

# THE BATTALION

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## THREE MEN ON PROGRAM:

AT MEETING OF SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY HELD FRIDAY NIGHT.

## FARMERS' OPPORTUNITY DISCUSSED

Irrigation Canals and Crops Around Brownsville Taken up by Mr. Speed.

Last Friday night the Scientific "Bughunters" held a very interesting meeting. Many new ideas were brought up and everybody certainly was benefited by the different talks.

First, Mr. John Sharp Williams made a talk on "Criticizing the Western Farmer with Suggestions for Improvements." He brought out very plainly where the average stock farmer makes a great mistake by purchasing a great quantity of his feed stuffs, such as corn chops, alfalfa, hay, etc., for he pays the cost of producing it, getting it ready for market, besides the dealer's profit, when he really could raise it and grind it himself by making a few modern improvements and using better management. Furthermore, the manure question is not given proper attention. Even in the case of high price feeds you can get double value out of them by (1) the production of animal tissue or flesh, and (2) the use of manure in maintaining soil fertility. Then he showed where the west should produce all her own horses and mules and not have them shipped in here by the carloads from our superior interstate line.

Then Mr. Speed discussed the trip to Brownsville and told about the irrigation system in that part of the country. Lands that used to be bare and rocky are now covered with the finest of vegetation of all kinds. He mentioned especially, the trip from Brownsville to Mission: The first thing you see is the great gravity canal at San Benito. It is 27 miles long, 250 ft. wide, has 5 locks and dams large enough for boat passage, and a lateral runs from this every mile. Irrigating capacity is about 16000 acres of land, but all of the land is not being irrigated yet. A large sugar mill is to be built on this canal. At Harlington, another little station, the main feature was the irrigation of cotton and cane. Smith is the great experimenter of cotton irrigation in this section and he says it is a success, for it yields two bales to the acre by irrigating. Next place was Mercedes, where they had a beautiful body of water adjoining the town. The north canal, which crosses the lake, is a solid concrete structure,

reinforced by steel.

Next on the program was J. J. Caldwell, one more of our real old time "bughunters." His subject was "The Farmer's Opportunity," and he discussed it so thoroughly that it made a person wonder why all the present farmers are not rich men. He brought out especially, those vital parts of the farm, such as crop rotation, care of manure, benefits derived from stock on the farm, maintaining soil fertility, and advantages of improved tools.

Programmed for next time, Friday, 26th, 1909, are Messrs. Yearly, McMillan, Hanway, and Woodie Gilbert.

## CHARLES W. ELIOT TO BE HERE TUESDAY.

Noted Educator Will Officiate in Cornerstone Laying.

President Eliot of Harvard University with his wife and party will arrive here from Dallas next Tuesday. He is making this trip to get acquainted with conditions in the south and in the interest of Harvard. He goes from A. and M. to the University of Texas, the only two institutions in the state he will visit. On Tuesday evening at 7 p. m. President Milner will give a reception at his home to enable the faculty and associates to become acquainted with Prof. Eliot. Then at 8 o'clock a banquet will be given at the Mess Hall in his honor, at which Pres. Milner will be toast master. Such men as Chairman Henderson, of the Board of Regents of the University of Texas, Geo. Dealey of Dallas News, R. M. Johnston of Houston Post, the president of leading educational institutions in the state, and a number of leading business and professional men throughout Texas have been invited to attend.

Regimental dress parade will be held in his honor on Tuesday afternoon.

On Wednesday morning Pres. Eliot will address the corps at the laying of the cornerstone for the new engineering building.

We have four Harvard men here: Profs. Lomax, Herrick, Fountain and Reed.

Mr. Spisa will not serve supper at the Mess Hall for the corps on Tuesday night but will give each man his rations for that night at dinner Tuesday.

## Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Prof. Spence will address the Young Men's Christian Association next Sunday night on the subject, "Systematic Giving." Prof. Spence always makes a strong talk whenever called upon, and he will without doubt have an urgent message for us. We ought to go out in a body to hear him; it will benefit us.

## PRAYER DAY OBSERVED.

LOCAL Y. M. C. A. HAS REGULAR MEETING UNDER LEADERSHIP OF MR. WARD.

## MANY WERE PHASES TAKEN UP

Purpose and Importance of Prayer—Too Little Attention Paid to It.

A prayer meeting under the leadership of Mr. Ward was conducted at the Y. M. C. A. meeting Sunday night. This was a day set aside by all members and friends of Christian societies at work among students, to devote themselves with greater faithfulness than ever to prayer on behalf of the students.

After the usual song service and scripture reading, the meeting was turned over to Mr. Ward.

He first gave a short talk in which he explained the purpose and importance of prayer; gave incidents of how the spiritual tide is rising in all parts of the world. There have been, during the past year, the most marked advances in Christian interest and activity among the students. Foremost among the causes of the growing spiritual interest in the universities and colleges, has been that of earnest, fervent prayer of faithful Christians.

Different ways of praying were mentioned by Mr. Ward as follows: If we pray with an unbelieving heart, the prayer avails nothing. The fact that a self-confident man cannot appeal to God's mercy was brought out.

Another thing that hinders us in praying is the lack of self-sacrifice.

We would like very much to see a certain work accomplished, but we are not willing to pay the price.

Many of us do not pray as we should because we have not devoted enough time and attention to Christian work to know the responsibilities that devolve upon us.

Others of us are hindered by formalities. We pray as a matter of form—we might as well not pray at all.

A good motto is "To work as though everything depended upon you, and pray as though everything depended upon God."

A short prayer service followed Mr. Ward's talk. Prayers were offered by members of the association in behalf of the students in our home colleges, and for a general uplifting of the student body of the world.

In spite of the cold weather about forty-six cadets were at the meeting. The visitors were Misses Stiles and Rives, Capt. Moses and Prof. Nottingham. We are glad to have the Campus people take an interest in our meetings. Everyone is heartily welcome.

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