

THE TECH

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PRICE ONE CENT

B. & M. ENGINEERS TALK ABOUT GRADE CROSSINGS

Speakers Illustrate Construction--With Detail Plan And Photograph

The civil engineering society was entertained yesterday by two very interesting speakers, E. A. Hadley and L. C. Lawton, both engineers familiar with the abolition of grade crossings.

Mr. Hadley spoke about the Somerville avenue crossing. Before beginning on his subject, he related the method of procedure in cases like this. Either a town or city, railroad, street railway, or the State may request the abolition. In any case, a commission of three disinterested parties is appointed, consisting usually of an engineer, a lawyer and a business man.

The commission holds a hearing and plans are generally presented by all interested. The report of the commission is then made to the court and a decree is issued for the taking of land, division of the payment of cost, contract, and all specialization. A special auditor is appointed who keeps the accounts and divides the costs. The railroad usually pays sixty-five percent., the town or city ten, the street railway not over fifteen, and the state the balance.

Somerville avenue is a very important main road to Boston and is crossed by six tracks of the B. & M. in that part of the city where the large pork packing firms are situated. A car line runs on the street and the traffic is very large. The passing of trains is frequent and traffic is delayed owing to the fact that considerable shifting of freight cars is done here.

The city of Somerville petitioned for the abolition of the crossing. The preliminary work was soon over and work began. The railroad could not be raised, so the road is to go over the tracks.

The concrete abutments and piers were erected on piles because the land is all made land. There is a three and one-half per cent. grade on either side of the slope from the bridge to the level of the old main road.

Mr. Hadley told about the concrete work, the finishing of the concrete, the filling in between the abutments, the peculiar method of bracing the forms, the difficulties of driving piles over drain-pipes and the raising of buildings to the height of the new roadway. All through the work, part of the road was obliged to be open to traffic, which made conditions more troublesome.

The steel work is now being put up and the men who go on the trip next Saturday will have a chance to see the steel spans and girders going up, as well as to see what has already been done.

Mr. L. C. Lawton gave the society a good idea of his work on the Pleasant street crossing in Malden. The same process of obtaining the decree was gone through and in this case it was decided to raise the railroad tracks and depress Pleasant street.

To illustrate each step in the abolition of the crossing, Mr. Lawton showed some fine pictures. It was necessary to build a temporary crossing and to close the old street. The railroad building had to be raised and the tracks were raised between trains.

The building of a raised platform for the accommodation of passengers, the masonry work, the resurfacing, the relaying of pipes, and the great amount of trestle work were all described and pointed out on the plans.

In the business meeting, information about the excursion Saturday was given out. At 1:45 the men will start from the Union and go to Park square, where

COURSE II MEN ACTIVE GRADUATES PROMINENT

Prof. Lanza To Read Paper Before American Society of Mech. Engineers

Prof. Lanza's Paper. Visits New York to Read Paper on Re-enforced Concrete. Doings of Graduates.

Professor Lanza of the department of Mechanical Engineering has gone to New York to read a paper on the deflection and breaking of concrete beams, before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Last month a joint meeting of the Boston branch of the Mechanical and Civil Engineering Societies was held in Boston. A paper was read by Prof. Lanza on the same subject, consisting of tests of a new formula for the deflection and breaking of re-enforced concrete beams. He was greatly assisted in his experiments and tests by Mr. L. S. Smith of the department.

Mr. Clarence E. Gage 1905, who until recently was draftsman for the Isthmian Canal Commission, has received an instructorship at the Venona University, Pennsylvania.

Mr. John J. Thomas 1907, has received a commission in the U. S. Coast Artillery as second lieutenant. He was at the head of a list of 160 candidates who tried the examinations. He will report for duty to Fortress Munroe.

Mr. Charles A. Eaton 1907, who also took the examination for the Coast Artillery was third on the list. He was unable to accept the commission, as his resignation from the revenue cutter service could not be accepted by the authorities, because of a deficiency of officers.

NAVAL ARCH. SMOKER

Second Big Meeting To Be Held --Prof. Peabody Will Speak

The Naval Arch Society has made arrangements for another big smoker. It will be held in the upper room of the Union next Thursday evening, at half past seven. The purpose of the smoker is to welcome the sophomores who are taking course XIII and who desire to join the club. Pres. O. O. Holbrook extends an invitation to all of these men and trusts that all will attend.

Prof. Peabody will give a short address at the meeting tomorrow night. Afterwards refreshments will be served, and the men will sit around and smoke. Over fifty are expected to be present.

STUDENT LIST POSTED

Proofs of the lists of students registered in the Institute have been posted on all bulletin boards.

Men of all four classes and special students should look over the lists and ascertain if their names and addresses are as they desire to have them inserted in the catalogue. If corrections are to be made they must be handed to the registrar today.

Owing to lack of interest by the golf playing students in the Institute, it has been thought best to cancel the golf tournament. Out of the men in Tech who can play the game, only four showed enough interest to enter and to make an attempt to get the cup offered as the prize.

ELECT OFFICERS AND MAKE PLANS FOR YEAR

M. A. H. S. Club Decided Upon H. M. Davis 1911 For President--Other Officers

Over twenty-five men attended the meeting of the Mechanic Arts High School Club, held in 26 Rogers yesterday. The meeting was called to order at half past one and last year's vice-president, H. P. Wasserbohr 1910, presided.

