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Students of Worcester Technical Institute

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For the second time this year, we find it necessary to chronicle the death of one of our number. In the memory of the classes now in the Institute, there has never before been a death in the student ranks; so that it seems that we are extra unfortunate in having two deaths with so short an interval. We wish to offer our consolation, together with that of the deceased’s classmates, and that of the Institute as a whole, to the relatives and friends of our former schoolmate.

Alas, vain hopes! Alas, fickle dreams! For several days we slumbered with the beautiful dream that at last we were being consulted before action concerning us was made, that at last we were being given the chance to say an honest word in our own behalf; and from this we suddenly awake, and find that in reality affairs are just as bad as before and perhaps worse. We awoke to find that our committee to change the shop rules was a farce; that part of their recommendations were treated as jokes, and the remainder quietly rejected; that the members of the committee have wasted a considerable amount of time for which they are correspondingly depressed; that, finally, the classes, in being asked to send representatives to a council which is to be treated in such a manner have been grossly insulted, and would be fully justified in demanding further consideration.

The committee on reporting the changes and additions desired by the different classes, found that there were two changes requested in the rules and two additions. The rule expecting a student to report afterward, telling the instructor that he hadn’t been present, had been thought to be quite unnecessary and even babyish by the committee, and the superintendent announced its withdrawal.

The request that the practice mark be not reduced until ten per cent. of the time had been omitted met with unexpected and, to say the least, unreasonable refusal. There may be some advantage by decreasing the rank of a student by as much practice time as he omits, but we fail to see why it would not be just as advantageous to give him a margin of a few hours. To reduce the rank at all seems unjust when it is taken into account that the omitted time must be made up, and the student has just as much experience, only at different times. To be sure, we grant that the purpose is merely to insure better attendance at the required time, but it certainly is not impossible to find a way which will both accomplish its purpose and still be comparatively just.

Furthermore, why should shop practice be considered so much differently from
other studies, from which we are allowed an absence of ten per cent. and no decrease in marks from that cause? Why, in the shop, should a person be compelled to have his rank lowered, make up his lost time, and not even have a ten per cent. limit allowed him? Not a particle of justice can be found in the rule.

The first additional rule proposed by the committee was that a discount of a certain amount of summer practice should be allowed each student who, during the preceding term, had lost only one hour shop practice. The principle embodied in this rule was considered a good one by the Superintendent, but he had conceived of a much better rule. And while the committee were speculating as to the nature of it, they were astounded by the announcement that everyone who had not missed an hour of regular shop practice would be allowed to work eighteen hours extra on his own hook free of charge. O, Spirit of Generosity! O, most bountiful reward of merit! Is it just or is it insult to say to a student, "Well done thou good and faithful servant; since thou hast worked so steadily and never lost an hour for a year, thou canst now for thy reward work eighteen hours more"?

The second additional rule proposed by the committee was that members of athletic teams should be permitted to leave the shop at necessary times without being affected by the foregoing rules, except that the lost time be made up. This, we are informed, was regarded as a joke, and so it was not thought necessary to make further remarks on that subject. To regard as a joke a principle which has been practised in the shops during at least the last three years is something which cannot be accounted for by ordinary methods of reasoning. It has been a well-known fact that members of base-ball, foot-ball and intercollegiate teams, and besides these, individual men who have wished to practice athletics in various forms, have, when the excuse system was in force, been allowed to omit an hour or two of shop practice in the afternoon with the assurance that their absence was excused beforehand by the Superintendent. So that we fail to see the joke. It is absolutely necessary during the base-ball and foot-ball seasons that members of these respective teams omit one or two hours on their afternoon in the shops. For teams always have men in every class, so that it is possible that the whole team could never be gotten together unless someone came out of the shop.

But it should not be necessary to argue on a question which no one disputes. It is agreed by all that men on teams are obliged to leave the shop for a short while; and there can be no reason why such men should not now be exempted from the rule, as well as in the days of the excuse system. The new rules then, viewed from the students' standpoint, are decidedly unsatisfactory.

The proposed Conference Committee we feel sure will be welcomed by all. The classes have all expressed their approval, and, although some are a trifle doubtful about the outcome, it is the general opinion that the Faculty is endeavoring to bring about an amicable state of affairs between themselves and the student body. The desire of some to have the Faculty members of the committee elected by the students seems somewhat bold, and at the same time shows the pugnacity toward the Faculty which the Conference is intended to eliminate. It may be depended upon that the Faculty members of the committee will be men who will listen to all just demands of the students, and who will act to their advantage in so much as the welfare of the Institute allows it.
Moreover, the student members should be those who are able to put forward the student side of the questions in a fair, honest and straightforward way, neither demanding more than common sense permits, nor accepting less than is just without decided disapproval. They should neither be too meek in yielding, nor indeed should they be chronic kickers.

