TESTING CONCRETE BEAMS.

At 2 P.M. Wednesday, October 19th, about thirty members of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers met in the Laboratory of Applied Mechanics to witness the testing of a reinforced concrete beam fourteen days old, and a plain concrete column eleven days old. Among those present were some of the best known engineers of Boston, who took advantage of the opportunity offered to see how tests are made in the Laboratory.

The tests were carried out by the Laboratory force, assisted enthusiastically by the visiting engineers, who hunted for cracks in the specimens with great zeal. The beam tested was 8 inches by 13 inches, rectangular cross section, and 14 feet long, being reinforced with 3%-inch square steel rods and suitable stirrups. The load was applied at the third point, with a space of 13 feet.

The beam was tested in the 100,000 pound beam machine, load being applied in 3000 pound increments, readings for deflection being taken at each interval. A few cracks on the underside of the beam were noted at about 14,000 pound load, and their development was followed up to the maximum load of 22,000 pounds, where the beam broke by compression of concrete at the upper surface.

The plain column, 8 feet long and 7 inches in diameter, was tested in the Engine machine, load being applied in 3000 pound increments, readings for compression being taken at each interval. From those readings the modulus of elasticity will be computed. The load was then run on without halt up to the maximum of 180,000 pounds, at which the column broke suddenly in the middle.

The tests were furnished by the Abbe Overholt Construction Company of Boston.

MUSICAL CLUB TRYSOUTS.

The musical club’s season has started again and all signs point to a most glorious flourishing year. The Glee Club, as usual, was the most successful, about forty-five fellows in all turning out for the first trials. The names of twenty-two new men who were to report for the first rehearsal, which was held yesterday, were posted, and almost every man was present. Three new men were chosen for first, and six for second tenors, and ten for first and three for second basses. In addition to the above, the new ones many of last year’s members are expected back. The Mandolin Club selected twelve new men to report to the first rehearsal yesterday, and a fair-sized membership is expected this first. The first orchestra rehearsal will be held today at 4 o’clock in the Union, and a large number will probably attend. The orchestra needs more violins and cellos, and any men playing these are requested to come out. The Radio Club trials take place today at the Union at 4 o’clock, and a large number of freshmen are expected to try for membership. All new men who have not yet reported or who intend to report, should do so at the next meeting of the club if they intend to try for membership.

ARCHITECTS’ FIRST MEETING.

Mr. Ernest Flagg of New York to Speak on Public Buildings. Tomorrow evening, at 8 o’clock, at the Pierce Building, the Architectural Society will hold their first “smoker” of this year. Mr. Ernest Flagg, of New York City, one of the most eminent architects of the country, will speak on “Public Buildings.” Mr. Flagg, who is a graduate of the Ecole des Beaux Arts, in France, and the designer of the Brooklyn Bridge, the Singer Building and the Goldsmith and Baitie’s measurement of New York, has also been considered the most eminent authority on architecture that this nation has ever produced. The talk will be interesting and instructive to all men taking the course in architecture, and it is hoped that every member of the society will be present. A very short business meeting will be held before the talk, and the second year men who are taking Course IV will be elected to membership.

At the next regular meeting, which will be held the first week of next month, Mr. P. A. Burton, the son of Dean Burton, will make his summer trip to Europe. Later on in the year the society expects that talks will be given by Mr. J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., of the firm of Coolidge & Carlson, of Boston; Mr. R. A. Gano, noted in music and church architecture, and by Mr. E. A. O. Olmsted.

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