

TECH NEWS



Volume XLIII

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., Wednesday, February 18, 1948

Number 1

Tech Enrollment Almost Normal Mechanics Show Largest Gain

Ex-Servicemen On The Decline; Incoming Frosh Take New Test

"This is the first absolutely normal year since before the war," said Miss Rugg, the Registrar, in commenting on the present Tech enrollment. According to the latest figures, there are 887 students registered for the second term. This is twenty-five less than the first term since the Freshman class has lost eight men and the Juniors seventeen. The average prewar registration was about 700 students and last year's total was 856. About 70% of the present student body are former servicemen, and more than 15% of the student body is married. Incidentally, there are better than forty "campus babies."

The breakdown of the registration total is as follows: 172 Seniors, 224 Sophomores, 194 Freshmen, and 241 Juniors. Also, there are 46 post-graduate students and ten classified Freshmen.

As for the "homestretching" Seniors, 63 are E.E. majors, 56 are M.E. majors, 22 are C.E. majors, and eighteen are Ch.E. majors. The Physics and Chemistry bring up the

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Books Wanted For Students In Philippines

S.C.A. Will Collect Old Textbooks in Boynton, At Fraternities

The Student Christian Association this week launched a drive for obtaining textbooks for Philippine college students. There is a dire need for textbooks in the various colleges in the Philippines who are once again trying to get back on their feet after having been completely non-existent during the war. Toward this end, a drive is being conducted in this country to procure old college textbooks for them to use. Worcester Tech is one of the colleges that has been asked to contribute, and it is earnestly hoped that we will give our share. Any college books that you may have lying around and for which you have no further use will be greatly appreciated. A receptacle has been placed in Boynton Hall where books may be deposited, while Friday night (Feb. 20) all the fraternity houses will be visited and the books will be picked up directly from there at that time. Let's all chip in and donate whatever old textbooks we don't need!

Peddler Now Looking For Subscribers

Representatives Will Contact Each Class Sometime This Week

The *Peddler* staff would like to take this opportunity to urge everyone to buy a copy of the 1948 *Peddler*. The more subscriptions we can sell to the students, the better the book we can publish.

Perhaps many think that six dollars per copy is too much to pay. The *Peddler* this year will be much cheaper than similar books in other New England colleges and high schools. For the sake of comparison it can be stated that the selling price of the twenty or so yearbooks printed in 1947 by the publishers of the *Peddler* varied from \$4.00 to \$20.00 and the *Peddler* was in the \$4.00 group. The average cost of the 1947 *Peddler* was about \$8.00. One reason for the high cost was the fact that more books were printed than were sold.

How about advertising you may ask. The *Peddler* normally has one of the largest incomes from advertising, as compared to other yearbooks. This year under the able leadership of Al Riley, the advertising staff has procured more ads than the *Peddler* has ever had before. However, the total advertising income has dropped for many reasons. There was competition from the Endowment Fund drive. Most of the local firms decreased the size of their ads; and some of the large firms in New England, closely connected with the school have refused to subscribe.

Next, we can look at the problem from the publisher's viewpoint. Like all other industries, the local publishers have suffered from cost increases. About 25% of the cost of publishing the book is for the cover and the binding; 35% of the cost is for engraving and the remaining 40% goes toward paper, printing and the publisher's profit. Incidentally the cost of the paper, printing and publisher's profit have risen 80% in the past three years and the cost of entire book had increased 60% in three years.

From these facts it is evident that the success of the *Peddler* depends on everyone's cooperation. The *Peddler* subscription manager in your division will be sure to contact you within the week. Let your conscience and school spirit be your guide.

Annual Interviews Being Conducted On Tech Campus

Representatives From Industrial Companies Discuss Job Offers

With graduation not too far off in the offing, once again the W.P.I. campus will be visited by representatives from the various companies interested in hiring prospective employees from the ranks of the Senior class.

The salary offers of these companies will again, as last year, range from \$225 to \$275 a month with an average monthly wage of \$250. Their offers will include positions for graduates of all departments holding either B.S. or M.S. degrees and will present opportunities for foreign service as well as for employment here in the United States. Representatives from the following companies have already conducted interviews on the campus: Buffalo Forge Co., Bailey Meter Co., Socony-Vacuum Co., Hartford Electric Light Co., Draper Corporation, and the Norton Co.

The following representatives will appear on the Tech campus beginning Feb. 24, and the dates for the various interviews are as follows: On Feb. 24, Mr. George C. Hughes of the General Motors Corp., open to all departments; on Feb. 26 and 27, Mr. E. D. Wilby of the Atlantic Refining Co., Chem. and Ch.E.; on March 1, Mr. C. L. Bussard of DuPont, open to Chem., Ch.E., M.E., and E.E.; Mar. 3, Mr. Gould of National Aniline, M.E., Ch.E., Chem.; Mar. 11, Worcester County Electric Co., E.E., M.E., C.E.; Mar. 12, Eastman Kodak Co.; Mar. 17, 18, 19, Western Electric, Bell Research Labs., Operating Telephone Companies; Mar. 19, Calco Chemical Co., Chem. and Ch.E.; March 23, Procter and Gamble Mfg. Co., Chem. and M.E.; Westinghouse, American Viscose, General Electric, and N.A.C.A. have dates in April.

Assembly Notice

The Ninth General Assembly of the 1947-1948 College year will be held Wednesday, February 18, at 11:00 A.M., in the Alden Auditorium.

At the request of many students, Professor Charles M. Allen, Director of the Alden Hydraulic Laboratory, will present his "Gas Talk" which has not been given for some years. Professor Allen demonstrates the use and misuses of gasoline.

Endowment Drive Drawing Near To Million and a Quarter Goal

Literary Club Reorganizes At Tech

Discussion Held On "The English Novel"; Next Meeting Feb. 27

After many years of inactivity, an old idea of the English Department has come to life once again. It was in the peaceful days prior to the war, punctuated only by the drone of lab. motors, that Tech's first Literary Club was organized by Prof. Higginbottom. Then came the war and the first Literary Club ended its activities abruptly.

