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The Campus

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

February 1, 1900

Vol. 1

No. 8

From "Fresh" to Senior

there is ever need of proper dress. We cater especially to the clothing needs of college men—do particular custom work for the hard-to-please—and have in stock at all times a splendid line of very newest Furnishings.

Our new location—26 State Street—is just below the East Side drug store. We're easy to find and we're always glad to have callers.

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Dearborn's Barber Shop, 16 Broad St., Bangor, Me.

Vol. 1.

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THE CAMPUS

Vol. 1.

BANGOR, ME., FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

No. 8

THE CAMPUS

Published on the first and fifteenth of each month during the college year by the students of the University of Maine.

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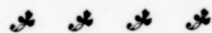
EDITORIALS.

THE past issues of THE CAMPUS have contained two of the series of sketches entitled, Old Time Sketches, by one of the "Gang." These sketches written by an alumnus of the University of Maine are based upon facts and portray the life of those crowds of good fellows that exist in all colleges. We feel sure that these tales will prove interesting to all and doubly so to those who may recognize some almost forgotten incident that happened during their own college days as students. These sketches just mentioned are a long step in the right direction toward making a volume

of representative college tales similar to those published by other colleges. We understand that it is the intention of the author to make these sketches the basis of such a book and we congratulate him upon his enterprise. THE CAMPUS would be pleased to receive sketches of a similar nature from any of the alumni.

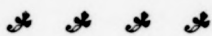


THERE was at one time a press club organized here. We read of its existence in former days but all traces of it have disappeared at the present time. There certainly should be a flourishing press club in this institution, composed of representatives of all the leading papers of the state. At the present time only the Bangor papers publish any real news about the college and that news is apt to be spasmodic in its occurrence. As the promoting object of a press club is to keep the university in the public mind it seems that the very small sacrifice of time and brain necessary to write out a weekly letter could be spared, particularly so as items of interest about the college are so easy to obtain. Let us have a press club, one that will be of great benefit to the university and to its members. Who will take the initiative in forming it?



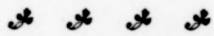
THE outlook for the 1900 Prism is very encouraging. The board of editors has been hard at work for the past month and it is expected that the annual will make its appearance early in the spring. Manager Martin will begin the work of securing subscriptions soon. He hopes to secure a larger list of subscribers among the student body than has been done in previous years. There is no reason why this should not be the case. The

Prism is not a class enterprise alone, but one in which the entire college is interested. It has features of college life embodied in its pages that can be found recorded in no other college publication. It is, in many cases, taken as a standard of the institution it represents, therefore, it behooves us to give the Prism our support by contributing to its makeup and subscribing willingly for at least *one* copy.



WHEN we have a good gymnasium and drill hall, which we expect may soon grace our campus, a portion of our midwinter enthusiasm could be expended in an in-door athletic meet and the supple and strong not musically inclined would have a chance to distinguish themselves. But this would be of small account compared to the actual benefit to the health of those who would enjoy the privileges of a well equipped gymnasium under the direction of a competent instructor.

We believe that much of the prevailing illness could be avoided by some systematic exercise and although we lack accommodations for suitable indoor work there is no time when the weather is so inclement as to prohibit all exercise.



THE mid-year examinations have come and gone and another term has begun with no change, of any importance, to mark its beginning. While the registration has not increased, the number of students in attendance is practically the same as that of last term. We are pleased to make mention of a new course, this semester, that in comparative psychology, under Dr. Fernald. This course is of great value to every student, particularly to those who intend to teach, as it rounds out and completes the course in psychology, logic and pedagogy so essential to that profession. It is thought that this new course will be a popular one with the student body.



W. A. Hall, '02, will leave shortly on a business trip to the various colleges and "prep" schools in Maine in the interests of the Hampden Publishing Co.

Hayes, '00, has been confined to his room the past ten days with a severe attack of the "grippe." A large number of students have been more or less afflicted with this same disease.

