



S. A. Breed, N. P. Cutler, Carney, Moss, Ashton, D. D. Jackson, King, Hopewell, Biscoe, Barnes  
 H. L. Clapp, Crosby, W. B. Page, Moody, Glidden, F. N. Dillon, Edwards  
 Latham, J. H. Reed, Dawes

# The Technology Review

Published at Cambridge "A" Branch, Boston, Mass.  
ROBERT E. ROGERS, *Editor*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass.

---

VOL. XXI

JANUARY, 1919

No. 1

---

## ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER SET FOR MARCH FIRST

It is to be hoped that the annual dinner of the Institute's alumni, set this year for Saturday, March 1, will be unusually well attended. It will be not only the first and best opportunity Technology men have had to talk over our work in the war, to find out what the other fellow and the other classes have been doing, but it will give an opportunity for all present to inspect the Walker Memorial as it is going to be in the future, cleared of military activity, the clubhouse of students and their activities and of the Faculty.

It is hoped that as many classes as possible will set their reunions for that date and will get together to inspect the Memorial in the afternoon before the dinner, which will be at seven o'clock in the Great Hall.

The speakers will be notable. Besides President Morss, who will review alumni activities for the year and act as toastmaster, the program will include Governor Coolidge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, President Maclaurin and Van Rensselaer Lansingh, '98, who will reminisce about his experiences in Europe. Also, Walter Gordon Merritt of New York, expert attorney on labor litigation, will tell what we have to expect from labor conditions in the future.

The dinner will be inexpensive, to meet peace-time conservation conditions, and it is hoped that we shall have a record celebration.

THE ALUMNI COUNCIL.

---

## IN MEMORIAM

In view of the fact that there are at present over eighty names on the Institute's roll of honored dead, the publication of whose memoirs and photographs would overflow the REVIEW for a long time to come, we have tentatively discontinued that feature, which began only last issue, in the hope that arrangements can be made to publish brief notices and pictures of the entire list, in one pamphlet to be published either as a supplement to the REVIEW or as an independent volume, possibly by Commencement next June. That would be the most fitting time, and we feel sure the alumni would be interested in such a volume.

THE EDITOR.

## THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

THE sixty-sixth meeting of the Alumni Council was held at the Engineers' Club, 2 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Monday, November 25, 1918. The usual informal dinner was served at 6.30 P.M., with an attendance of thirty-two, at which Mr. Morris Knowles was salad orator. The guests were President Maclaurin and term members of the corporation.

The business on the call for the meeting was: To receive present and retiring term members of the corporation. To discuss the question: Shall an Alumni Committee to assist men in the service to obtain professional employment be appointed?

President Morss announced the appointment of Mr. Palmquist of the Young Men's Christian Association as curator of the Recreation Room for the S. A. T. C. at Technology. The president also announced that the association had joined with the Alumni Magazines, Associated, to benefit by their joint scheme for advertising.

Announcement was made concerning the Annual Dinner, now set for Saturday, March 1, in the Walker Memorial. Professor Spofford spoke to the Council on the question of employment of graduates, and suggested that a committee be appointed by the Council. After a discussion it was voted that a committee be appointed by the Chair to consider the problem of employment of graduates and if it deems wise, co-operate with the local associations on this problem. The question was raised as to whether or not "The Tech" could be used as a medium of announcing opportunities for graduates and calls by employers for Technology graduates. The alumni representative on the Board of Management of "The Tech" stated that he believed that this could be arranged.

The president announced the appointment of Mr. Charles W. Eaton, '85, as Field Manager, subject to his acceptance. Mr. Eaton is at present abroad on war work.

The question of the M. I. T. Committee for National Service, as to how long this committee should be carried on and what further support could properly be given to the War Service Auxiliary was discussed. It was voted: That it is the sense of the Council that the Executive Committee should inquire into the future needs of the M. I. T. Committee on National Service and of the committee known as the War Service Auxiliary, and report on this at the January meeting of the Council.

Mr. Bemis spoke upon the devotion of Mrs. Cunningham, and suggested that whatever should be done concerning this committee should only emphasize the appreciation of the Council of the unusual work which has been undertaken and so successfully carried through by Mrs. Cunningham. Another speaker suggested that our appreciation of the work done by Mrs. Sedgwick in her particular part of the work should also be noticed.

