"Tech Days"

On Wednesday evening, May 3, 1916, at the Central Music Hall was given the annual Junior Play, called "Tech Days," before a packed house. This play was a wonderful success, as evidenced by the appreciation shown by the audience, but more than that was a distinct innovation at old Armour. It was "Tech Days," a play dealing with Armour life, with its athletics, its college spirit, its humor, and its ideals and withal so full of familiar locations and "Armour pep" besides innumerable college songs, that it simply carried the audience "off its feet," and gave to them the most enjoyable Junior Play they had ever seen.

"Tech Days" was arranged by our Second Marshal, Robert F. Schreiner who also wrote the songs heard during the play, and more than that sang three of them himself. The play itself dealt with the Armour Track Team and their meet with Lake Forest College.

Harold G. Ingraham, as Joe Thompson, Captain of the Armour Track Team, was at his best in this part and that means he was good. (Oh, you Bert Williams)

John W. Tierney, as Bob Turner, star dash man, was the sensation of the evening as an actor, and we all know him as a real sensation in the track. The fact that Jack's part seemed so natural to all, made the play all the more realistic.

Leonard E. Starkel and Melverne C. Cole took the parts of Captain Joe's friends to perfection and handled themselves so easily and well that they seemed professional actors.

Mr. James D. Harvey, as Jack Dudley, a fussy freshman was a distinct favorite and some song bird.

Abe J. Plocinsky and Louis E. Given as Assistant Professor Meanwell and Mrs. Fairfax respectively handled these difficult character parts magnificently and their success was evident from the appreciation received from our fathers and mothers at the play.

Now, for the best part of all! The Girls! And such girls! The most beautiful girls who ever attended Armour Institute! Fact—!

Olof E. Andren, as Alice Fairfax, set all the manly hearts aflutter with his delicate voice and figure, his high heel shoes and evening costume. It was a shame to remove his wig at the end of the play. He was that good in his part, he should have kept it.

Harold A. Kleinman, as Helen Mansfield, the heroine, was a real heroine and was so bewitching the hero almost forgot some of his lines during the play.

Arnold H. Smith, Harry M. Goodman and Stuart R. Evans all took their parts well. The telephone conversation of the latter gentleman, or lady, I should say, was a great hit.

The rest of the parts were all taken with a vim and pep that characterized the whole play, and every participant was deserving of praise as well as thanks for his sacrifice of time and effort to make the play a possibility and success.

The big act was the third. The scene was the dressing room of the Armour Team during the big meet.

The atmosphere was one of sustained and strained nervous tension, amidst the pistol shots and first and last calls, the exhortations of "Long John Hommer"