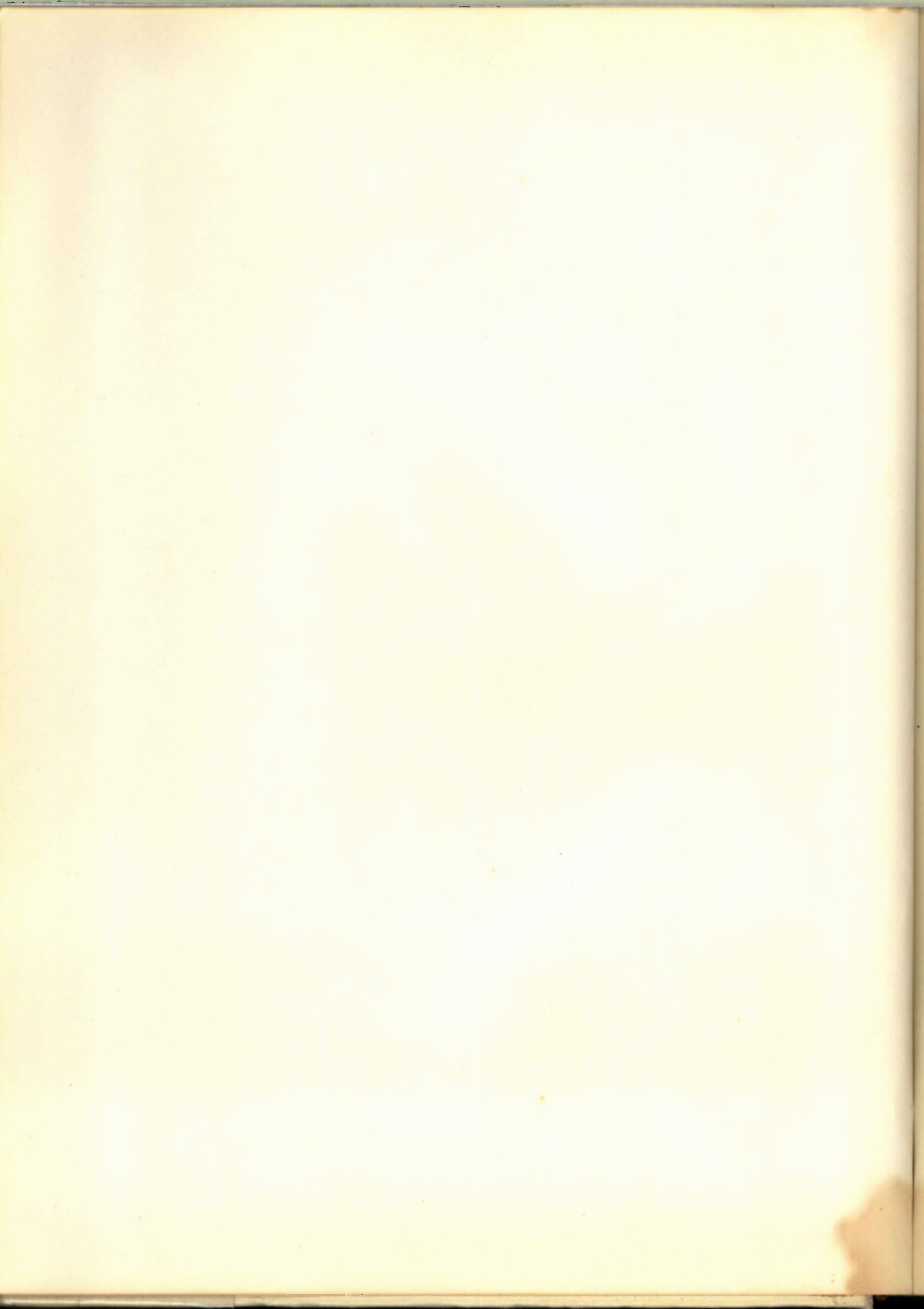


BLUE PRINT



THE BLUE PRINT

DESPITE its apparent preoccupation with the present, Georgia Tech is endowed with a rich, colorful history. To briefly tell this story the Tech Tower, atop the ageless Administration Building, comes to life and unfolds its eventful story as it looks back through fifty years . . .

IN RETROSPECT



From my constant vigil on the famed 'hill' I have observed every facet of Tech's great history. I have seen students enter wide-eyed and dumbfounded and leave possessing the finest engineering education the South has to offer. I have seen faculty members come and go, each in his own way having contributed something to my story. And I have seen Tech athletic teams graciously accept the acclaim of victory and yet hold their heads high in defeat.

Enter Tech

My inauspicious entrance on the Georgia scene came about in 1888 through the efforts of three men—the Honorable Nat E. Harris, at that time representative from Bibb County and later governor; Major John F. Hanson, industrialist and manager of the Macon Telegraph; and Dr. Isaac S.

Hopkins, president of Emory University and Tech's first president. On October 7 of that year my doors opened to one hundred thirty students seeking the degree of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. In 1890 I saw my first two graduates, G. G. Crawford and H. L. Smith.

By the turn of the century I saw the establishment of the degrees of Electrical, Civil and Textile Engineering and the completion of two new dormitories, Swann and Knowles. At that time the annual state appropriation had reached the then ponderous figure of \$40,000.

**Prominence,
At Last**

But it was in the next two decades that I saw Tech truly come to life and claim its rightful place as an outstanding institution of higher learning. In these twenty years were established nearly all the traditions that are handed down to the future. It was during this time that academics began to develop, that people began to carve niches for themselves, that sports came into prominence and that as a whole, the campus began to mold itself from a meaningless group of buildings into a spirited, glowing physical plant known as 'the flats.'

Since an educational institution is devoted primarily to the academic development of its pupils, Tech did not neglect this phase of growth during this age of prosperity. New degrees of Chemistry (1906), Architecture (1907), Commerce (1915), Commercial Science and Industrial Education (1917) were offered and the campus was dotted by the addition of new buildings including the Lyman Hall Laboratory of Chemistry and the Carnegie Library (1906), Joseph B. Whitehead Memorial Hospital, Y. M. C. A. Building and New Shop Building (1910), West Stands of Grant Field (1915) and the Mechanical Engineering Building (1920).