The committee on the "Junior Prom" are hard at work on the arrangements for that event. It is proposed to make this year's "Prom" even more successful than the last. An announcement of the various committees, etc., is made in another column.

Mrs. E. A. Balentine has presented the university library with forty-five volumes from the private library of the late Prof. Walter Balentine.

J. E. French has returned to resume his studies.

The Prism board was photographed by Rasmdell & O'Halloran last Saturday.

F. L. Martin, business manager of the Prism, has recently made a contract with C. H. Glass & Co., of Bangor, to print the 1900 Prism. Mr. Glass' work on last year's annual was highly satisfactory.

There has been much recent discussion, in educational associations and journals, in regard to the admission of students to college. This touches not only the studies which should be taken as a test of the preparatory work, but the

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method of making that test. At one time practically all colleges in the United States were accustomed to examine candidates for admission, but the method of certificates has made a steady gain in public favor until it is well established throughout the country, with the exception of New England. Although many New England colleges now admit students on certificate from their instructors for a probationary period, a few institutions still require an examination in every case. The system of certificates is used by three of the Maine colleges and has been reduced to an elaborate one by the University of Maine, which belongs to the class of institutions that was the first in the country to adopt this method, which has always been that pursued by the German universities.

The next lecture in the Faculty course will be delivered by Dr. Fernald Friday evening, Feb. 9th, at 7.30, on the topic, "Two Phases of Mental Growth." Two weeks from that date Prof. Woods will give the third lecture on the "What and Why of Experiment Stations;" this lecture will be illustrated by lantern slides.

A new course in comparative psychology under Dr. Fernald is offered this term to members of the junior class.

The Musical clubs will give their annual Bangor concert in the city hall on Friday evening, Feb. 2. Several new and attractive numbers will be added to the programme. A social dance will follow the concert. This will be one of the most pleasant social events in Bangor this season. Tickets are now on sale and can be obtained from Manager Gray.

Allen Rogers, instructor in chemistry, at the University of Maine, has made 13 photographs of eminent chemists, which have been framed and will be hung in the large lecture room on the second floor, in the halls, and elsewhere in the chemical laboratory. The photographs are made from enlargements of an excellent series

of steel engravings and include Liebig, Davy, Lavoisier, Priestley and the like.

H. W. Kneeland, who has been seriously ill with bronchitis, is rapidly recovering.

A. R. Tolford, 1901, has returned to college.

A comparison of the statistics of the Maine colleges in the World almanac for 1900 with that for 1898 shows a very satisfactory growth in all of them in most respects. The faculty at Bates has increased 3, Bowdoin 1, Colby 3, and University of Maine 11, making the total as follows: Bates 21, Bowdoin 32, Colby 18, and University of Maine 50. The increase in students varies from 20 at Bowdoin to 43 at the University of Maine. The library of Bates has grown 3000, Bowdoin 3000, Colby 2000, and University of Maine 4733. The number of living alumni at Bates is larger by 93, Bowdoin 32, Colby 67, and University of Maine 94; the fact that Bowdoin and Colby have a large body of older alumni, and the deaths that occur among them, make their net increase smaller than would otherwise be the case. Bowdoin and the state university have made notable additions to their income, the former having grown \$13,000 and the latter \$10,460.

S. C. Dinsmore, 1903, recently spent a few days at his home in Dover.

On Monday night, Jan. 14, the members of the Beta House were entertained by a surprise party arranged for E. B. Ross, 1902, by a number of Bangor young ladies. Dancing was enjoyed during the evening and light refreshments were served.

H. H. Leathers, 1900, was recently elected second lieutenant of Co. G, N. G. S. M. He has passed his examinations with great credit.

Sam Clark, 1901, has returned to college after being absent several weeks on account of illness.