It was suggested that a review should be made at the annual meeting of what has been done during the past year and a half by an informal report and that later a formal report would probably be presented.

President Morss quoted the vote of May, 1917, which suggested the Council's devoting each year one meeting to the reception of the retiring term members of the Corporation and the newly elected term members of the Corporation. He then introduced to the Council the term members of the Corporation who were present: Messrs. Stevens, '68; Carlson, '92; Rollins, '78; Horn, '88; and Little, '85. These term members spoke of their connection with the Corporation, about their work upon the visiting committees, and of the honor which befalls any alumnus elected

to this position. One term member spoke of his endeavor to get in touch and to know personally all teachers of the Department of Architecture upon whose visiting committee he served, together with his effort to get in touch with the students. At this time, the registration in architecture is at its minimum on account of the war, and a plan had been formed by which a joint committee was made up of the staff of the Harvard School of Architecture with our own staff, and he had been asked to serve as chairman. This committee was reviewing the opportunities of making such changes as would help the school. These changes can be made at this time more easily than at other times on account of the small number of students. Another spoke of the re-establishment of the School for Chemical Engineering Practice, which had to be abandoned temporarily because of the war and the calling away of the various instructors to places where sections of the school have been conducted. He mentioned the numerous engineering problems which lie before the country; problems which must be solved by the engineer, many of them by the chemical engineers.

It was suggested by another term member that it is better not to re-elect term members because there seems to be the tendency to confine the alumni activities to a relatively small group of alumni. He emphasized the need of having new men interested. He believed, however, that the term members were a valuable asset to the president and the Executive Committee, for it formed a group of men upon whom they could put special problems.

Mr. Rollins spoke further upon the work of the War Service Auxiliary and upon the need of carrying on the Technology Bureau in Paris for some time to come. A question was raised as to whether or not the material on hand which has been made by the Women's War Service Auxiliary could be used for people other than Technology alumni, and it was voted that the Council endorses the recommendation of the M. I. T. Committee on National Service that the War Service Auxiliary be empowered to distribute this material, not needed by Technology men in service, for the benefit of refugee work. It amounts to material valued at about \$2000 to \$3000.

---

## THE MEMORIAL AT LAST!

Gymnasium and whole of Memorial to be ready February 1

THE Walker Memorial, for the first time since it was built, will be at the disposal of the students of the Institute not later than the first of February. The Naval Aviators will be withdrawn by the 18th of this month, and the painters expect to be through shortly. The need of a recreation hall has been sadly felt during the past two years and it is hoped by the students that the opening of the Memorial will alleviate this want. The Walker Memorial will now be put to the use for which it was intended, namely that of a student activities and recreation building. The well equipped Walker gymnasium will also be ready for the various indoor teams and will aid them greatly in getting their training, so necessary for a victorious season. The heads of the activities which are going to be in the Walker are going to get together on the fourth and with the aid and advice of Bursar Ford pick out their quarters.

The plan is now that the Alumni Dinner on March 1 will be really a dedication of the building to the uses of the students, as has always been intended.

## CLASS BOOKS OF THE WAR

EVERY Technology alumnus who has been interested in the activities of Technology men, whether his classmates or not, in the war, has felt no doubt the inadequacy of the material that has been published either in "The Tech" or in the REVIEW. Both of these papers have tried to publish everything that they could lay hands on, but the information to date is scattering, fragmentary and incomplete.

The editor of the REVIEW would like to suggest, therefore, unofficially that it would be a very good thing if the various classes of the alumni would publish a class book containing the complete record of their members in all branches of war service, if possible, made vivid and personal by letters written by the men themselves, letters which the growing demand on space in every part of the REVIEW makes it impossible often to publish in full.

If this were done, we should within a year have a large and valuable amount of material to go into the permanent records of Technology, and to be the nucleus for that history of Technology in the great war which we all hope to see compiled some time in the future. The editor of the REVIEW would like to have all alumni who are interested in this project write to their class secretaries, to the Association of Class Secretaries, and to the Alumni Council, giving their views on the subject.

---

## A SECRETARY FOR 1919

THE youngest class graduated in such a hurry and in such disarray, that no secretary was ever elected. For that reason THE REVIEW is able to print only such notes as have come to hand in the Tech.

