

## THREE MONTHS OF PROGRESS

A Review of the Year and Plans for the Future.

The first three months of the college year of 1908-09 have not been marked by unusual occurrences. The increase in attendance over the preceding year of nearly 125 students has emphasized the crowded conditions under which the college work is carried on. Large class sections, lack of seating capacity, and long instructional hours are chiefly in constant evidence. Some instructors who teach four hours per day are compelled to go to four different buildings to hear their classes. Certain class rooms with inadequate ventilation are occupied as many as five hours a day.

Practicum hours are in some instances cut in two because of lack of shop and laboratory space. The Chemistry Annex when completed will afford relief in one subject only. It is to be hoped that these conditions if properly presented to the coming session of the legislature will bring some relief. The crowded state of the dormitories has been relieved by the erection in the village during the summer of more than forty private residences, most of them intended to provide student lodgings.

Additional instructors have been provided in Botany, German, History, Physics, Chemistry, and Home Economics, and the united faculties of the various schools now number one hundred and twenty five, which has doubled in four years, while the number of students has doubled in six years. The reputation of The Pennsylvania State College abroad is growing as is evidenced by the fact that students this year have matriculated from China, East India, Russia, South America, and Porto Rico.

### The New Athletic Field.

The triumphs of the football season are related in another column.



Captain Vorhis

Intercollegiate games were played on the old athletic field for the last time. By next season new Beaver Field (if it should be so named) will be ready. It is expected that baseball can be played on the new field in the spring, but no provision has been made for a grandstand or bleachers. Architect's plans for a gymnasium, baseball cage, track house, and swimming pool for the new field are now being prepared and it is hoped that donations can be secured from friends and Alumni of the college for carrying out these plans on a worthy scale.

It may also be noted that plans have been prepared for a Horticultural building, which will constitute another part of the Agricultural group. It will be located near the new Agricultural Building.

### The College Water Supply.

An independent water supply has been provided by erecting a reservoir in Musser's Gap which lies between Shingletown Gap and Pine Grove Mills, and laying pipe lines thence to the college. The water rights of Pine Grove Mills have also been secured as a supplementary supply. As soon as means can be found to erect a stand-

pipe on the highest portion of the campus, the old reservoir which now mars the appearance of the new athletic field can be removed.

### Preparatory Department Abolished.

Ten years ago, the first of the two years of the Preparatory Department was abolished. Since that time, the number of high schools and preparatory schools of the state has increased and these schools can do the work now being done at considerable expense by the remaining year of our Preparatory course. For this reason, the Preparatory Department will be abandoned in June next by order of the Board of Trustees. This action will release a number of recitation rooms badly needed for the college classes.

### New Departments.

Another action which will raise the dignity and rank of the college in the educational world is the establishment of an Engineering Experimental Station, which will serve the engineering interests of the state as the Agricultural Experiment Station now benefits the agricultural interests. The first bulletin will concern the uses of concrete for walks and small buildings, thus widely extending the utility of concrete construction.

Plans have also been considered for the creation of a Department of Ceramics in the School of Mines and Metallurgy and one of Architecture in the School of Engineering. If a Summer School should be established at the college according to the resolution adopted by the State Teachers' Association meeting last summer and endorsed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in his annual report, it will be one step toward an ultimate School of Education.

In order to emphasize the college as the educational center of the state, various associations are being invited to hold conventions here. Recently the State Teachers' Asso-