

The Tech

Vol. LXVII

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No. 34

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A PLEA FOR MENTAL ACTION

One of the primary reasons why God endowed us with brains was presumably in order to allow us to think. Yet on close analysis, it becomes apparent that to most people the brain has degenerated to an organ that merely acts to coordinate the body, to transform into action routine decisions of all kinds, and to act as an immense storeroom for already determined courses of action when situations of a repetitive nature present themselves. Real thinking, for which the human brain is eminently well equipped, is largely dispensed with for lack of time, interest, and intellectual stimulation.

However, most persons have to have opinions. If they don't, they are classed as dolts or nit-wits and are accused of being wishy-washy. Being unwilling to think matters out for oneself, then, it becomes of importance to acquire an opinion somewhere to palm off as your own.

This fact has been fully taken advantage of by many of the modern vehicles of propaganda. Knowing that people are generally too lazy to interpret the day's events as the latter affect great issues and fundamental principles, the commentators, the feature writers, and the editorialists are only too glad to explain what, as far as they can see, really happened and what issues are really at stake. They know that what they say is almost taken for granted; in fact, that most of their audience, with little time or intellectual initiative, will eventually, hear or read only that interpretation of the news which will leave more time for the sports and comic sections.

This would not even be so bad if we could be sure that the analysts or "thinkers for the masses" were fair in their views and interpretations. But this is not so, and we all know it. Pressure groups have at all times been able to gain control over newspapers, radio broadcasts, and motion picture facilities and have subtly or bluntly been able to exert influence on public opinion. With the setup described above this has really been ridiculously easy.

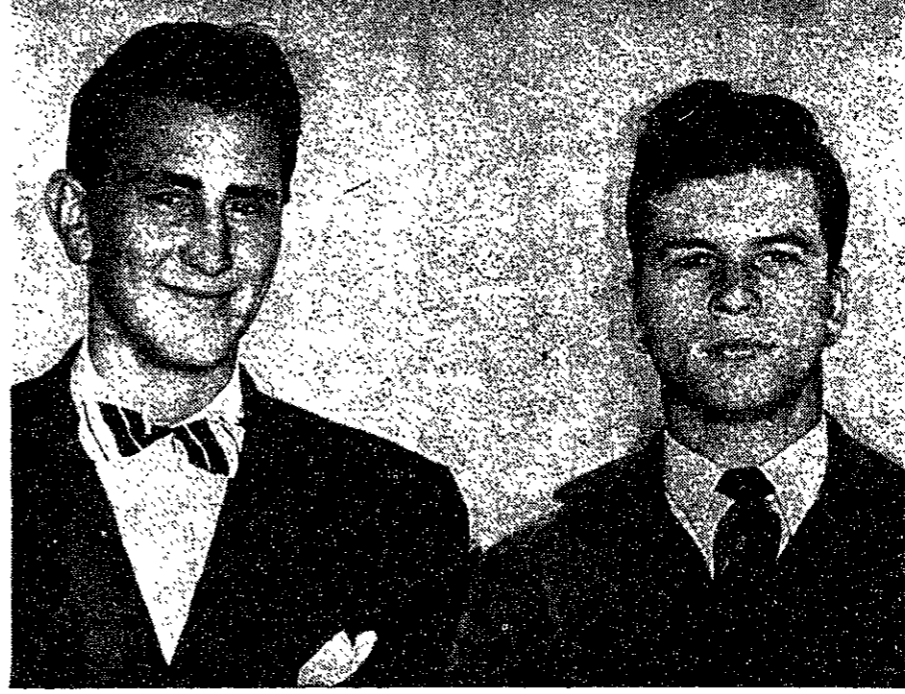
Is there a justification, then, for editorial comment of any nature? In the light of what we said before the answer should probably be "no." But we did not give the whole story. Opinionated expression does serve a purpose, for it at least points a somewhat warped finger at the important issues. Look at it this way: If someone wants you to think one way, there's good reason for you to sit down and think the matter over by yourself. Maybe you'll arrive at the opposite conclusion.

