



WILLIAM ROBERT SWANSON

Thesis: *Effect of Frost on Concrete.*

Glee Club (3), (4)

Though the family Bible tells us that he first appeared on May 14, 1890, it was not until 1908 that he came to the Tech. His aristocratic handle, "W. Robert" with the surname Swanson tell us that he is of that Viking stock, bred in Sweden. His credentials show that he was graduated from the R. T. Crane High School in 1908.

If you could see the innocent pained look in Swanson's eye when some poor fellow is made the butt of an excellent joke, you would never think to accuse him of being the instigator of the same. But "still water runs deep" and it's usually Swanson's feet that scrape restlessly on the floor when some versatile class mate is trying to fool the professor into thinking that he has studied that day's lesson.

He is certainly faithful, having reported for Glee Club practice the second year. At the summer camp in 1911 he obtained considerable notoriety as one of the lady barbers, and also for his good work in organizing the "Burnt Rod Club." Swanson's real art, however, is starting an argument, while in the Civil draughting room, with a man down in State Street and pretending all the time that he is conversing with you. The immediate result is that when an instructor asks that the disturbance be taken outside, Swanson cheerfully grins and leaves his friend to hold the bag.

He has been working with Oehne and Malzen on thesis work to determine the effect of frost on concrete. His chief duty has been to give notice of the enemy's approach and as the cement lab. door creaks he shouts "shovel." Immediately everybody starts to do something and, as Mr. Dean steps into the laboratory, he beholds Swanson wildly shoveling, Oehne mixing, and Malzen pouring concrete into moulds. But with all that, Swanson is a good, hardworking fellow, who will not be left at the post and whom we are glad to call our friend.