

The
TECHNICAL WORLD

[This Department is devoted to technical subjects of interest. Any questions sent to the Editor of the STATE COLLEGIAN or dropped in the box at 323 Main will be answered in subsequent issues by experts in the subject about which information is desired.]

J. W. Griffin of Lima, O., was killed in a bath room by electricity. He stood on a register and accidentally touched an electric light chandelier with his hands.

Wm. G. Summons of Kenosha, Wis., who owns a steel tower on the summit of Pike's Peak, has granted permission to the American De Forest Wireless Telegraph Company to use it as an experimental station.

Photographs are now easily transmitted over telegraph and telephone lines in the following way :

A ray of light, passing systematically over a film which contains a photograph, falls upon a selenium cell. The electric resistance of this cell varies with the amount of light that penetrates parts of the film, and these variations are transmitted to the receiving end of the wire where the illumination of a vacuum tube is varied by them. This vacuum tube glides over a sensitized paper, thereby forming a copy of the original photograph.

A radium clock, that will run a thousand years without winding up, has just been invented. It is a curious thing, and the inventor describes the principle in the following way :

"A small piece of gold leaf is electrified by means of a very small quantity of radium salt. This bends away from the metal substance, and keeps on moving under the influence until it touches the side of the vessel. At the moment of contact it loses its electrical charge, upon which it springs back and is electrified again. The repetition of this pro-

cess over and over again is the whole secret."

It has long been a question with scientists whether real fairy races ever existed. Some hold that to believe that such things ever lived is preposterous, while others look at the question in an entirely different light and set about proving it true in a rational way.

One scientist of that group which believes that dwarfs, elves, and pigmies one time lived, has made a thorough investigation of the subject. He says that he found in the British Isles and different parts of northern Europe, small arrow-heads which only very small people could have used: that in Scotland, and in the Hebrides, are found small structures known as Picts' Houses, the apartments of which are so tiny that nobody but a dwarf could possibly have inhabited them; and that the legends about Celts and Teutons are more or less elves which have descended from the true.

E. E. Society.

At a meeting of the Electrical Engineering Society last Wednesday evening, the following officers were elected to serve during the the present term: Krone '05 president; Minick '05, vice president; Foltz '06, secretary; Seguire '05, treasurer, and Goodman '05, marshal, Yarnall '05 read a paper on "A Third Rail System."

Mechanical Engineering Society.

At the meeting of the Mechanical Engineering society, Friday evening, Jan. 13th, the society voted to adopt the constitution submitted by the executive committee. No other matters were taken up at this meeting, but at the next meeting of the society to be held Friday evening, Feb. 3rd, it is expected that a paper upon some technical subject will be read and discussed.

Y. M. C. A Notes.

The Annual State Convention will be held at Johnstown, February, 16-19. A partial list of speakers includes the Hon. H. B. F. MacFarland of Washington D. C., the Rev. A. T. Pierson D.D. of Brooklyn and Mr. C. S. Cooper, Bible Study Secretary, among many others. A special railroad rate of two cents a mile will be secured and entertainment will be provided all credited delegates. For other information see the General Secretary.

The last Sunday evening meeting was given up to a presentation of facts concerning the New Japan. The following topics were presented by members of the Association, "Japan the Country;" "Japan and Russia;" "The Students of Japan;" "Association Work in Japan." Some important facts brought out with regard to the students of Japan were that the native Japanese religions, Shintoism and Buddhism, have lost all hold upon the educated classes, the vast majority of the students being agnostics.

Exchanges.

The *Case Tech* is a welcome addition to our list. We should like to see several more technical college publications.

The following advertisement appeared in a paper :

Wanted—A gentleman to undertake the sale of a patent medicine. The advertiser guarantees it will be profitable to the undertaker."
—Pittsburg Journal.

The Washington Jeffersonian is not so green as it looks. The interior is very bright and newsy.

You can lead your horse to water
But you cannot make him drink,
You can ride your little pony,
But you cannot make him think. — Ex.