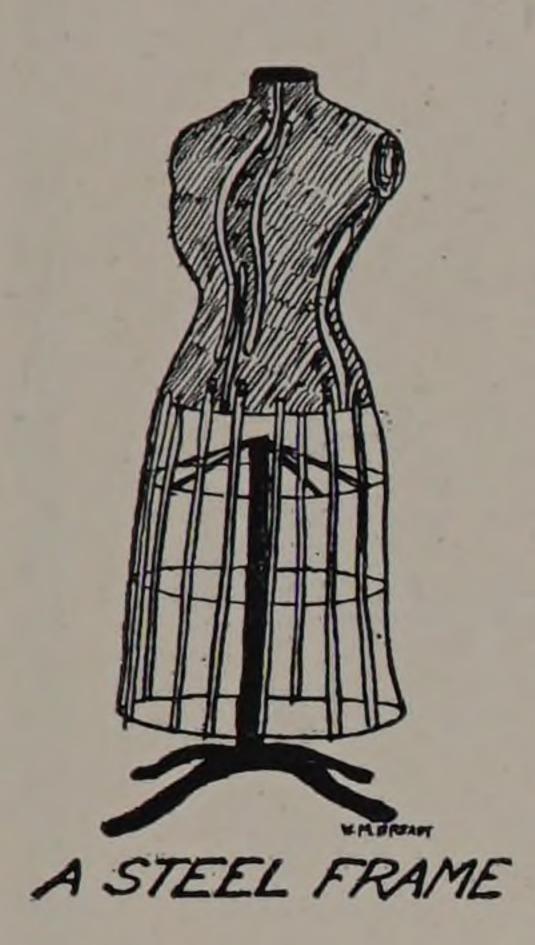


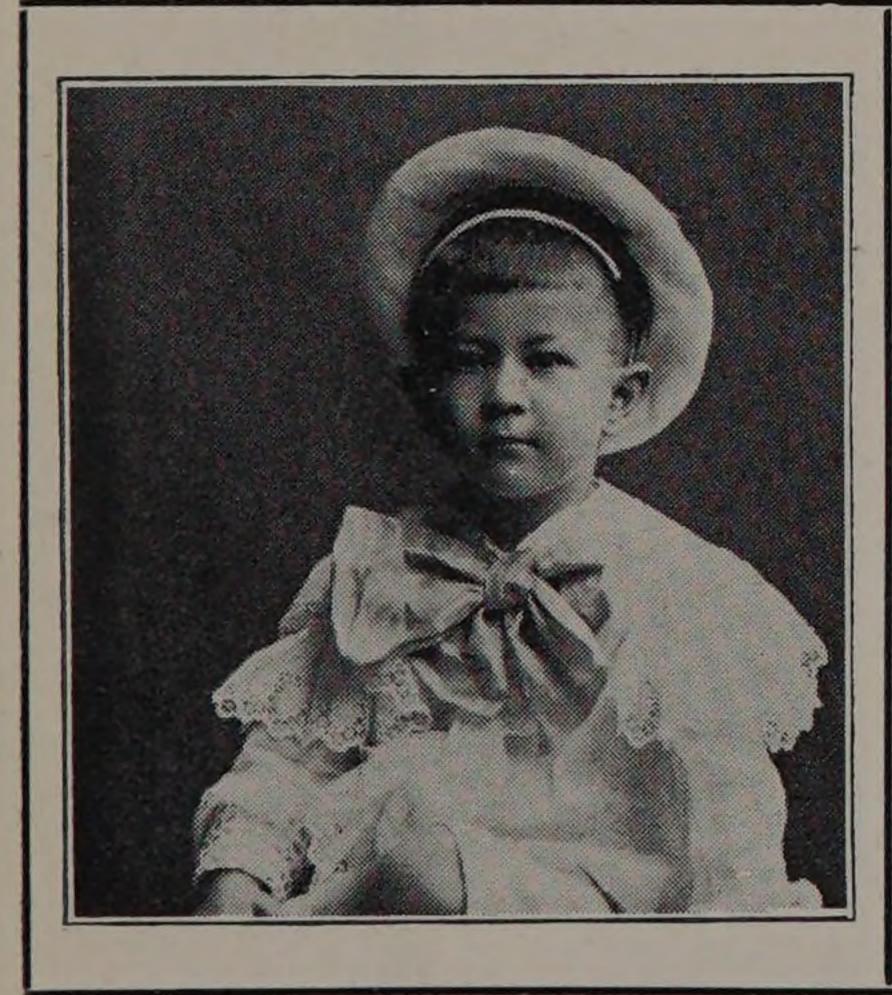
RAT TRAPS

ENGINE PART NO.1.