In commenting on the news that has happened around the Institute and on the outside, *The Tech* has followed along with this line of argument. We have not been wishy-washy, we have had opinions. They have been our own. They have been read and have evoked comment. We hope that they have set people thinking.

**A Very Merry Christmas
 and a Happy New Year
 to all our Friends at Tech**

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BROCK AND ZIMMERMAN



Shown here are the co-chairmen of the Open House Committee. Recently John R. Kirkpatrick, '48, has been appointed secretary-treasurer of the committee and a member of its Executive Committee.

2 Students Study Effects of Alcohol; End Up Under Table

In true Technology spirit, two dorm students drank themselves under the table here last Saturday night the scientific way: they took notes as they progressed, and made their observations in a way that any professor could well be proud of. The drinking started at 7:30, and stopped somewhere around midnight. It is understood that the Nobel Foundation may award these two gentlemen a prize for this piece of research on the effects of liquor on the human brain. At any rate, now it is possible to tell how far gone you are.

The original plan of these two men of science was to take one shot of whiskey every half hour. However, these shots were at times doubled, and the time intervals are slightly doubtful, since at about 12:00 p.m., according to the notes taken, an entry reading approximately: "Tired—think I'll turn in" is to be observed. However, the next entry, saying that he turned in, has 9:20 as its time.

In keeping with the scientific attitude, the experimenters drew a square with its two diagonals after each drink. As the evening progressed, the squares approached rhombuses more and more. An attempt should be made to derive a formula for drunkenness based on the formulae of these figures. This formula would undoubtedly be of much value to police, watchmen, etc. Alcohol also has an effect on arithmetical ability, it seems. While "under the influence," one of the brave experimenters made an attempt to multiply two numbers together. When he recovered in the morning, he found he had been unable to even get the first line right, much less add the columns. They report, therefore, that no math. exams should be given after weekends.

About the most interesting effect was to be observed the morning after. Through some oversight, one drink was left in the bottle. A neighbor of one of these men, seeing no reason for good C₂H₅OH to go to waste, took a good swig. The effect on the experimenter was instantaneous—he made a bee-line for the sink, and relieved himself.

erett M. Baker, Dean of Students, to see what his attitude was on the cooperation of Radcliffe and Technology in the matter of libraries. He was all for it, his only regret being that Technology's new library was not ready for its fair guests. About the idea, he said, "It would be very pleasant to have Radcliffe girls among us."

Dr. Vernon D. Tate, Librarian of the Institute, could not be reached for comment. His office said that he was going to Harvard on Wednesday afternoon. *The Tech* could not, however, ascertain if his visit had anything to do with its invitation to Radcliffe.

Typical Technology co-ed Anne Rosie, when asked her opinion of the situation, said, "I don't think Radcliffe women should be able to use our libraries. It's up to Harvard, not to Tech, to give them libraries."

Lest her attitude be misconstrued, Anne added, "I'm not bitter. A lot of my friends go to Radcliffe." Her opinion, however, does not seem to coincide with that of male Techmen, most of whom appear anxious to have the fair 'Cliffe-dwellers join our ranks.

Filene's Mr. Segel Speaks to MITMA

Samuel M. Segel, '22, vice president and assistant general manager of Filene's, had much to say about Tech's course XV to the meeting of the Management Association on Wednesday. According to Mr. Segel, the Institute has been neglecting the most important aspects of selling today, which he stated was the third largest industry in the United States.

"The practice at M.I.T.," said Mr. Segel, "is to overstress the production of goods, and pay not nearly enough attention to their marketing." He went on to state that although many Technology men eventually end up in distribution, they find themselves very ill prepared for it. "The Institute," he continued, "should have a full course in distribution. The opportunities for the analytical type of mind which M.I.T. produces would be unbelievable if coupled with proper training."

N. S. A.

(Continued from Page 1)

Beecher declared that the foreign students are to be admitted on a basis of scholarship and leadership. However, student leadership is to be preferred to student genius, since it is hoped that the students will extend their knowledge gained in this country to others of their native lands. The ability to speak English will be required of all students coming to the Institute under the FSSP.