Today, Tech students go literary again. About two months ago, two sophomores, Carl Ackerman and Rollie Bedard, went to see Prof. Mackenzie. The result of this interview was the conclusion that Tech needed a Literary Club, but whether the Club would be a popular organization on the campus was a major question. Rollie Bedard, in his capacity of Inquiring Reporter on this paper, did some research on this question, through the columns of this paper. The result was a pleasant surprise, because the majority of persons interviewed were in favor of such an organization. A long standing need on the Tech campus was being satisfied.

The two undergraduate founders of the Club informed a few persons, whom they thought might be interested in the Club, of its organization. The stage was now set for an organization meeting. On the 15th of December, a meeting was held in Prof. Mackenzie's office. He was asked to be faculty advisor to the Club and accepted the invitation. Plans for future meetings were discussed and it was decided that the five members present conduct a "word to mouth" campaign for new members.

The first official meeting of the Club was held at the home of Mr. Chaddha, Class of '50. Five members were present when Prof. Mackenzie spoke on "The English Novel." In an informal way, he discussed various books in chronological order. A discussion on his topic and refreshments followed. The meeting was a definite success and it seemed that the Club had got off to a flying start. No longer did those present consider English a compulsory course—it had become a pleasure and was a welcome change from log tables and slide rules.

On February 6th, the Club was

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 2)

Committees Still Collecting Funds From Subscribers

At a reunion luncheon held last summer, President Cluverius officially announced that an Endowment Fund drive would start Sept. 1, 1947, for the purpose of raising \$1,250,000. This Endowment Fund was to have a four-fold purpose:

1. To provide sufficient additional funds to enable the maintenance of adequate salaries, salaries that will provide a high calibre of instructors in order that W.P.I. may maintain its high standards of instruction.

2. To build a Civil Engineering building to meet the needs of the expanding Civil Engineering Dept. This would also enable the remodeling of Boynton Hall for the purpose of housing the entire Administrative Dept.

3. To make funds available for the upkeep of our present buildings and grounds.

4. To enlarge and improve Salisbury Laboratories to meet the needs of the Departments of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering and Department of Physics.

All of these purposes aim at one important goal—that of keeping

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

Lambda Chi Initiates Men From Norwich

On Saturday, February 14, Pi Zeta, the local chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha, helped spread the growth of the fraternity by initiating 15 men from the new colony of Norwich University at Northfield, Vt. The new initiates arrived Friday night, and stayed until Sunday morning, eating and sleeping at the house.

The actual initiation ceremonies started shortly after lunch, and ran until about 7 P.M., when everybody adjourned to Sanford Riley Hall for a banquet. Wesson C. Miller, past president of the house, was the toastmaster of the evening, and the main speaker was Howard A. Rollins, of the faculty of the University of Connecticut, who recently organized a new chapter there. He spoke on his experiences in fraternity life and gave advice of special interest to men forming the nucleus of a new chapter.

Lambda Chi now has 120 chapters, and several colonies waiting to be chartered, making it the largest collegiate fraternity in the world, on basis of number of chapters.

TECH NEWS

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TERMS

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The New Broom Sweeps

With this issue of TECH NEWS a new staff starts its work. It will aim to maintain the high standard of accurate reporting and complete news coverage set by previous staffs. Wherever and whenever possible this high standard will be improved on, and suggestive criticism toward this end will always be welcome.

TECH NEWS, as the name indicates, is a paper which informs the campus of the scholastic, social, and sports activities of the men of Worcester Tech. It also carries a column "Student Wives Club News". It seldom embroils itself in controversial issues, or indulges in criticism of school administration. It does so only when it feels that the interests of the students are at stake.

The new staff of TECH NEWS wishes to express its thanks to the outgoing members for their excellent work on the paper in the past year and is grateful for the privilege of having worked with them.

Letters to the Editor

1. TECH NEWS will publish all letters received from contributors providing:—

- (a) The name of the writer is known to the editor (a pen name may be used).
- (b) The writer does not become slanderous.

2. Drop your contributions, sealed in envelope, in TECH NEWS box, Boynton Hall.

3. TECH NEWS welcomes all student, faculty, and alumni comment.

February 5, 1948

DEAR EDITOR:

I wish to take advantage of your policy of publishing letters to the Editor to launch a criticism of a recent decision made by the administration at Tech. It is my understanding that Worcester Tech was invited to participate in the March of Dimes drive to the extent of participating in an exhibition basketball game with Holy Cross at the Auditorium last Friday night. This invitation was turned down for no apparent reason except that the competition came on the first day of midyear recess. Undoubtedly the members of the varsity basketball team would have been glad to remain for this competition.

It seems unfortunate that, of the colleges invited to participate, Tech should be the only one to refuse just at the time when the Institute is

appealing to the citizens of Worcester for endowment funds on the basis of Tech's many contributions to the city as an educational institution. Worcester citizens have questioned the sincerity of Tech's interest in the community. Perhaps there are extenuating circumstances. If so, I think at least the student body should be informed of them. All too many times decisions are made by the administration without any attempt whatsoever to inform the students of the reasons and circumstances involved.

Very truly yours,
LELAND E. GRAY, JR.

The Editor-in-Chief
TECH NEWS,
DEAR SIR:

Mr. Leland E. Gray was good enough to send me a copy of his letter which appears elsewhere in the NEWS.

I assume, from this letter, that the writer is authorized to speak for the basketball team except, possibly, the portion of the letter in which he criticized the college wherein the writer chose to pursue his education.

When the Chairman of the March of Dimes called the president, who in this case is the "administration" referred to, he was told that the squad would be on a well-earned midyear recess at the time of the game and that I felt it was not fair

Fraternity News Bits

By NORM BROWN

To head the list of makings and doings, the spirit of Valentine's Day was brought to our beloved campus by AEP, TX, SAE and PSK in the form of post-game house parties. The phenomenon of silver linings in dark clouds was demonstrated when LCA held a "Mid-exam Party" on January 24. Slide rules and lecture notes gathered dust while the fellows engaged in this rare revelry. The next big LCA party will be held on Saturday, February 21.

