

# The Technology Review

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ROBERT E. ROGERS, *Editor*, Mass. Inst. Tech., Cambridge, Mass.

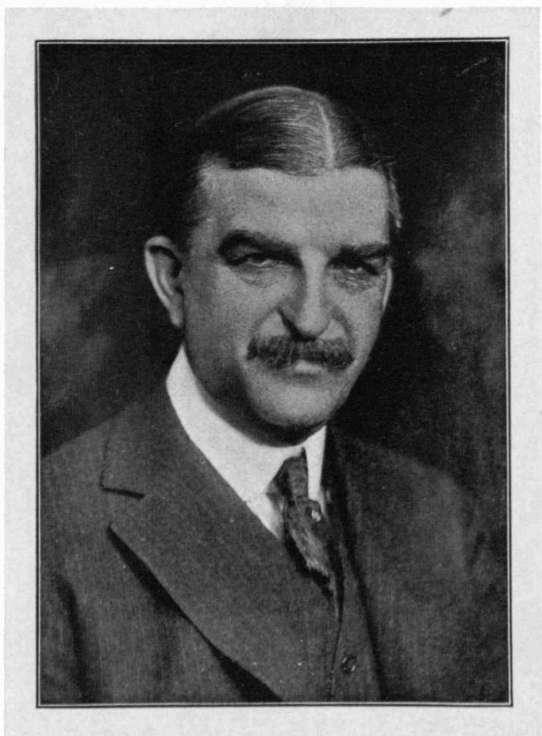
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ISAAC WHITE LITCHFIELD, '85

WHEREAS, The work of indexing and classifying for mobilization the technical and specially trained men of the country requires the constant presence in Washington of Mr. I. W. Litchfield, '85, and

WHEREAS, The demands of this work have obliged him to tender his resignation as Editor of the TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, as Field Manager of the Alumni Association and as Representative of the Class of '85, to the Alumni Council, be it

*Resolved*, That the Alumni Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, recognizing the superior importance in the national interest of the work upon which he is now engaged, releases Mr. Litchfield in full confidence that the record he is making in the national service will be of great value to the country, a credit to himself and a source of pride to the Institute;

That in granting this release and accepting Mr. Litchfield's resignation as Editor of the TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, as Field Manager of the Alumni Association and as Representative of the Class of '85, the Alumni Council extends to Mr. I. W. Litchfield the thanks of the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the many years of devoted and effective service which he has rendered in each of these several capacities;

That during a period of extraordinary development of the Institute Mr. Litchfield, as Editor of the TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, has held that publication abreast of this development as a register and reflection of its many-phased activities, and has thereby firmly established the REVIEW, extended its influence, enhanced its permanent value as a record and sustained and developed its interest to the Alumni and all friends of the Institute;

That as Representative of the Class of '85 to the Alumni Council Mr. Litchfield has been conspicuous for constructive comment and suggestion and has consistently and always worked for the best interests of the Institute;

That as Field Manager of the Alumni Association Mr. Litchfield brought to the position and employed without stint an enthusiasm so fine and contagious, so wide and intimate a knowledge of Institute affairs and men, ideas so ingenious and compelling and such loyalty and devotion to his Alma Mater that he has come to stand in the minds of many as the embodiment of the Institute spirit and in the minds of all as an earnest, resourceful and effective agent for developing alumni interest, organizing alumni activities and for carrying far and wide the message of the Institute.

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## A NEW EDITOR AND A NEW POLICY FOR THE REVIEW

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To Every Alumnus Who Subscribes to The Review, Attention

THE TECHNOLOGY REVIEW will hereafter be a quarterly, published at the usual dates for the large numbers. The small monthly numbers, which have proved useless for immediate news value and unimportant for purposes of record, will be discontinued. Their place will be taken by the *War-Time Tech*, the newspaper issued twice a week at the Institute to print war-time Technology news for both undergraduates and alumni.

Hereafter *The Tech* will give the news fresh, week by week, and the REVIEW will offer the permanent résumé and record. The REVIEW cannot, then, in the nature of things, try to reprint as fully as it did in July and this number the material from *The Tech* which it thought would be of interest to its readers. The three-month period between issues, the strain on the quarterly numbers for space will forbid.

