When Hamlet suggested "Why may not imagination trace the noble dust of Ankles beneath the long hols?" Horatio thought such a conception long; but his intellect could not conceive of so wonderful a transformation. Worse Shakespeare to write today, he would need much a superior knowledge of the human body to recognize that Hamlet's wish was an indication. Those popular magazines of recent years have done much to exploit the achievements of chemistry and its influence upon our modern life; that is but necessary to refer to current literature, for example last week's Saturday Edition or Monday Magazine for March, to realize the marvellous changes which have taken place in the last twenty-five years.

An artist is limited in his work by the tools at his command; an architect by the materials at his command; but so long as these industrial processes are continued by the agencies at their command, them by the leather, dyed the fabrics and burned the pottery, were those who contributed the necessities as well as the comforts to the human race. Then were industrial chemists in the sense that we now know them, who contributed the necessities of some raw materials, and the changes which were necessary to be able to bring about in them by the agencies at command. But so long as these industrial processes remained purely empirical, progress was exceedingly slow and the different industries benefited each other little. With the development of the fundamentals in chemistry, and all that is known about the change and the establishment of the elementary laws of chemical set up all the other processes to stand on a common basis, and in proportion as chemists have understood its utility and efficiency increased.

The phenomenal rapidity with which science of chemistry has developed in the last fifty years, and the progress with which chemical investigations are still being carried on, upon the progress based on chemistry of increasing importance to the community. The study of chemistry is founded upon chemistry, namely Course V and Course X, are differentiated in that the former, after laying a substantial foundation in the fundamental principles of chemistry, allows the student the privilege of more specialization in the several particular fields of chemical work, while the latter, also furnishing a well-rounded education to the student in the general chemical and electrical engineering. The options of the course in chemistry permit of the choice that is made, but the choice is made after the first year, to the professor of a teacher of chemistry in the second, third, and fourth years.

WATER ANALYSIS

By MRS. E. H. RICHARDS

Of all the varied problems brought to the chemical laboratory for solution none have presented themselves with greater difficulty than that of deciding on the quality of water for different uses. No data have even been given by the chemical profession toward those methods and operations which are the result of, or accompany, bacteriological action, the work being a link in the chain of the concentrated sciences.

Students of Course V, who follow their profession will have very serious problems to face—becoming more serious each year—to determine the quality of water for manufacturing purposes, and especially to the effects on health and hygiene. They must be prepared to watch the new conditions imposed by treated waters and the subsequent use of these waters for irrigation, etc.

For those students a short course as an eye-opener is given in the fourth year. Three or more samples from different sections of the country are examined in a laboratory at Boston University. This examination then forms the basis of judgment as to what industries the water is suited, or to what it may be used by the members to concern themselves with the subject of water. They must be prepared to watch the new conditions imposed by treated waters and the subsequent use of these waters for irrigation, etc.

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In the fourth year the laboratory gives Course XI, a very complete course in water analysis and water supplies. This course while chemical in nature is complemented from an engineering standpoint.

Chemical Society

Popular With Students And Members of Department

The chemical society organized in 1903 has ever been successful in its attempt to further the interests and widen the scope of its members.

Although having a considerably smaller membership than the professional societies, the meetings are well attended. Students who are taking chemistry in the second, third, and fourth years are eligible for membership, and the annual dues are fifty cents.

The chemical faculty have always shown a keen interest in the affairs of the society, evidenced not only by their attendance at the meetings and discussions, but also by their efforts to present subjects in which they have specialized and which are of great practical benefit to the students.

During the last year at least one banquet has been held, each month one or more members of the faculty giving addresses and presentations. Each meeting has given at least one banquet or social; the students who are taking chemistry in the second, third, and fourth years are eligible for membership, and the annual dues are fifty cents.

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