By 1920 the annual state appropriation had risen to \$125,000 and the student enrollment was over 2,200. But numbers did not account for the standing that Tech had acquired in Georgia and the South. These two decades composed the era in which Tech grew from a division of the University of Georgia to an independent institution offering the finest engineering education in the South.

Tech Notoriety However all this is not handed to an institution. I watched as men worked, studied and strove so that their dream of future growth and prosperity for Tech might become a reality.

As I look back I see the faces of such men as Emerson, Skiles, Robert, Freeman, Griffin, Coon, Field, Smith, Heisman and Alexander. It was these men, who as students and faculty members, devoted time, energy and talents so that future generations could profit from their efforts.

That Georgia Tech was fortunate in having as its first two deans such men as William H. Emerson and W. Vernon Skiles is indeed an understatement. For me to elaborate on their personalities would hardly do them justice; for words can never capture the warmth of heart, the enthusiasm nor the profound state of presence these men possessed.

Among my more noteworthy students are included George C. Griffin, L. W. (Chip) Robert and Y. Frank Freeman. The contribution that these men have made to Tech directly and indirectly has been astounding.

'Chip' Robert, Class of 1909, received Georgia Tech's first Distinguished Service Award in 1934. The citation read by President M. L. Brittain perhaps best describes this man.

"The faculty of the Georgia School of Technology believe rather in earned than complimentary degrees. However, we expect to give meritorious service awards annually to the alumnus marked by eminence in his field and unusual devotion to the institution. Therefore, today, it is my pleasant duty to present the first of these to Lawrence Wood Robert, Jr., who through the electric spark of individuality is better known as 'Chip' Robert. In our opinion, he is the finest example we have of devoted service to the Georgia School of Technology. Year after year, he has expended time and effort in behalf of this institution and his love has not been lessened by reason of his work as one of the South's leading engineers or his more recent elevation to the high position of Assistant Treasurer of the United States."

Another Distinguished Service Award recipient was Y. Frank Freeman, Class of 1910. Told, "You'll never make an engineer," upon graduation, he took the advice

and went into the motion picture industry. Today he is Executive Vice President of Paramount Pictures, Inc. In addition he has also served as president of the National Alumni Association of Georgia Tech and as a trustee of the Georgia Tech foundation. Receiving the Award in 1939, Y. Frank Freeman today stands as one of Tech's best loved products. His most recent achievement is the winning of the first annual Jean Hersholt Award for Humanitarian Services on Oscar night (March 27, 1957) in Hollywood.

George Clayton Griffin needs no introduction to anyone. Entering Tech in 1914, he did not receive his degree in Civil Engineering until eight years later. Part of the time element was due to the First World War, in which he served as an ensign in the Navy, and the remainder due to a legendary difficulty with chemistry. As a student he played several sports, with football and track being the most prominent. As a member of the 'Heroic Ragamuffins,' the Tech scrubs, he played on the only team to defeat the 'Golden Tornado.' Active in campus affairs, he was a member of ANAK, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Pi Kappa Phi fraternity and, of course, charter member and president of the Sackbrain Club. In 1920 he began his long tenure on the coaching staff interrupted by eight years of similar work at Georgia State College for Men and McCallie School. In 1930 he returned to Tech where he served as track coach, assistant football coach, associate dean of students, placement officer and faculty member. Since 1946 he has served as Dean of Students.

Today George C. Griffin has become a living legend at Tech. His service to the school is surpassed only by his ability to keep an audience on pins and needles with his riotous speeches. His office is always open to anyone, either industrial magnate or flunking freshman, and the customary greeting is "Whaddaya want, boy?" He has probably visited the city jail more than anyone except the police chief in order to get his troublesome fledglings back on the right side of the bars. No matter what the problem George Griffin can solve it. His interest in each and every student has established him as an out-

standing tradition and won for him the appropriate title of 'Mr. Georgia Tech.'

Of course, with all this greatness must exist the underlying, developing force on the campus. Truly Tech has been endowed with some of the finest educational men to ever teach in the South. Among my memoirs are the names of many who have made considerable contributions to the development of my sons, but perhaps those who stand out most are the names of Coon, Field and Smith.

John Saylor Coon was selected as first head of the School of Mechanical Engineering and served in this capacity until his retirement in 1923. Known for the forceful impression upon his students, Dr. Coon had a boundless personality bolstered by a tremendous sense of humor, a love of nature and amazing originality. Said several graduates, "Senior year, spent in almost daily contact with Dr. Coon, was most inspiring, most edifying and the happiest of one's life."

Dean Floyd Field began his service as a mathematics professor. Promoted to Dean of Men and later Dean of Students, his greatest service was in the form of counselling the students, particularly among the fraternities. He was named Dean of Men in 1935 and later Dean of Students, where he remained until his retirement in 1946. A brilliant conversationalist, a traveler, a lover of the good earth, the man with the white goatee left a huge dent in the administration.

Perhaps the most legendary and most recently known professor is Dr. D. M. Smith, mathematics professor and head of the Mathematics Department from 1935 until 1951. His fame was due to many factors, all of which add up to greatness in a professor. Since the early days of the school, he has been the most interesting and the most talked about professor on the campus. In the middle 1940's he was selected by a student vote as the most popular teacher on the campus. His immense sense of humor largely accounts for his success but fellow faculty members will vouch for his class-room efficiency.

One of the best things to happen to a student was to have Dr. Smith for Calculus. His ability to tell anecdotes was virtually unsurpassed and when one finished the course he knew the Calculus.

One of the most interesting incidents involving Dr. Smith occurred when he enrolled in a post-graduate math course. He patiently sat through the first five minutes of the first lecture then arose and started to leave the room. The puzzled instructor stopped him and asked what was wrong, whereupon Dr. Smith replied in his usual grinning way, "Can't learn much here; I wrote the book you're using!"

Heisman and Alexander

To the outside world, however, the efforts of John Heisman and William A. Alexander, Tech's first and second Athletic Directors and football coaches, are more obvious. Their records of wins and losses, though impressive, do not by any means convey the true value of their efforts at Tech. I watched as they tirelessly put their charges through the rigors of afternoon scrimmages, as they sat on the bench, glum and saddened by the many losses during the learner years of Tech's athletic climb and as they fulfilled the usual duties as athletic director. But most outstanding was their influence on their proteges. Beginning in 1904 and throughout his sixteen-year tenure, John Heisman instilled into the athletes a spirit of competitive, gentlemanly conduct both on and off the field that quickly became the indelible trademark of all Tech teams. William A. Alexander became head coach in 1920 and in his twenty-five years as head coach he achieved a record that few men have surpassed. Part of this record was his selection as 'Coach of the Year' in 1928, the year that Tech was selected to play in the Rose Bowl.

