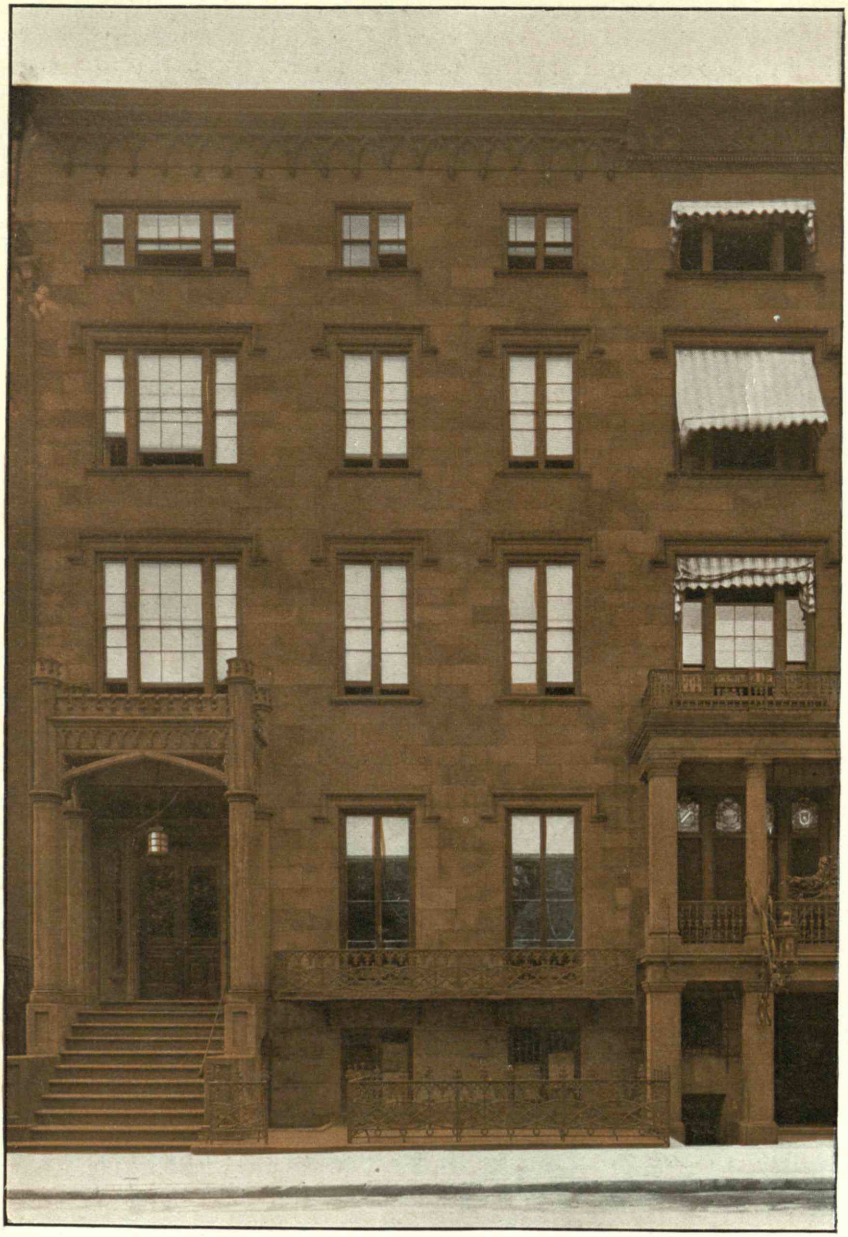

TECHNOLOGY CLUB OF NEW YORK

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TECHNOLOGY IN THE METROPOLIS

The New Club-house of the Technology Club of New York Popular beyond Expectation—An Increase in Membership of Eighty-five per cent. in Four Months

The recently acquired club-house of the Technology Club of New York is a monument to the progressive spirit of the Institute. It stands for the new alumni interest, friendship and co-operation. It has demonstrated in the few short months of its history that its advantages need only to be stated to be availed of by Tech men. Its success should be an inspiration in forming alumni clubs and obtaining adequate club facilities.

