WORK AT NEW SITE PROGRESSING RAPIDLY

Large Force of Men Start Work with Advent of Good Weather.

During the month of February the weather prevented much progress at the buildings of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the Esplanade, Cambridge. Since the melting of the snow, however, activities have been resumed and today there are three hundred men employed. The principal asset of activity at the moment is in the group of buildings forming the three sides of the eastern, minor court. These are the structures that are to be devoted to general studies and Biology and Public Health. There has been some delay in the planning, well established as they were a while ago, for the cooperation with Harvard University, whereby the numbers at Technology will be increased by some Harvard men, both students and professors, some rearrangement necessary.

Within the east court, which is in its foundations about three hundred feet square, there are now five pile-drivers at work, and this portion of the piling is likely to be completed first. In general, in the constructions there have been driven about five thousand piles, about one-quarter of the whole number required. It is interesting here to note that the demand for piles has been quite important as such demands go, and instead of the piling coming from a single dealer no less than fifteen different sources of supply have been sought.

The little Venice that is to be a part of the hydraulic laboratory is now one of the important features that is being constructed. There is to be a great portion well which will have a capacity of twenty or thirty thousand gallons, for the testing of pumps, while a number of tanks of different sorts for testing different kinds of water flows will run beneath the basement of the building. It will be necessary to determine on those before the piling for the foundations can be driven.

The wall itself is surrounded by 2300 square feet of steel street piling, within which the concrete walls of the wall will be set. The excavation is now completed and the concrete mix for the bottom will be placed early next week.

Stone & Webster have their own locomotive on the grounds and the tracks in place which give access to every portion of the grounds. The system is connected with the Boston & Albany R. R. and already 750 car-loads of material—the piles not included—have been received and distributed to the different sections. The locomotive is the forty-ton one that is very busy building the Kickstand dam. Stone & Webster have nearly fifty miles a day backwards and forwards over the mile of track in the grounds.

The number of men as one passes in the vicinity of the constructions and here there has been unloaded more than a million feet of lumber. This is for concrete forms and is to be handled in a shop that

COMMUNICATION

The Editor of THE TECH,

Dear Sir:

I see by the paper that Miss Pendleton, President of Wellesley College, says that owing to the fact that all laboratory facilities were devoted at the recent fire work can not be resumed for some time. This means that the number of students will be enormously reduced.

As engineers we should consider what effect this will have on the B. & A. R. R. Its Saturday and Sunday evening earnings will fade away to the vanishing point causing depreciation of the stock and tremendously reducing the dividend. This will bring starvation to thousands of widows and orphans; the giant wolf will grow fat.

This calamity is avoidable. After much thought I have evolved a plan, which I offer through you, to prevent this great catastrophe. This plan will be to add returns to the widows and orphans; it will drive the well back to the till, till timber; it will increase the revenue of the Institute, and it will be the source of unsituable pleasure and profit to us as students and to Wellesley as a college.

I propose that the Institute freely extend the privileges of its vast and well-equipped laboratories to our sister colleges. I am sure there is plenty of room,—for instance there is a vacant deal right next to mine, and even though it were crowded what true Tech man would be so discoursed as to refuse the half of his desk to a fair neighbor in distress? The profits of the supply room could be enormously increased with what was left of the institute.

The Editor of THE TECH.

RATHER TRAVEL THAN STAND

GALAX STRING, Jr., '14

is practically ready for work. This has saved all descriptions and planning and joining machinery. A company of twenty workmen will be required when the constructions are fairly under way. One ingenious idea here is the employment of saw-file to keep the tools of the workmen in order. It is a step in advance of having every man at his own pleasure and in his employer's time do his individual filing work. An electric motor of thirty-five horsepower will be required to run the carpenter's shop. One of the features of general interest is the fact that surveyors are doing all their work on the new athletic grounds.

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