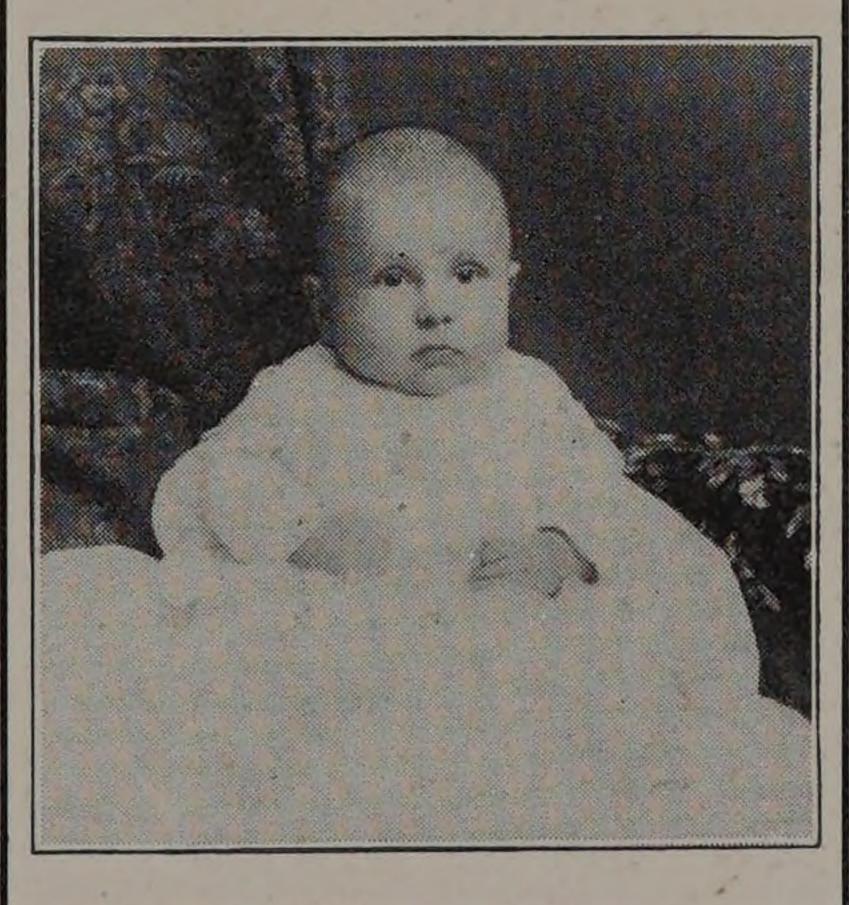


For brilliancy of design, quantity of ouput and uselessness of invention, American inventors lead the world. Take, for instance, rat traps. Four weeks ago, the Assistant Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, in an unguarded moment, announced that he was searching for a new kind of rat trap to be adopted as an official trap, in its war against bubonic plague. As a result he now has 75 models for rat traps, together with about 50 drawings and suggestions for traps. One of the inventions is a box trap lined with mirrors. The rat is supposed to be attracted within by his own reflection and to wander about twirling his mustache until he encounters a spring which releases a door and shuts him A STEEL FRAME in. A simpler invention is the sneeze trap. This consists of a pasteboard tube lined with cotton batting. Cayenne pepper

and snuff is sprinkled over the cotton and the tube placed over the rat hole. The inventor predicted that the rat would poke his head out of the hole, take a sniff and then sneeze himself to death. Another invention consisted of an iron pot with a rock placed in the middle. The pot was to be filled with water until the top of the rock looked like an island. A piece of cheese was then to be floated on the water, with the idea that the rat would jump for it, fall into the water and then climb upon the island. After this he would yell for help and all of his relatives would rush for assistance, jump overboard, and then kill one another fighting for a foothold on the rock. Still another inventor suggested the bran pail trap. In this, the surface of the pail of water was covered with bran, and board covered with bran was placed as a runway to the edge of the pail. The inventor predicted that the rat would eat his way to the edge of the water and then seeing what he thought was a sea of bran would plunge in head foremost, thus ending his romantic career. The simplest suggestion of all, and one which probably came from the keeper of a boarding house was to feed the rats on fried granulated cork after which they would lose their interest in mundane affairs, and would die of indigestion.







This space reserved for Miesse; he always will be a baby.

Freshman Class Officers