

The Freshman Handshake

"A friend in need is a friend indeed" and the Y. M. C. A. assumes the part of just such a friend to the new arrivals each year. The Freshman spends his first day at Armour by making a personal acquaintance with the dignitaries of the registrar's, deans' and comptrollers' offices, in presenting the necessary credentials regarding scholastic and financial standing. He is then scheduled to grope about helplessly among the faculty (his natural enemies) and the upper classmen, whose particular duty, according to tradition, is to "get him". And here our hero the "Y. M." steps in, and at the earliest convenient date, almost before classes are well under way, the annual freshmen Handshake is held, and the stranger is given to understand that he is one of us.

The Handshake this year, held September 20th, was attended by about one hundred loyal and enthusiastic Armourites. The program was especially enjoyable. It consisted of a talk on "Patriotism" by President Gunsaulus; an analysis of what the Association stands for, by Professor Wilcox; and music by the Armour Institute quartet. H. W. Puschel, President of the Association, gave a short talk on the Association from the student's standpoint, and H.H. Shotwell, following a custom long established and perpetuated by Professor Penn, told the freshmen of the significance of Tau Beta Pi. The program was supplemented by informal basket ball, billiards and other indoor games; swimming, music, refreshments; and many a yarn and quip well told.

The Handshake is the one event of the year where the entire student body has an opportunity to get together for a good sociable time. The main purpose of the event is to give the freshmen an opportunity to gain the acquaintance of the upper classmen; and as the management of the Hyde Park Y. M. C. A. always graciously donates the use of the club rooms for the occasion, it gives the boys an opportunity to see what are the advantages, moral, physical and social, of membership in the Y. M. C. A.