



The Corps.

R. E. Schiller, '06, returned to the campus last Wednesday to finish up his work leading to the civil engineer degree. He will receive that degree with the class of '08.

G. N. Wheat, '97, was at College Station several months as superintendent on the new buildings, and is now located in Houston with H. F. Jonas, '88.

Tom Fountain, '01, is working in McKeesport, Pa., for several months on a large civil engineering job. He is still with Potter, civil engineer of New York City.

J. W. Maxwell, '04, graduates from the Mass. Inst. of Tech. this June.

W. G. Moore is a traveling salesman for an electric company, with headquarters at St. Louis, Mo.

S. J. Fountain, '01, has returned from Paris, France, where he has been studying for the past year, and has entered a partnership with an architect in Cleveland, Ohio. His address is 6008 Hough Ave.

F. M. Law, '95, president of the Alumni Association, has recently been elected to the position of cashier in the Park National Bank, at Beaumont, Texas, and will leave Bryan about the first of August to take up the duties of his new position.

G. H. Pape, '04, is head of the agricultural and industrial experiments for the Colonial German government at Togo, Africa. He spent a couple of months during the early spring at College, taking an advanced course in chemistry and cotton growing.

University of Colorado students are agitating a new Y. M. C. A. building for their institution. An extensive canvass among the business men and other citizens, as well as among the students, is to be undertaken soon. The Y. M. C. A. officers and directors propose plans for the building such as have been established at the University of Illinois at the cost of \$100,000, at the Universities of Missouri and Wisconsin at the cost of \$100,000, and at Ames at a cost of \$60,000.—Ex.

A Half Finished Land

The following clipping is taken from a very interesting short story written by H. L. Hutson of the class of '96 for the Galveston-Dallas News. It is full of sense and should put those "higher up" to thinking.

"You think, then," said the English tourist, "that having fallen heir to a land only half finished, and being unwilling to wait half a million years to let nature complete her work, you Texans can finish the job yourselves?"

"At least we can co-operate with nature," assented the banker who sat beside him. "I have heard it stated by men of scientific training and practical experience that if the land owners would spend on drainage one-tenth the amount they are putting into canals and levees for irrigating rice they could raise any of the crops raised elsewhere in the Southern States."

"But," objected the cotton buyer, "where are they to get the cheap labor necessary to dig the ditches and drain the land?"

"Yes, cheap labor is the great need of this country now," agreed half a dozen voices.

"We can use cheap labor, or any other kind, to advantage," the first speaker admitted, "but I tell you what we need more than labor, more than capital, more than any other class of men or means of development, is engineers."

"If this new drainage law proves effective," spoke up another man who had been listening in silence so far, "Texas will be able to use at once a score or more of trained irrigation and drainage engineers."

"Maybe so; but," the Houston cotton buyer protested, "I still insist that when it comes to digging ditches we

can get along better without the engineers than without the common laborers."

"And I can prove that you are mistaken," rejoined the engineer. "When a farmer undertakes to ditch a piece of land with common laborers and without the supervision of an engin-

eer he will probably move three times the dirt, at a cost of more than three times the money necessary to accomplish the result he wishes. If he were prudent enough to have the work laid out beforehand by a competent engineer skilled in drainage work he could afford, if necessary, to pay three times as much for his labor and still spend more money, and you know 25c or 50c a day extra will soon bring all the labor we may need from other States."

"I was glad to hear you say," said the man who had alluded to the drainage law, "that your engineer, to be of use to the farmer, must be skilled in drainage work. We need specialists. Many a good civil engineer with years of successful railroad work behind him has made costly mistakes on his first irrigation or drainage work."

"Yes, I believe the State Agricultural and Mechanical College should offer a special course in 'agricultural engineering,' and not only teach the students how to get water on and off the lands, but also how much different crops require and when it should be applied."

"Well, we do need a new breed of engineers," the other agreed. "I am manager for a canal company, and our engineer, a man of ten years' experience in railway work, made the mistake of supposing that a scant growth of tall grass would not affect the flow in a canal!"

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