E. W. Delano, 1902, recently spent a few days at his home in Abbot village.

D. H. Perkins, 1900, has returned from a short business (?) trip to Dyer Brook.

J. O. Whitcomb, 1900, has accepted an invitation to deliver the memorial address before the George G. Davis post, No. 64, G. A. R., at Brooks, Me., on Memorial day.

Members of the junior class must have their photos ready for the Prism by February 15th.

On account of the illness of Prof. Harvey there were no examinations in Invertebrate Zoology, Cryptogamic Botany, Comparative Vertebrate Zoology, and Geology.

The following men have been appointed to represent the four classes in the series of inter-class debates, which will occur early this term: Seniors—Messrs. Judge, McDonald and Whitcomb. Sophomores—Messrs. Eldredge, Carr and McCarthy, and French, alternate. No appointments have been made in the junior and freshman classes.

Miss Edee Gammon, '03, has been obliged to discontinue her studies on account of ill health.

For distinguished work in education, Dr. M. C. Fernald has been chosen a member of the American Social Science Association, which includes membership in the National Institute of Art, Science and Letters, made up of many of the most prominent litterateurs of the country.

A large number of students attended the production of the Dagger and the Cross by Robert B. Mantell and his company at the Bangor Opera House, Jan. 26.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity gave a social at their fraternity house, Friday, Jan. 25. A large number of Orono and Old Town young people were in attendance.

By mistake the names of Mr. Walker and Mr. Weston were omitted from the list of the members of the new honorary society, published in the last issue of THE CAMPUS.

Frank McCullough, 1902, has been discharged from the Bangor hospital and is now staying with friends in Bangor for a few weeks. He was on the campus last week and intends to return to his studies in a short time.

Prof. Harvey will not be able to take charge of his classes at the beginning of this term. For the present Dr. Russell and Mr. Stover will have his recitations.

Arrangements for the 1900 Junior Promenade are progressing very rapidly and if one may judge from the enthusiasm manifested by all concerned it would seem that the affair will be fully as successful and brilliant as any of previous years.

A meeting of the junior class was held a short time ago and a committee as follows was elected to take all arrangements in hand: G. E. Goodwin, chairman; S. D. Thompson, A. H. Robinson, L. H. Harvey, F. L. Martin. At this meeting it was also decided that the "Prom" should be held in Bangor City Hall, following the example of last year's "Prom," the success of which was in a great measure due to the hall in which it was held. Bangor City Hall offers many advantages and all will agree that no mistake has been made in the selection of that place.

A meeting of the above committee has been held and preliminary arrangements made. The date of the "Prom" is Friday evening, March 2nd. Music will be furnished by seven pieces of Pullen's orchestra. The floor manager is S. D. Thompson; the aids are: Arthur Brown, C. W. Bartlett, W. H. Boardman, L. M. Swazey, E. J. Howe. The chief usher is A. H. Robinson. The ushers are: E. I. Davis, G. H. Davis, P. R. Keller, C. D. Harvey, F. M. Davis, E. L. Watson, M. B. Merrill.

It has not been fully decided who will constitute the receiving committee but President and Mrs. Harris and Dr. and Mrs. Fernald will be four of the number. May all success attend all developments relative to the "Prom."



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The editors of the 1901 Prism are now very busy in the preparation of our college annual and everything points to the issue of one of the best books which has ever represented the university. Many changes will appear, all of which, it is hoped, will be in that line of improvement for which the university is fast becoming noted.

A special feature of this year's book will be an extensive history of the university from its very beginning up to the present time, this, the closing year of the nineteenth century. The article will be written by those who have been here during the space which the history covers and cannot fail to be interesting to every alumnus who has himself helped to make this history what it is. The article will be illustrated by views of the grounds, buildings, etc., taken at different periods.

Heretofore the expense of publishing The Prism has been met largely by the students, who have subscribed liberally. But as the book becomes larger and more improvements are made the cost must necessarily become greater. Hence we turn to you, alumni, knowing that you want to see The Prism among the first college annuals.