But by the Alumni Dinner of March 1, 1919, the secretary should be elected by postal ballot and should be able to canvass his class for news for the April issue.

In the meantime, however, all 1919 men who have information of interest to their classmates, about themselves or others, may send their notes directly to THE TECHNOLOGY REVIEW.



## TO THE YOUNGEST OF THE CLASSES

### President Morss's letter to the scattered members of 1919

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF '19:

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the members of the Class of '19 to membership in the Alumni Association. While, owing to the war, the class was not welcomed at the time of graduation, as has been the custom for many years past, I can assure you that the welcome at this time is no less hearty and cordial than if it had been extended when you graduated.

The Alumni Association is an organization to which it is well worth your while to belong. Its influence in Institute affairs is very considerable. As you doubtless know, it selects each year from its membership three representatives who become members of the Corporation for five-year terms, thus making a total of fifteen alumni members on the Corporation. The Alumni Council, which more directly has charge of the work of the Alumni Association, is composed of representatives of all graduate classes and of local associations, a few members at large and the five most recent past presidents of the Association. Its work extends to all phases of Institute work in which it can properly take a part; for example, the raising of funds for special purposes, the oversight of and help to student activities and to the help and advice even concerning the curriculum.

Each graduate of your class becomes a member of the Alumni Association by virtue of his degree. Other members of the class may be elected to membership. If any non-graduate will fill out and return the application blank for membership I shall be very glad to present his name to the executive committee for election.

While the influence of the Association in direct Institute affairs is great, its service to individual members is perhaps even more important in keeping former students in touch with each other and with the Institute. The headquarters of the Alumni Association are in Cambridge, but in many places in this country, as well as in foreign countries, there are local associations which it is the privilege and should be the duty of those in each place to join. The names of all those who keep headquarters posted as to their address are sent to the secretaries of the local associations, and this makes it easy for any man to join the local association where he may be and know his Technology neighbor.

The dues of the Association are very small and I hope each of you will pay them, for they include subscription to the TECHNOLOGY REVIEW, which is perhaps the best means of keeping those at a distance in touch with other men and affairs of the Institute.

At the banquet of the Alumni Association which will be held in the Walker Memorial on Saturday, March 1, 1919, and which I trust as many as are able will attend, I shall take the opportunity to extend to all members of the Class of '19 a formal welcome to the Alumni Association and to present to the class its Alumni Class Banner.

HENRY A. MORSS,  
President.

Cambridge, January 1, 1919.

## DR. MACLAURIN AND THE S. A. T. C.

### The National Director explains work of the Student Army Training Corps

THE first authoritative statement on the much discussed organization and demobilization of the Student Army Training Corps in over five hundred American colleges was made by its national director, President Richard C. Maclaurin of the Institute, at the meeting of the American University Association, yesterday afternoon, December 5, at the Harvard Medical School. In it Dr. Maclaurin stated the difficulties that lay in the way of a successful organization and showed that the admitted failure of the present scheme can have no bearing on any future possible attempts of the same nature.

Dr. Maclaurin said: "I understand that when the program was set up, an hour or so was set aside this afternoon for the discussion of the merits and demerits of the S. A. T. C. Great events have, however, intervened, with the result that today the S. A. T. C. is practically at the end of its career. We are here to bury Cæsar, not to praise or blame him. It is suggested, however, that before performing this pious act we should look a little into his history and see what lessons can be learned from the brief record. In the middle of the summer when I was asked by the Secretary of War to accept the educational directorship of the S. A. T. C. the plan presented differed in many important respects from that which stress of circumstances made it necessary to adopt when the work was actually begun. The radical difference was that the first plan proposed to induct the students into the army, but then to place them on furlough status prescribing only a limited amount of drill and requiring a few hours per week to be devoted to the study of the so-called Allied Subjects. This plan would have interfered comparatively little with academic freedom and would, I expect, have avoided most of the educational difficulties that actually presented themselves later. Circumstances, however, made its adoption impossible, the main factors in the change being two: First, the passage of the man-power bill, and second, and far more important, the publication simultaneously with the passage of that bill, of the plan to have four or five million men in Europe by the first of July. Under the changed conditions the law advisers of the War Department advised the Secretary of War that the plan of putting the students on furlough status was illegal, and to overcome this and various other difficulties that were presented, it was decided to place the men on active status and this had as necessary consequences the furnishing of barracks, subsistence and tuition and the payment of thirty dollars a month to each soldier. Before this change of plan was made, tentative regulations had been drawn up and these regulations having been presented to representatives of the colleges and universities of the land met with almost universal approval. Military instruction and discipline were to be in the hands of a military officer and this officer was to have the same relations to the president of the college as a member of its Faculty. That scheme was devised, of course, to overcome the obvious difficulties of dual control, but the change to active status was held by the military authorities to necessitate a change in the relations between the commanding officer and the president and this change had, as all of us who were associated with educational institutions predicted, many unfortunate consequences. Apart from this, however, the announcement of the policy of the authorities to transport an army of

