# THE TECHNOLOGY RELATING TO THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



JULY 1924

PUBLISHED BY THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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## **GENERAL ELECTRIC**

# THE TECHNOLOGY RELATING TO THE MASSACHUSETTS

Vol. XXVI

JULY, 1924

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

No. 8

#### The Past Months

A LTHOUGH it had no twin ceremony of inauguration, graduation this year took rank as a reasonably effective ceremony. The possibility of bad weather held the Institute authorities off from the determination to use the Great Court as the theatre of

the event, and being cynical of tents, the Committee in Charge unanimously decided that Walker Memorial was this year the only fit location. Thus it was into Walker Memorial that the capped and gowned figures of the Class of '24 marched on June 10.

As last year, the presentation of degrees was made an individual matter. The diplomas were racked before Dr. Stratton alphabetically and by courses and, the eagle-eyed marshals of the day having seen to it that strict sequence was kept in the line, the presentations were made without a hitch. The successful Seniors marched up one runway, received their awards and marched down another. There were, this year, eleven successful candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, six for the Degree of Doctor of Science, and one for the Degree of Doctor of Public Health. A total of one hundred and twelve Master's Degrees



FRANK E. SHEPARD, '87 The Director of the United States Mint at Denver, Colorado, delivered the Address to the Seniors at the Graduation Exercises on June 10

were presented and four hundred and fifty-four Bachelor's Degrees. The grand total of diplomas awarded was five hundred and eighty-nine. Frank Edward Shepard, '87, Director of the United States Mint at Denver, Colorado, delivered the address to the class. The award of commissions in the Reserve Officers Training Corps was made by Major General C. C. Williams, Chief of Ordnance.

> Departmental receptions and an open-air luncheon in du Pont Court completed the ceremony.

NDER startling and tragic circumstances Ernest Fox Nichols, former President of the Institute, died on April 29. Dr. Nichols, who was the eighth President of the Institute. was seized with a heart attack in Washington during his address before the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council. He collapsed just as he was concluding an important address on infra-red and electric wave spectra. An ambulance was summoned immediately but death had occurred before the first physician reached him. The death of Dr. Nichols was caused by the same ailment which came close to ending his life shortly after his inauguration at Technology and which prevented him ever from actively entering on his duties as President.

Dr. Nichols was born in Leavenworth, Kan., June 1, 1869, and obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the Kansas Agricultural College, and his Master



International Newsreel THE ROUND-THE-WORLD ROUTE A graphic illustration of the path taken by the airplanes of Donald W. Douglas, '14, as they continue the business of making the celebrated Mr. Phinneas Fogg look like an amateur. As this is written, they have just reached Bangkok, in Siam

of Science and Doctor of Science degrees from Cornell. He also received degrees from the University of Berlin, the University of Cambridge in England, Colgate, Clark, Wesleyan, Vermont, Pittsburgh, and Denison Universities. He became Professor at Colgate University in 1892 and at Dartmouth College in 1898.

From 1903 to 1909 he was on the faculty of Columbia University, New York. On June 8, 1909, he became President of Dartmouth College, and in 1916 he became Professor of Physics at Yale. Between 1917 and 1920 he was in Washington as a research associate of the Carnegie Institution and during the World War he was attached to the Navy Bureau of Ordnance, doing scientific work.

In June, 1921, he was inaugurated as the eighth President of the Institute. He has been a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences many years and became its Vice-President in 1903. He has contributed many papers to scientific journals in the United States and abroad and was considered an authority on wave radiation.

The Review hopes in an early issue to present to its readers a more complete biography of Dr. Nichols and a more worthy summing up of his accomplishments.

THE annual announcement of appointments, promotions and resignations was recently made from the office of the President. The year is notable for the number of promotions to the Faculty from the Instructing Staff of the Institute and notable also in that there are this year only two appointments of professorial grade for anyone not previously a member of the Institute Staff. The list of promotions is as follows: To the grade of Professor: W. Felton Brown, Freehand Drawing; M. S. Sherrill, '99, Theoretical Chemistry; E. P. Warner, '17, Aëronautical Engineering; R. S. Williams, '02, Analytical Chemistry and Metallography.

To the grade of Associate Professor: J. W. M. Bunker, Bio-Chemistry and Physiology; C. P. Burgess, Airship Design; M. J. Shugrue, Economics; G. B. Wilkes, '11, Industrial Physics.

To the grade of Assistant Professor: W. R. Barss, Physics; Evers Burtner, '15, Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering; H. U. Faulkner, History; J. L. Gillson, Mineralogy; A. W. Hanson, Accounting; Winward Prescott, English; C. E. Tucker, '18, Electrical Engineering; Norbert Wiener, Mathematics. H. E. Lobdell, '17, Assistant Dean, becomes Assistant Professor without designation.

Most important among the resignations are those of Professors T. H. Dillon, (previously announced) and Albert Ferran. E. H. Schell, '12, Assistant Professor of Business Management, likewise leaves the Institute for the Harvard Business School. Majors P. H. Ottosen and R. T. Pendleton, both leave the Institute on September first on other details.