To those who graduated before The Prisms were published we would say: Buy one, see how the university has grown, show it to your friends and you will find it one of the best advertising mediums for new students that there is. For those who have graduated since '95 we will simply say: You have been through the mill, you know our needs, we hope you will subscribe.

'75.

The annual course of lectures before the students of the University of Maine Law School will begin on Feb. 9, when Hon. Louis C. Southard of Boston will begin his series on Medico-Legal Relations. Mr. Southard will deliver two lectures on alternate weeks until the course is completed, after which he will begin another series on Expert Testimony. The lectures given by Mr. Southard were largely attended last year by physicians and lawyers, and it is expected he will have even larger audiences this term.

'82.

Charles S. Bickford of Belfast was in Bangor, Jan. 24 and 25, attending the meeting of the Maine Press Association being held in that city. After the close of the session Mr. Bickford visited Orono and called on friends at the college.

'86.

Mr. Geo. G. Barker of Chicago, Ill., has accepted the position of draftsman with the Deering Harvesting Machine Co. of that city.

At the annual meeting of the Connecticut Civil Engineers and Surveyors Association, held in Hartford, Jan. 9, Mr. Edwin D. Graves was unanimously re-elected president for the year 1900. Mr. Graves has received much praise for the way he has conducted the affairs of the association during the past year, and his re-election to the presidency was an honor to which he was justly entitled.

The annual address to the association was delivered by President Graves. He said in part: "The close of the year 1899 marks a very important epoch in the affairs of this country. We have, as a nation, taken a new place among the great nations of the earth, and business prosperity has been almost unprecedented. We have seen prices assume their normal level and in many cases rise above it. Such prosperity in general business naturally

brings good times to our profession. The past year has been one of great financial prosperity for us, and the outlook for the year 1900 is very promising. Civil engineers have well grounded claims to professional recognition. By education and training the engineer is a man of high professional knowledge and oftentimes has spent more years on his education than he would in some so-called learned profession. Our profession is slowly but surely gaining the recognition which belongs to us and we shall some of us see the day when we shall fill our true place in the great stage of action and be respected and paid accordingly."

Immediately at the close of the session the annual dinner took place at the Allyn House. President Graves presided and acted as toastmaster. Mr. Graves is at present one of the most successful civil engineers in southern New England. He has made an enviable reputation as a designing engineer, having had charge of three important bridges over the Connecticut river, one at Thompsonville, Conn., one at White River Junction, Vt., and one at Middletown, Conn. He is at present employed as chief engineer of the Hartford Bridge District Commission, which has accepted his design for the new bridge about to be built across the Connecticut at Hartford. The Berlin Iron Bridge Co., who have the contract for this bridge, speak very highly of his ability as an engineer. In the December number of "Berlin Bridges and Buildings" they say of him: "Mr. Graves is eminently fitted for his position, as his education and experience well qualify him for this important trust. We have no hesitation in saying, after an experience of over twenty years in the designing and building of highway bridges, that the bridge which we built from the designs of Mr. Graves is one of the best, if not the best highway bridge, in the world."

'89.

E. E. Greenwood, C. E., left Skowhegan, Jan. 26, for El Paso, Texas. Mr. Greenwood

has secured a position with a New York corporation which has in view the construction of a railroad to be known as the Morency & Southern, to run through parts of Arizona and New Mexico. Mr. Greenwood recently finished nearly a year's work at Millinocket, where he went shortly after returning from Virginia, where he did considerable work. It is probable that Mr. Greenwood will be absent about a year.

'90.

The committee appointed to devise means for providing a water supply for the city of St. Joseph, Mo., have retained Mr. J. R. Rackliffe, city engineer of St. Joseph, as consulting engineer. Mr. Rackliffe was not appointed a member of the committee, but recognizing the necessity of having the benefit of his services and counsel, they requested him to act with them, and when the committee organized he was elected to the office of secretary.