Tech Grows in Stature

In addition to its growth in academics and sports, Tech began to mature in other respects also. I watched with a great deal of pride as other things began

to give new meaning to Tech as an educational institution.

One of the most noteworthy and enduring elements in the life of the campus down through the years has been ANAK Society. Founded in 1908 not simply as an honorary but a steadying influence on the lives of all on the campus, ANAK has stood as the realization of the highest aspirations of every student. Largely through its efforts were brought the *Blue Print* and the Glee Club in its earlier days. For some time ANAK stood as the only governing body on the campus and only until the Student Council was set up did ANAK act directly in this capacity. Since then, however, ANAK has remained as the intangible, guiding hand on the campus and its membership either as an undergraduate or an alumnus is considered the highest honor a Tech man may receive.

It was in 1908 that I saw the first *Blue Print* published. For fifty years now I have seen it consistently remain among the nation's top annuals and in the years 1931, '31 and '32 it retired the National Scholastic Press Association's silver cup as the nation's finest college annual. More recently its distinction has been in the fact that in spite of there being no journalism department at Tech, it has won many All-American awards and at the same time been one of the largest books in the nation.

Another of my prides has been the Glee Club. Founded in 1908, it has gone on to achieve local, national and international fame. In recent years trips about the world and television appearances have been quite a matter of routine, almost to the extent that the student body hardly ever gets an opportunity to hear the group.

Ramblin' Reck No doubt Tech boasts of perhaps the most outstanding college song ever to be sung. The 'Ramblin' Reck' has been sung, played and whistled in every part of the world, even

by people who cannot speak English. Its origin is somewhat obscured in my memory. Graduates of 1892 insist that it was first sung in their time while graduates of later years insist that it was first played by the Tech band at the dedication of the Y. M. C. A. Building in 1910. Frank Roman, who directed the band from 1913 to 1928, wrote the words under his own name and had the song printed, although by then it was generally considered an arrangement and not an original composition. Mr. Roman is also credited with the music of 'Up With the White and Gold' while Mr. I. H. Granath wrote the Alma Mater in 1923.

Greater Georgia Tech Campaign After the end of the first World War, the large number of returning veterans who wished to enter Tech made her facilities almost inadequate. It was then realized that something must be done to relieve the strain then and the predicted strain of future years. Thus started the Greater Georgia Tech Campaign. Its purpose was just what its name implied—a greater Georgia Tech.

Largely it consisted of a great public campaign to bring the true meaning and value of technical training to the state administrators as well as the general public of Georgia. The original goal was to obtain some five million dollars but after the campaign ended the result was a little over a million and a half. A short while later the Carnegie Corporation donated \$150,000 to the fund and contributions from other sources raised the total.

It should be mentioned here also that the State Agricultural College at Athens was at this time led by a somewhat powerful president who sought to obtain Federal aid for technical schools for the Agricultural College. This, of course, led to many letters between the two presidents. The results of the Greater Georgia Tech Campaign, though not as successful as could have been hoped for financially, had cracked the barrier held by many in the state. The barrier, of course, was the partial rejection, or non-realization of the importance of a tech-

nical school in Georgia. In this sense the Campaign was truly a success.

President Brittain's Administration

In 1922 I saw Dr. M. L. Brittain become Georgia Tech's fourth president. With his entrance into office began a new era at the flats.

WGST

In 1923 Tech received one of its most valuable gifts—Radio Station WGST. The station was donated by Clark Howell, then Editor of the Atlanta Constitution. At the time of the donation the value of the equipment was only about \$4,900 but in less than ten years the annual income from the station amounted to over \$8,000. But with an ever increasing profit and a bright outlook for even greater potentialities for the future, the number of greedy hands that desired to gain control of the station increased. At the outset, Federal aid was promised in the matter and the Federal Communications Commission held to their promise. In 1936 an effort was made to transfer the station from the school to the state. This, however, was averted by the technicality that trust-fund endowments could not be taken from the school by either the governor or the Legislature. Later in the year trouble arose again but this time with the Federal authorities. The F. C. C. had changed personnel and they then wished Tech to substitute active direction of the station instead of the arrangement with the Southern Broadcasting Company. This was complied with and soon after the school entered into an agreement with Southern Broadcasting Stations, Inc. to operate the station for Tech on a profitable basis for the school with the understanding that should any attempt be made to wrest the station from the school it would be considered a breach of contract. Since that time there has been no difficulty arising from the station and it has proven to be of more value than ever realized.

Texas Lands

It was in 1910, however, that I saw Tech receive her first large gift. The Honorable Julius L. Brown left in his will two-thirds of his estate for use in the chemistry and

electrical engineering departments. In his will he stated that, "... I believe that the Georgia School of Technology is worth more to the State of Georgia than all the rest of her colleges combined." The property consisted of real estate near Atlanta consisting of the old home and some lots in Fulton County. In addition it contained some 3,760 acres of land in three Texas counties. Held by the school with the hope of finding oil someday, the land has been used largely for crops and has continually brought the school a profit of from two to seven thousand dollars annually. At the prices of those days the entire bequest was valued at upwards of \$160,000 and the later sale of the Brown property in the Atlanta area provided the funds with which was built the Brown Dormitory.

Navy R.O.T.C. In 1926, Georgia Tech was selected among six colleges about the nation at which were to be formed naval units similar to Army R. O. T. C. They were to embody, as nearly as possible, the training standards of the Naval Academy at Annapolis and the colleges were carefully selected, among them Harvard, Yale, Northwestern, the Universities of California and Washington, and of course, Tech. The decision to choose Tech, though it is not located in a maritime area, was influenced primarily by the high scholastic standards of the school. At first the Naval facilities were in Swann then they shifted to the new Aeronautical Engineering Building when it was finished in 1932. However, these quarters were still inadequate and in 1935, with financial aid from Ferd Kaufman, an alumnus, from C. W. A., from federal authorities and from the Athletic Association, the Naval Armory was built on the corner of Third Street and Techwood Drive. The cost of the building was \$130,000 and it included a spacious drill hall, a full size destroyer bridge, fire control and signal apparatus, complete navigational equipment, arms and different ship models. For some time thereafter Tech boasted the finest facilities of any of the newly organized naval units.