The REVIEW reaches over 5,000 alumni, the *War-Time Tech* about 2,000. This means, naturally, that some 3,000 alumni are going to miss the fresh news, the detailed news, the long interesting letters from the front, and especially the personal notes about Technology men in service which are sent out by the Washington Office. They will get all this summarized to a certain extent in the REVIEW, but they will, perforce, miss a great deal.

What are these 3,000, then, to do?

The answer is obvious. By the time they read this page they will have received their bill for dues from the Alumni Association, informing them that they are urged and expected to subscribe for a year to the *War-Time Tech* and thereby to keep in almost daily

touch with the things the alumni and undergraduates are doing in industry and at the front.

The REVIEW backs up the *War-Time Tech* with all its strength. It urges its 3,000 readers who as yet do not read the *War-Time Tech* to remedy their omission. For its part the REVIEW will continue, four times a year, to furnish the alumni with a complete, careful, documented record and digest of the important things in the life of the Institute and its alumni, with just as full class notes as the class secretaries can be induced to send in, with as many and as interesting special articles and pictures of interest to Technology men as can be secured.

Nobody can take Ike Litchfield's place! He built the REVIEW up into a great organ of the alumni. But he has greater work to do. His successor, appointed by the Council, took charge last summer and got out the July issue, belated, but, we believe, full of information of permanent value to Tech men. If you don't like the new editor's magazine write in and say so. If you do, all the more. Send in everything you can to help him make the magazine a live wire.

And keep yourself awake and in touch with the extraordinary things old M. I. T. and her sons are doing in this war by supplementing the REVIEW with the *War-Time Tech*. You won't regret it.

ROBERT E. ROGERS,  
*Editor.*

## WHAT THE WAR DID TO OUR REGISTRATION

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All but ten per cent. of the Institute's usual enrollment enters this fall

Already we can begin to see from the registration at the Institute some of the effects of the war on technical education. A knowledge of this is important since it may help shape lines of preliminary study towards those professions which the war shows to be in demand. The showing is that chemical engineering is stimulated and naval engineering exhibits an equal or greater increase in students, while civil engineering and electrical engineering remain in about the normal condition. The total is 1,670.

The Institute's freshman class is larger than ever, 504 against 450 of last year, with still a considerable number who took the entrance examinations in June and have not yet registered. The sophomore class as now registered actually shows a gain of five or six per cent., being 443 against 420 who were in the class of freshmen last June. The junior class assembles with 358 registered against 456 sophomores in June and the senior class now calls together 325 out of 484 juniors before the vacation. It is in the post-graduate work that the largest percentage of loss comes. These men are of the age and attainments to be instantly of service to their country, so that here the number has fallen from 65 last year to 39 at the moment.

The graduate students stand today at 60 per cent. of last year's figure. There has been the most shrinkage in the junior class, the sophomores of last year, to whom two years more of schooling has perhaps seemed a long time in the face of striking events calling for evidence of patriotism. But the return of 86 per cent. of the juniors to be seniors is evidence that the junior summer camp was well advised. The purpose of this was to gain some military practice and to give to students an opportunity to anticipate fourth year studies, and be finished with their studies and ready for active service at an earlier date.

In a consideration of the effect on the courses it may be well to omit those with less than fifty men since the defection of two or three students shows an undue percentage of shrinkage. One of them, however, naval architecture, is stimulated by the war to

an increase of 16 per cent. The course has always been small and has been maintained by the Institute for a good many years to round out the complete school. These times more than justify that policy of the past.

Of the larger courses, civil engineering maintains practically the same figure as in former years, the shrinkage being 1.2 per cent., while electrical engineering opens the year with a loss of only 2 per cent. Chemical engineering, thanks probably to the advertisement given to it by the war has a 12 per cent. increase. It is interesting to see that engineering administration is practically holding its own, having lost only  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. since the last registration. This has always been a popular course, at first, it is hinted, from the fact that the students thought that it might be an easy way to finish at Tech, but latterly from the excellent records that its men have been able to make.

Architecture, being perhaps a luxury among studies, has declined nearly one-third in the number of its students. Unfortunately military architecture is closely allied to civil engineering, and here the war has had an effect. Perhaps the undue cost of building materials, fifty to one hundred per cent. in many cases, and the consequent gossip that building operations will be at a standstill, has had its influence in deterring young men from taking it up with usual vigor.