In a recent report the committee acknowledged that it owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Rackliffe for the untiring zeal manifested by him, and the efficient labor performed in connection with their work.

'91.

H. V. Starrett of Warren is employed in the revision of the Maine Register for 1900 and 1901. Mr. Starrett is at present working in the towns of Waldo county.

Ex-'93.

Within a few weeks friends of Mr. W. C. Hammatt, residing in Bangor, have received from him photographs of interesting views along the route of the Mexican Central railroad. Mr. Hammatt is a division engineer in the employ of this road and at present is superintending one of the largest engineering enterprises ever undertaken in Mexico.

'95.

The engagement of Olive Wallis Swan of Beverly and Merton Eugene Ellis, also of

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Beverly, formerly of Guilford, Me., is announced.

Ex-'95.

Owing to the increasing popularity of the commercial course at the Bangor High School, it has been found necessary to add another teacher so that a new arrangement of studies can be made. School Supt. Snow has engaged Mr. William O. Sawtelle of Bangor, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to fill this new position. Mr. Sawtelle possesses more than ordinary ability, and having had besides his college course, the advantage of several years of postgraduate study, he is a valuable addition to the faculty of the school. He will teach certain branches of mathematics and assist Prof. Damon in physics and chemistry.

'98.

The marriage of William Lawrence Holyoke of Bath, formerly of Brewer, and Miss Helen Josephine Currier of Brewer took place at 6 o'clock on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Currier, 87 Main St. The ceremony was performed by Rev. John Tinling, pastor of the Methodist church, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. The bridesmaid was Miss Sadie Dole of Holden and the best man, Charles Everett Holyoke, brother of the groom. The bride was charmingly gowned in white silk and carried daybreak pinks. The wedding march was played by the sister of the bride, Mrs. Frank McCormick.

The groom is well and favorably known in Brewer. He now holds the responsible position of superintendent of the Bath Gas Company. The bride is one of Brewer's best known young ladies. For the past three years she has been organist of the Methodist church. There were many beautiful presents from relatives and friends in Bangor, Boston, Portland and Brewer. Mr. and Mrs. Holyoke left on the eight o'clock train Wednesday night for their future home in Bath.

Announcement is made of the marriage of Harrison Pratt Merrill of Boston to Miss Maud May Ellis of Stillwater, Me., which took place in Boston on Jan. 24. Mr. and Mrs. Merrill are at home at 54 Beacon St., Chelsea, Mass.

In a separate column will be found an interesting letter recently received from Lieut. Dana T. Merrill, who is serving in the Philippines.

'99.

Howard Brett of Bangor has been appointed captain of Co. G, 2nd Regiment of the Maine National Guards. He went to Augusta, Jan. 22, and successfully passed the required examination and received his commission.

Charles C. Whittier visited friends on the campus, Jan. 24.

R. H. Carlton and E. S. Mosher are taking the students' expert course in the shops of the General Electric Co., Lynn, Mass.

Wallace E. Belcher has entered the employ of the Keystone Bridge Co. of Pittsburg, Pa., as draftsman in the designing department.



LETTER.

Paruque, Luzon, P. I.,
Thanksgiving, 1899.

Dear Brother:

Recently we have received our first mail for a month and I will this day take time to answer your letters and to give a few details of the campaign for the past few weeks. * * * This Thanksgiving is very different from anything I could have even dreamed of a year or so ago, yet the weather, while still hot at mid-day, is temperate on the whole and at night one requires two blankets for warmth. I can think of nothing to compare the weather with but a warm "Indian summer" and we will have three months of this. * * *

