

STATE COLLEGIAN

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THURSDAY, MAR. 25, 1909

EDITORIAL.

Some time ago President Sparks made a proposal to the student body to secure the services of Prof. Cornell for a week's instruction and practice in singing. The sentiment was strongly in favor of the proposition, and Prof. Cornell comes to us next week, at the expense of the college and with the strong personal endorsement of President Sparks.

The instruction should be of great help in at least one desirable kind of music—campus singing. Nothing sounds finer on a warm spring evening than a college song, particularly when it is sung with some degree of artistic finish. We have some excellent college songs, and it

is evidently up to us to learn to sing them better. The time will surely be well spent.

That there will be plenty of baseball this spring is evident when we remember that the varsity schedule consists of 25 games, the interclass schedule has 18 games, and the list of practice games between the varsity and the different class teams numbers 26. The total is 69 games, a large share of which will be played on Beaver Field. The baseball enthusiast will surely have no chance to complain of a lack of opportunity to see the national game.

The success of the new plan of interclass games remains to be seen, but it would seem that with almost four times as many men out as in previous years, and with the interclass championship to work for, the new system should be a decided improvement over that of previous years.

We hope to be able to publish in next week's issue a detailed financial statement for the last football season. The commendable custom is to be started this year of giving an open and fair statement of every expenditure, and in that way to develop the idea of clean athletics. The report from each department will be given separately, and at the end of the year a general report will be given.

Combined Engineering Society Lectures.

Mr. W. M. Kinney, inspector for the Union Portland Cement company, presented an illustrated lecture upon the manufacture of Portland cement, on Thursday evening March 18th,

in the Old Chapel. Mr. Kinney's lecture was timely and of unusual interest on account of the fact that this is coming rapidly to be the "cement age." Mr. Kinney showed clearly and simply the process whereby limestone and slag, or clay, are combined into the form of cements suitable for the various purposes of the industries. The lecture was illustrated profusely by an excellent series of lantern slides showing the various steps of the process of manufacture from the unloading of the raw materials through to its storage in sacks for shipment.

Mr. A. G. McKee, an expert of prominence in the design, construction, and operation of the modern blast furnace, lectured on Monday afternoon, March 22nd, in the lecture room of the Engineering Extension. Mr. McKee gave a valuable and interesting description of the furnace and the transformation of the raw materials into pig-iron, etc. He stated that the modern four or five hundred ton furnace might be considered to represent a million dollar investment, and that some twenty thousand tons of supplies per day were required to feed it, and he indicated briefly the method whereby this enormous quantity of material is handled and distributed. He also stated that The United States Steel company is beginning to utilize part of the gas from the furnaces, by means of gas engines, not only for the purpose of furnishing the required air blast and electrical power to the blast furnace plant, but also for supplying power for other purposes.

It may be of interest to note that Mr. McKee is an alumnus of State of the class of '91.

These two lectures are among the best of the long series which has been given under the auspices of the combined engineering societies, during the present college year.