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NEW YORK BOSTON CHICAGO

COST RICA'S GOLD SUPPLY NEARLY GONE, SAYS MR. JONES

The second talk in the T. C. A. series on "Jobs in Foreign Countries" was given last Wednesday afternoon by Wm. F. Jones '09. The subject of the talk was "Natural Resources in Central America." Mr. Jones spoke mostly of Costa Rica, with which he is most familiar. The mineral wealth of the country is very considerable, he said, and was at one time much greater than now. There have been very rich gold mines which have yielded as high as \$10,000 per ton. The average now is about \$9.00 per ton. The supply is nearly exhausted. There are also great quantities of manganese ores which have not as yet been developed. Beside the metallic deposits, it is rumored that there are valuable oil fields. Mr. Jones has traced many of the seepages to the source and has found them worthless, some being nothing more than fat from slaughter houses.

The living conditions in San Jose are excellent. The climate is very similar to that in California. The vegetation is luxuriant and the fertility of the soil is astounding. It is in the soil where the greatest wealth lies. Banana raising is the chief industry, immense trade in this fruit being carried on by the United Fruit Co. Seven million tons are exported annually to the United States. About one-third of this quantity is used for the production of banana oil and soap. On account of a disease of the bananas, which makes them unsalable, many people are turning their attention more to cocoa raising.

Mr. Jones's work lay mostly in the jungles. He related some of his experiences and hardships which give an idea of the condition of the country. The inhabitants, who are primeval Indians, instead of fishing with a net, dam up a river and as the water becomes shallow below the dam they shoot the fish with bows and arrows. In hauling a boiler some thirty miles it was necessary to build roads, and at one place it took twenty-five minutes to haul the boiler over the road it had taken three weeks to build. There are no mosquitoes but there are other small pests in the jungles. One soon becomes used to these and immune to the effects. The snakes are poisonous, but do not bother the men. Everybody is wet all the time while at work, due to the excessive rainfall and the river beds being the only passable paths in most places.

In conclusion Mr. Jones said that he didn't know what the future of petroleum would be, but in some places it looked promising and that one concern now has large interests there. As to opportunities, he advised no one to go there unless he had a definite job in view. "And then be sure for whom you are working." If petroleum opens up, the chances will be greater. As a whole the natives do not like Americans because of our exploitation, but as personal friends they feel very differently.

URGES NAVAL TRAINING

(Continued from page 1)

elements of navigation; (d) naval engineering. Men who have already enrolled or wish later to apply for enrollment in the Patrol Boat Service are particularly recommended to apply for instruction in the engineering or navigation courses. Members of the various classes, it is planned, shall be examined at the end of a given period, and future opportunities for special training and for higher ratings will depend in large part on the results obtained by such tests.

A comprehensive description of the requirements for enrollment in the various classes of Naval Reserve, and of the obligations assumed by those who enroll, will be given on board the battleships.

Registration for these classes can be made only by application in person at the headquarters of the Naval Training Association, 42 Water street, Boston.

TECHNIQUE SIGN-UPS NEARING 800 MARK

So far this year the Technique sign-up campaign has been more successful than last year. When the office of Technique 1918 closed last night, 208 Seniors, 280 Juniors, 149 Sophomores, and 142 freshmen had signed up, making a total of 779.

The following is quoted from The Tech, Feb. 23, 1916: "The number of Technique sign-ups has passed the seven hundred mark and the Board feels confident of rounding out the required thousand before March 1. No sign-ups will be sold after that date."

In view of the fact that a thousand sign-ups were sold last year, Technique 1918 should have no trouble in duplicating the feat.

CHANGES IN "GEOLOGY OF COAL AND PETROLEUM"

The schedule of the course "The Geology of Coal and Petroleum" has been changed so that part will be given between Feb. 26 and March 10, and the balance after April 15.

All those registered in the course and all wishing to take it should consult Mr. Jones in Room 4-345 on Monday. WALTER HUMPHREYS, Registrar.

SECOND YEAR ENGLISH

Mr. Rogers will be unable to meet his class in second year English today at 11 o'clock. The Tuesday meeting of next week will be held in Room 3-270, when Professor Swain will address the section. Attendance will be taken.

LOBOS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LATIN AMERICAN CLUB

At a meeting of the Latin American Club held last week the vacancy left by the late Alfonso Gomez was filled with the election of Francisco Lobos of Chile, president of the club for the rest of the year. Mr. Lobos is an architect and represents his government ad honorem to complete his studies at Technology. This is his first year in the Institute; he was elected vice-president of the club in the first elections of the school year. To take the place of Lobos, A. de Zubiria was elected. President Lobos then spoke of the plans of the club for the remainder of the year. These will be of a social and educational nature; members of the faculty and outside men in public life were favorably discussed as possible speakers on public literary and political subjects of interest. A committee was appointed to report on some form of social entertainment to be given by the club some time in April. "It is very encouraging to the Latin Americans of Technology to see the business-like enthusiasm shown by the members of the club, which has already shown its good results in the close union and friendship that has already developed among the Latin American students at Technology," said President Lobos in closing.

FRESHMEN TRACK MEN ELECT DOWNEY CAPTAIN


At a meeting of the freshman track candidates held in the track office yesterday afternoon, James F. Downey was elected captain of the 1920 team. Only those men who took the Lowell trip were eligible to vote.

Downey has been doing very good work on the team, having distinguished himself in the meet with the Lowell High School by winning first place in the 300-yard dash and third in the 30-yard dash. He was also a member of the 1200-yard relay team which broke the record for the Lowell track.

FRESHMAN AND UPPERCLASS OARSMEN PRACTICE TODAY

Crew practice will be held in the Newell Boat House this afternoon at 2 o'clock for upperclassmen, and 3 o'clock for freshmen, and unless excused by one of the managers, this is compulsory for all 1920 men wishing to receive credit for gymnasium.

Although there are five freshmen out for manager, there is still room for more, according to the present management, and anyone coming out now will not be severely handicapped. 1920 is making a good showing and several meets may be arranged for them in May, and if possible, one for Junior Week.



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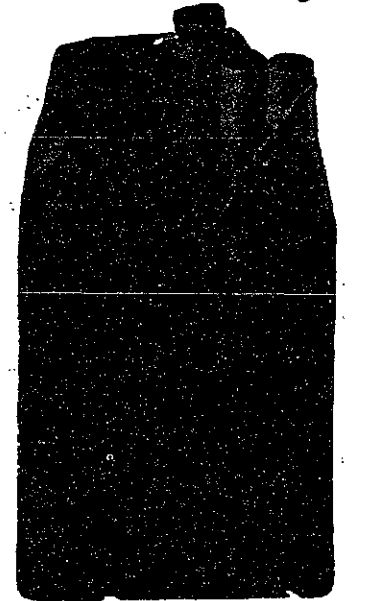
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