





O. Gordon Erickson Director of the Musical Clubs

ARMOUR TECH MUSICAL CLUBS

Since its organization in 1922, the Armour Tech Musical Clubs have continually been growing until they are the largest single activity group at Armour, the total enrollment being one-sixth of the entire student body.

The activities of this organization have come to be an integral part of life at Armour. The traditional Christmas concert was, as usual, attended by a highly appreciative audience of faculty and students. The spring concert, combined with the Interfraternity Sing, is expected to draw a similar audience.

But the most important effect of the Musical Clubs is not upon the student body nor upon other audiences, but upon the members of the group themselves. For here is the opportunity for the members to get away from and forget the humdrum, routine, grinding work of the technical course, and here is their opportunity to enjoy their own talents through musical expression.

In addition to the purely musical benefits, the men are thrown into weekly contact with a congenial group which they, themselves, must organize and manage. The social training obtained from cooperating to achieve a common goal is of great value to any young man.

This year, through the able direction of Mr. Erickson, the management of President Ormsby, and the hearty support of the student body, faculty, and alumni, the Musical Club presented its first public concert downtown. Presented at the Goodman Theater under the sponsorship of the Faculty Women's Club, this was probably the most successful engagement the group has had. The popularity and success of the concert promises to make it an annual affair.

Because of the success of this and other concerts, it has been possible to plan two outof-town trips, one to include Racine, Kenosha, and Milwaukee, and the other to Kankakee. Thus, added to the enjoyment of creative effort, will be the companionship of a large group of young men travelling out of town.

Of the engagements away from school, the concert-and-dance type, held in conjunction with a girls' school or similar group, has proved to be very popular. This year, three were planned, one at the McCormick Y. W. C. A., one at the Belmont Hotel with the Pestalozzi-Froebel Teachers' College, and one at the National College of Education. The National College of Education affair especially is proving to be a perennial favorite among the fellows. In addition to these, the annual smoker is being replaced this year by a concert and teadance at the Shawnee Country Club in Wilmette. Here the members will have the opportunity to entertain their own guests in the midst of beautiful surroundings.

The other concerts given were before the luncheon meetings of the Rotary, Kiwanis, and Executive Clubs and the regular spring and fall meetings of the Armour Alumni Association. These groups have always been very appreciative of the efforts of our organization.

At the close of what has probably been our most successful year, we look forward to even better times. The presentation of the first public concert and the planning of the first out-of-town trip are expected to increase the popularity of the Musical Club among the Armour student body, so that a better group will be available.