Next, we put out the welcome mat for Charles Morse, SPE, Bob Campbell, PSK, Paul Sanford, SAE, and Ken Parsons, TX. Charlie Morse is back after serving with UNRRA in China, while Ken just became homesick for the feel of a grindstone against his nose. Paul is just out of the Navy and is a member of the Class of '51.

Elections were held by SPE, AEP and ATO. The ATO ship will be manned during the coming term by President Robert E. Lazzarin, Vice-President Dave Danielson, Secretary Ed Ahlstrom, and Treasurer Dave Hudson. President William C. Applegate of SPE will be ably assisted by Vice President Brian T. Stone, Comptroller Karl R. Berggren, Jr., Historian Joseph E. Skidmore, Secretary Don Jordon, House Manager Norman F. Taylor, and Senior Marshall Bart H. Hastings, with John H. Williams on the Interfraternity Council. Al Strogoff was elected Master of AEP, with Saul Gordon as Lieutenant-Master, Hans Picard Exchequer, and Sid Madwed House Manager.

AEP steps into the house news spotlight with its beautiful new home at 28 Einhorn Road. A house-warm-

Informal shots for the Peddler are needed. Hand in to Norm. Jardine, L.C.A., by Feb. 24, and be sure to put your name on the back if you want them returned.

to request the members to remain for the purpose particularly as another team would be available and the charitable purpose could be accomplished. The chairman understood the situation in which I considered I acted in the interest of our team. The intent is, of course, to keep the student body informed in all that pertains to it.

I regret that the sincerity of Tech's interest in the community is questioned and I would be pleased to learn from the writer the source and character of the criticism.

With reference to Tech's contributions to the city, of the many I can name none is more valuable than our product itself which is held in high esteem. I trust I may never have to change my personal opinion of its sterling quality. Visitors are already arriving on the campus to look over the 1948 model of Tech men.

Sincerely yours,
WAT TYLER CLUVERIUS
President

ing party is planned for the near future. Work on the new game room at LCA is progressing first rate since the installation of their new oil burner. The coal bin has been removed and a ping-pong table set up. Plans call for linoleum or asphalt flooring.

A big handshake and a slap on the back go to John Yaeger, LCA, who was married on December 30. Russ Norris, SPE, also went off the deep end on January 29. Several of the brothers went to Bridgeport, Conn., for the occasion.

Particulars

SAE—A Founders' Day celebration for the New England province of the SAE National will be held in Boston. Several pledges will be initiated at that time.

TKP—Frank Wotton has transferred to AIC. Hank Richards has been pledged.

ATO—Chapter officers have attended a regional conclave at M.I.T.

PSK—The old custom of inviting faculty members and their wives to dinner is being revived. Dean and Mrs. Roys attended Thursday, February 12. Earl Hallstrom has organized a potent hockey club which plans to be active in the city leagues.

SPE—Three of the Alpha chapter pledges from the University of Massachusetts were at the house after the basketball game on February 7.

TX—Henry Taylor and Calvin MacAusland have pledged. House President Dan McQuillan was married during mid-year recess to Joan LeClair of Mattapoisett, Mass.

Civils Elect, Hear Talk by J. J. Siddall

Applegate New Prexy; Development Engineer Talks on Steel Floors

The W.P.I. student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, at a meeting held in the Janet Earle Room on Monday, February 9, elected the following officers: President, Willson C. Applegate; Vice-President, James F. O'Regan; Secretary, Malcolm D. Horton; Treasurer, Henry H. Baker, Jr.

As a guest speaker, the Civils had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Joseph J. Siddall, a graduate of Harvard and now a development engineer for the H. H. Robertson Co., manufacturers of building materials. The subject of his very interesting talk was composite steel floors and panels. The subject matter was supplemented by slides.

Mr. Francis S. Harvey was introduced to the organization at this meeting. He will be the new junior contact member for the W.P.I. student chapter.

It was announced that the Conference of New England Student (Continued on Page 5, Col. 3)

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CAMPUS QUOTES

By ROLAND BEDARD

We have been considering campus questions for quite some time, so for a change we are returning to a more national subject this time. In fact this one happens to be international. The query this time is: "Do you think the Marshall Plan can succeed in saving Europe from communism?"

There weren't too many answers, but those received showed some thought. Subbiah Muthiah said: "Taking it for granted, that the Marshall Plan will be passed, I think it will definitely save Europe—that is, Europe not occupied by Russia already—from Communism. Communism, I have observed, seems to convert people to its ways of thinking when they are starving and have low standards of living. I have particularly noticed this in south India, where the Communist influence has been great during the past three years. I think this is because Communism always seems to have something to offer the people. Ignorant people believe the Communist because they do not understand the pitfalls of Communism. The Marshall Plan, and the 17 billion dollars which go with it, can uplift the European standards of living, educate the people and prevent them from starving—I believe part of the loan will be in material goods. These benefits of the Plan, in my belief, ought to save Europe from turning Red."

Ron Moltenbrey is also optimistic: "In my opinion, the Marshall Plan is destined to become the most important single factor in determin-

ing the future of the world. If it fails, it may very well mean the extinction of the human race in a war to end all wars. On this basis, the Marshall Plan is a dangerous enterprise, for we may well be financing our own downfall. It is my firm belief, however, that if the administrators of the Marshall Plan are backed by the United Nations and even more specifically by our own government with military force to such an extent that they can control the use to which every cent is put, and, as well, the development of the new social, political and economic organizations in the countries being aided, then the Marshall Plan can be the dawning light of a new world of peace and prosperity."

Robert Lerner answered the following: "To my mind, if we expect the Marshall Plan or any other plan to produce a social or economic system in Europe comparable to our own, we will be much disappointed. Conditions in the majority of countries receiving Marshall Plan aid never have been socio-economically comparable to us and probably never will be."

