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THE REGISTRAR, State College, Pennsylvania

FORESTRY NOTES

Several Students Getting Practical Training With the P. R. R.

In line with demands for practical training for students in Forestry, the department of forestry has arranged for four students to help out the Forestry Department of the Pennsylvania railroad in its planting of a million and a half red oak seedlings this spring. I. T. Yarnall '10 has gone to Morrisville for two weeks to work in the forestry nursery of the Pennsylvania railroad. The Railroad has at this point one of the largest forest nurseries of the country, and will gradually enlarge the nursery during the coming season. S. S. Sadler '09, who takes a position with the Pennsylvania Railroad as assistant forester immediately upon graduation, is putting in two weeks in April overseeing planting operations between Harrisburg and Lancaster. Messrs. H. Work '10 and J. M. Hall '11, are in Altoona for two weeks assisting Mr. W. C. Shepherd, assistant forester of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in planting operations at that point. The Railroad has 164 acres of red oak planted there and will gradually increase its plantations in that section.

Great interest is being shown in the matter of forestry in Pennsylvania by the American Civic Association and by the Women's Clubs of the state. The American Civic Association, whose president is Mr. J.

Horace McFarland, has been doing splendid work this winter in calling the attention of the people of the state to various forestry bills, that will be of great value for the future of forestry in Pennsylvania. Many of the Women's clubs of the state have had forestry programs during the spring and are aiding in the agitation for right forestry legislation. At a Conference of Clubs of the Eastern District, State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, held at Lancaster, March 31, President Sparks addressed the Conference on "American History in Literature on the Club Program." Prof. Hugh P. Baker spoke on "The Need of Forestry in Pennsylvania."

Much improvement is going on in the woodlot just west of the new athletic grounds during the present spring with the idea of both increasing the value of the woodlot and making it a perpetual stand of timber. In years past the woodlot has been heavily grazed and surface fires have run through. There are few trees standing that are not more or less injured and many of them so badly that they are rapidly declining. Only a light thinning has been made, however, because of a desire to keep the tract well wooded. This woodlot will be of great advantage to all kinds of athletics on the new grounds. The trees will be such an effective wind-break that in either baseball, football or track work even a strong wind will not interfere with events.

It would be a great advantage if the north side of the grounds, if not to be surrounded by bleachers, were planted with several rows of thick growing trees with the idea of breaking the wind from that direction. With several rows of trees on the north and the woodlot on the west, games could be begun earlier in the spring and continued later in the fall. By leaving the south and eastern sides open the grounds will dry rapidly and keep dry.

Even with the light thinning that has been made in a small portion of the woodlot considerable cord wood has been taken out and a number of fence posts. The fence posts will be treated with creosote and used for experimental purposes. The cordwood will be sold as rapidly as there is a demand for it.

Even though it may have seemed necessary, there is no question that from the standpoint of the welfare and appearance of the woodlot, it has been a serious mistake to use the southern portion as a dumping ground. The dumping of light material, such as leaves, in the past, among the trees has increased the severity of the ground fires, and covering the roots with several feet of rubbish has injured the growth of the trees so that unless something is done soon the trees will go out in comparatively short time, leaving an unsightly rubbish pile exposed. It is going to be difficult to start trees in several feet of rubbish and because of the nearness of the hospital