Our first attempt at polo on the ice cannot be called a failure, even though the game was lost. The fact that the W. P. I. team had played scarcely at all together, and thus being necessarily deficient in team work, was mainly accountable for the defeat. The disadvantage of the light weight of the members of the team, together with the team work of the Browns, had also much to do with losing the game. However, for our first attempt it is very creditable, and there can be little doubt that with more practice the team will be a first-rate one, as far as amateur teams are concerned.

A TECH GRADUATE.

Another instance of the prominence which graduates of the W. P. I. are attaining has been brought to our notice. The Irrigation Age, whose name denotes its purpose, contains a notice of the successful and still rising career of H. V. Hinckley, '76. An excellent photograph of the gentleman accompanies the article, which is headed—

A NEW KANSAS LEADER.

Howard V. Hinckley, who was elected consulting engineer of the Kansas Irrigation Association at the Wichita convention, November 23, is a native of Massachusetts. He graduated from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1876, and was admitted to membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1883. He entered the service of the Santa Fe Railroad in 1877 as draftsman, and after numerous promotions has for 12 years been in charge of the chief engineer's office of the entire system, at Topeka. In connection therewith he has been assigned such specialties as bridging, interlocking, terminals and water supply. His experience in irrigation dates back to the '60's, when he helped build the first irrigating canal in Massachusetts, and 30 barrels of irrigated cranberries per acre (some of which sold as high as $44 a barrel) were raised, which resulted in the cranberry "boom," which has hardly yet died out in New England. In connection with his railroad service Mr. Hinckley has studied irrigation and water supply throughout the Western States and in Mexico, and has been an extensive collector and reader of irrigation literature. He has argued in favor of more extended irrigation before the American Society of Civil Engineers and elsewhere. Many compliments have been passed upon his success in enlisting the Great Bend (Kan.) convention last August. In September he addressed the Salina (Kan.) Inter-State Convention. At the Los Angeles International Congress he prepared and delivered the reports on permanent organization and the "Wright Law" inspection trip, both of which were unanimously adopted. At the Wichita (Kan.) State Convention (for which he did a large share of the preliminary work) his topic was: "In Arid Kansas and the Way Out." At every one of these conventions Mr. Hinckley has called the attention of the States to the fact that the Government in its investigations has helped those States that had helped themselves, and that their first step should be to provide for their own irrigation departments.

A year ago he had a bill ready to put through the Kansas Legislature, but the three-party political muddle got so thick that he gave it up. Now, with international, national, interstate and State interests all awake, there is hardly any doubt that the Kansas Legislature will act next winter, and the friends of irrigation in Kansas propose that Mr. Hinckley shall then accept the State engineership.

FROM AN ALUMNUS.


Editor W P I:—

It seemed to me when I was one of the Editorial Board of the paper, and has seemed to me ever since, that the alumni in various sections of the country might write very interesting accounts of any engineering or mechanical operations which they might witness in their vicinity, and that they ought to regard it as a part of their duty so to do. Although I cannot just now describe any operations or works which are very original or startling, yet I will send you a few notes hoping that they will be of some interest in themselves and also that they may stimulate others to follow my example.
More or less comment was caused in the neighboring city of New Bedford this fall by the method which the street railway company took to construct a new power station. An old wooden building on one of the wharves was purchased and surrounded with a single course of brick. Piles were driven as the first foundation for the engine beds, and bricks were laid on the heads of these piles and the engines mounted as usual.

The current opinion, as I gathered it, was that one course of brick would be worse than none, in that it would allow the rain to penetrate it when driven by the wind and would prevent the evaporation, partially by absorption and partially by holding it suspended between itself and the old building. I understand, however, that this method of construction is quite common in the West.

This station is equipped with a duplex tandem compound Ideal engine of 350 h. p. The generators are those of the General Electric Company 4-pole type.

Three cars are fitted with electric heaters placed beneath the seats, two Randall and one New England. There is said to be no difficulty in maintaining a temperature of 70°, but the expense is not stated. I hope in the future to be able to ascertain approximately how much this is.

I send you a description of a motion which is applicable to presses and similar machines. It is for converting the rotary motion of the shaft into the reciprocating motion of the slide head or jaw. It could be very easily seen with the aid of a diagram, but I will try to make it clear. The shaft is fitted with an eccentric stud or pin. To this is fitted the eye of a connecting rod, the down end of which is fitted to a hemispherical cavity in the sliding head. The upper end above the eye is turned to an arc with the centre of the hemisphere as centre and a cap turned to the same circle is bolted to the sliding head.

A modification of this device, which is more easily constructed has a semi-cylindrical cavity at the lower end of the connection, which latter is turned to fit the cavity. The advantage of the ball, however, is that it is kept in a state of more nearly perfect lubrication.