four or five millions to Europe by July 1 could not but affect, and profoundly affect, the plans of the S. A. T. C. As these student soldiers could not be in any way privileged, they must be drawn into direct service at about the same time as those soldiers of similar age who were not in the colleges. This necessitated the rule about the division of the college students into three groups arranged with reference to their age — those of twenty years of age, those of nineteen, and those of eighteen—and the corresponding regulations regarding the courses to be pursued by these different groups. The difficulties inherent in this situation were recognized by every one who appreciated them to be extremely formidable, but there were, as you know, various special circumstances that greatly increased the inherent difficulties. Much the most serious of these was the epidemic of influenza and pneumonia which swept across the country and struck practically all the colleges most inopportunately either just as they were about to begin their work or within a week or two after they had begun it. This epidemic not only left a trail of discomfort and woe, but led to further delays. The process of induction which should have been completed at the very beginning of the term dragged over for a month or so, the process being greatly prolonged by the failure of the local boards to return the necessary papers quickly. Simultaneously with these troubles came those consequent on the breakdown in the Quartermaster's Department and the consequent failure of supplies of uniforms, bedding and the like. None of these difficulties had anything whatever to do with education, but that side of the work was not free from trouble. Plans had been carefully laid for a system of education that was consistent with the scheme approved by the authorities before the passage of the man-power bill, and the change of plans necessitated radical changes at the very last moment when most of the colleges had either already begun or were just about to begin. Further to complicate the difficulties, authority to spend money on publications was withheld until a time when most of the colleges naturally expected to be well under way. I have gone over these matters because some of them may be new to some of you, but you all know that through various causes the S. A. T. C. was scarcely launched before its need was happily removed by the signing of the armistice.

If you bear all the circumstances in mind I do not see how you can come to any other conclusion than that there is little or nothing to be derived from the experiences of the S. A. T. C. that can throw any light on what should be the permanent policy of the country regarding the relations between military and academic training. The conditions under which it worked were all exceptional and all abnormal. The whole condition of the country was not more abnormal than was that of the minds of the students and to a lesser extent of the Faculties. Amongst the few phenomena possibly worth recording are the following: First, the self-sacrificing spirit of practically all who gave themselves to the task of directing this effort; second, the thoroughly good intentions of practically all the army officers, combined in a few cases, it must be admitted, with almost complete lack of appreciation of the difficulties of the problems as presented to the academic mind; third, the individualistic outlook of many, although not all, of the colleges and their difficulty in spite of good intentions of recognizing the military exigencies of the situation. However, do not let us commit the mistake of glibly making generalizations as to the result of S. A. T. C. experiences. Some college presidents are quoted as saying that the experience has proved that military and academic training can not go together, apparently forgetful of the fact that they have gone together with rather conspicuous success in many of the military and naval academies of the world. I am not suggesting, of course, for a moment that the combination of military and academic training such as is to be found at West Point or Annapolis is either necessary or desirable



