THE TECH

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Monday, October 27, 1913.

We desire to call the attention of upper-classmen to the competition announced in this issue, for Managing Editor of THE TECH. As stated there, the position is one whose importance depends entirely upon the character of its holder; he can merely do what comes before him and become a sort of figure-head; or he can "branch out" and make himself an essential factor in the workings of the paper. It is therefore a position with great possibilities for any man with ambition and push, for it is one step removed from the highest position on the paper.

The position also offers valuable experience in coming into contact with other men, learning from them, getting along with them, and managing them. The qualities of character thus cultivated, any successful man will tell you, are those which lead to the top in any field of modern business life. All work on the paper is productive of this form of experience, but the Managing Editor perhaps receives more than any other individual, for he forms a sort of link between the news and business departments, besides coming occasionally in contact with outside men.

STEAM PIPE BURSTS

Last Friday afternoon at about 3:00 P. M. traces of steam appeared between the news and business departments. Investigation revealed that a six-inch elbow on one of the steam pipes had been broken. This was speedily repaired and no serious damage was done.

The Sophomore victory over Latin School is expected to make the Freshmen sit up and take notice.

ENGINEERING AND SCIENTIFIC NOTES

Are men better tipplers than women? This interesting social question has been submitted to scientific analysis, and an article on the subject appears in the Scientific American for October 25th. Various tests were applied to individuals to determine their acetone content, their sensitivity to alcohol, etc. To test the latter sense an ingenious device known as a Webber compass is used. This is an instrument for touching one or two points with an equal pressure on various portions of the body and then finding the maximum distance which they can be separated and still produce a distinct double impression on the brain. The distance of course varies greatly with the part of the body and its nerve development. Try this yourself, or, rather, have someone try it on you, for perception. Muscular sensitivity is tested by accurately detecting differences between nearly equal weights. As an answer to the above question, it was found that with the comparatively few individuals examined that the men were on the whole superior.

The estimated value of the gold produced in the Alaska portion of the Yukon basin in 1912 was $6,055,000, compared with $9,050,000 in 1911. This decrease is due to the falling off of the output from the Fairbanks and Hot Springs districts, for the other Yukon camps either held their own or somewhat increased their output compared with the preceding year.

The Fairbanks district continues to be the largest producer of placer gold in the Yukon country. It can not maintain this position long, however, without a radical change in mining conditions which will make it possible to exploit profitably its extensive bodies of low-grade placer. But little has been accomplished in this direction, and the best hope of the future lies in obtaining direct railway connection with tidewater.

In order to eliminate disputes and consequent dissatisfaction which sometimes arise among the judges of "close" races, cameras are now frequently employed which are set off by the winner breaking a fine string as he crosses the finish line. The development of modern photography has enabled a picture to be taken with such a brief exposure that photographs obtained in this manner not only serve as interesting cuts for the sporting pages of our newspapers, but they afford a permanent record of the "finish," which is far more authentic than the momentary glimpse of the judges.

Avoid all petty professional jealousies, and remember that to rise in the world it is not necessary to push others down—Waddell.

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