Richard Jones is of the opposite opinion. He said: "No, I do not believe that the Marshall Plan can succeed in saving Europe from Communism. My reason is the absence of an energetic program. The executors of the foreign policy of this country declare that Communism can be stopped only by making each state in Eastern Europe strong—their governments sound."

ON AND OFF THE RECORD

By JACK SAUNIER

January and February seem to be the concert months, and Worcester has had its share this year. Chronologically the Minneapolis Orchestra was first, but only in that respect. The Cleveland Orchestra, under George Szell, gave a much more polished performance of a program quite similar to that of the Minneapolis, conducted by Dmitri Mitropoulos. I was quite impressed at the programming of these Civic Music concerts, in that no music older than Brahms' 3rd was played. The Minneapolis Orchestra did the work mentioned and Milhaud's "Summer Day on the Mountain," while the Cleveland Orchestra exhibited its depth of sound and conception in Tchaikovsky's "Pathétique" and in Paul Hindemith's "Symphonic Metamorphosis" of some of von Weber's themes, many of which sounded quite like a preview of the Stan Kenton concert of the following week! Mr. Szell's treatment was tasteful and exhilarating, as it was again on his countryman Smetana's Symphonic Poem No. 2, "The Moldau." Unfortunately the work of Mr. Mitropoulos was for me a distinct letdown in the light of my memory of that orchestra under Eugene Ormandy.

It was tremendously significant to me in that the band did very poorly on the old stuff—the record hits of the old Kenton band—but played some magnificent new music with evident relish and obvious conviction.

Pete Rugolo's new pieces were of definite musical stature, and one work, "Thermopylae," not credited to either Rugolo or Kenton, was a positive standout in the program. The much debated "Monotony" by Rugolo was second best in my book—a very well integrated "Bolero"-type number which in rhythm, harmonics and intensity made Ravel's aforementioned work sound like rain on a tin roof.

June Christy looked cute as a bug, and sang almost as well as the music of "Lonely Woman" demanded. That one number should do much to popularize this new Kenton band. However, she was not up to par on her other songs, with the possible exception of "Ricka-jack," a boppish item which the crowd enjoyed.

The rhythm section was the best part of the band. Jack Costanza's bongo drums were used to excellent effect. The guitar still seems unnecessary—it slowed down the concert. Shelley Manne was loose and wonderful on the drums, and Safranski was as good as Safranski. The brass section was tremendously powerful and clean (except on "Concerto to End etc.") but spotty on solo work. Al Porcino didn't get enough to do, and Chico Alvarez entirely too much. The saxes were quite weak, with Art Pepper's alto and Bob Giogo's bary giving it the punch lacked by leadman Weidler and tenor soloist Mr. June Christy.

Skeptical Chymists Hear Two Students

Battling adverse weather conditions and the proximity of final examinations, the Skeptical Chymists held their last meeting at Kin-nicut Hall on the night of January 19th. However, the bitter cold and studying limited greatly the number that attended. After the short meeting was opened by George Crompton, Vice-President, an informal discussion took place concerning attendance at future meetings. As a result, members can look for widespread announcement of the next meeting which will be held shortly, and a bigger and better meeting is promised. The organization is looking for a convenient meeting time to suit the majority of its members, and better attendance under better conditions is expected.

Two very interesting talks by members of the group highlighted the meeting. George Crompton creditably spoke on diamonds, and James Genser's topic was "Electrodeposition of Metals on Cellulose Acetate," which is metals coated on plastics, for the information of you who are not lucky enough to be chemists. Mr. Crompton discussed the structure of the diamond, but stressed mainly the possible synthesis of the precious stone by man. After describing three or four methods that man has used to try to make the diamond, he concluded that so far no diamonds have been made by any man. He pointed out that men like Moissan, in his famous experiment, have claimed to have synthesized the diamond, but their claims have never been substantiated. However, the speaker believed that some day man will be able to synthesize diamonds, since the conditions necessary for diamond existence are known. Mr. Genser spoke mainly on the methods used for coating metals on the particular plastic, cellulose acetate.

After the meeting an excess of cider and doughnuts was consumed by those present. The organization would like to point out to its members that refreshments are to be served following all the meetings.

Endowment

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

Worcester Tech where it belongs, up on top in the engineering world.

Andrew B. Holmstrom, '17, vice-president of the Norton Company, was appointed general chairman of the Endowment Fund Committee. This committee, which maintained its office in Sanford Riley Hall, was the nucleus of a larger general campaign committee which had representatives all over the country.

Among those on the general committee who assisted Mr. Holmstrom were President Cluverius, F. Harold Daniels, president of Riley Stoker Corp. and a trustee of the Institute, Col. Andrew H. Holt, head of the Civil Engineering Dept., and George Rockwood, '88, a trustee and former president of the Rockwood Sprinkler Corp.

Under the general committee, small committees were set up in each state with smaller ones in districts and communities. These committees

were assigned to contact the different phases or groups that possible subscribers were divided in. Group One was the alumni of Worcester Tech all over the country. Group Two was the industries here in Worcester and also other industries that might have an interest in Worcester Tech and its graduates. Group Three was the general public who would be interested in seeing Worcester Tech maintain its high standard of education. This would include relatives and friends of Tech men who are still in school as well as those of Tech alumni. Each committeeman was assigned to contact a certain number of people and then make reports to his committee chairman who in turn reported to the general committee here in Worcester. Committee meetings of men assigned to cover Worcester and vicinity were held once or twice a week as needed at Sanford Riley Hall.

It was announced by the general committee that industries or individuals who contributed substantial gifts of money would have certain parts of new buildings or new facilities named in their honor.

Subscriptions came in slowly at first until the fever caught and during November, December and January the subscriptions came pouring in, attesting to Tech's alumni and friends interest in making a great school greater. By the middle of January the drive was approximate-

ly \$300,000 short of its goal. The reason for this was that the inclement weather this section had experienced this winter made traveling hard and many potential subscribers were not contacted. The drive was to end February 4, 1948, but the committee decided to continue it for a little while longer to enable committeemen who had not contacted subscribers to do so. It was also announced that even when the drive ends it doesn't signal the end for subscriptions because committeemen will still work to contact people that were unavailable before, during the drive.