I can state that this war is over, so far as organized resistance is concerned, for Aguinaldo with a small personal following is fleeing to the north, closely pursued by our cavalry, and the last large body of insurgents in central Luzon were completely routed by Col. Bell and all their artillery, seven modern guns, captured with large amounts of stores and ammunition. All the archives of the so-called government, the "Independencio," insurgent paper, "Aggie's" heir and mother, and a large amount of treasure were taken by the cavalry further north. * * * At the time of our advance up the railroad, two other columns had started, to act on conjunction, one from San Isidro under Gen. Lawton, one from Dagupan under Gen. Wheaton, and our own under Gen. MacArthur. No serious resistance was met anywhere and the movement has resulted in clearing the central provinces of Luzon, besides large captures of arms and supplies. The railroad is held by us for its whole length, and is in operation in sections, the insurgents' attempts to destroy rolling stock proving unavailing in the face of Yankee ingenuity. Some of our trains are odd-looking indeed, with an engine scarred and twisted by collision, minus a cow-catcher or cab, and pulling a train of cars which have the woodwork entirely burned off, iron roofing serving as floors. Our rations are brought up by rail and this is of vital importance to the success of the campaign.

Today for dinner I was served with a caribou steak, my first fresh meat, excepting chicken, for over a month, but with good bacon one is fairly well satisfied.

Yesterday a flying column started from here at 2.30 A. M., under Gen. Wheeler, for a town ten miles away, where an insurgent general was reported with a few men. I succeeded in obtaining permission to go as engineering officer for the column, which consisted of but two companies. The march at night was very hard and the road a mere trail, in many places prac-

tically impassible and when the objective was reached at 9 A. M. not an insurgent was seen, nor any indications that there had ever been any in town. I had recently secured a pony and rode most of the way, counting the horse's steps in order to get distances. The country passed through was wild and rough, with high grass often towering twenty feet over the trail. The people evidently were of a different tribe than those we had met before and live very primitively, and although no Americans, if indeed any white people had ever been there before, they expressed little surprise and seemed very friendly, eagerly selling supplies to the troops. Their communication with other sections must be entirely cut off during the rainy season, and at this season instead of carts they use wooden sleds. I made my notes as we went along and shall make up a map later. I have had much experience in topography since we left Angeles, being detailed as engineering officer for the 12th regiment, and on a march have the liberty to go anywhere I please and am therefore enabled to see about everything worth looking at. Our days of real "hiking" are over, for the 12th will garrison towns along a certain section of the railroad and from these towns doubtless send out small detachments after "lodrones" and above all to occupy distant towns for short periods in order to show the people that Americans are not such monsters as the insurgents and Spaniards, more particularly the latter, have pictured them. While on a march our troops are not allowed out of column and nothing is taken but what is fully paid for. Looting is practically unknown today, although it is a very difficult thing to stop all illegal seizures by hungry or covetous soldiers—and I will admit that the temptation is very great to capture a loose chicken or to pick up a pony. Still when an offender is caught it goes very hard with him.

My boy, Ropino, buys all my extra food and I will wager earns his salary on that saving

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alone, for of all robbers in a bargain, a native or a "chino" are the worst. I found this by hard experience and so have quit buying. I intend if possible to bring Ropino back with me and I imagine that he will prove interesting to the people in the "other world."

The former president of the Filipino Congress was captured in this town and has since remained here with his family, which includes several fine looking girls. As they have a piano, the officers have been invited over a good deal and I have enjoyed their native songs very much. Their true song of a lost cause is the "Independencio" sung in Tagalog and although the music is not what we would consider inspiring or impressive, yet it is odd and "catchy." They have also several marches in honor of their generals, Aguinaldo, Mascardo, Macabulas and Luna, which are very good. The composer of the "Independencio" played, and really he would create quite a stir in America, judging from his work on that rickety old piano.

Although the war is virtually over, guerrillas warfare will keep up some time yet and the country will never be safe for an unarmed man, for a native is naturally a liar and about as much a thief, the transition being very slight from an "inserrecto" to a "lodrone," if, indeed, there ever has been any difference. So a pistol is as good a friend as ever and will continue to be so. In fact so far as I have been able to learn this island has always been bandit-ridden to a large extent. It is the old story of "friends when strong, but God pity the weak." Several of our curious soldiers have wandered away unarmed, and have never returned, being found in some cases chopped to pieces by bolo-men.