It might be noteworthy that for a number of years, members of the faculty have been invited to be guests

of the Secretary of the Navy on the annual midshipmen summer training cruises. One of the most interesting cruises ever taken by a member of our faculty was taken by President Brittain during the summer of 1937. He was aboard the battleship Colorado, then the third largest ship in the fleet. The cruise was to extend for three weeks while traveling from San Francisco to the Hawaiian Islands. Upon reaching Honolulu, the ship received a radio message from President Roosevelt ordering the ship to take part in the search for Miss Amelia Earhart, who had been reported missing in Pacific waters some 3,000 miles southward. The Colorado took part in the search and before the cruise had ended seven weeks had elapsed but nonetheless the experience was regarded by President Brittain as one of his most interesting.

The Library At this time it would be wise to make note of the library and its standing up to the time of Dr. Brittain. From the time of the construction of the Carnegie Building in 1906 to 1924, Miss Laura Hammond held the position of librarian. During her tenure the library grew from approximately 3,000 volumes to 16,000 and from virtually no appropriation to \$4,600 annually. In 1927 Mrs. J. Henley Crosland was made librarian, a position she has held since. Under her direction the library has grown in leaps and bounds to put it mildly. Currently the number of volumes in the new library is over 180,000 while the number of periodicals is over 2,400. During her time the book and periodical appropriation has grown from \$1,200 to over \$44,000. In 1945 Mrs. Crosland was chosen as the "Atlanta Woman of the Year in Education" and through her efforts Tech today boasts of the finest technical library in the South and certainly an enviable position among collegiate libraries throughout the world. Today she still labors so that new and better things can be had for the students in this magnificent new building.

1929 Rose Bowl Among the sports thrills I have shared one that stands out vividly in my mind is the season of 1928. Coach Alex had put

together one of the finest aggregations of football talent ever to step out on the gridiron and rolled to an undefeated season, the Southern Conference championship and the National Championship after defeating the University of California in the Rose Bowl on January 1, 1929. The Tech-California game will long be one of the most talked about of all time, largely due to one of the greatest boners to ever be pulled in an important game. That was the unforgettable reverse run by Captain Roy Riegels of the Golden Bears. It set up the deciding safety that won the game for Tech, 8 to 7. Tech, as was said before, boasted one of the finest teams ever and with such greats as Stumpy Thomason, Peter Pund, who made All-American center, Warner Mizell, All-American halfback, and Frank Speer, who also garnered All-American honors. Mizell, Thomason, Speer, Jones, Pund and Drennon made All-Southern in their positions and the only reason Maree, Waddey, Thrash, Westbrook, Lumpkin and Durant didn't make it was the fact that the critics might look too bad if everyone on the Tech team made the mythical eleven.

When the team arrived in Atlanta, it received one of the most rousing welcomes in the history of the city. Proceeds from the game were used to construct Rose Bowl Field which today is used for practice for varsity sports, drill and intramural sports and stands as a living monument to the fabulous era of the 'Golden Tornado.'

Bobby Jones Without a doubt the Tech alumnus who achieved the greatest fame in the world of sports is Robert Tyre Jones, Jr. He graduated from Tech in 1922 with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and later went to Harvard and Emory. He shall long be known as the Emperor of Golf, the title he gained in 1926, the year of his renowned 'Grand Slam.' This included the U. S. Amateur and Open Championships and the British Amateur and Open Championships. In 1930 he retired from competitive golf and devoted his time to a successful law practice and civic affairs. Presently

he is president of the Augusta National Golf Club which is noted for the Masters Golf Tournament and frequent visits by President Eisenhower.

Guggenheim Award

Tech's greatest honor came in 1930. It was then that I saw the donation of \$300,000 by the Guggenheim Fund for the establishment of an aeronautical school at Georgia Tech. Previously the only schools to receive Guggenheim appropriations were the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New York University, the University of Michigan, California Institute of Technology and Leland Stanford, Jr. University. Tech's choice over 26 other Southern schools practically made our scholastic prestige undisputed in this region. Of course, the contribution allowed Tech to install a first-class aeronautical school on the campus. This donation was the last before the Guggenheim Fund went out of existence but nonetheless careful scrutinization preceded the donation. Captain Emory S. Land, later Admiral Land, was sent to the twenty-seven schools to determine the best qualified. Finally Captain Land announced that the grant had been awarded to Tech but that there was one question mark, that is Georgia's poor reputation for being liberal in her treatment of her colleges and the fact that the plans made possible by the grant might starve to death. A meeting of the Governor, the Mayor of Atlanta, the State Comptroller, the Chairman of the County Board and several other prominent citizens, assured Captain Land that there would be no danger of lack of support. The check for the entire amount was sent immediately. \$100,000 was invested in a building, \$50,000 in a wind tunnel and the other half of the grant was invested in five per cent bonds as an endowment to safeguard against the financial trouble that loomed ahead.

Dr. Brittain is due much credit for the excellent way in which he handled Tech's application, especially since he was confronted with some of the most prominent men in the entire South who were also in quest of the grant for their own schools.

Growth Under Brittain During Dr. Brittain's administration the campus grew immensely as new degrees, and new buildings, began to even more firmly entrench Tech as the leading technical school in the South and one of the finest in the nation. In the 22 years under Dr. Brittain the degrees of Ceramic and Aeronautical Engineering, Industrial Management and Public Health were established. The campus was greatly changed with the construction of the Physics, Ceramics, Civil Engineering, Engineering Drawing and Mechanics, and Engineering Experiment Buildings, the Chemistry Annex, Harris, Cloudman, Harrison and Howell Dormitories, the Naval Armory, the Athletic Office, Rose Bowl Field, the East Stands of Grant Field and the Auditorium-Gymnasium.

Probation In 1942, however, Tech suffered its most humiliating incident. In 1941, in spite of war clouds about the world, Tech was enjoying its finer years. The enrollment was higher than ever and the registration of out-of-state students was stopped two months before the opening of the school term. In this era of apparently fine operation, President Brittain wished to resign to allow a younger man to step in and take over. However, due to the innate fear that Governor Eugene Talmadge might appoint an inadequate successor, President Brittain was persuaded to withdraw his resignation.