Advisory Board

(Continued from Page 1)

In a letter to each member of the board, President Karl T. Compton expressed his appreciation for their willingness to serve and outlined their duties. The appointment of Mr. Geiger as Director of Athletics, he pointed out, will permit the board to give the maximum amount of time to matters of policy.

The major functions of the new board will be to formulate policies to insure the most effective athletic program for the Institute's student body and to act in an advisory capacity to the president's office and to the student management in matters affecting intercollegiate sports. The new board is expected to abide by the traditional Institute philosophy of encouragement of the maximum possible freedom of students in the management of their own affairs through their own system of student government.

The board will act with power in the awarding of athletic letters and other awards and in the determination of eligibility to compete in intercollegiate sports. The athletic coaches will be responsible to the Director of Athletics under the general supervision of the athletic board. The Undergraduate Budget Board, of which Dean Baker is Chairman, will be responsible for recommending the appointments, including salaries, of the athletic staff.

Activity Briefs

TELEVISION SOCIETY

The M.I.T. Television Society is continuing its program of lectures and films on television subjects. The Television Society will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, January 7. At that time a lecture, "Television Scanning and Image Analysis," as well as a General Electric technicolor film on television entitled "Naturally It's F.M." will be shown by Jesse H. Haines, '48.

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Radcliffe

(Continued from Page 1)

ever. They do allow smoking (if you don't inhale, probably) in the library. Presumably they take this stand on the basis that tobacco is less habit-forming than women.

The Tech Makes Offer

The situation is not irremediable. *The Tech* can and will step in where James Bryant Conant fears to tread. Backed by information received from the Reference Librarian of Central Library, we offer the facilities of the Institute's libraries to Radcliffe. Admit though we must that such specialized affairs as Vail Electrical Library are of little value to 'Cliffe-dwellers, we do believe that the Institute can easily surpass the meager chivalry of Harvard. Mrs. Jane C. Kuebler, assistant librarian at Walker Memorial Library, was pleased at the thought of Radcliffe women using our libraries. Said she, "We offer our facilities and our cooperation, such as they are." Further questioned as to the uses to which Radcliffe girls might put Walker library, Mrs. Kuebler said, "It's extremely doubtful that Radcliffe girls would have other than intellectual pursuits in a library."

She did not altogether eliminate the possibility that Radcliffe girls and Technology men would attain a social understanding in the library. Referring to the reasons for the banning of women from Harvard libraries, she commented, "Yes, I think Harvard men are more susceptible than Techmen." We presume she meant that they would be more annoyed by the presence of women.

Dean Baker Comments
 The Tech approached Dean Ev-

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Losses Plague Hockey Team As Northeastern, B.U. Win

Tech hockey hopes took a turn for the worse this week as the Beaver sextet lost two games on Monday and Tuesday nights, to Northeastern, 6-4, and to Boston University, 7-0. The team, which has been undermanned since the beginning of the season, lost its scoring punch in the third period of the Northeastern game and continued scoreless throughout the contest with B.U.

The Beavers went into the last frame of their game with the Wildcats tied at four all, lacking Ed Thompson, Chuck Nolan and Clint McKim. Before the period was five minutes old, they had lost Don Lea, who was playing his first hockey since the first B.U. game, when he twisted his injured ankle again, and Tom Tsotsi, who was removed from the game with Heavey of N.U. for fighting. Northeastern then put on the pressure and scored twice to win 6-4.

Until the final fifteen minutes the Tech team had shown its superiority over N.U., despite the tied score, with its best offensive work of the season. All of the four goals were accounted for by the shifted first line of Lea, Clifford, and Seifert. Seifert racked up two goals and two assists, Lea scored twice, and Clifford assisted three times.

Northeastern opened the scoring early in the first period when an angle shot by Heavey caught one of the posts and came back out into play. Within ten seconds Tech charged back down the ice; Don Lea came around the cage and scored from the corner of the net. James Bell, the Wildcats' star, set up the next goal on a three-man rush, but Lea again equalized, caging the puck on a pass from Seifert. Just

before the first period ended Seifert put Tech ahead 3-2 after Clifford had faked the N.U. goalie out of the nets.

