THE TECH

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In Charge of This Issue
Editor—G. W. Wynn ’16
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The Freshman basketball men are amply justifying the financial support given them by their class. The marked success of the experiment should allow the students what the results are of giving an activity such support.

Trimmers are often criticized for discordant conduct in class-meets, but they are by no means the only offenders. In the Sophomores Descriptive Geometry lectures only the frontiers of front seats can hear the lecture. The majority cannot follow the subject at all.

The large legacy which has just been left to the Institute by a man who lived in its neighborhood shows the esteem in which Tech has been held by outsiders who have come into contact with it. Some of us are none too happy because of the way in which this attitude is being expressed.

In your reading while your school does not teach too carefully after the practical phases of your subjects. Remember that the theory is the most difficult part to obtain unless carefully studied. After graduation you will be obliged to make special effort to gain a thorough knowledge of it, while you will necessarily learn much of practical value in the ordinary course of your work. Seek to establish the principles which form the basis of your future tasks, thoroughly as possible, in your mind and to acquire all the knowledge of them your time and strength will permit. Build your foundations substantially, and the superstructure will be much more certain to serve your purpose. —Harrington

ENGINEERING AND SCIENTIFIC NOTES

Owing to the large capacity of ocean cables and retardation of current transmission produced by the storing up of energy, it is necessary to frequently reverse the direction of the current through them, and so the present-day method of drumming telegraph is to send it in a double current, by traversing key positive impulses through the cable to represent the "dots" of the Morse code and negative impulses for the "dashes." These alternating impulses cause the needle of the xiphon recorder to travel to one side or the other and thus a record of the message is recorded. Such an apparatus cannot be used by an ordinary Morse operator and, furthermore, it is incapable of being operated directly with a "hand" line.

Mr. John Gott, consulting engineer for the Commercial Cable Company, has devised an apparatus by which, both sending and receiving, both the detrimental "capacity effect" is eliminated. These impulses, being long or short in duration, can be received and interpreted by an ordinary Morse recorder or sounder. In place of the key may be substituted the common relay, and thus automatic connection between land line and cable is accomplished.

A successful demonstration of this apparatus was performed by sending from San Francisco a message which, after being relayed nine times across the continent, arrived in New York where it was automatically put into "cable form" by the Gott apparatus, forwarded to Canada, X. X., and there relayed for its final journey through the ocean cable to London. The operator at San Francisco, however, was able to produce the chucking in London as satisfactorily as if he had been in Manchester.

As this method permits of duplex working it is likely to prove a distinct advantage for efficient cable work. A detailed description with diagrams and photographs will be found in the Scientific American for November 22d.

TRACK WORK

(Continued from page 1.)

Mr. Kanasky, it was a rather strict rule that said that only turn out six men to see the team off for New York. In contrast to the scores of Tech alumni that turned out to see the run in Van Cortlandt Park, dropping business and other interests to see the undergraduates of the school perform, and to cheer them on in their work.

The track work from now on will take on a more serious aspect, practice being held every four times a week: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday being the afternoons chosen for the Freshmen substituting track for gym, attendance on three days will be required. For the candidates for the Freshman track team four days will be expected. Every man must practice on Saturday as this will be the day when most of the work in competition will be completed.

(Continued on page 4.)

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