He first called upon Secretary H. M. Davis to read the minutes of the last meeting.

The treasurer's report was then submitted. There is at present \$23.41 in the treasury. Both of these reports were accepted.

Secretary Davis then read the report of M. A. H. S. Tennis Tournament between the Tech and Harvard branches of the club.

On May 31, P. C. Nash 1911 and S. F. Kimball 1909, of Harvard, defeated H. S. Osborne 1908, and J. W. Nickerson 1909, of Tech, in doubles, 6-3, 6-0.

In singles, Nickerson defeated Kimball 6-1, 8-6. Nash defeated Osborne 10-1, 6-4. Final score--Harvard Club, 3; Tech Club, 1.

Nominations for officers were then called for. H. P. Wasserbacher 1910, and H. M. Davis 1911, were nominated for president and the latter was elected. For vice-president, H. O. Maxwell 1912, P. A. Cushman 1911, and H. P. Wasserbohr 1910, were nominated. Wasserbohr was elected. H. M. Rand 1913, and H. O. Maxwell were nominated for secretary-treasurer and Maxwell was chosen. R. B. Weiler 1908, and H. M. Rand 1913, were elected unanimously to the executive committee.

AROUND THE INSTITUTE

There was an explosion yesterday in the freshmen chemistry laboratory. Amidst a burst of flame and a loud crash, the apparatus of one of Tech's co-eds disappeared. No very serious damage resulted but there was a noticeable confusion on the part of the experimenter.

Are there any more men who want the undergraduate book, "Concerning the Institute"? They can obtain them by leaving word for The Tech.

The importance of this book to the student cannot be over emphasized. It is needed by all Institute men and is a very handy work to have. Get one.

Proofs of the pictures taken Field Day may be seen in Room 37 R. Mr. I. W. Litefield has charge of these and he will be very glad to show them to all interested.

EXCHANGES.

The University of Kansas athletic association has sold 1500 season tickets this fall, representing 85 per cent. of the total enrollment.

The prize for the Minnesota song contest has been increased to \$100.

The Williams Baseball Association shows a balance of \$844.64 in its annual report.

"Football is a game for little boys, not a pastime for powerful men. I think my views on the subject of abolishing football at Harvard were very plainly stated in my annual reports while president of the University."--Dr. Charles W. Eliot.

BRITISHERS HONOR KING'S BIRTHDAY

Hold Dinner And Talk In Union --Men Relate Incidents Of Empire

Fifteen enthusiastic Britishers observed the King's birthday last night by a dinner in the Union. After a first-class English roast beef dinner, a short business meeting was held, and several new men elected to membership.

Each man then gave a short account of his home country and his reasons for coming to Tech. Especially interesting were the remarks of L. M. Sandstein 1912, of New Zealand, who told about Maori customs and characteristics, and also told about the King of Tonga, the only remaining native monarch in the Pacific. Tonga is the land of comic opera, and life there is a skit on European civilization.

Those present were S. M. Smith, graduate student, St. John, N. B.; C. A. Robb, graduate student, Amherst, N. S.; H. Shaffer 1909, South Africa; N. M. Cloak 1911, Newcastle-on-Lyne, England; J. G. Rudolph 1913, and A. N. Moash 1913, Lunenburg, N. S.; H. R. S. Fox 1912, Jamaica, W. I.; L. M. Landstein 1912, Christ Church, New Zealand; M. C. MacKenzie, Baddeck, C. B. and F. R. Faulkner 1909, Fresno, N. S., of the instructing staff; A. Frigon, graduate student, Montreal, P. Q.; A. S. Peet 1909, Callas, Peru; M. H. Mellish 1910, Hebron, N. S.; G. C. Conner 1910, Turo, N. S.

The officers of the society are: G. C. Conner 1910, chairman; J. D. MacKenzie 1911, vice-chairman; H. N. L. Fox 1912, sec'y-treasurer.

All other Britishers at Tech are eligible to the society, and are requested to make themselves known to any of the above.

AERO CLUB PROPOSED

Meeting Will Be Called Before Entertainment Friday

Technology is planning to maintain its lead in scientific activities. An aero club is to be organized Friday, if enough active interest is shown by the student body. Before the entertainment, Friday night, plans will be discussed, ideas of the men interested will be heard, and an attempt will be made to ascertain how many are interested.

This project is very appropriate, being, as it is, so closely connected with the subject of Prof. Roach's talk, "The Conquest of the Air." A good conception of the subject will be obtained from the pictures which are to be shown. It is hoped that the students at large will enter into this idea of an aero club with great enthusiasm.

CALENDAR.

Wednesday, November 10.

1:00 P. M.--1910 Class Meeting in H. H.

1:10 P. M.--Business Meeting Biological Society, 28 Pierce.

8:15 P. M.--Catholic Club Meeting in Union.

Thursday, November 11.

4:15 P. M.--Banjo Club.

Friday, November 12.

8:00 P. M.--Friday Night Entertainment, Union.

Saturday, November 13.

Interclass Meet.

(Continued on page 4.)