It would be interesting to me if some of your readers would suggest methods of accurately constructing this device with the tools in an ordinary machine shop. The most difficult part of the operation is to fit the upper end of the link and the cap. A very slight variation in setting makes a great difference in the motion.

A corporation near here is manufacturing a certain alloy which is of about the gravity of aluminum, has the same or greater tensile strength, is non-corrosive, takes a good polish, and is, within, very moderate in price, somewhere about twelve or fifteen cents per pound. It is in use for various purposes as bits and other pieces of harnesses, was used for tackle blocks on the cup defender "Vigilant," and is now about to be made into watch cases, etc. It appears to be a very useful alloy. I am unable to state whether the production is illimitable.

With the repeated wish that these hasty notes will pave the way for a series of much more interesting ones from other alumni, I remain, yours truly,

Norman M. Paull, '93.

THE NEW SHOP RULES.

On Saturday, January 6th, Superintendent Higgins called the final meeting of the Shop Rules Committee. Mr. Higgins detained the committee only long enough to read the rules upon which he had decided. No provision to excuse men engaged in athletic practice from the shop had been made, although the committee had strongly urged the introduction of some such clause.

The following is a copy of the rules as they appear posted in the shops:

SHOP PRACTICE.

1. Owing to the crowded condition of the shops, students are required to adhere closely to the practice hours designated on the hour plan.

2. A complete record of each student's practice, absence, and tardiness will be kept at the shop office.

3. The record will show the number of hours and minutes lost by any tardiness or absences, and the student will be required to make up a quarter hour for every lost quarter hour, or fraction thereof.

4. All lost practice time must be made up as promptly as possible, and in all cases, both this and the summer practice, must be completed before the beginning of the following school year.

5. The method of marking shop practice is as follows: The head of each department keeps a daily account of the student's work and marks the same as to excellence on the scale of 100. At the end of the term (or at any other time), the practice mark is made by combining the reports from the various instructors in the machine shop, the forge shop, the pattern shop, the tool department, the engine room and the draughting room.

6. The total amount of time lost during the term for any cause will be reported in connection with the practice mark and this mark will be reduced by such lost time.
7. No excuses for absence or tardiness are required; but any student may, if he wishes, at the end of each term file a written statement concerning his lost time, and this statement may, to some extent, counteract any lowering of the mark in consequence of absence and tardiness.

8. Any student whose attendance on regular practice is unsatisfactory may be required at any time to file a written statement concerning the cause of his delinquencies. Should his statement be unsatisfactory the delinquent student will be reported to the Faculty for their action.

9. In case of necessary absence from any part of a practice session, the student must, if possible, report his intention to the instructor in charge.

10. Any student who completes a school year without absence or tardiness, may, upon application to the Superintendent, receive a free permit to do work of his own upon practice time to the extent of eighteen (18) hours. The character of the work to be approved as usual when permits are given.

The above rules will go into effect immediately, and will be subject to such amendments as may hereafter appear desirable.

The Washburn Shops,
M. P. Higgins,
Superintendent.

There is considerable talk in the Institute concerning these rules. Some say that they tend toward a revival of the old excuse system. Others say that the usual ten per cent. cut should be allowed before the marks are affected.

After hearing the rules read, the class of '95 voted to send a vote of thanks to the Superintendent for his kindness in inserting clause 10.

The general feeling through the Institute seems to be that of dissatisfaction with the rules as they read now.

A SAMPLE OPINION.

Among the numerous "kicks" and "protests" and expressions of opinion received concerning the latest shop rules, we select the following for publication:

Editor W P I:

A short time ago we were startled by the invitation of our Superintendent to assist in drawing up a new set of rules regarding shop practice. Everyone was pleased, but even the most sanguine were unprepared for the favorable results of the committee's work. One of the committee was so bold as to hint, at one of the conferences (?), of a reward for faithfulness, think-

ing that, if a student was never absent or beaten by the engine, one or two per cent. might be added to his mark. But the Superintendent announced that he would reward such faithfulness in another way, namely, that such student would be allowed to work for himself 18 hours free of charge.

Ye kickers! think of it, 54 cents freely bestowed! In return for this mint of money all one will have to do will be to see that he is never sick, that his alarm clock never fails to go off, that his landlady always has his breakfast ready, in fact, he has only to make himself the master of circumstances.

Think of the great financial embarrassment such an offer must cause the shops! Nearly 70 dollars were every one to seize the golden opportunity. Sufficient money to supply kerosene for the whole year for the lighthouse, recently established in the tower of Washburn Shops. With the money saved we can have our shop uniforms washed and pressed twice a year and still have a small sum remaining which may go toward the soap tax.