For six years the Technology Club of New York existed with an inadequate club-house and a membership of from 200 to 300. Every year men joined merely because they were Tech men, and many resigned or forgot the club because it afforded little or nothing of value to them. Facilities were not obtained for want of membership; membership could not be increased for want of facilities. The duties of management fell upon a few men. The initial indebtedness was reduced, but never eliminated.

Finally, in the fall of 1908 the constitution was amended and the Governing Board increased from five to ten members. The proposition of a joint club-house for the Technology Club and alumni clubs of New England colleges

awakened general interest, and would have succeeded, had the alumni clubs other than Technology obtained the necessary subscriptions.

In the absence of such success and confronted by the termination of the lease of the old club-house, the Board of Governors sought new quarters, and found a most desirable house ready for occupancy, the expense of which was more than twice the existing income of the club. Believing, however, that the acquisition of the new house would result in increased membership and increased house accounts, and supported by the enthusiastic commendation of every member of the club who had seen the accommodations afforded by the new place, the Board unanimously resolved upon its acquisition, and, after negotiations which resulted in obtaining terms more advantageous than those originally offered, signed a lease for four years from May 1, 1909.

The house thus acquired, a four-story and basement sandstone building, shown in the accompanying photograph, is at 17 Gramercy Park, between the Columbia University Club and the Players' Club, two blocks north of the 18th Street subway station and one block east of Fourth Avenue. It has a frontage of 33 feet on Gramercy Park, and covers 75 feet of a 125 foot lot, thus assuring abundance of light and air. The house was formerly known as the Gerard mansion, and is now owned by the Gerard estate. Its spacious rooms were adapted for club purposes, and this, together with its attractive and convenient location, led to its being leased to William R. Hearst as headquarters for the Independence League Club in 1908.

It was thereupon altered and refitted to afford every club convenience. Ranges, grills, steam serving tables, and ice-chests were installed in the basement. On the first floor the large marble-tiled entrance hall was converted into an

office and a coat-room. The long double parlors became a reception-room and a main dining-room, as appears from the photograph. The original dining-room was altered into an attractive café; and what was probably a conservatory, overlooking the garden, into a smaller dining-room.

On the second floor, reached by an artistic winding stairway, the large front room, commanding a view of the Park, became a library, and an adjoining front room a writing-room. The rooms in the rear were changed into billiard, card, and board meeting rooms, and a suitable toilet was created. The rooms on the two upper floors were made into double and single bedrooms with running water and bath.

Electric light was provided, and the entire building was redecorated. The house was expensively furnished. Plush carpets were laid on the parquet floors and stairways, and the furnishings included comfortable leather-covered easy-chairs and lounges, oak dining-room tables and chairs, mahogany writing-desks and reading tables, a billiard and pool table, high leather-covered chairs for the billiard-room, brass beds and suitable furniture for the sleeping apartments. The board room even included desks and a typewriter.

In the spring of 1909 the Independence League Club no longer desired to occupy these splendid quarters, and the lessee wished to sublet the building and to sell the furnishings. The lease finally signed by the Board of Governors of the Technology Club provided not only for payment of the rental from May 1, 1909, but instalments for the furnishings, the same to become the property of the Technology Club at the expiration of the four-years' lease.

To these spacious and attractive rooms, previously dust-covered and silent, came on the evening of May 7 several hundred enthusiastic Tech men, crowding about Presi-

dent Maclaurin and Mr. I. W. Litchfield, greeting their words of congratulation and good wishes with resounding M. I. T. cheers. Sixty-five men thereupon joined the club, and a subscription of some $3,000, to meet the anticipated expenses above income for the first year, was quickly pledged. At a subsequent meeting, when the house was again crowded, representatives of our neighboring clubs, Columbia, Princeton, Players' and National Arts, gave us a cordial welcome to Gramercy Park. The four months which have since passed testify that the anticipated interest and support of Tech men in New York are certain.

