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Doings At Other Engineering Schools

A student at the University of Potsdam, Berlin, was found recently as a stowaway in the engine room of the United American liner "Bayern." He was Walter Volz. He speaks a half dozen languages fluently and aspired to pursue his education further in American colleges. Volz told the ship's officers he believed stowing away in the engine room would give him first hand information concerning the ship's mechanism, which would aid him in his study of engineering. He was put to work shoveling coal and deported upon arrival in New York.—*Princeton News-Letter*.

Dr. Lee de Forest, Yale '96, has made a gift to the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale toward the establishment of a library on radio matters. He has also given \$1,200 to defray the expense of advanced lectures on radio. The course will be open to graduate students, seniors and members of the staff.—"*News-Letter*"—*Yale Engineering Association*.

Of the 270 cities in the United States that have the city manager form of government, 45% have Engineers as city managers.—*Iowa Engineer*.

Three Cornell alumni recently showed their love of Alma Mater by returning to Cayuga to build a 225-foot chimney for the new University heating plant.—*Cornell Civil Engineer*.

A seven-foot coal vein has been found on the campus of the Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute, Indiana. It has been decided that the students will work the mine. A number of those taking the mining engineering course have enrolled to sink the shaft. With coal at its present price we think this find at Rose Poly is as good as an endowment fund.—*Princeton News-Letter*.

A radio debate between Princeton and Yale was held on April 27th, the broadcasting being done from Newark, N. J., and taking up the entire evening program. Decision as to the winner was based on telegrams and letters from the radio audience and sent to the broadcasting station.—*Princeton News-Letter*.

During recent trans-Atlantic tests, the University Radio Club station was heard nineteen times in England, France and Switzerland. The Princeton station also has the distinction of being the first amateur station in this country to have handled over 1,000 messages in a month, the record established by Princeton is 1,226.—*Princeton News-Letter*.

A Tau Beta Pi honor roll is to be erected in the Colorado Engineering Library and will be in the form of a bronze tablet with the name engraved of the sophomore in the college who has maintained the highest scholastic average.—*Colorado Engineer*.

Professor Philip Fox, head of the Astronomy Department of Northwestern University, has invented an instrument with which measurements of the sun's atmosphere can be made without waiting for a solar eclipse.

It is called a prism micrometer. Professor Fox's computations show the depth of the hydrogen atmosphere as 4,000 miles and the helium atmosphere 3,200 miles.—*Princeton News-Letter*.

As a result of the definite and increasing demand of the metallurgical and allied industries for college men, Carnegie Tech. has recently established a group of new and special courses in metallurgy and allied subjects. The courses, some of which are for one year, have been prepared to appeal both to graduates of liberal arts and technical colleges. They will be given for the first time in the college year of 1923-1924.

Prominent European men of affairs, as well as distinguished American authorities, will be included in the program of public lectures for the present year at Carnegie Tech. President Thomas S. Baker's policy of inviting internationally-known leaders of science and letters for lectures will be largely extended to cover the program for this year.

Only 25 per cent of the cities of the United States have standard couplings on fire hose, according to statistics given out by the department of commerce. Millions of dollars worth of property have been lost because the fire hose from nearby cities could not be used. The practicability of the standard thread was demonstrated at a recent meeting of the National Fire Waste council and steps are being taken by the Bureau of Standards to have all cities use standard fire hose couplings.

Reinforced concrete is to be used to prevent the collapse of the tower of the Strasburg Cathedral, designed by John Hultz in 1439. The original footings were of stone masonry on wood piling which were completely submerged in water when constructed. In 1750 the level of the ground water was lowered by a drainage system, leaving the tops of the piles exposed so that they decayed and allowed the building to settle. Columns of the tower were reinforced with concrete and the whole building was jacked and new footings were put in.—*Engineering News-Record*.

A natural gas well at Pelican Rapids, about 165 miles north of Edmonton, Alberta, became ignited recently and the engineers of the Canadian government were called upon to put it out. Due to the peculiar nature of the flame, the top of the pipe had to be cut off before the actual work of extinguishing the flames began. Steel-jacketed bullets shot from a Lee-Enfield rifle cut the top of the pipe off and permitted the flame to shoot straight up in the air, reaching a height of 75 feet. A 30-foot section of smoke stack was then raised and one end placed over the flame, thus transferring the flame from the end of the pipe to the end of the stack. The other end was lowered close to the ground and held in that position until the gas pipe had cooled off. The lines holding the stack were then released and the stack dropped off the gas pipe, cutting off the supply of gas and extinguishing the flame.—*Engineering and Mining Journal-Press*.