in the colleges and universities of this country. All that the experience of the S. A. T. C. proved was what any one would have expected,—that such a combination could not produce satisfactory results in a few weeks, that it requires time and patience to overcome the difficulties inherent in it and a great deal more careful planning and arrangement of details within each college than was practicable in the very few weeks during which the S. A. T. C. was actually operating. Reports came in from all quarters that difficulties were being overcome and that particularly in the smaller colleges things were beginning to go well, and I have no doubt that with the general good-will and co-operative spirit that prevailed, most of the difficulties would have shortly disappeared. However, all this seems to me rather beside the mark if we are considering the future, for in the future, of course, except in case of actual war, we must have far greater academic freedom and far less military control,—something much more nearly approaching the system that has prevailed for more than half a century in the Land Grant Colleges, with the possibility, I hope, of a more intensive military training in camps during the summer. The provision of work in summer camps would present some special difficulties to technical students but the problem of these students is special anyway and would call for special treatment. It should never be permitted to happen again that the country be called upon suddenly to provide a large army of technical experts for the needs of war. If we are optimistic enough to believe that war is to be abolished then there is no problem for us to discuss today, but if war is to remain a possibility we must face the fact that it would tend more and more to be a war of applied science and the nation that does not take that lesson to heart by training men to apply science to war-like ends should necessarily demand such an application would surely go down in the next great conflict.

---

## TECHNOLOGY A REGULAR ARMY POST

ON Monday, January 6, the Department of the Northeast took over the barracks occupied by the Students' Army Training Corps at Technology. The 7th, two companies of the 36th, provost guards, moved into the barracks where they will remain indefinitely, probably until all the men returning from overseas have been discharged. One company of the guards is now stationed in Boston and the other is at Camp Devens. The post will be under the command of Major Hickey, U. S. G.

Besides the barracks the "Y" hut passes out of Institute hands. The hut will be taken over by the New England district of the Young Men's Christian Association on Monday and Mr. Ames will probably be here as secretary. The Technology Christian Association for which the Young Men's Christian Association functioned during the fall term, will be removed to Room 3-115. The quarters will be temporary, but the book exchange and other departments of the Technology Christian Association will remain open and in charge of Mr. Palmquist. The "Y" hut will be closed to students after today.

The provost guards will number about three hundred. They will eat in the mess hall and have the benefits of the "Y" hut, which will be refurnished by the Young Men's Christian Association. The furnishings now in the "Y" hut belong to the Institute and will be used by the Technology Christian Association.

## EDITORIAL

### Why the S. A. T. C. Failed

LAST December, just before the end of the term, three former undergraduates dropped into my office, all three lieutenants of military aviation, who would have been overseas, save for the armistice, and who were now awaiting their discharge in order to enter Tech again in January. In their discussion of the army and of Technology all three said the same thing with surprising unanimity.

"We never respected Tech so much as we do now, when we have seen what the graduates of other colleges can do with their minds under pressure. We never realized how good our instruction was, how lucky we were. We're homesick to come back, and so is everybody we have seen."

"Everywhere we have been we have had testimony to the universal admiration for Tech, Tech training, and the part Tech men played in the war.

"But we have no use any more for military training in the colleges. We know what army instruction is like. Mainly incompetent. We often knew more than our instructor about technical matters which he was supposed to be teaching us.

"There should be no place for that kind of thing in Tech. Let us go back to the old Tech as soon as possible."

That is one point of view, that military instruction is not up to the Tech standard. But one must doubt whether that was the real cause why the S. A. T. C., both here and in other colleges, failed, as almost universal testimony seems to agree, some of which we are printing at the end of this editorial.

President Maclaurin, national director, in his address printed in another part of this issue, lays the blame on the short time the organization was at work, on the influenza, on the man-power bill, on the lack of co-operation between academic and military authorities. All of this is undoubtedly true, but the real reason lies deeper and on that Dr. Maclaurin did not touch.

Technology was particularly fortunate in some respects. The men had provided for them one of the best plants in the United States. Regular army officers said that the barracks and the mess hall were luxurious beyond the dream of the average army man. We also had in our student-soldiers an admittedly abnormally high level of intelligence.

We also were fortunate in having as Commandant, Colonel Cole, who was probably one of the few in the country who had genuinely at heart the interests of the college and considered them as precedent to those of the army. Hindered and hampered as he was by the inevitable irregularities of the first month, by red tape and conflicting orders from Washington, by a little group of willful officers, he yet tried with all his power, so far as in his authority lay, to make the academic side of the plan the important one and to put the military training in its logical place. He tried not to have drill, guard-mount and fatigue cut in on recitation and study hours, and in large part he succeeded. Yet the whole place was a hotbed of constantly increasing dissatisfaction as December drew along.

Part of the fault lay with the Faculty. It cannot be denied, I think, that the study time of the students, sharply defined as it was, was not sufficient to do all the work assigned. Furthermore, study was only too often carried on under condi-