One man in a '95 meeting was so grasping as to move that the committee endeavor to get this magnificent grant increased to one dollar. Be it said to the credit of '95 that his ingratitude was frowned upon and a vote of thanks unanimously tendered the Superintendent.

The money which would be put in circulation by this offer will again bring prosperity to our distressed country! Everywhere will we see mills and manufactories starting up, trade will revive and once again will America be the El Dorado of the working man.

A MECHANIC.

A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.

A few days before the Christmas recess, Doctor Fuller called together the presidents of the four classes, to suggest the formation of a Conference Committee such as is in existence at several colleges and which has proven very successful.

Nothing definite was done, however, until the first day after the vacation, when another meeting was held, and the following suggestions were offered by Dr. Fuller. The matter was informally talked over and some additional suggestions were made.

1. At the beginning of each Institute year there shall be appointed a conference committee to consist of three members of the Faculty, appointed by the Faculty, and of three members of each class, designated by the respective classes.

2. It shall be the duty of the entire committee to consider any subject which may be of
general interest to all or to a large number of the members of the Institute, and the duty of the representatives of the Faculty and of each class separately to consider any subject which may concern only that class.

3. Of the whole committee and of each section of the committee a majority shall constitute a quorum, provided, also, that neither the Faculty nor any class interested shall be unrepresented.

4. Meetings of the entire committee, or of its sections, may be held at the request of the president of the Faculty, or of any three members of the committee, it being understood that all members of the committee or of the section interested be seasonably notified.

At a later meeting, with all the presidents, except Mr. Warren of the Junior class present, it was voted to submit to the different classes the suggestions, as offered by Dr. Fuller, with this exception: Instead of having the classes represented in the committee by three men each, it was thought best that the Sophomores and Freshmen should be represented by two members.

The reasons for this were that it would be difficult for the two lower classes in which the men are not acquainted with each other to choose men who were representative, and that the two lower classes almost never take as much interest in or know so much about Institute affairs as the classes which have been here longer.

Both the Senior and the Junior classes have voted their approval of the Conference Committee and, no doubt, the other classes will do so. The matter is to be brought before the Faculty at their meeting Tuesday and, if they are favorable to the scheme, probably with the beginning of the next half year such a committee will come into existence.

THE W. A. C. GAMES.

The first indoor meet of the W. A. C. took place at the rink, last Saturday evening. Not as many Tech men took part as probably will at the later meets, but those who did participate, did well. The W. P. I. was represented among the officials by C. H. Dwinell, who acted as field judge.

The 40-yard dash was the first event, and considerable interest was centered in this or in Tech's representative, W. S. Killam, who had a handicap of eight feet. He won his heat in the preliminaries and was second in the semi-finals, thus getting a place in the finals. E. H. Clark, H. A. A., nine feet, won first place, with Killam second.

Allen, with a handicap of only four feet, was unable to accomplish much, being in a heat with a fast scratch man.

The team race between W. A. C. and B. A. A. came next and this was also of great interest to Techs as Gallagher was to run for the W. A. C. Each man ran a quarter-mile, three and a half laps. Whittren, B. A. A., and Lohnes, W. A. C., were the first men. B. A. A. had the pole and kept it, Lohnes not being able to pass his man. Delaney and Wood did not change the order at all, although Delaney made several fine attempts to get ahead.

Gallagher and Bannister then took up the contest. "Midge" was about a yard and a half behind at the start, but before going half way around the rink he had caught up with and passed Bannister, and when it was Dadmun's turn he had a lead of two yards over Garcelon. This he increased to five or six yards, and although the Worcester man did not exert himself in the last two laps he kept his lead and came in a winner by that distance. The time was 3 min. 57 1-5 sec. The feature of the race was the running of Gallagher. The burst of speed that the little fellow showed fairly drove the crowd wild, and Tech may well feel proud of him.

The mile run was won by McGrath, who finished two yards ahead of Sharry. Sharry was ahead until the last stretch was reached, when McGrath spurted and passed his man, but in doing so was fouled. Just after the finish McGrath, provoked at being fouled, turned and struck Sharry. It was a disgraceful affair and if there had been any way to take the race from McGrath it would have been done.

The mile walk came next and Harris was Tech's representative. He could do nothing with the other men and so dropped out after going three laps. Bruso won first with a handicap of 15 sec. Lockwood from the Academy was second. In the half-mile run three Tech men were entered and all started, O'Connor, Field and Allen. It was a very pretty and exciting race, but the Tech men were in too fast company. Delaney, W. A. C., won first with Moynihan, W. A. C., second.

Young, W. P. I., was entered in the three-mile run, but was unable to do anything and dropped out after running two miles.

The potato race did not turn out quite as interesting as was hoped. There were only four starters. No Tech men started, although there were four entered. Dadmun won first with Bigelow a close second.