Within one minute of the second period Clifford broke through the Wildcat defense and dropped a pass to Seifert, who proceeded to put Tech ahead 4-2. Immediately Bell caged a rebound for Northeastern to make the score 4-3. With a minute left to play Northeastern took the puck and tied up the game with a three-man rush just as the bell sounded the end of the period.

Then came the disastrous third period.

The next night Tech lost to B.U. 7-0.

Liebman

(Continued from Page 1)

in the achievement of this desirable result is the suspicious examining of our everyday motives of hate, persecution, and destruction, and their replacement by construction of a new morality.

Rabbi Liebman concluded on a note of hope, saying that "it is my belief that possibly the age of technological abundance may render needless some of the psychology and moral 'lacks' in the present day world."

TECHNIQUE PROOFS

Technique proofs must be returned immediately or pictures will definitely not appear in the yearbook, according to Jerome Krinsky, '49, general manager.

Trackmen Prepare For Indoor Races On Briggs Boards

Preparations for the relay trials slated for January 17 have been under way at Briggs Field since the first week in December, with indoor track candidates getting into shape over the board-track course at the athletic field.

The first official event of the indoor season is the Boston Knights of Columbus meet in the Boston Garden on January 24 but several handicap meets have been held in order to get the relay teams and individual performers in shape. The turnout is very good this year and Coach Oscar Hedlund expects that both the varsity mile and two mile relays will be strong. The freshman team is as yet an unknown quantity, but should be strong.

One of the highlights in the preparatory handicap meets is the so-called Christmas party, an annual feature for over ten years. Handicap runs in the usual indoor distances, high jumps, and the 35 pound weight throw were held as part of the party. Wayne Carter, starting from scratch, won the 60-yard low hurdles, while Al Dell Isola and Judd Raich came from the backline to place one, two in the 40-yard dash. Al repeated from scratch in the 300-yard run to win this event.

Jerry Lewi won the 600-yard run from the 10-yard marker with scratchman Doug Vitagliano a close second. Gordon Hunt was successful in keeping in front of back man Hank Henze in the 100-yard run, as Gordon enjoyed a 20-yard head start. Roy Roth, scratch; Bill Fisk, two inches; and Sam Holland, two inches, all tied in the high jump at 5' 7". The 35-pound weight event saw John Adams win without competition.

Dinghymen Drop Frostbite Event On Icy Potomac

In the first post-season sailing event since 1940, George Washington University nosed out the Tech skippers by four points to capture first place in the Intercollegiate Invitation Frostbite Regatta sailed on the Potomac River last weekend.

Fred Blatt, Tech skipper in Division A, garnered 56 points, including four firsts, to merit individual high scoring honors. Awarded a gold cigarette lighter as high-point skipper, Blatt eclipsed Yale's ace helmsman, Bob Coulson, who also scored 56 points but took only one first place.

Tech Loses Lead

Although holding a two-point lead at the close of Saturday's races the Engineers slipped behind the George Washington outfit during the Sunday events to take second in the regatta. The Colonials amassed 102 points in the 14 races, while Tech finished with a total of 98. Other scores in the regatta were: Brown, 95; Harvard, 88; Yale, 87; Maryland, 82; Georgetown, 71; Boston College, 66; and Kings Point, 57.

Sailing in home waters and using their new Tempest Class dinghies, the George Washington skippers were paced by slim Pat Granger, the only girl skipper competing in the regatta, and Eric Nordholm, who was individual high scorer at the half-way mark. Navigating for Technology were Fred Blatt and Ralph Evans, Nautical Association commodore.

Ice on River

The trip south marked little improvement in the weather for the five New England teams. A slight ice coating covered the Potomac and the temperature hovered close to freezing during the two days of racing.

Harvard Romps Over Tankmen At Alumni Pool

Techmen Beat Amherst First Time In 15 Yrs., Two Records Broken

Wednesday night the Technology swimming team lost to a strong Harvard squad by the score of 46-29. Even though the Beavers lost the meet they managed to capture a first in the 150-yard backstroke, and to break the record set last Friday for the 400-yard relay.