In order that Worcester Tech maintain its high place in the ever expanding engineering world, it must provide the facilities that will send Tech men out into the engineering world equipped to meet the best of them. That is what this drive was designed for—to make a great school greater.

OUR FACULTY

By WALTER DENNEN



KURT L. MAYER

Mr. Kurt Ludwig Mayer, Assistant Professor of Physics here at Worcester Tech, joined the staff of the Physics Department in the year nineteen hundred forty-two. Four years previous to that time, in nineteen hundred thirty-eight Prof. Mayer came to the United States from Germany. Born in Germany, he spent his boyhood and the greater part of his life previously to his coming to America in the Schwarzwald region of Southern Germany, more generally known as the Black Forest.

Professor Mayer began his years of higher education at the University of Goettingen in northern Germany, where his studies lay in the fields of mathematics, physics, and philosophy. In nineteen hundred thirty-three he graduated from the technical institute at Karlsruhe in the Schwarzwald district. Following his graduation, the major portion of his time, until his departure for the United States, was spent in teaching mathematics and physics in Germany.

Upon his arrival in this country, Prof. Mayer became associated with industry rather than remaining in the educational field. But after a short period in the world of production, he entered Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, where he devoted his time and energy to performing graduate work in the field of applied mechanics. From there he came to W.P.I. as a member of the Physics Department staff. Most of the nine years that he has spent in the United States have found Professor Mayer making his home in Worcester County. Wor-

cester County and New England, central New England more specifically, have a strong appeal to Doctor Mayer with regard to the physical characteristics of the terrain, in that this region is greatly similar in many respects to the Black Forest in Germany.

As is to be expected, Professor Mayer's outstanding interests lie in his work in the related fields of applied mathematics and physics. His chief outside interests are an outgrowth of his life in the rugged, mountainous areas comprising the Black Forest. Thus he has become an ardent advocate of the healthful but strenuous exercise of hiking, and in its more vigorous form, mountain climbing. As a result of his hiking ambitions, Professor Mayer is a member of the local chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club. He is also a member of Sigma Xi, the honorary scientific research society, and is a member of the American Association of Physics Teachers.

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Theta Kappa Phi Is Host to Federation of Newman Clubs

The regular meeting of the Worcester Tech Newman Club was held on Feb. 10, 1948, in the Janet Earle Room of Alden Memorial. The meeting started with a prayer by the Chaplain, Fr. H. Brabson. President Intagliatta told of the recent Newman Club Federation meeting held at Worcester Tech on February 8, 1948. The Theta Kappa Phi fraternity house was host to the delegates representing most of the New England chapters of the Newman Club. President Intagliatta expressed his appreciation to all the members of the Tech chapter that aided in making this meeting one of the most successful that the federation has had. The president also spoke of the plans to have a joint communion breakfast with the Newman Clubs of Clark, Worcester State Teachers and Framingham State Teachers. An official announcement of the time and place for this affair will come in the near future.

Enrollment

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1) rear with eight and five students respectively. The figure of 172 Seniors compares with the 128 Seniors registered a year ago at this time.

The number of students registered in the various departments are as follows: 262 in M.E., 226 in E.E., 101 in Ch.E., 68 in C.E., 18 in Chemistry, and 12 in Physics. These figures compare closely with those of a year ago with the greatest gain made by the Mechanical Engineering department which now has twenty-seven additional students.

The proportion of former servicemen at Tech has been rapidly decreasing over the past two years. As much as 95% of the present Junior class were veterans when they entered Tech in 1946, but only 30% of the next incoming Freshman class (i.e. the class of '52) are expected to be servicemen, and most of these will be comparatively young men who have had a short enlistment period. Last year (1946-47) 77% of the student body were veterans, but this year only 70% are veterans.

Already 575 applications for the next Freshman class have been received by the Dean's office, and many more are expected. Only about 200 from the total number of applications will be accepted. However, there is a new "fly in the ointment" in the Pre-Engineering Carnegie Test that all applicants must take before their final acceptance. The first battery of these tests will be given to the local applicants on March 6, 1948.

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Literary Club

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 4) invited to Prof. Mackenzie's home, Prof. Higginbottom being the speaker. His topic was "The Novel." Drawing on a wealth of informative examples, he discussed the advantages and drawbacks of that form of literature. During the discussion and refreshment period which followed, the audience veered off onto rather an interesting topic. The group seemed to split up and take sides on the question whether literature affected one's emotions and morals. Both groups vehemently supported

their point of view, but, what seemed more important to this reporter was the new twist introduced into the conversation. It seemed that the club was not only interested in books but also in their effect on the human race. At this meeting the whole staff of the English Dept., as well as seven student members, were present.

Plans have now been made for a meeting on the 27th of February. At this meeting Mr. Perley will speak to the group on "The Short Story". This seems to be a very popular subject with the members.

The meeting is being held at 7:30 P.M. in the Janet Earle Room, thereby enabling anyone interested in the club to be present. Anyone interested in joining the club could do so by contacting one of the following: Prof. Mackenzie, faculty advisor; S. Muthiah, secretary; R. Bedard, C. Ackerman, T. S. Chadha, P. Stanier, charter members. There is no president or vice-president, as it has been decided to appoint a different chairman at every meeting.

Here is a fine opportunity to

learn more of literature and to acquaint oneself with various connected matters.

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Weaving of nylon yarn required the development of special sizing material

Problem solved by Du Pont men with many types of training

Each new product that is created in the laboratory seems to bring with it a new set of problems to challenge the ingenuity of the scientist. An outstanding instance of this is nylon. To make practicable the weaving of nylon into textiles, it was necessary to develop an entirely new slasher sizing material—a coating to make the filaments adhere to one another, protect the yarn from abrasion and keep it clean. Sizes used on other fibers proved unsatisfactory on nylon, because of its unique chemical composition.