Later, though, the power of the Talmadge Administration was felt when, after the dismissal of Dean Walter D. Cocking of the School of Education of the University of Georgia and President Marvin Pittman of the Georgia Teachers College at Statesboro after hearings and the dismissal of many other members of the staff of the University System of Georgia without hearings, an appointed committee of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools recommended that the schools of the University System be dropped from membership in the Association. The committee recommended further that the "... suspension take effect September 1, 1942, and continue until removed

by vote of this Association at its next or later annual meeting on recommendation of the Executive Committee and of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education."

Then the long arduous campaign to oust the Talmadge Administration began and the summer of 1942 saw the people of the state show that they wanted a new type of rule and they elected Ellis Gibbs Arnall, a young rising gentleman from Newnan. Promptly Governor Arnall sought to restore the standing of the state institutions. In December of 1942 he presented the Association with his plan for greater independence of the Board of Regents and other measures that would insure the return of proper state administration of state operated schools. The Association, after being convinced that the injustice had been repaired promptly reinstated all the members of the University System of Georgia.

Exeunt Brittain In 1943, Dr. Brittain, seeing that the school was once again in safe hands tendered his resignation to the Board of Regents, effective July 1, 1944. His resignation came at the age of seventy-eight after many long hard years of devoted service to his school and state.

In assuming his duties as President Emeritus, Dr. Brittain left an age of progress in which the campus grew from fifteen buildings to thirty-seven; in which the student enrollment increased from less than 1,700 to over 3,000.

However, as in the case of all great men, he is not remembered by the buildings that sprang up around him but simply by his love—love for helping boys become men, love for hard work, and a love for his state and nation. This was Dr. Brittain's greatness.

Enter Van Leer Colonel Blake Ragsdale Van Leer became Tech's fifth president upon the retirement of Dr. Brittain. Col. Van Leer was born in Mangum, Texas, in 1893. He received his degrees of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering from Purdue

and California Universities in 1915 and 1920 respectively. He studied in Caen, France, in 1919 and in Munich in 1928. In 1943 he received the degree of Doctor of Science from Washington and Jefferson University. His military service was extensive and distinguished in both world wars. From 1932 to 1937 he served as Dean of Engineering at the University of Florida and from 1937 to 1944 in the same capacity at North Carolina State College. On July 1, 1944 he became president of Georgia Tech.

With his inauguration began another era in Tech's history. A man of tremendous capabilities, Col. Van Leer began a term of office that was to see the entire face of the campus change. In 1948 I saw the completion of the Harrison Hightower Textile Building and in 1952 the Architecture Building and the Price Gilbert Library in 1953. The completion of the Rich Electronic Computer Center in 1955 was a noteworthy step in the rise in research from \$50,000 to almost \$2,000,000 annually. The addition to the West Stands, the tennis courts and the new Alexander Memorial Coliseum attest to the fact that he was interested in sports. Moreover, he worked tirelessly to obtain and retain fine faculty members, thus improving the quality of the Tech graduate.

Coach Dodd In the same year of 1944, Robert Lee Dodd became head coach of Georgia Tech's football team. His place in my story, though significant, has not fully materialized. His abilities as a coach—a developer of men have not yet been fully realized. For twelve years he has set all sorts of enviable records as a coach. As in the case of Heisman and Alexander, his wins and losses do not tell the story of his greatness. He is a man of genuine, down-to-earth principle, a man dedicated to the proposition that football and other sports, though played in a big-time fashion at Tech, are in existence primarily for the development of the individual and not the furthering of any plan for complete domination in the sports field.

Truly, he has built an outstanding record while at

Tech. In his twelve years at the helm, his charges have won 101 games while dropping only 28; they have played in eight bowl games and won them all, the last six in successive years; they have never been defeated in ten national television performances; and in the past ten years they have won more games than any other major college football team. Certainly this is an indication as to the coaching ability of this man. Again, I say that Coach Dodd, though described as a man of ability and character, has not yet seen the era of his ultimate greatness. His greatness is of the type that continues to grow as time passes.

Tech's Saddest Day On the afternoon of January 23, 1956 I saw Tech suffer its greatest loss in the untimely death of Col. Van Leer. Suffering from a coronary condition, he passed away late in the afternoon, ending a fabulous era in my story. His death came in his finest hour for he had lived to see work begun on additions to the campus which will, in future years stand as testimony to his administrative genius.

Perhaps the greatest memorial to Col. Van Leer has already been built, that is, the Georgia Institute of Technology that he built. He will long be remembered for the many fine buildings he brought to Tech, for the faculty members he attracted here and for the high quality engineers he graduated from Georgia Tech. But to those who knew him as a person, whether they had the privilege of shaking his hand while crossing the graduation stage, or heard him when he spoke at Freshman Camp or just happened to pass him on the campus, he was known and will long be remembered as a gentleman and a great man as well as a fine educator.