The only field event was the pole vault and this took up most of the time. All but four of the contestants soon dropped out, but these four kept at it for an hour or more. E. W. Kinsley, scratch, won first, clearing 10 ft. 2 1-8 in.

Coulson and Brennan, who each had 4 in., were tied for second place with an actual jump.
ICE POLO.

Tech vs. Brown.

The W. P. I. polo team played its first game of the season with the Brown team last Saturday. A space had been cleared at Lake Quinsigamond, and the cages from the rink had been placed in position. The game was supposed to begin at 2:30, but the Tech men were late in getting there so that the game did not begin until 3:07. A large crowd of spectators had gathered to watch the game, and, although they crowded in on the playing space at times, a special police force of Techs kept a good sized area clear for the players. H. D. Temple, '95, served as referee for Tech, and Malcolm Chace, the well known tennis player, officiated for Brown. E. W. Davenport, '94, was timer.

Matteson won the first rush, but lost the ball almost immediately to Knowles who took it down toward Brown's goal. It was then kept going back and forth for some time, Gordon doing magnificent work at half-back. Philpot seemed to take the ball from the Brown men at will, but at times was not well supported by the other players. Brownell made the first goal after a lively tussle around the W. P. I. goal. Time, 11 minutes.

Matteson also took the second rush, but again lost the ball. Gordon did some more good work and the Tech rushers kept the ball near Brown's goal. Philpot made a try for goal, and, as Merriman kicked it out, Warren drove the ball in.

Matteson won the rush and some lively play resulted, but time was called with the score, W. P. I. 1, Brown 1.

Worcester started in with a dash in the second third and did some pretty work. Warren won the rush and carried the ball a few seconds before he passed to Knowles. There was some interesting juggling and then Warren made a pass to Knowles, who drew the Brown men to the east side of their goal. Knowles hit it back to Warren who had no trouble in smashing it in after one minute of play.

Knowles took the rush and passed to Warren. Brownell secured the ball, got by Gordon, and caged the ball. It would have rolled out anyway, but Boyden pulled it out with his stick and the goal counted for Brown.

The next rush went to Warren, but Knowles' strap on his stick broke and Worcester lost the ball. The playing was very lively and neither side was able to secure a goal till Brownell got possession of the ball and caged it. Time, 17 minutes, 27 seconds.

With 11 seconds to play, Owen won the rush, but time was called almost immediately, leaving the score three to two in Brown's favor.

In the last inning, Owen retired in favor of Chace who, though suffering from a bad knee, was comparatively fresh, and turned the balance decidedly in Brown's favor. Brownell took the rush, but Chace soon got hold of the ball and gave an exhibition of juggling which resulted in another goal for Brown after a minute and 35 seconds.

Warren varied matters by winning the rush and there was some lively playing for a time. Brownell made a foul by touching the ball with his hand, although he claimed that it struck his wrist. Chace again got the ball and hit an easy one to Boyden, who failed to stop it.

The next rush went to Matteson, who passed to Brownell. The playing was quite even, but Brownell added another goal to Brown's list.

Warren took the rush, but Matteson made a goal in 2 minutes, 7 seconds.

Brownell won the next rush, but Warren took the ball from him and carried it toward Brown's goal. There was some hot work for a few seconds and then Philpot poked it in.

Half a minute was left to play. Warren took the rush and the ball was hit into Brown's cage, but it rolled out; time was called and the game was lost.

BROWNS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positions</th>
<th>Techs.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
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<td>Owen</td>
<td>Warren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chace</td>
<td>Philpot</td>
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<td>Matteson</td>
<td>Gordon</td>
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<td>Jones</td>
<td>Boyden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriman</td>
<td>Referee, Mr. H. D. Temple; timer, Mr. E. W. Davenport.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goal. Won by</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
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<td>Tech</td>
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<td>Warren</td>
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Fouls, Brown 3, Tech 2; stops, Boyden 6, Merriman 10.

Brown made seven goals to three for Worcester, but, as the Providence men made three fouls, the score was six to three in favor of Brown.

The W. P. I. team showed that there is good
material in the Institute, but that there are one or two weak places on the team. Boyden did not seem wholly equal to the position, although some allowance must be made for lack of practice with a cage. Warren did good work at times and took the ball away from the Brown players, but he seemed to get tired, and had hard luck in not being where the ball was. The other men played their positions well, but Philpot and Gordon especially did good work.

The Institute team played a more even game than did their opponents, but in the last were at a disadvantage after the substitution of Chace for Owen. The Brown men were heavier and skated faster, but the lighter Tech men seemed more at home at polo and often upset the players from Brown. The passing by the Tech men was not all that could be desired, but at times was good and will doubtless improve in the future.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Athletic Association on Friday, Jan. 12, for the semi-annual election of officers, the following men were chosen: President, J. M. Gallagher, '94; Vice-President, G. A. Denny, '95; Secretary, J. B. Mayo, '96; Treasurer, G. D. Eddy, '96; Keeper, F. H. Somerville, '95. Mr. G. L. Philpot, '96, was elected captain of the Institute ice polo team.