Five candidates were exhaustively tested by Du Pont men. Best by far proved to be polymethacrylic acid (PMA), $[\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)\text{COOH}]_n$, possibly because its acidic nature is favorable to hydrogen bonding with the polyamide structure of nylon.

Many technical problems involved

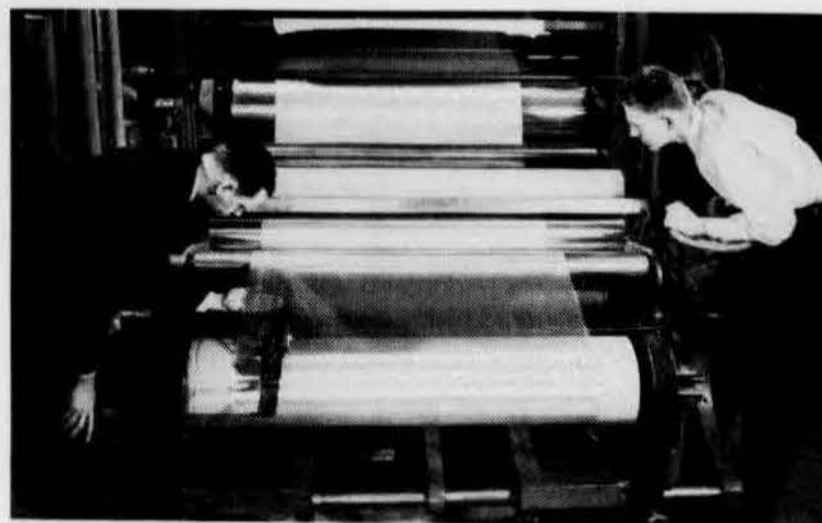
(1) After weaving, sizing has to be removed by water. PMA dissolves in water readily up to 10% at room temperatures, but precipitates between 70-80° C. A way had to be found to prevent precipitation at the normal scouring temperature of 100° C.

(2) PMA sets to a brittle, glassy material on fibers, giving a harsh wrap. Suitable plasticizers such as sulfonated vegetable and mineral oils, glycols and other polyhydric alcohols had to be found to correct this condition and permit stretching and flexing of the yarn without film impairment.

(3) Good dispersing agents were necessary so that the powdered PMA would not agglomerate as it dissolved in the sizing bath.



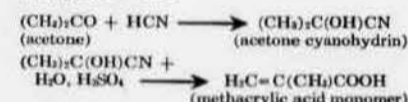
G. W. Fassett, B.S. in Chemistry, Augustana '36, and W. A. Franta, M.S. in Chemical Engineering, North Dakota '34, inspect woven fabric made from PMA sized nylon warp in Du Pont Experimental Weaving Laboratory.



J. M. Griffing, Ph.D. (Organic), Columbia '45, and A. Deschoemaker, B.S. in Chemical Engineering, Lehigh '41, inspect PMA size solution and check nylon warp at head end of a slasher. In slasher sizing, entire warp is coated rather than a single thread.

(4) Optimum concentrations of PMA and the various plasticizers had to be determined, and application temperatures worked out for the different types of fabrics (satins, twills, taffetas, etc.) to be sized.

The basic reactions involved in making methacrylic acid monomer are straightforward:



But several technical difficulties in the manufacture of the polymer had to be overcome:

(1) The distillation of the monomer has to be controlled carefully to keep it from polymerizing in the still head.

(2) The monomer must be obtained free of any color-forming impurities that might cause permanent discoloration of the fabric by the final polymer solution.

(3) Polymerization of the monomer must be carefully regulated to get reproducible results and constant molecular weight. This is important because the molecular weight of the PMA determines the viscosity of the size.

(4) Drying the polymer presented unusual difficulties. A special study was made to find an economical drying process that would give a uniform, finely divided product adapted to rapid solution.

Credit for the development of PMA textile sizing, is shared by Du Pont men with many types of training—chemists, physicists, chemical engineers and textile experts, as well as the technical service men who worked in close cooperation with leading textile manufacturers during commercial trials.

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Trinity Mermen Sink Tech Swimmers In Alumni Pool, 51-24

Madwed, Kahn Win First Places For Home Team; Medley Relay Team Wins

Coach Grant's old reliables, Sid Madwed, Pete Kahn, and Bill Bowen, came through again for Tech's natators, but the team's lack of depth proved once again their downfall as they bowed to the Trinity College swimmers, 51-24. Madwed paddled to victory in the 100 yard free style, Kahn in the 220 yard breast stroke, Bowen took second in the 150 yard back stroke, while the three combined their talents to swim away with the 300 yard medley relay.

The most exciting event of the meet was the final event, the 400 yard relay. Madwed, anchor man for the Tech team, dived into the pool with a one and one-third lap deficit. Gradually, he cut down the margin, only to lose by one stroke in the final outcome.

The other events told the same old story that has prevailed in the other three meets held this year—quality but not quantity. Usually only one Tech swimmer entered an event, whereas there would be two or three opposing team members competing against him. Consequently, Tech could take only one place out of the three counting places, and in order to win the team would have to take every first place.

The results:

300-yard medley relay—Won by Worcester (Bowen, Kahn, and Madwed). Time, 3:18.6

220-yard free style—Won by Tyler (T). 2nd, Bennett (T); 3d, Hassan (W). Time, 2:46.6

60-yard free style—Won by Gull (T); 2nd, Page (T); 3d, Olson (W). Time, .31.8

Diving—Brunett (T); 2nd, Ballard (W); 3d, Ballerman (T). Winners points, 59.2

100-yard free style—Won by Madwed (W); 2nd, Grill (T); 3d, Page (T). Time, 59.2

150-yard back stroke—Won by Classco (T); 2nd, Bowen (W); 3d, Compton (T). Time, 1:51.8

220-yard breast stroke—Won by Kahn (W); 2nd, Shepherd (T); 3d, Penney (T). Time, 2:53.8

400-yard free style—Won by Bennett (T); 2nd, Parker (T); 3d, Hassan (W). Time, 6:17.8

400-yard free style relay—Won by Trinity (Vanderbeck, Moor, Tyler, and Compton). Time, 4:09.8

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Table Tennis Tournament To Be Held

Singles Tourney To Be Run in Alumni Gym April 12 to 14

"Doc" Carpenter has announced that a table tennis tournament is to be held in the gymnasium, beginning on April 12 and extending until the 14th. Four tables will be set up on the gym floor and the play will consist entirely of singles.