Those who swam on the winning relay team were Bob Edgar, Jim Leonard, Jack Searle, and Frank Conlin. Eight more points of Tech's total were registered by Dick Pitler, backstroke winner, and Ben Dann, who placed in the 150-yard backstroke.

On December 12 the mermen of Technology journeyed to Amherst College where they whipped the Jeffs by the score of 44 to 31, the first time in fifteen years that the boys from the mid-state school have been beaten by the Beavers. During the meet two M.I.T. records were bettered.

Smash Two Records

The two new records were set in the 300-yard medley relay and the 400-yard free style relay. The record in the 300-yard medley relay of three minutes, 12.9 seconds was set by the team of Ben Dann, Bob Pelletier, and Bert Russell. The old record of three minutes, 13.4 seconds had been made in 1943. The new time for the 400-yard free style relay was set at three minutes, 48.6 seconds by Bob Edgar, Carl Mellin, Bert Russell, and John Searle. The old record was made and once tied during the season of 1946-47.

Bob Pelletier, a consistently good swimmer, came churning down the stretch to take a first in the 200-yard breast stroke while his teammate Jerry Jarrold came in right behind to take number two spot.

The fourth win came in the 150-yard backstroke event when Ben Dann won first place with the time of one minute, 47.9 seconds. Dick Pitler, also of the Cardinal and Grey, took the number two position.

Second places were also won in the 220-yard free style by Carl Mellin, in the 50-yard free style by Bob Edgar, and in the 440-yard free style by Dave Kellom.

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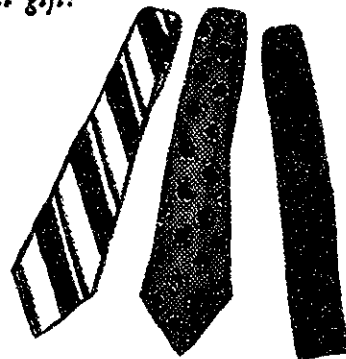


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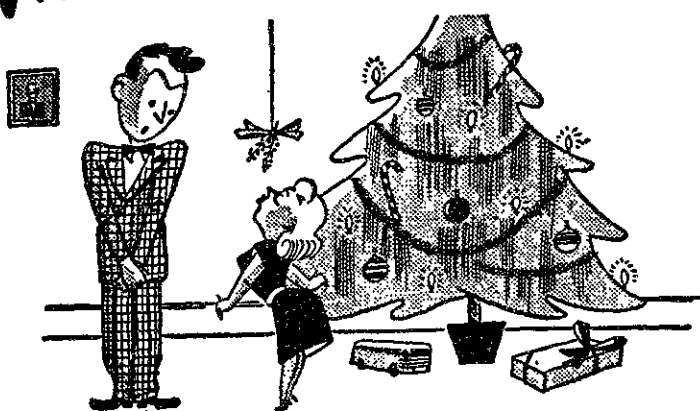
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Institute Comm. Reporter Visits Senior House; Hears JP Report Completion Promised on Schedule

Acceptance of Report Finally Ends Dispute

The long, protracted discussions concerning the preferential allotment of tables for the Junior Prom were officially ended yesterday by the Institute Committee, at its last meeting of the year.

The report of the Junior Prom Committee was resubmitted by Ronald Greene, president of the Junior Class, and was accepted by the committee with two dissenting votes. A resubmittal of the report had been necessitated by the Committee's action two weeks ago in rejecting the first report, chiefly on the grounds that it had not been typed in final form.

Included in the report were recommendations to future J. P. committees on the distribution of tickets and tables. These included the following rules:

1. Table reservations should be made available early in the morning, at least one week before the J. P.

2. Only three priority reservations should be permitted: one table each for the committee, the committee of the previous year, and the chaperones.

3. No person should be permitted to reserve more than two large tables or the equivalent.

A committee consisting of Carleton Boll, '48, Ronald Greene, '49, and Earl Eames, '49, was established to study the proposed Sophomore Prom. It was empowered to make decisions on the kind of prom, the band, and the hotel.