The two delegates who were chosen to represent the W. P. I. at the N. E. Intercollegiate Athletic Association convention, are E. W. Davenport, '94, and F. W. Parks, '95, and the latter will be nominated as member of the Executive Committee from the W. P. I.

At the Athletic Association meeting held the week previous, the resignation of Phinney, '95, as a member of the "burlesque" committee was accepted, and A. H. Warren, '95, was elected in his place.

CHARLES B. LATHROP, '97.

The announcement of the death of Charles B. Lathrop, on January 4, brought great sorrow to the Freshman class. Mr. Lathrop, youngest son of A. D. Lathrop, died at his home in Norwich, Conn., Wednesday, January 3, at the age of 20 years and 10 months.

Mr. Lathrop entered the Institute this fall with the Freshman class, and in the short time we had known him we found him kind hearted, unselfish, and always ready to do whatever he could for the Institute or his class. Two weeks previous to the Thanksgiving recess he was taken with diphtheria and returned to his home in Norwich. At Christmas it was learned that he was recovering and had safely passed the crisis of the disease, but in a few days he suffered a relapse and died January 3.

Funeral services were held Friday, the 5th. The floral tributes were many, and among them were 30 white roses from the Class of '97, and a floral basket from the Foot Ball Team, of which the deceased was a member and energetic worker. He was a member of the Y. M. C. A. and was there very popular among his associates.

The foot-ball team met January 4th and appointed a committee consisting of Ware, '96 and Arnold, '97, to take suitable action. Mr. Lathrop played quarter-back part of last season, and showed himself both on and off the field a truly honest and manly fellow. His sudden death was a sad blow to his many friends.

Chapel exercises were largely attended Friday morning, when a special service was held on account of his death. At a meeting of the Class of '97, Thursday, January 4th, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, in his judgment God has seen fit to remove from our midst our friend and classmate, Charles B. Lathrop, therefore

Resolved, that we, the class of '97 of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, are deeply grieved at his death, and shall ever cherish his memory.

Resolved, that we, even in our brief acquaintance have learned to appreciate his cheerful disposition, his thorough manliness and his upright character.

Resolved, that we extend our deep sympathy to his family and friends.

"Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to his parents, and that they be published in the W P I and daily papers, and placed upon the class records.

"HARRY E. WHEELER,
GEORGE W. THROPP,
HENRY S. LANCASTER."

THEODORE E. BRAYTON, JR.

Theodore E. Brayton, Jr., a member of '92, died January 9th, in Providence, R. I. During the holidays he had an attack of the grip from which he had almost recovered when his heart became affected, causing his death, after being considered dangerously ill but three days. The funeral was on Friday last from the home of his grandfather, in Bristol, R. I. E. L. Smith, '92, and Butterfield, '93, were among those who attended.

A meeting of '92 was held in the Y M. C. A. library on Wednesday evening, January 10th, to take action on the death of Mr. Brayton. M. J. Leyden and F. W. Collier were appointed a committee to draw up resolutions, which are as follows:
WHEREAS the class of '92, W. P. I., hears with deep regret the announcement of the death of one of its members, Theodore E. Brayton, Jr.;

Resolved, That we keenly feel the loss of our cherished classmate and desire hereby to express our sorrow for it and to extend our sympathy to his relatives in this their sad bereavement. We wish to testify in this memorial to the sterling merits and noble character of the deceased.

As a classmate, one of his most conspicuous attributes was an unobtrusive courtesy, added to this was an unfailing good nature and an eagerness to assist all who stood in need of his kindly services. As a son and brother none could be more devoted. His influence was always in the direction of truth and justice and was ever exerted in behalf of his associates. In his death, the class loses a zealous and conscientious member and the Institute, an alumnus, in whose simple, earnest character were contained the best elements of all that is Christian and manly.

In recognition of the love we bear the memory of our classmate, in appreciation of his merits and in sympathy with the bereaved, be it resolved, that these resolutions be fittingly inscribed on the records of the class. It is further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded his parents.

M. J. Lyden,
F. W. Collier,
Committee on Resolutions.

The Y. P. S. C. E. of Piedmont Church, at its regular meeting Sunday evening, adopted appropriate resolutions on the death of Theodore E. Brayton, Jr., which were sent to the bereaved parents of the deceased. Mr. Brayton was at one time president of the Y. P. S. C. E. of Piedmont Church.