There will be two entries from each fraternity, and two non-fraternity entries; making a total of twenty entries.

The fraternity entries will be chosen by the individual fraternities themselves, and in a manner of their own choosing.

A special period shall be set aside, far enough in advance of the actual tournament, so that non-fraternity men can practice and decide upon their two entries in the tournament. They shall practice in the game room of Sanford Riley Hall.

Strict table tennis rules shall be followed at all times during play. These rules are included with all table tennis equipment. The most important rule to be observed, is that pertaining to the method of serving; so you had better start practicing a legal serve!

This tournament is something new on the Hill so, if you like it, please "talk it up". If it is successful, it will become a regular part of the athletic program each year, and shall be counted toward the Grand Athletic Trophy if the fraternities so desire.

Attention

Handball Enthusiasts

Tournament To Be Held See Doc Carpenter Now

Tech Defeats Jumbos

Phi Gam Leads Bowling League, Sig Ep Second

With the half-way mark passed, it looks very much like the Phi Gam boys will cop the bowling title from the Sig Eps who took last year's cup. At present Phi Gam has lost but one point in their five matches. This happened during the Theta Chi match when Theta Chi had one of their numerous "hot-spots". SPE, LXA, SAE, and TKP were 4-0 victims of the Phi Gam keggers. Sig Ep is in second place with a record of 13 wins and 7 losses.

Although in second place, Sig Ep has set three of the four aimed-for records. In their match with AEP, which was won by the present runner-ups 4-0, the Sig Ep team set two of these records. The high team three string total amounts to 1154 pins for a team average of 96.2 for each string which is very good for the groovey Tech alleys. The high team single string total of 422 for the year was rolled off by Sig Ep. George Strunz, SPE, has set the individual mark of 313 for the three strings. Moltenbrey of ATO rolled the high single string; his mark, a good 121.

Phi Gam has only one man in the 90's, Frank Holby who has an average of 94.3. Woodman of LXA has the enviable position of leader in the individual race for honors. His average is 97.8. The whole Sig Ep team is now rolling in the 90's; Tyler, Johnson, Strunz, and Melden make up this group. Others who have been consistently working the pin boys are Sanford, SAE, 93.0; Shattuck, PSK, 92.0; Moltenbrey, ATO, 91.9; Carlson, ATO, 91.4; Dion, TX, 90.8; Campbell, PSK, 90.3; and Larson, LXA, 90.1.

Summary of team standings:

TEAM	WON	LOST
PGD	19	1
SPE	13	7
ATO	10	6
PSK	10	6
LXA	7	5
TX	11	9
AEP	4	12
TKP	4	16
SAE	2	18

A.S.C.E. Elect Officers

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 5)

Chapters of A.S.C.E. will be held at W.P.I. on May 8, 1948. The next meeting of the A.S.C.E. will be held on Monday, March 1, in the Janet Earle Room. The guest speaker will be Mr. Oscar Bray, of the Jackson and Moreland Co., who will speak on structural problems encountered in engineering.

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UCICH SPARKS ENGINEERS IN THRILLING 51-37 VICTORY

Ucich's One-handers and McKernan's Twisters Pace Scoring; Concordia Exhibits Brilliant Defensive Plays and Also Emerges From Scoring Slump

By IRV HAAS

Worcester Tech's hot and cold cagers rolled to an easy 51-37 win over Tufts College Saturday evening. Steve Ucich with 20 points for the evening paced the scoring and teamed with Concordia and McKernan to put on a dazzling display of defensive and offensive basketball.

McKernan and Carlson shoved Tech into a quick four point lead and then Tech was afflicted with its usual case of first period jitters to wind up on the short end of a 9-4 score with 10 minutes remaining in the half. From this point on, the Boynton Hillers began to roll over Tufts with McKernan showing the way with 8 big points to propel the team to a 22-16 halftime lead. During this drive Concordia and Ucich teamed to exhibit their ball-hawking prowess and in addition threw in 6 points between them.

At the start of the second half Ucich who had thrown in two hoops in the later stages of the first half, came out red hot and spurred the team into a 35-26 edge at the ten minute mark on the wings of four bewildering one-handed push shots that had the crowd on the edge of their seats. Steve then maintained the pace with three more shots of the same variety to leave the game with two minutes left amid a thundering ovation from the 900 spectators. During this second half surge "Mr." Ucich threw in 16 points to set a torrid scoring pace that completely outclassed the Jumbos.

During this time Capt. John Concordia came up with two pretty steals and ensuing lay-ups that further belabored the Tufts College quintet and thoroughly pleased the crowd. Although shackled fairly well in the second half Jim McKernan provided a floor game that left little to be desired and was instrumental in much of the scoring. McKernan once again elevated to a starting berth played an inspired game and left everyone in complete agreement with the wisdom of coach Charlie McNulty's choice.

For the "Jumbos", Andreason and Kolankiewicz played outstanding games and ended with 12 and 11 points respectively. Tufts missed the

services of Eli Shapiro who is currently sidelined with an injury.

Reserves Converse and Freeland showed up well in the game and their showing was pleasing and promising. Converse stayed so close to his man that it was at times difficult to distinguish between the two. Both Freeland and Converse have been showing up well in recent games and will undoubtedly see much more service. Capt. Concordia broke out of his scoring slump with six points and was an outstanding floor leader setting up many of the scoring plays and clearing the backboards. John is an outstanding defensive star and the adhesive element in Tech's offense.

Coach Charlie McNulty has the boys playing a brand of ball that is steady and impressive and has done a remarkable job of rounding the boys into shape and giving them the confidence that was lacking in many past teams.