It is a little surprising, however, to find that mechanical engineering has lost about 21 per cent. This is a study that should be stimulated by the war, for it is in this work that Professor Miller, head of the department, has undertaken for the U. S. Shipping Board the management of the schools for marine engine room officers, places in principal ports in the Country. The decline in this department is the more surprising in that among the hundred odd men who have entered the Institute from other colleges, men who have probaby looked over the field in engineering needs, it stands second only to chemical engineering in the number of men who chose it. These selections bear out in general, however, the tendencies shown by the full registration, for the favorite options among these men were, in the order named: chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering and engineering administration, with naval architecture next in order. The actual registration presents them in the order: naval architecture, chemical engineering, civil engineering, electrical

engineering, and engineering administration. This shows a focusing of popular attention on some of the needed war studies.

Massachusetts furnishes some 300 of the freshmen, 69 from Boston, of which Dorchester furnishes one-third, 24 from Cambridge, 17 from Newton, 13 from Lawrence, 11 from Brookline and 10 from Brockton. The distribution is shown by the fact that 66 smaller places furnish 100 students. In the manufacturing centres the number has fallen.

There are 42 freshmen from New England in this registration, 57 from the Middle States and 14 south of Philadelphia. Norway sends two and Spain one; Mexico sends eight, Chile adds two to the seven men here, and Cuba adds one, while China has four freshmen and Japan two. Thirteen women in all have registered.

A representative of a neighboring institution is said to have declared that any place of higher education opening with more than 50 per cent of its former enrollment is unpatriotic. Perhaps—or perhaps the grapes are green.

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### Alumni Gift to Mr. Litchfield

There was recently presented to "Ike" Litchfield, '85, upon his relinquishing of his work for the Alumni Association and in belated recognition of his tremendous and successful work during the great reunion of last year, a purse of \$3,500, as a token of appreciation and esteem for his work through many years in building up the association till it is conceded to be one of the largest and strongest active graduate organizations in the country.

The money was collected among the alumni by a committee of thirty-five men, with C. A. Stone, '88, as chairman, and E. C. Lufkin, '85, and L. E. Gardner, '98, as treasurer and secretary respectively. The purse, we understand, was originally planned to be much larger, but the national difficulties of the past summer made it seem advisable not to wait any longer in collection but to present the amount already raised, with the assurance that it carried with it as much affection and esteem as if it had been much larger.

## THE OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING

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### The first meeting of the Council in its own room at the Walker Memorial

An unusually large meeting began the work of the Alumni Council for the year, at its dinner in the Walker Memorial, on the evening of October 29. The work of the summer was reported upon and plans laid for increasing activity during the coming year.

The secretary made report for the Executive Committee during the past summer, especially of resignations and appointments. The resignation of I. W. Litchfield, '85, as editor of the *REVIEW*, field manager and representative of his class on the Council and of all alumni committees except the Committee for National Service, was presented. Mr. Litchfield had written to be released from his service on account of his war service in Washington.

It was voted that resolutions in appreciation of Mr. Litchfield's long service be prepared by A. D. Little, '85, that they be placed on the records of the Council and printed in the *REVIEW*. It was further voted, unanimously, upon the recommendation of Mr. Emerson, that Mr. Litchfield be made an honorary member of the Council, an unprecedented honor designed to show further the Council's feeling about Mr. Litchfield's work.

The president presented the written resignation of James P. Munroe, '82, as chairman of the M. I. T. Committee for National Service and chairman of the Committee of the Walker Memorial Sunday Pow-wows. Mr. Munroe's resignation was accepted with regret. In his place as chairman of the Committee on National Service the president appointed James W. Rollins, '78.

The president read a letter from Professor Stokes of Yale, chairman of the Executive Board of the American University Union, in regard to the admirable service Van Rensselaer Lansingh, '98, has given the University Union in Paris and of their desire to have him made its business manager and assistant director.

The president made an announcement of a gift of \$3,000 to the War Fund from Mrs. Edward Cunningham, in memory of Edward Cunningham, a late member of the class of '91. The gift is to be credited to the class.