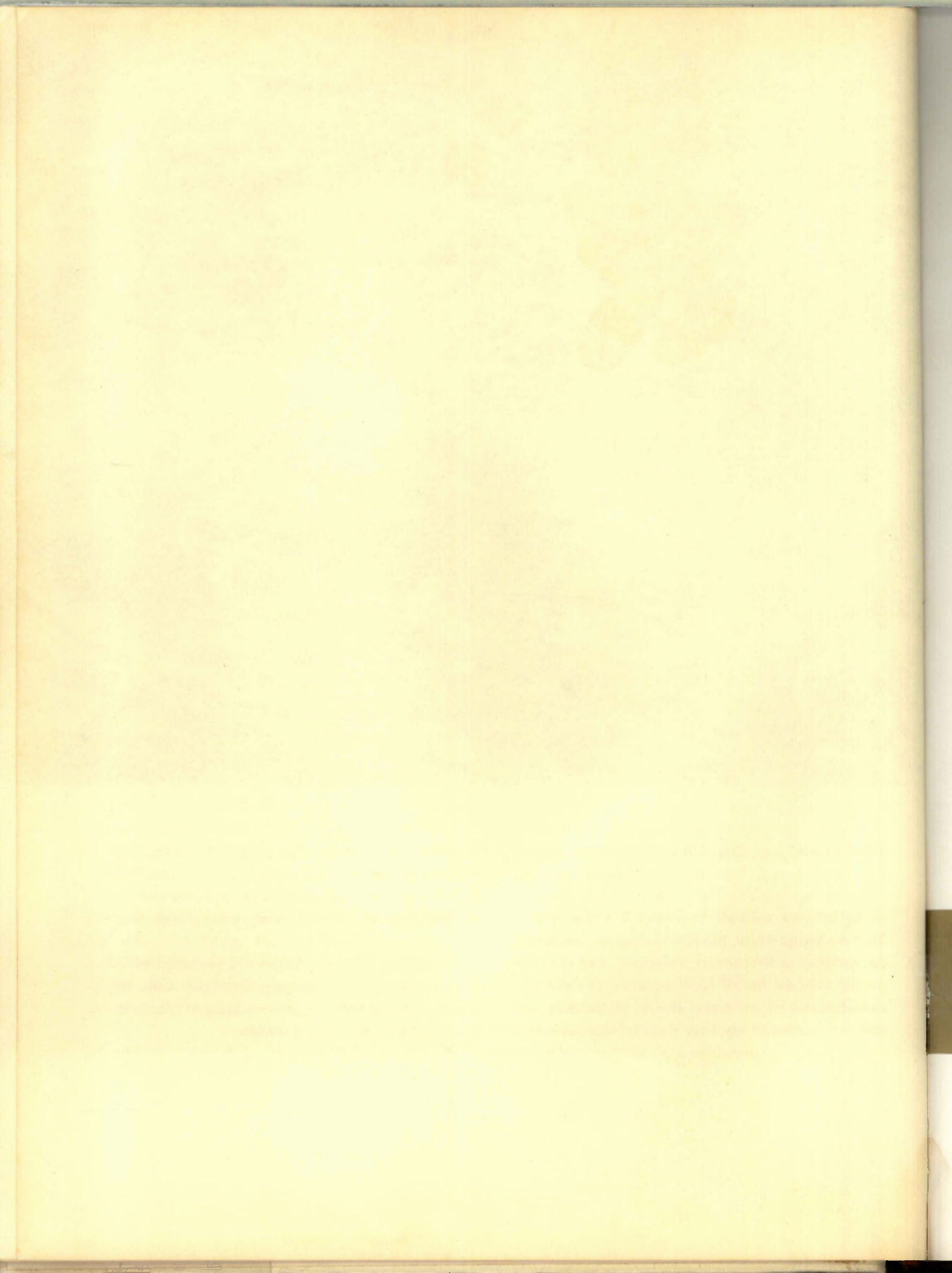
Dr. Paul Weber To replace this great loss, Dr. Paul Weber, Dean of Faculties, was named as Acting President. The former head of the School of Chemical Engineering assumed his dual role with amazing ability. His administrative guidance during the last year will long be remembered as one of the great services rendered Tech by a faculty member.



The Present This brings my story to date. I have tried to bring to you the things as they stood out in my mind and as they can readily be connected with the present. It is obvious that Tech is a young school, her potentialities unlimited and her resources and reputation undisputed. Her climb to the top has been one of many anxieties, joys and sorrows, but now we are not at the end of the story, but only the crossroads. My story shall be told for many

years to come. The names may change, the campus may look different but nevertheless, this is only a milestone in Tech's history. I now see the close of recent eras and the beginning of new and surely even greater ones.

This then is Tech, the glories and heartaches of its part. Let me now introduce you to its crossroads, the year of changing times; let me now bring to you Tech's *greatest* year in her eventful history.



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editor

FRED WARE
business manager

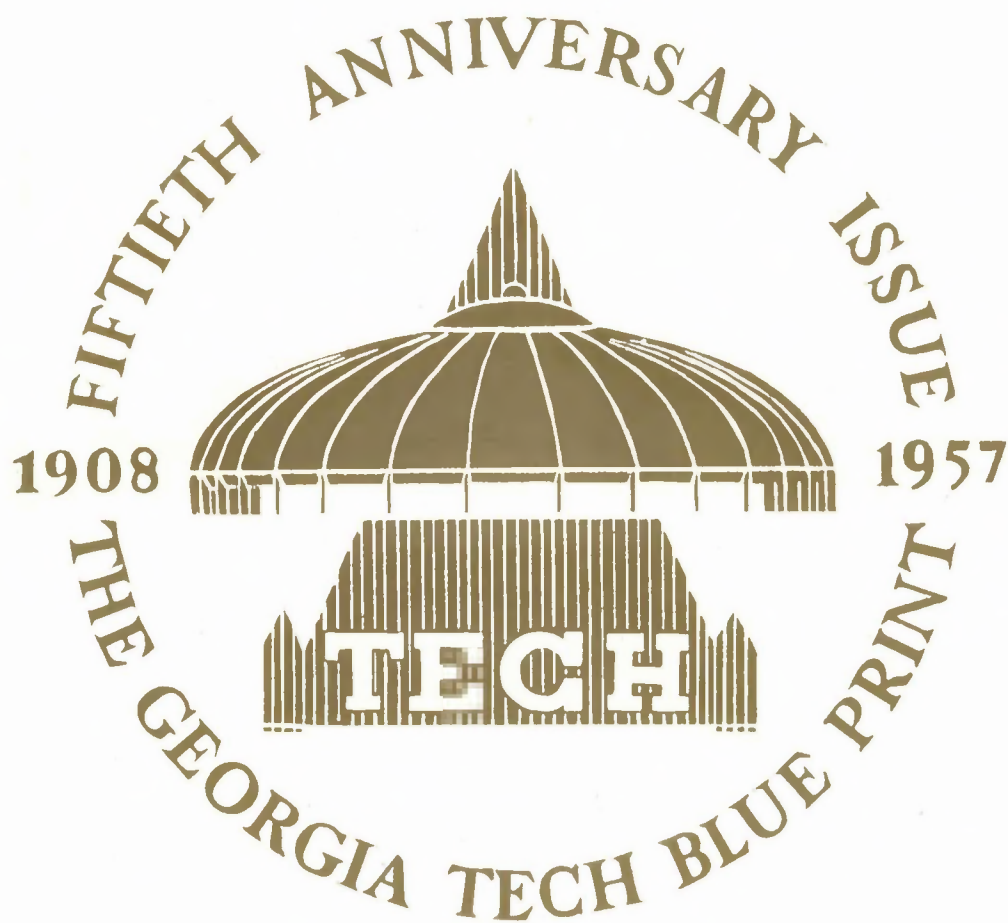
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The Golden—1908