A good example of the church power here is afforded in this town where a little black native padre has practically all the people under his thumb, not only of Paruque but for some miles around, and as very little goes on in town

outside of the church his power is very great with the people. * * * American control will inevitably lessen church revenues and stop forced labor. * * * I did not have time to finish this on the 30th, as I was ordered off on a twenty-four hours' scouting trip with seventeen men, to search for a suitable road for transportation to a town called St. Ygnacio, 15 miles to the west. We started at 2.30 P. M. and arrived at Sulupa at 8, coming into town after dark, after a horrible march through mud and rice fields. * * * Camping that night at Sulupa we started at 6.30 A. M. for St. Ygnacio and, after an hour's march, found the road impracticable, and so after looking about a bit I ordered the detachment to return. In the 11 hours of marching we covered about 25 miles. No signs of insurgents were seen except at one place where twenty or thirty bolo-men had lived. I enjoy a "hike" like this very much as the country is always interesting and plenty of chickens and eggs can be bought to help out the ration. I still remember my supper prepared by Ropino—bacon, eggs, fried onions, hardtack and coffee, and food never tasted better. At one point we met a couple of minstrels going to a fiesta at a neighboring town and I had them take out their rude instruments, violin and guitar, and give us a few tunes; really their music was very good.

Insurgents are mighty hard to locate just now, but scouts are being organized all around and many of their officers and officials have been captured or have given themselves up. Still our service from now on will be hard, much like that on the western frontiers in the early days, unless complete pacification can be brought about, which does not seem possible.

I have no doubts as to the richness and fertility of this island and the crops of rice and sugar cane are something amazing. All rice is first planted and after a time is transplanted and is harvested stalk by stalk, by hand; still

labor is abundant and everyone works in the rice-paddies, men, women and children.

I am a bit "shy" on luxuries but the train service will be regular in a few days and then articles can be obtained here about as well as in Manila.

Dana T. Merrill,
1st Lieut. Co. K, 12th U. S. Infantry.



THE PRODUCTION OF COKE.

It is well known to everybody that a great quantity of valuable matter goes to waste in nearly every form of manufacture, which should they be recovered would increase the profit of the industry of which they are the by-products. This is very marked in the production of coke, and to a somewhat less extent in the manufacture of illuminating gas.

It will be my endeavor in this short article to show the waste in these two industries.

The old form of coke oven, known as the beehive oven, is very crude. It is cone shaped, made of fire brick and cemented on the inside, there being a hole in the top by which it is charged, while at various places along the side are openings loosely filled with brick. The bottom of the oven is raised to a red heat, then fine coal put in; this coal becoming heated, more coal is added and heated in its turn. In this way the oven is filled, the brick being cemented when it is thought that sufficient air has been admitted. The charge consists of about five tons and takes about four days to coke it. When the flames cease to escape from the roof, all openings are cemented over, and the oven kept closed for about twelve hours. Then the doors are opened, the coke removed and quenched. The efficiency of the oven is about fifty per cent.

The form of ovens now coming into use are called Retort Coke Ovens. They are of two kinds, the Semet-Solvey, in which the flue is

horizontal, and the Otto-Hofman, in which the flue is vertical.

It is the Semet-Solvey which we will consider. It is about fifteen years since these ovens were introduced and used at Mons, Belgium. They were six in number. The practicability of the system proved satisfactory. At the end of 1897 there were thirteen hundred in existence. In this country there are three hundred, the remainder being in Germany, France, England and Belgium. A complete description of the Semet-Solvey oven would take too much space, so I will only give a few points as to its construction.