The Institute Committee also approved the N.S.A. foreign students' summer project and appropriated \$50 for it.

Completion Promised on Schedule

By Jack Sevier

Your roving reporter paid a visit this week to the new Senior House project on Memorial Drive, where he was received by Charles Potter, supervisor of the construction. Trudging through more mud than was used for the "Boom Town" set, the reporter made his way down to the level which will soon be the basement and introduced himself to Mr. Potter, who seemed to be more than willing to answer questions for *The Tech*.

When asked whether the building was progressing according to schedule, Mr. Potter replied, "Yes, everything is running smoothly. The Senior House should be completed by October 1 of next year." He went on to explain that the caissons, the concrete-filled forms which make up the lower part of the foundation, should be completed by next week.

About 180 of these caissons were needed for the foundation, and it was necessary to lay them at the "zero" level, about 20 feet below ground level. According to Mr. Potter, the laying of the caissons is the hardest job, and after their completion, the construction should progress more steadily.

Thanks to the new steam boiler which will be used for thawing out the ground, the work will be able to continue through the cold winter months, and the pouring of the concrete for the six-story structure should be completed by March 30. At that time the red, New Hampshire brick exterior will be begun.

The final design of the Senior House is not yet completed, since Alvar H. H. Aalto, the renowned Finnish architect, is still making various changes and modifications in the building.

Mr. Potter says, "It is the most interesting and certainly the most unusual building on which I have ever worked. The squat W-shaped structure seems to be making itself known in the world of architecture also, since an article appeared recently in the 'Architect's Review' concerning its unique design and its even more unique designer."

The supervisor took the reporter into his office and revealed a maze of blueprints and charts concerning the building. The spacious dining room, dropping off at the second story, features a rather unusual skylight effect, while the stairway design illustrates another unusual trait of the building. Instead of following the conventional zig-zag pattern, the stairway will begin at one end of the building and ascend in a straight line to the sixth floor. Looking over the blueprint of the basement, Mr. Potter pointed out the various playrooms, hobbyrooms, and lounges which should keep next year's occupants in a happy mood. The upper floor plans showed that practically every one of the bedrooms overlooked the Charles River—a feature made possible by the W-shaped design.

Activity Briefs

(Continued from Page 2)

FIELD DAY NUMERALS

Field Day numerals and Certificates are now being issued by the Athletic Association in Room 3-107.

ETA KAPPA NU

Eta Kappa Nu, the Electrical Engineering honorary society, recently initiated the following men: from the Class of '48—Friend Skinner, Fred Granger, Carl Blake, Edmund Traknis, Larry Hague, and Adolf Monosson; from the Class of '49, David Israel, Raymond Brown, Morris Wasserstein, Andrew Lang, Duncan Hunt, Frank Finnegan and Wallace Hyde; plus Graduate Students—James Angell and Albert Van Rennes.

PHYSICS SOCIETY

At the annual election of officers of the Physics Society on Tuesday afternoon the following men were elected: Donald J. Eberly, '50, president; Guy C. Bell, '50, vice president; William C. Culver, '50, secretary; Albert W. Sadler, '50, treasurer.

SAFETY REGULATIONS

Car owners are warned not to leave vehicles parked so as to interfere with snow removal operations. Officers of the Police Department will remove all vehicles that may obstruct the removal of snow, leaving the towing and garage charges to be paid by the owner.

ROTC

As a result of competition among members of the Advanced ROTC unit at Technology, the following men have been selected by the Military Science Department to the following cadet offices:


Cadet Colonel: John W. Weil, '48.
Cadet Lieutenant Colonels: John F. Christopher, '48; Donald K. Kuehl, '48; John M. Wilson, '48.

Cadet Majors: Dimitri D. Allegretti, '48; Thomas W. Folger, '48; Norman T. Herbert, '48; David B. Kellom, '49; John D. C. Little, '48; Walter E. Morrow, '48; Andrew E. Pfeifferberger, '48; Louis C. Rasmussen, '48; Kemon P. Taschioglou, '48.

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