very heavy and unusual demands made upon it, and rather than invite failure to the organization it was decided to postpone action and await a more favorable opportunity.

About a year later—sometime in the winter of 1894-1895—Messrs. Manlove, Humiston and Wilhoit thought the time auspicious for the inauguration of the society and took the first steps toward that end. These worthy gentlemen were so thoroughly imbued with a sense of humility that they concluded it would be presumptuous for mere Freshmen to undertake the task unaided by the superior experience and wisdom of the Sophomores. So Messrs. Sheibley and Rice were consulted and asked to take the lead and add the power of their sophomoric position to the cause. These four gentlemen were thus banded together as a self-constituted committee to perfect the organization.

The two college classes were canvassed to ascertain the general attitude on the subject, and, as a result, the committee invited a certain number from each class to attend a mass meeting and there form an organization. Those chosen at this time were selected because of the interest shown and because they could give promise of hearty support. This first meeting was held on March 19, 1895, and Mr. Rice was elected Chairman, to act until the organization was perfected. A committee consisting of Messrs. Freeman, Sheibley, Neilson, Humiston and Carpenter was appointed to draught the constitution and by-laws. This Committee acted with great care and deliberation, and on May 17th, presented its report. At a meeting held May 27th, the constitution and by-laws were adopted in their entirety and the constitution signed by all present. Twenty charter members were taken, twelve from the Sophomore class and eight from the Freshman class. The election of officers was then held and the society was adjourned to hold its first regular session in the Fall term of the following school year.