One of the important points to notice is, that the coal is heated in retorts similar to those used at gas works, except that the fuel which is used is the gas which has been recovered from former coking. The tar, ammonia, benzene, cyanide and gas are recovered, while in the beehive oven these products escape into the air. The efficiency of the retort oven in coke alone is about seventy-five per cent., while the time of coking is greatly reduced.

From the description of the two forms of ovens one can see the amount that must go to waste in the use of the beehive oven. To better realize what humanity has been deprived of, let us look at the government report for the year 1897, showing the coal coked in beehive ovens in this country and then let us note the results had the same coal been coked in retort ovens.

	Beehive Ovens.	Retort Coke Ovens.
Tons of coal coked	22,140,000	22,140,000
Tons of coke produced .	13,288,984	15,940,000
Value of coke at \$2 per ton	26,577,968	31,880,000
Value of tar		4,428,000
Value of ammonia . . .		8,856,000
Value of cyanides . . .		8,020,000
Value of benzene		4,428,000
Value of gas		8,856,000
Total	\$26,577,968	\$66,468,000

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Difference in favor of retort oven, 39,890,-032.

It will be seen by these figures that the saving in coke alone is over 2,000,000 tons, or \$5,000,000.

The same facts which show themselves in the production of coke hold true in the production of illuminating gas, but to a less degree.

In the ordinary gas works, in order to purify the gas, the tar, ammonia, cyanide and benzene must be removed. This is done and the coal tar which is recovered is sold for about \$20 per ton.

To notice the great waste let us look at some results of analysis which were made upon coal tar from Bangor gas works:

Ammonical liquor 248 lbs. per ton.	
Pure benzene, 44lbs. at 40c.....	\$ 17.67
50 per cent. benzene, 36 lb at 20c.....	7.20
Solvent naphtha, 40lbs. at 20c.....	8.00
Napthalene cryst., 96 lbs at 10c.....	9.60
Napthalene sub. and pure, 32 lbs. at \$1.50	48.00
Carbolic acid, pure, 48 lbs. at 30c....	14.40
Carbolic acid, crude, 38 lbs. at 12c....	4.56
Anthracene, com., 36 lbs. at \$1.50....	54.00
Pitch, 1516 lbs. at 6c.....	78.96

Total\$232.79
Less \$20, which is received for tar..\$212.79

This analysis shows us a loss of \$216.79 for every ton of coal tar sold, not counting the ammonical liquor and numberless other products which can be obtained from the same coal tar.

The question which is now asked: Is there a market for these by-products? And we answer thus: There is not enough coke produced at present to meet the demand. One could enjoy riding in steam cars were it not

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for the smoke and cinders. By the use of coke we would not be troubled from this source. The smoke given off from the great number of factories in the city could be avoided. While there is no change in the realm of metallurgical science, which will so revolutionize the process of steel and iron making as will the introduction of the retort coke oven. The pitch obtained from the distillation of the coal tar can be used for roofing, making roads and in various other ways.

But what will we do with so much ammonia? This will be a Godsend to the farmer, whose fields are suffering for want of nitrogen. The ammonia will be converted into the sulphate, which will largely replace sodium nitrate as a fertilizer.

Once a plentiful supply of benzene, toluene, etc., is assured in this country, the aniline color manufacture will succeed.

A cheap and plentiful supply of cyanide will enable mining engineers to work gold fields where it has been hitherto impossible.

The other products have their value as well as the ones mentioned. We will find that with increase in the supply there will be an increase in the demand. And let us hope that the time will soon come when the people of this country will realize and prevent the devastation, not only in the production of coke and illuminating gas, but in every other form of manufacture. For by so doing the commercial relations and financial condition of our nation will be greatly improved.

NOTICE.

All those desiring to compete for positions on THE CAMPUS Board for the next year must submit to the managing editor, before Feb. 15th, an original editorial of at least five hundred words. Contributions should be signed with name of author.



Extract from a junior's letter:

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