BLUE



1957—Anniversary

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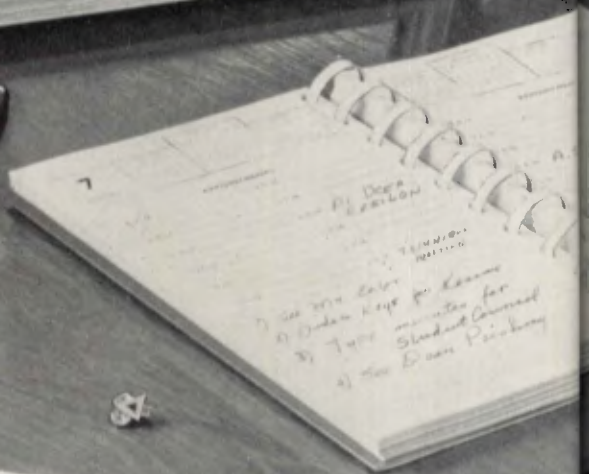
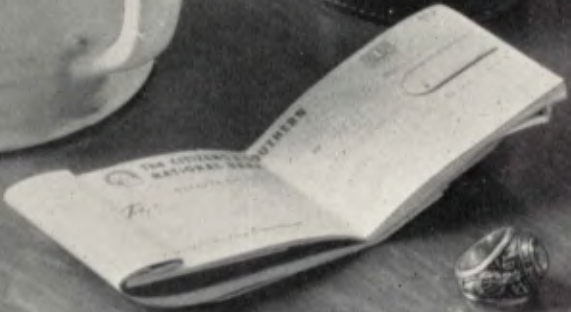
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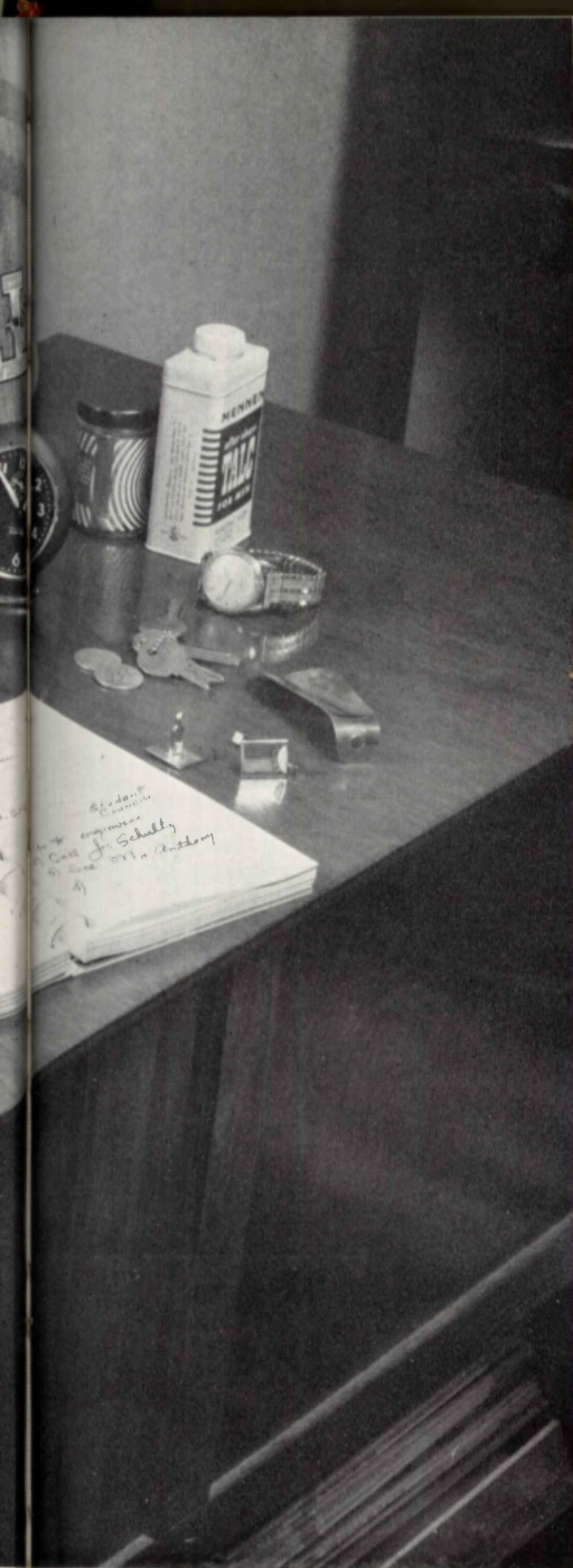
1934 - SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES ARE BROADCAST BY
WABC - 730 AM TO 10 PM - 1934

FOOTBALL - 1934

DATE	TIME	HOME	AWAY
Sept. 10	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Sept. 17	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Sept. 24	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Oct. 1	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Oct. 8	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Oct. 15	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Oct. 22	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Oct. 29	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Nov. 5	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Nov. 12	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Nov. 19	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Nov. 26	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Dec. 3	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Dec. 10	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Dec. 17	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Dec. 24	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Dec. 31	2:00 PM	Georgia Tech	Georgia





