

First Annual Freshman Handshake

The first annual Freshman Handshake was in the form of a smoker held on October 5, 1900, at America Hall, and was attended by every man in the College and a lot of jolly good fellows whom the year book labels as Profs. When the room had been properly filled with smoke, Dean Alderson welcomed the new Freshman class to Armour Institute in a short address. A piano solo by Bogle followed, and Wilson responded to Prof. Alderson's speech in behalf of the Freshmen. The next speaker was "High Pressure" Miller, who arose amid the cheers of the unsuspecting Freshmen. In a lot of well chosen words he gave the new class much good advice, telling them what warm members the Juniors had been when they were Sophomores, and promised his personal protection to '04 if the present Sophs should ever molest them.

More speeches were made and some first rate stories were told by the various members of the faculty; Taussig rendered a violin solo, accompanied by McArthur on the music rack; Reiniger and Henderson played a reminiscence-laden oriental air on the guitar and mandolin before supper was announced. The banquet room was too small for the entire crowd so a portion picknicked in an adjoining room.

The next features were a series of three-round "goes" between Byrne and Fairweather, Sherman and Rue, and Brown and Larkin. The first two battles were certainly fought with tremendous vigor and science, but they were as nothing compared to the third. The combatants were truly athirst for each other's gore and could not seem to get close enough to each other. This "heavyweight" sparring match was more like a wrestling bout than anything else.

These matches concluded the evening fun, and the fellows went peaceably home, merely making a friendly call or two on the way. Doctor Gunsaulus was visited and then a few arguments made against "midnight closing." This was all that happened—newspapers to the contrary notwithstanding. The smoker had been a great success, and everybody had enjoyed themselves. From the enthusiasm displayed by the Freshmen we may be sure that the Handshake will be continued from year to year, and that the title "Annual" has not been bestowed in vain.