The Jayvee squad underwent a 40-18 defeat at the hands of the South High kids who showed why they are runner-ups in the inter-high city league. The Tech team lacks experience and during the game suffered from poor shooting and the splendid backboard play of the South High squad.

WORCESTER TECH			
	fg	fp	tp
Howard f	1	0	2
Freeland	1	0	2
Carlson f	3	0	6
Converse	0	0	0
McKernan c	5	4	14
Cromack	0	0	0
Concordia g	3	0	6
Bradlaw	0	1	1
Ucich g	9	2	20
Barma	0	0	0
Totals	22	7	51

TUFTS			
	fg	fp	tp
Kearns f	4	0	8
Meehan	0	0	0
Schluntz	0	0	0
Ortman f	1	0	2
Nickerson	0	0	0
Travers	0	1	1
Kolankiewicz c	3	5	11
Epstein	0	0	0
Tryder	0	0	0
Andreason g	4	4	12
Perry	0	1	1
Cooney g	1	0	2
Totals	13	11	37

Personal fouls: Tech, Howard 3, Carlson 3, McKernan 3, Concordia 4, Bradlaw 2, Ucich 3. Tufts, Kearns, Ortman 3, Kolankiewicz 2, Andreason 2, Travers, Cooney, Perry 3, Meehan, Tryder.

Free throws missed: Tech, Howard 2, Carlson 2, McKernan 3, Concordia, Bradlaw. Tufts, Ortman 3, Kolankiewicz, Andreason, Travers, Perry 2, Meehan 2.

Referees, Jim Dorsey and Tom Carrigan.

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Tech Nipped by U. of Mass. 38-36, Smothered by Boston U. 67-45

McKernan Stars As Tech Is Nosed Out

Ucich and Howard Pace Tech in Losing Battle

Massachusetts University

In a contest in which both squads showed the effects of a three week mid-year layoff, the Mass. U. basketballers outlasted the W.P.I. Engineers 38-36. The victory ended an eight game losing streak by the Redmen and repulsed the efforts of the Coach McNulty charges to even up their season's record at 4 wins and 4 losses.

Both clubs lacked drive and fire. The Amherst quintet moved ahead 8-0 in the first four minutes of play. Tech still trailed, 11-6, after 10 minutes, breaking the ice after seven scoreless minutes.

By halftime Tech had taken an 18-17 lead. However, the Engineers slumbered again through the first eight minutes of the second half and the visitors climbed back on top, 22-18. Jim McKernan, the Long Island long boy, entered the fray after Tech had missed its first 14 shots of the half and dunked two quickies to pull the Boynton Hillers even. He followed with a third to put Tech ahead, 24-22. Big Bill Looney, ex-Worcester schoolboy and Devens College star, then threw in three points to put the Mass. U. five in front, 25-24, entering the final 10 minutes.

From there on the lead changed hands three times. McKernan dropped another hook shot to give Tech a one point advantage, but Mass. U. quickly evened it up on Looney's free try, and went ahead on a set by McGrath, 27-25. But Tech fought back once more to assume the lead 28-27. The Redmen then climbed into the driver's seat once again on a basket by Hy Myers and were never headed again.

For the visitors it was the play of a pair of reserves, Richardson and Myers, that tipped the scales in their favor for the first time since December 12. Captain McGrath was high scorer, however, with nine points.

The lone shining light in the Worcester line-up was center Jim McKernan. He tried vainly to pull his club through by hooping 12 of the 16 point second half total by the Engineers. Rog Cromack continued his excellent work on the free-throw line by tossing in five out of six charity throws. But the offensive work of the team as a whole lacked the drive with which they had trounced the Fort Devens basketballers three weeks earlier.

Boston University

Terriers are supposedly tame animals. But there are exceptions to every rule, and the Boston U. terriers were definitely exceptions as they held the W.P.I. Engineers at bay throughout the final three quarters to hang up a 67-45 victory.

The "Beantowners" had too much brawn and were too fast for the visitors from Worcester. The big guns for the home team were Goodreault, Winkler, and Captain Davies, with 14, 14, and 12 points respectively. The husky Winkler practically controlled the home boards, while Goodreault and Davies proved monkey-wrenches in both the defensive and offensive machinery of the Tech men.

For Tech it was their sixth setback against three wins. At times, particularly throughout the first quarter, they flashed good form, with excellent team work and pass work the keynote. But too often they fell back on helter-skelter, erratic play, and as a result were easy meat for B.U. Steve Ucich, Richie Howard, and Bob Carlson played best for the men from Boynton Hill, with Steve hitting for 11 points, Richie a total of ten, and Bob for nine.

Changing the style by which they had started off most of their games this season, Tech threw a scare into B.U. rooters by zooming to an early 6-0 lead at the six minute mark. They were still leading at the quarter 12-9, when the roof caved in. After Goodreault had thrown in a two-pointer to tie up the game 13-13, the Terriers forged ahead, not to be headed again. The halftime score was 28-17.

The second half was a nip and tuck affair for the first ten minutes as the Engineers narrowed the gap to 40-32 at the three-quarter pole. But gradually the B.U. team ran Tech into the hardwood, and the hitherto growling Terriers suddenly began barking steadily, pouring two or three baskets through the hoops for every one thrown in by the visitors. Both schools let their second teams battle it out in the final minutes of the game, but this climaxing battle had little effect on the outcome.

Indoor Track Team Schedules Meet February 26 in Gym

The Worcester Tech indoor track team will make its 1948 debut at the Alumni Gym on February 26. The opposition will be furnished by the Uconns from Storrs and the newly named Redmen from Amherst. Both of these schools are rumored to have strong squads, and this meet should give a good line on what to expect and who to watch this spring.

Even though the meet is only two weeks away, Coach Sanella is still looking for more candidates. The Gym floor will be reserved for track practice on Monday and Thursday at 2 P.M., Friday at 3 P.M. and Saturday at 11 A.M.

Notice

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