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GA  TECH

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

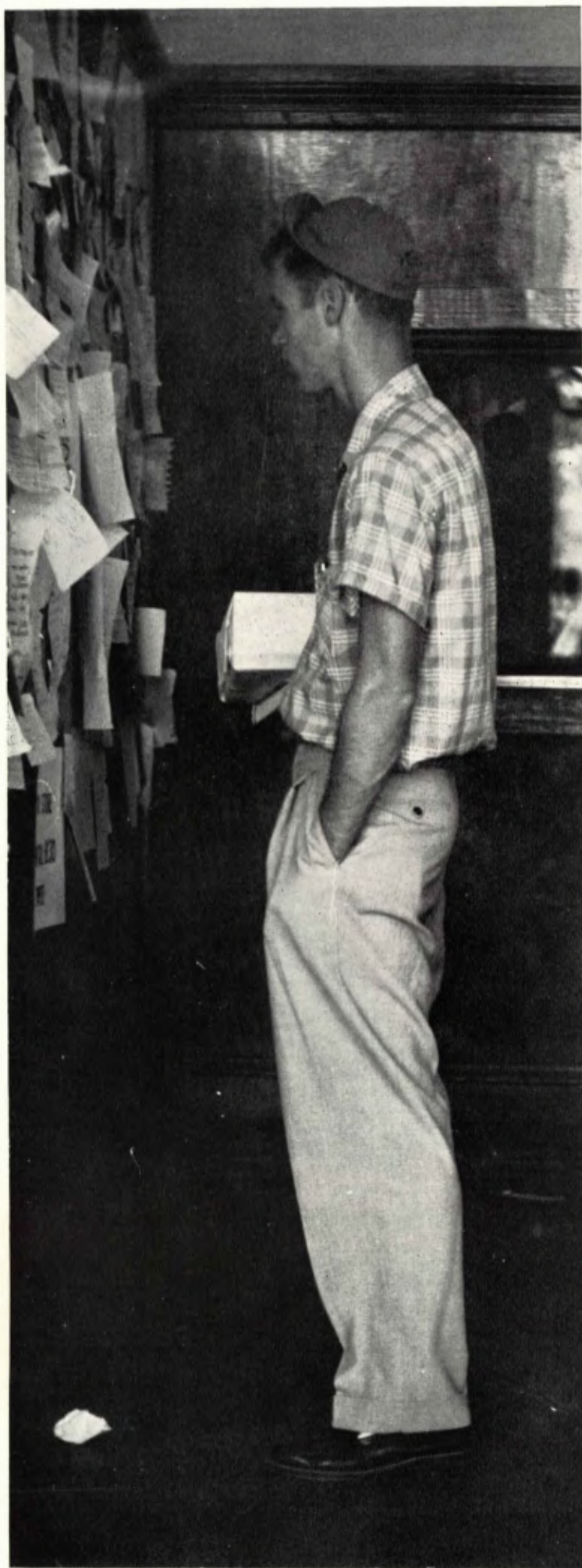
SEPT 22	KENTUCKY
SEPT 29	SMU
OCT 12	LSU
OCT 20	AUBURN
OCT 27	TULANE
NOV 3	DUKE
NOV 10	TENNESSEE
NOV 17	ALABAMA
NOV 24	FLORIDA
DEC 1	GEORGIA

All Home Games Begin 2:00





FALL



What fears, what anxieties, what uncertainties face the Tech freshman, a freshman not just beginning another school term but rather entering the threshold of an entirely new kind of life, a life offering a level of education never before attained, a life of heartaches and happiness, a life during which a destiny will be molded—during which manhood will supercede immaturity.

To acquaint the student with the various aspects of this new existence, the Tech Y. M. C. A. sponsors an annual freshman camp, highlighted by discussions and messages by outstanding Tech men, administrators and citizens of Atlanta. Sufficient free time is allotted for recreation, bull sessions and the chance to make new friends. This valuable orientation period is appropriately ended with a dinner dance at Agnes Scott, featuring two bands and many more young ladies.





As though a freshman's first few days were not filled with enough activity, fraternity men suddenly swarm the dorms. Date tickets are issued, and during the days that follow, the newcomer is treated as a king. Meal dates and smokers are followed with rush parties, and as Pledge Sunday approaches, many a freshman's excitement fades into apprehension. Will his wishes come true? Will the fraternity of his choice want him as one of its own? Eventually amid handshakes and cheers, he receives the answer for which he has longed. He is wanted; he is accepted; he is soon to be a brother!





The fourth Friday in October initiates the weekend that Tech men will remember as their very own. This weekend does not just come from nowhere, for much preparation, especially among the fraternities, the Ramblin' Reck Club and the Bulldog Club, has been made for it, and it has been anxiously awaited as the highlight of the fall quarter—the annual Homecoming Weekend at Georgia Tech.

A pep rally, attended by Coach Dodd, the Homecoming Queen and other notables, and a blazing bonfire intensifies the already mounting enthusiasm.



All Atlanta seems to respond, for cars creep bumper to bumper past the fraternity houses, viewing homecoming displays in various stages of completion. The Chi Phi's claim to fame, fifteen-foot Elvis Presley, rockin' an' rollin' over Tulane, favorably impresses all on-lookers, including the judges, and takes first-place honors. Though display making has ceased, mechanical-minded fraternity men work on into the night. Rain, which had threatened to make an appearance for the second year in a row, never shows itself, and Saturday introduces the most beautiful day imaginable.





The RATS provide the day's first entertainment in the form of the traditional cake race. Sam Nunn survives early dangers of the stampede for the gate and late plagues of fatigue to receive his appropriate rewards.

Attention then becomes focused on Fourth Street, at the foot of which odd conglomerations of mechanical monstrosities are lining up for their coming struggle with the hill. Hundreds watch the procession through a thick cloud of smoke and a spray of oil. A contraption featuring a clanging school bell, designed and built by the engineering geniuses of Sigma Alpha Epsilon eventually takes home the Ramblin' Reck trophy.

Meanwhile, alumni and friends of the school are assembling in the new Alexander Memorial Coliseum to hear Bobby Dodd pay tribute to the late William A. Alexander.

"This is the day," says Coach Dodd, "when Coach Alex's dream finally becomes a reality."





Then the game—and what a game it is! Tulane, conquerer of Navy and Ole Miss, is on the receiving end of a devastating Tech attack which will not wane even when directed by third and fourth stringers. When the game ends, the Jackets have gained one of their most decisive victories in Homecoming history plus a number two national ranking! Coach Dodd considers this the day that his 1956 team came of age.

During halftime the lovely Homecoming Queen, Anita Wall, and her court are formally presented to a highly appreciative audience, and members of reunion classes from '01 to '51 pompously parade around the field.







But Tech's Homecoming is not completed until quite early Sunday morning. The final occasion is the Homecoming Dance. The setting is the Alexander Memorial Coliseum; the music, that of the popular Billy May Orchestra. During the intermission, outstanding leaders of the Senior Class, men destined to be leaders of the future, are tapped by ANAK Society. Before the music begins again, Dick Austin is declared "Ugliest Man on the Campus."

As the final dance closes out a most enjoyable and satisfying weekend, starry-eyed Tech men escort their dates homeward, apparently oblivious of the unhappy task awaiting them—that of restoring the campus to its original appearance.

