

The Freshman Handshake

On the evening of the 27th of September, two hundred of the liveliest men of the Institute celebrated the entrance of the Class of 1916 into the domain of Armour good-fellowship. The celebration took place at the Institute Lunch-Room; and not only were the Freshmen decidedly in evidence, but the upper classmen set a precedent by attending in goodly numbers. The affair was engineered by a Y. M. C. A. committee as usual, and great credit is due for putting through the best Handshake in years.

Popular melodies started the festivities, and these were intermingled with much good-natured banter between "Frosh" and "Soph." All this only paved the way for some splendid "Arch-Mechs" just before the program was announced.



Prof. Smith, of the Mechanical Dept., opened the program and drew down showers of applause by singing to his own accompaniment a number of humorous little ballads in dialect. He was called back until his supply of songs was well nigh exhausted, and he was given time to think of more while the program was continued. Prof. Wilcox, head of the Physics Dept., addressed the men on the local Y. M. C. A. He spoke briefly of the place it fills in Armour life, of the opportunity it now affords its members since the acquisition of the Chapin Hall rooms, and the lines along which the Y. M. C. A. men are at present working. He prefaced his remarks with a hearty welcome to the Class of 1916. The Seniors were well represented during the evening in the piano numbers of Mr. Munn. Following these Mr. McMullen, of the Chemical Dept., explained some of the fundamental ideas of the Tau Beta Pi scholastic fraternity, as is the usual custom at the Handshake.

The bread-line formed at 9:30, and Prof. Wilcox demanded that the yearlings be fed first. And therefore they were. Owing to the late arrival of one of the members, the Institute Quartette did not sing until after the refreshments had been served. Although unable to reproduce "Soothing Syrup" for the benefit of '16, they did respond with an appropriate song for the Freshmen.

The Fraternities entertained with smokers immediately following the Handshake.