

THE TECH

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Monday, May 4, 1908.

WASTED OPPORTUNITIES.

While Tech won the meet last Saturday by a seemingly good score the results were far from satisfactory. The fact is that the score should have been much greater than it was. The performance of the team was not good at all. For some reason or other most of the members of the team were in poor condition. In our one running event were all the men that were entered in the shape that they should have been.

The track men have not been doing the work that they should have. They have not been out to practice and have not kept in training.

In the meet Saturday Maine came down to Boston with a team very severely crippled by loss occasioned by low standing in school work and sickness. The score that Tech should have rolled up against the team that Maine put in the field would be overwhelming.

As it was Tech won. But that is all that can be said. A few men did superb work it is true, but the team as a whole did not. It is neither necessary nor advisable to itemize. Some events on which Technology should have the right to count absolutely were lost through lack of previous conscientious work on the part of the men entered.

The outlook for a good track team at the Institute was brighter at the beginning of the season than it has ever been before. Most of last year's team were back and some highly capable new men showed up. Tech had a splendid chance for a good team this year but it is being thrown away absolutely. The coach has said that the chances for the team now are not half as good as they were earlier in the season.

Unless the men get down to real work and do that very soon, Technology will not even be able to make a respectable showing against Brown next Saturday. At that time they will run up against a team of the first class and the result will be far different from what it was this time. If no better work is done in some of the events than was done in the meet with Maine the score of Saturday could easily be reversed.

The time has come for everyone to do everything that he can. Let us settle down solidly. Let us waste our opportunities no longer.

PROF. SWAIN IN DEMAND.

Receives Many Requests To Lecture On Quebec Disaster.

That Prof. George F. Swain of the civil engineering department is generally recognized as an authority on

structural questions and problems is again shown by the many requests he is receiving from engineering societies and technical schools to address them on the "Causes of the Quebec Bridge Failure." Recently he appeared before the students and faculties of the University of Maine and of Brown University, speaking on the subject. His talk is interestingly illustrated by lantern slides showing views of the bridge in its many details, and diagrams ingeniously prepared which present in striking manner the lack of correct proportions which undoubtedly caused the failure.

At Philadelphia Prof. Swain attended the recent meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials, as chairman of the committee on cement specifications.

On April 14 he spoke at a special meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in New York. The object of the meeting was to gather from expert engineers opinions relative to the methods by which the natural resources of the country may be concerned. Prof. Swain spoke on "Stream Flow, Water Power and Navigation."

Prof. Swain said that the most effective way of regulating stream flow is by preservation of the forests, thereby producing three important results. It conserves one of our greatest natural resources—water power; it prevents erosion of the soil; it prevents the silting of navigable rivers and harbors as well as reservoirs.

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, formerly president of the Institute, gave the concluding address on the attitude of the engineer toward the public. A true engineer will, while serving loyally his employer keep in mind the honor of his profession, the debt he owes it and the service to the larger interests of humanity.

Other talks were given by Dr. W. F. M. Goss, Dean of the College of Engineering, University of Illinois, and J. W. Lieb, Jr., vice-president of the society.

HIGHEST IN ENGINEERING.

Speakers At C. E. Dinner Are Authorities.

Men highest in active engineering circles have been secured for the Civil Engineering Society's dinner to be held tonight at the American House.

John F. Stevens is a very good example of the group of self-made engineers who have risen to the highest positions with no schooling higher than that of a high school. He was on the Isthmian Commission, has been chief engineer of the Panama Canal, of railroads, including the Great Northern, and is now vice-president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford.

Desmond Fitzgerald has been a hydraulic expert for the past thirty years and worked up the Boston Metropolitan Water Board to a high state of efficiency. Frank Gilbreth has been in demand for rush contracts. He put up the Lowell and Eng. C buildings.

A large number of civil engineering students, past and present, are expected to be present.

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