S UCCESSFUL among the six candidates for term membership on the Corporation of the Institute in the recent elections of the Alumni Association were George L. Gilmore, '90, of Lexington, Mass., Morris Knowles, '91, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Redfield Proctor, '02, of Proctor, Vt. Mr. Gilmore is the owner and manager of K. M. Gilmore & Co., and of the Middlesex Bleach, Dye, and Print Works. He was graduated from the Institute in Course II. Mr. Knowles was a Course I man. He is President of Morris Knowles, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa., and is Chairman of Pittsburgh's City Planning Committee. Mr. Proctor, who like Mr. Gilmore was graduated as a Mechanical Engineer, is now Governor of the State of Vermont.

Earlier than usual this year the Corporation itself makes announcement of the election of three new life members. They are W. R. Kales, '92, VicePresident of the Whitehead & Kales Company, fabricators and erectors of structural steel works in Detroit; W. H. Bovey, '94, General Superintendent of the Washburn Crosby Company; and Joseph W. Powell, a consulting engineer of Boston.

NCE again the Institute Faculty is racked by the attempt to decide between the virtues of the two-term and the threeterm systems. The faint undercurrent of dissatisfaction with the threeterm system as inaugurated in 1919 came to the surface not many weeks ago and produced as its first result a command that the Committee on **Undergraduate** Courses reopen the question and report upon the advisability of once again revising the curriculum for the return of the two-term system. On May 15 this committee turned in to the Faculty a twelve-page report. Although the Committee was careful not to make any recommendation but rather only to present as many pro and con arguments as could be unearthed, the feeling. seems to persist that the three-term calendar is not satisfactory and should be superseded by the semester system which it displaced five years ago. Although the Faculty was at one time within the past few weeks close to a decision, the matter has now been laid on the table for consideration in the fall. If by chance the Faculty should vote a return to the two-term plan, the year of 1925-26 would be used as



Raymond M. Hood, '03, is the Architect of the new and much-discussed black-and-gold building of the American Radiator Company

the transition year and in 1926-27 the two-term plan would be reinstated in all its glory, after a lapse of seven years.

LEXANDER MA-COMBER, '07, has accepted the appointment as Chairman of the 1925 All-Technology Reunion Committee and announces that the dates for this next large-scale event in Technology alumni annals will be June 16, 17, and 18, 1925. The first day of this gathering will be a "Home-Coming Day," since the graduation exercises of the Class of 1925 are scheduled for the morning of June 16. Further plans for the reunion will be announced from time to time.

FOR the primary benefit of Seniors and Graduate Students, the Institute in May presented a program of three lectures upon the problem of labor relations. On May 9, Mr. Howell Cheney, silk manufacturer of South Manchester, Connecticut, presented the attitudes and the beliefs of the manager of industry. On May 16, Mr. John J. Kearney, characterized by the official announcement as "a careful exponent of the attitude of labor," presented his side of the perennial discussion and on May 23, Mr. Magnus W. Alexander, Managing Director of the Industrial Conference Board, summed up the problem and sought to present an impartial statement of the attitude taken by both manager and worker. Although no set of three lectures could hope to do much towards letting in to the minds of

#### THE TECHNOLOGY REVIEW



NEW TERM MEMBERS OF THE CORPORA-TION Left: Redfield Proctor, '02 Right: George L. Gilmore, '90 Below: Morris

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Knowles, '91



Senior or of Graduate Students anyplace much light upon the bewildering and complex problems of the industrial relation in this day, still Technology may permit itself a feeling of considerable satisfaction in that it has at least acknowledged that the problem does exist and is twosided. The lectures were well attended.

**F**IFTIETH anniversaries are apt to be rare occurrences and the Class of 1874, which on June 9, 10 and 11 celebrated its semi-centennial reunion, did proud by itself and by the Institute. On Monday, June 9, at 11:45 a.m., a memorial clock was unveiled in the Library of the Institute as the gift of the class. Samuel J. Brown, '74, architect, designed the clock and super-

vised its installation in the Institute's Reading Room. At the same time an oil portrait of the late Prof. William Ripley Nichols was unveiled in the Library. It was the gift of William E. Nickerson, '74. Presi-



dent Stratton attended the exercises which marked these dedications and was afterwards host to the class at luncheon in the President's house.

George H. Barrus, President of the class, and Charles F. Read, Secretary, formed the Committee on the reunion.

MEMBERS of the Institute's Staff of Chemical Engineering figured largely in the meeting of the American Chemical Society held recently in Washington. In the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, Prof. W. H. McAdams, S.M., '17, was prominent as the Chairman of the Symposium on problems of Heat Transfer problems which have gained

wide interest during the past few years, due to rising fuel costs and the steadily mounting heat consumptions of modern industrial processes. Professor Mc-Adams secured a total of sixteen papers on Heat