CLEVELAND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

Five of the faithful sat down to the semi-annual dinner of the Cleveland Alumni Association at the Hollenden on the evening of Jan. 4th, the smallest number in the history of the association, two alumni having entered into business relations elsewhere, while others were "unavoidably detained," to quote Prof. Alden's excuse-book. A very pleasant evening was spent amid jokes and reminiscences of Tech days, set speeches being avoided on account of the few present.

It was agreed hereafter to abolish the June dinner and to have only the annual banquet in December or January, hoping thereby to draw a larger attendance from near-by towns. Present: Frank Aborn, '72; John G. Oliver, '82; Willard Fuller, '84; W. T. White, '90; F. W. Treadway, '90.

WESTERN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year the following gentlemen were elected: President, C. F. White, '75; Vice-President, A. L. Tucker, '82; Sec. and Treas., J. B. Allen, '80; Executive Committee, C. F. White, '75, A. L. Tucker, '82, J. B. Allen, '80, E. Gerber, '76, H. W. Carter, '86. The meeting was very harmonious and good cheer prevailed, the officers being elected by unanimous vote. From the reports of the retiring officers the Association seems to be in a flourishing condition. The several gatherings of the Association have been very enthusiastic and, as the graduates of the Institute in the West show marked loyalty, the outlook for the Association in the future is very gratifying.

BANJO CLUB.

The Banjo Club has been practising for some time and makes its first appearance this year at the High School, Friday night. Mr. Darling, '96, has joined the club, and, at present, there is only one vacancy, one guitar. The members have been working steadily, and the club will undoubtedly add to the excellent reputation which it won last year.

LABORATORY NOTES.

The general laboratory practice of the Sophomores and Freshmen has been resumed.

New shelves have been put in the stock-room, and a new desk has been constructed. The desk has been placed nearer the window than formerly and runs transversely across the room. It is well fitted up with drawers and a long iron tube connected with the gaspipe overhead. The shelf and box for stock-room orders have been removed from the semi-twilight of their former position and have been placed just below the window of the stock-room door.

In the analytical laboratory, a double row of box-like compartments has been put in for half-liter bottles.

PERSONALS.

'92. F. W. Eastman is with the Adams Electric Company of this city as draughtsman.

'93. Nathan Rice is draughting for the Adams Electric Company.

Cheney is teaching night school in Worcester.

The engagement of Pelham W. Lincoln, '93, to Miss Eva Bartlett of Haverhill, is announced.

Richard C. Cleveland, '93, is engaged to Miss Gertrude E. Smith of this city. Mr. Cleveland is now residing in Montreal.

Prof. L. L. Conant attended the annual dinner of the alumni of Dartmouth, given in Boston January 10th.
Instructor George B. Viles was sick with the grip during last week. His classes were looked after by Dr. Fuller and Instructor Coombs.

Daniel F. O'Regan, '91, has been appointed principal of the Washington street evening high school.

Senator George F. Hoar, one of our trustees, has an interesting article on Charles Sumner in the January number of The Forum.

**REMARKS OF CRITICUS.**

It is unnecessary for Criticus to say that once more is that one bore of student life, examination time, close at hand. On every side Criticus sees evidence of the fact. There is a look of anxiety and uncertainty on many a student's face, and the grind is happy in the number of his friends pro tem., as it were. The truth of the words of the Scotch poet who said, "coming events cast their shadows before," is plainly evident. To many is the anticipation of the examinations far worse than the realization of them.

That the system of semi-annual examinations is a poor one few will deny. Much, truthfully, has been said, is said and will be said in disfavor of the system. But what can be offered to take its place? In order that an instructor mark a man fairly and intelligently it is absolutely necessary that he know how much that student has remembered about the subject and not merely what the student has recited from day to day from a superficial knowledge of the subject. By no other means can the instructor attain that information. And thus must the student resign himself as best he can to the system now in vogue. One reason that makes the examinations seem so terrible is this: The student is too likely to let his studies take care of themselves as much as possible during the term—especially is this so in the studies where the lessons are given by lectures. As a result considerable cramming before the examinations is necessary in order to pass them creditably. Our fate lies in the instructor's hands. He may make the examination easy or hard as he desires; he may make out a paper which may be too long for the average student in the allotted time; he may lay too much stress upon the result of the examination, forgetting that many a student fails to do himself justice in an examination. His decision is final and we must take it with the best grace possible. Some are destined to be disappointed at the result of the examinations, and others, perhaps, agreeably surprised.

Criticus hopes no faces will be missing as a result of the crucial test through which we have to pass during the next two weeks.

* * *

With the New Year there went into effect at Harvard new rules regarding athletics. Their object is to avoid professionalism in athletics there. The rules are of interest to all college men, in fact to all who wish to see college athletics raised to a higher basis. For the benefit of those who may not have seen them Criticus gives them in substance in these columns.

