

THE BATTALION

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NOTICE

All manuscript intended for The Battalion must bear the signature of the writer—no non de plume will be accepted. While the name will not be published, no notice will be taken of pieces if they are not signed.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

THE CLASS NUMBERS OF THE BATTALION.

The next number of The Battalion will be issued by the Freshman class, and in all probability the Sophomore and Junior classes will issue special numbers later on. These numbers are not to be regarded as expressions of mere class rivalry. The principle reason for having them is to lead more students to write for our publications.

If The Battalion and The Long Horn are to be kept running, new writers must constantly develop, so that the two publications will always be provided with men who understand and can do the necessary work.

Nearly every one is willing enough to criticize the publications, but too few are willing to try to improve either one. It is our wish that more students hereafter interest themselves in the literary side of College endeavors, and we hope that the class numbers will bring forth several new writers.

MISS KIDD AT COLLEGE.

In another column we print an article on Miss Mary Carson Kidd, who is to sing at College next Saturday night. The residents of College Station are very fortunate in being able to hear such a noted singer; and A. & M. is very fortunate in possessing such an enterprising organization as the Glee Club, whose efforts are bringing Miss Kidd to College. Lovers of music and all others should show their appreciation by attending the recital.

THE K. K. DANCE.

K. K.'s Gaye First Dance of Session Last Saturday.

The K. K. Dancing Club gave their first dance of the session last Saturday night at the Shirley. This is the only social affair, other than the Thanksgiving "hop" that the cadets have been allowed to give on the campus and it was enjoyed to the fullest extent by all those who attended. The dining-room of the Shirley was very neatly decorated for the occasion and the excellent music rendered by Cadet O'Connor at the piano made the eighteen dances on the program so enjoyable that the shakers of the light fantastic toe were ready to begin the dance anew when the sweet refrains of Home, Sweet Home broke the news that the pleasant evening must come to an end.

Those present were the members of the club and Misses Adams, McDougald, Hudson, McInnis, Conway, Smith, Winnie Thomas, Emily Thomas, Herndon, Garth, Bittle, Sadie Cavitt and Taylor of Bryan and Miss Lorraine Reynolds of Franklin. The Chaperones were Mrs. Spence, Mrs. Wier, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Hibbs, and Mrs. De Weiss.

Extracts From Letters From E. E. Graduates, Pittsburg, Pa.

As to your questions concerning Westinghouse and the Apprentice Course, why of course I would advise your coming here. Never having seen the workings of the G. E. course, I can not, of course, compare them very thoroughly for you. However, there are some reasons which I think should have some influence in making the choice.

In the first place, the G. E. course, as I understand it, is mainly test, while the W. E. & M. course comprises work throughout the entire shops. Of course, a man can not in two years cover the entire shop, but to a certain extent he can pick the various things he most wants. There is no limit to the scope of work offered by this course, for it includes everything from wrapping insulation on wire up to the construction and testing of a giant turbo-generator, or locomotive. The test work is supposed to consume from six to ten months of your course, and if one applies himself to business, he can learn most of the work during that time, and it is not necessary that he spend a year and a half or two years to do this same work.

As to the Electric Club, it is a comprehensive organization, comprising within its purposes the furtherment of both the social and intellectual parts of a man.

The Club owns a pretty good library of bound volumes and a large number of periodicals both of daily newspapers and magazines, technical or literary. The Club helps the apprentices to become acquainted with each other, and offers some very good entertainments throughout the year. We are treated to lectures by engineers from the works, and regular sections are organized for the study of certain lines of electrical apparatus. The engineers who address these section meetings enlighten us on the good and bad points of the various pieces of apparatus made by this and other companies.

Whether or not the G. E. offers any such side issue as this club, it is in itself no small item in the development of men for the company.

I can't say anything detrimental to the G. E. folks, but I know that the W. E. & M. Co. is O. K. About one out of twenty of the apprentices finishes the course as it is mapped out. Such is the demand for trained men that the company offers inducements to most of them to take up regular work along some of its many lines before their time is out.

I am working on test yet, but just now my work is confined to the working up of the results taken on test and the plotting of the curves therefrom. I have been doing this particular work since Nov. 16, '06. I suppose that I shall be in this office till April 1. Well, I must close. Best regards to A. & M.

Your sincere friend,
 Jos. W. Ramsey.