This interest and support are evidenced by the increase in membership from 264 on May 1, 1909, to 446 on Sept. 1, 1909, or 85 per cent. in four months. Even more gratifying is the fact, appearing from the club vouchers, that not less than 200 members, or nearly 50 per cent., were at the club-house during the month of August, showing that the club-house is a popular resort. The house accounts in August were $1,378, which included $830 for meals, 1,798 meals, an average of 58 a day, or about 20 luncheons and 40 dinners daily, excluding Sundays. The receipts from cigars were $95, and the pool table netted $40. The increase in house accounts since the opening of the new club-house, indicated on the accompanying diagram, strikingly attests the increasing success of the club, as its facilities become known. Thus the house accounts increased from $640 in April, the last month in the old house, to $1,020 in May, the first month in the new place, and to $1,130 in June, $1,230 in July and $1,378 in August, an increase in four months of over 100 per cent. This is apart from room rental, which in August was $450.

It has been no small task to keep pace with the increasing requirements, but the House Committee and the Registrar have been equal to the occasion. The force of employees

has been constantly increased; excellent meals have been served to all who came; the sleeping apartments, including those reserved for transient members, have been kept in use; economy has been observed, and members have soon received statements of amounts due. It was apparent that the greatest difficulty would be to have cash in hand for rental and supplies, but this was lessened by the increase in membership, and the Treasurer's request for prompt payment of accounts met ready response. The existing dues, inadequate for such a club-house, could not be increased within the year, but the Board's request in August for subscription payments of not less than $5 from members re-

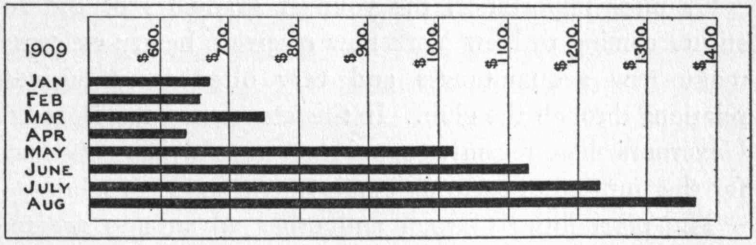

Diagram showing increase in House Accounts

cently graduated and $10 from other members will result, as appears from amounts already received, in assuring the continuance and growth of the new enterprise.

The Board has proceeded to make further improvements needed in the house. Shower baths and additional toilets have been placed on the upper floors; the basement has been altered to provide sleeping-rooms for servants; and in the fall improved heating facilities will be installed. Pictures have been loaned by members, and more are expected. A special subscription list has been started to provide more magazines, and the subject of books for the library will receive attention.

Plans are now being made by the Entertainment Com-

mittee for a series of monthly smokers and entertainments, beginning October 2, which will from time to time include addresses on scientific subjects. On every day of the month members find, and will continue to find, congenial companionship at the new club-house. They bring their friends to luncheon or dinner, to be enjoyed in pleasant environment. Classes meet to renew memories and associations and continue good fellowship. Every evening men are in the reception-room, library, writing-rooms, and about the pool and card tables. Technology has advanced in New York city in the maintenance of a club-house on a par with those of leading colleges.

Of most importance, the younger graduates of the Institute coming to New York now receive a hearty welcome, make new acquaintances and very often form business relations through the club. In this connection the Board of Governors has recently appointed an Advisory Council for the purpose of securing employment for Tech men.

The possibilities of such and other advantages are unlimited, it being necessary only, in securing the best results in all the activities of the club, to increase both the resident and non-resident membership until all Tech men in New York and its vicinity and all who from time to time visit New York city are enrolled as members. This is being rapidly accomplished. Every new member brings others. The Membership Committee now numbers fifty-five men, among whom has been apportioned the duty of personally writing to non-members in the vicinity, and, if necessary, of personally interviewing them.

The time will soon come when no Tech man can say he has failed to join the club through want of information respecting its advantages nor for failure to receive a cordial invitation to share in the enjoyment of its comforts and benefits and in promoting, by united effort in every possible manner, the interests of the Institute. WILLIAM H. KING, '94.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT REGISTRATION

Larger entering class than last year.—Eighty-nine Colleges and Technical Schools represented.

In the two informal counts made of the registration this year the number of students has exceeded that for the last four years. The official count is always made on the 1st of November. The number last year was 1,462 on that date; the number this year will be larger.

The number of students admitted to the Institute on the basis of their work at other colleges is the largest that it has ever been. The number last year was 170, while already 180 have been so admitted for the college year.