Hereafter no student shall represent the University in any games who has ever taken part in any athletic sports for pecuniary consideration or who has taught or engaged in athletic sports as a means of livelihood. This rule, however, does not include those who, while taking part in any athletic sport, has had his bare expenses paid by that club under whose auspices he contended. No student who does not intend to remain in college during the whole year can represent Harvard in any game. No man, who, on account of poor standing, has been dropped back a class, can take part in any athletic contest during that year; neither can any student who has ever represented any other college contend under Harvard's auspices until he has attended the University for a year and passed the annual examinations. Any student who has taken part in athletic contests for four years while in college, whether it be at Harvard or elsewhere, shall be debarred from representing Harvard in any athletic games.

It is plainly evident that these rules have been adopted by Harvard for the purpose of suppressing professionalism in athletics at that University. By their adoption some of the best athletes in Harvard are excluded. Criticus, however, believes Harvard's action a wise one and one that will be ultimately followed by the other leading colleges. He thinks the four-year rule an improvement over the post-graduate one that has been adopted at Yale and elsewhere. With these rules in force it is hardly probable that men will go to Harvard solely for athletics as is the case in some instances.

**COLLEGE NOTES.**

Brown has 660 students and 66 instructors.

No college in England publishes a college paper.

A new dormitory has just been completed at Amherst.

A debating union has been organized at Brown University.

There are 466 students enrolled at Vassar this year.
The Mass. Institute of Technology polo team is one of the best college polo teams out.
The income of Cornell's endowments amounts to $300,000 annually.

The Seniors at Dartmouth have petitioned to have the number of hours per week reduced from 16 to 12.

The opera which will be given by the students of Brown has been christened, "Priscilla, the Maid of Brown."

One hundred and sixty candidates have gone into training at Harvard for the Mott Haven games.

The undergraduates of Columbia College will produce a play in New York during Easter week.

The college yell is a purely American invention and is unknown in other countries. In England the students simply cheer or scream the name of their college or university. No attempt is made at a rhythmical measured yell as in this country.

The Kansas University has one woman in the law department. She is known among the other students as sister-in-law.

Prussia has just erected at Charlottenburg the finest technical institution in the world, at a cost of four millions.

The athletics of Michigan University are under the supervision of a committee consisting of five faculty members and four undergraduate members. This board has full power in all matters pertaining to athletics at that university.

President Andrews has declined the offer of Chicago University. The offer made was the Chancellorship of the university and head professorship of the department of philosophy at a salary of $10,000 a year with six months' leave of absence.

The first of the annual debates between Harvard and Yale will be held in Cambridge, January 19th. The question is, Resolved, that independent action in politics is preferable to party allegiance. Harvard chose the subject, so Yale had the choice of sides and took the affirmative.

**TECHNICALITIES.**

Nearly all the Seniors have sat for their class pictures.

Professor:—What is the formula for milk?
Student:—Ca CO₃ + H₂O.

The motto of '95 when on their class supper will be, "we shunt go ohm until morning."

Thursday, January 25, is observed as a day of prayer by most of the New England colleges.

The annual dumping of ashes seems to have begun, and the effects are beginning to appear on the parts about the Institute grounds.

Frank A. Loud of West Hampton and Charles P. Hemenway of Barre, both of the Freshmen Mechanics, have left the Institute.

Since September the Freshman class has lost six members, which is the largest per cent. any class has lost during its first six months.

Student (J-necks) reading:—"Er hält in Armen das ähzhende kind."

Translating same:—"He held in his arms the crying kid."

The elevator in the laboratories has a self-reversing movement by which it immediately starts downward after reaching the top, and the unwary have had narrow escapes from getting caught under the gate.

The class of '96 has awarded to C. C. Lowell, Worcester, the contract for supplying them with drawing instruments and all the extras, with the exception of the drawing-boards. The drawing-boards are to be supplied by Henry Brannon, Worcester.

There will be an entertainment in the Classical High School Hall on Friday evening, January 26th, for the benefit of their athletic association. From ten to twelve there will be dancing in the lower corridor. All Tech men are invited.

The Freshmen resumed laboratory work in Chemistry last Monday. Everything in the lockers was covered with a fine soot, and students who had benches near the stock-room had extensive dish-washing to do before taking up the regular work.

It is a well-known fact that the bronze made of nine parts of copper and one part of aluminum is of the color of gold and will not tarnish. It is of a tensile strength equal to steel. At the present time this metal can be produced in castings for the same price that crucible steel costs, and the castings can be made very true to pattern. Why do we not use it and save the expense of working forgings to shape? And why do we not use it for the improved artistic effect its color will give?—Engineering Magazine.

**THOSE EXAMS.**

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For those exams I hate,
Which make me grind so late
At such an awful rate
That I can't write to Kate
Until I learn my fate.
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