Lynn, Mass., Jan. 20, '07.
 Dear Woods:

I meant to write you a letter of advice concerning your apprenticeship plans before I received your card. I never did intend to try to influence you or anybody else to come to Lynn, because if you were disappointed you would have me partially to blame. I would advise you to incline your ear to Mr. Kidd and be persuaded to go to Schenectady, because it is bigger in every sense than Lynn or Pittsburg.

Of course it depends on what you want as to where you should go. You can get a pretty good idea of Westinghouse from the enclosed letter. (Letter from Gleason to Penner.) You can get good work there I suppose, but you can see that only about one-fourth of your time is spent on

test. This may be the best arrangement, I don't know.

At Lynn you put in all of your time testing and there are very few tests where they hold you longer than is necessary for your own good. I understand that the same is true at Schenectady and there are advantages there that you do not find here. In these works what good you get out of the course you must dig out for yourself. I have recently become quite friendly with a young engineer on Auto Motors, from Schenec. He has returned to Schenec, now. Was over here to help get out a new line of motors. I ran most all the test for him, by the way. I learned from this man—Hanna—more about Schenec, than from any one else. He says there seems to be a difference in spirit over there. There is a general broad mindedness that you don't find here. They have great engineering talent over there. Besides this you get to test large apparatus so that you become familiar with it. They don't make larger than a 25 hp. motor here and practically no generators. No alternators at all. There are some advantages at Lynn over Schenec, and you can get transferred from there here much easier than from Lynn to Schenec, it seems.

The pay is some better at Schenec. But existence is more interesting and pleasant at Lynn. I take it that these are minor considerations.

Do not get the idea that I'm prejudiced against Westinghouse. On the contrary I am not. We test Westinghouse apparatus now and then, and I have occasion to see the good and bad points or I might say the better and worse points compared to the G. E. apparatus.

Extracts from letter from Gleason at Pittsburg to Penner at Lynn, Mass.

I have a slick thing with the Journal as far as work goes, but I am as good as off the course as long as I am in this work. Old Cholly worked a black horse on me and I will have to stay here a while.

I was fortunate enough not to put any instruments on the bum when I was over in the S. House four months, even though I was using them all the time. I knocked a few needles cross-eyed, but they can be straightened and new calibration run with little outlay.

Wouldn't that Thanksgiving game frost you though? I was sure we had their scalp this year and we had Guggy telegraph us as soon as the game was over.

I shall be glad to tell you what I can about the course here as far as I can, and would like to hear a few facts of the G. E. course from one who is there. They have a schedule mapped out for us, but hardly ever follow it. We get about four or five and even six months of office work such as working up drawings for power plants, switchboards, then there is the sales department, correspondence department, which gives some choice of variety in the work. Though when put in an office, you must serve all your time in that one. They don't care if they never take you out of an office, for they can get more out of you there. My work in the Standard House counts as office.

Then there is six months of Dynamo Test which I know little about, but "Hong" says it was mostly a hunkies job with him when he was there. There I think you can get to run tests on most of the different types of importance they make here. The other time you may spend most anywhere. Generally you get six months on the road in construction work. Then in between they give you two months in winding or switch board work, assembling or any part of the shop you ask for.

The three main heads of testing, office, and construction are followed more closely than any, but even here

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there are changes sometimes good and sometimes otherwise. We have no work, I guess, such as repairing, and not so much test. Downton believes in about an equal amount of shop work and test, but says if a fellow kicks for more test he will give him a General Elec. course on it.

I almost wish I could get the General Electric test after I get through here. I got a good line of work in the Standard House on transformers and meters, but no arc lamp test.

What are you going to do Xmas? Have a good time but don't get boisterous. Good Night Bill, Bennie.

An Important Matter.

Young Lady (owner of great estate)—So far as the eye can reach all the land belongs to me.

Admirer (respectfully) I hope you are not short-sighted.—Vienna Salon-witzblatt.

Ladylike Geometry.

I. A straight line is the shortest distance between two millinery openings.

II. A straight line determined by two bargain tables is considered as prolonged both ways until the store closes.

III. A broken line is a series of successive straight lines made by a woman alighting from a street car.

IV. A mixed line is a line composing the reception committee of a club's presidential candidate.

V. A plain figure is one all points of which have been neglected by the dressmaker.

VI. Figures of the same shape don't always have the same style.

VII. Figures of the same size never consider themselves equivalent.

VIII. Women equal to the same thing are not always equal to each other.—Nellie Parker Jones in the Chicago Record-Herald.