Among the colleges represented by these new students are:—Acadia University, Alytilen (Turkey), Allegheny College, Armour Institute, Argentina National College, Arkansas, Bates, Brown, Boston College, Boston University, Bowdoin College Calcutta University, Case School of Applied Science, Chicago University, Columbia, Colorado, Cornell, De Pauw University, Dartmouth, Franklin and Marshal, National University of Greece, Georgia, Graceland, Haverford, Holy Cross, Harvard, Indiana, Imperial Japanese Naval College, Johns Hopkins, Lewis Institute, Lehigh, Leland Stanford, University of Minnesota, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Michigan, McGill, Middleboro, Maine, Military College of Mexico, Polytechnic School of Montreal, Maryland Agricultural, New York University, New Zealand, Nebraska, New Brunswick, Newbury College, College of the City of New York, University of Oregon, Ohio State University, University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State, Princeton, Queen's University (Kingston), Rensselaer, Radcliffe, Rhode Island State, University of Rochester, St. Mary's, South Carolina, Syracuse, Smith, Sacred Heart, St. Louis, Stevens Institute, St. Xavier, Trinity, Tufts,

Throop Polytechnic, Texas Agricultural, United States Naval Academy, University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic, Virginia Military Institute, Worcester Polytechnic, University of Washington, William and Mary, Wisconsin, Western Reserve, Washington and Lee, Williams, Yale,—the largest number having come from Yale.

Among the five hundred students coming to the Institute this year many nationalities are represented. In the total student body thirty-two foreign countries have sent men to the Institute. The distribution of students by states will probably represent a wider spread than last year. The figures are not yet available. Last year in the total number of students there were representatives of forty-four states and two territories, besides the District of Columbia, Philippine Islands, Porto Rico, and the Canal Zone.

Some of the Tech men who have sons at the Institute are: David Baker, III., '85; George Bowers, I., '75; William W. Brewster, '70; Henry F. Bryant, I., '87; George H. Capen, '83; Richmond H. Cushing, '75; John R. Freeman, I., '76; Linus Faunce, II., '77; Roderick D. Hall, VI., '89; Edward B. Hayward, I., '84; N. G. Herreshoff, '70; William H. Kerr (deceased); Mrs. Kerr-Baer, VII., '86; Mrs. Margaret N. Otis, '82; Frank A. Smythe, I., '89; Francis H. Silsbee, II., '74; Thomas F. Stimpson, III., '77; Frank Tenney, III., '83; James P. Tolman, III., '68; B. Vonnegut, IV., '76 (deceased); George R. Wallace, I., '81. Thomas A. Edison and General A. W. Greeley have sons at the Institute in the first-year class.

In the first part of the REVIEW, next to the table of contents, will be found the officers of the Alumni Association and committees, the list of class secretaries with addresses, the names of the Alumni Council, and a list of the alumni associations, with the addresses of the secretaries.

THE PURIFICATION OF SEWAGE

Interesting Results have been obtained at the Sanitary Research Laboratory in Co-operation with the United States Geological Survey.

The problem of purifying sewage so that it no longer transforms the rivers into which it is discharged into open sewers has been so far solved that these streams need no longer be disgusting to the senses and dangerous to the health of people living along them. The task of destroying the disease-breeding bacteria in the sewage and once more making the rivers available for drinking water has not yet been worked out on a practical basis, but investigations recently made by the United States Geological Survey in co-operation with the Sanitary Research Laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and local authorities at Boston, at Baltimore, and at Red Bank, N.J., show that this end, too, may be attained at a reasonable cost.

A recent bulletin of the United States Geological Survey says that the essential agents of sewage purification are provided and employed by nature, and sewage purification as practised today is but the intensive application of these natural processes. The improvements that have been made have not involved the discovery or application of new principles, but have merely increased the working efficiency of the natural agencies. From the old-time sewage irrigation field, with its maximum capacity of possibly 10,000 gallons an acre in twenty-four hours, to the present-day trickling filter capable of dealing with 2,000,000 or 3,000,000 gallons an acre a day, improvement has been steady.

The old-time methods, however, really destroyed the polluting substances, while the modern sewage filter does not. The liquid flowing from these filters looks to the untrained eye like the original sewage. There is almost as much organic matter in it as in the raw sewage, and sometimes more. Its nature, however, has been