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Please forward to the Secretary of the University papers containing any of this matter.

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### **GRIT AND EDUCATION.**

"When I began teaching at sixteen, my aim was to go to college, and I went," said a young lady who recently graduated from the University of Texas. It took her six years to get means enough to go on, but she had an abundance of grit. "Economy and ambition were my greatest friends to progress, and I believe that the average girl can give herself University training if she is willing to work and economize." Many others have gone to the State University when they could scarcely see how to meet the bills for the first year. He who will talk with the young men and women who are toiling for an education, in quiet and in noble sacrifice, can not but feel proud that he is a Texan.

## **NO HAZING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS.**

When the State University opens its doors to some 2,000 students on September 27th, each one will be required to sign the following pledge: "I pledge myself on my honor not to encourage or participate in rushes or hazing during my attendance at the University, provided that contests among students conducted according to rules approved by the Faculty shall not be classed as rushes."

That this pledge was kept as becomes gentlemen to keep pledges is to be seen in the fact that no case of violation of this rule came up before the Students' Council during the past year. The students have thus definitely and sincerely decided not to engage in those rough exhibitions of class spirit which in some schools are carried to an extreme of terror.

It must not be supposed, however, that a wholesome class spirit is lacking at the University of Texas. Other forms of activity have been found which are just as vigorous, but which do not strike awe and terror to the heart of the timid freshman, as he first emerges from the protection of the paternal roof tree. For instance, last March 2nd a push-ball six feet in diameter was bought, and the freshmen and sophomores contested in the strenuous but harmless game of pushing it across a goal. The push-ball, by the way, is something new, Texas being the first Southern university to use one. The disposition on the part of the student body at Austin to forego the rougher sports for those more becoming to them only emphasize the growth of some college ideals.

## **P R A C T I C A L   E N G I N E E R I N G C O U R S E S   F O R   P R A C T I C A L W O R K E R S .**

For a number of years courses in Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering have been offered to young men in the State who would come to the University of Texas and take the work; for the past two years a number of studies in these same courses have been offered by correspondence to young men who hoped later to take engineering degrees and who could fulfil the proper entrance requirements. These thorough degree courses will still be offered. But it is now proposed, in addition, to offer similar courses, abridged and modified to suit the practical needs of the man who is already making his living as a dynamo tender, a stationery engineer, or a building contractor,—the man who never expects to go to school again but who wants to rise in his profession. Such an applicant will not be asked if he is a graduate of an affiliated high school, or if he can write graceful English, or even if he can spell, according to Webster, the names of the tools he handles. Instead, he will be given practical instruction about the fundamental principles of his craft. In all about twenty “practical” courses will be offered by the correspondence method, including mechanical drawing, architecture, with some electrical, mechanical, and civil engineering.

## **MOTION PICTURES AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY.**

The newest application of the charm of moving pictures to educational needs is that being made at the State University this year. Misses Beulah Allred and Naomi Gibson, two self-supporting young ladies studying in the University, have opened a scenario next to the campus, to cater especially to the patronage of a University audience. In their entertainments, vaudeville is replaced by excellent music, and the films shown are rigorously censored. There are few cleaner motion picture shows in the state. The religious interests of the community will be served by the scenario in the production of the best religious films that can be obtained. The greatest service to the University, however, whose authorities have heartily endorsed the movement, is in the production of pictures to be used in connection with regular lectures. For instance, if an English class is reading a story of Dickens, to see the dramatic passages enacted on the screen and to hear them criticized at the same time by an instructor, locks the story in the students' memory forever. The same is true of scientific, dramatic, historical, geographical, architectural, and other studies. These young ladies propose to preserve alive the most significant doings of the University year in athletics, celebrations, etc., by making films of them. The enthusiastic enterprise will probably be opened the first week of school by giving an airdome reception to the freshmen, at which they will have an opportunity to meet the faculty—on the screen.

## INCREASING THE WORKER'S EFFICIENCY.

The Correspondence Department of the University of Texas attempts in the main to do three things: To the student who is financially unable to come to Austin it offers work that may be done at home; to the teacher who is eager to raise his standing it offers courses designed to prepare him for the State examinations that will raise the grade of the certificate he holds; and for the average citizen it attempts to give courses that will fit his particular need and raise his efficiency. Three typical letters received by the Extension Department within the last few days illustrate the calls on its resourcefulness:

San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Sir:—I am a bricklayer in San Antonio, and I wish to study architectural drawing through your correspondence branch. I would appreciate it if you would send me information about the same.

(Signed) Lorenzo Guevara.

Waco, Texas.

Dear Sir:—I am employed as a stenographer by the M., K. & T. local freight office, this city. I am desirous of taking a course by mail in transportation and am writing to ask that you send me your bulletin concerning courses by mail.

(Signed) Jesse Ginsburg.

Abilene, Texas.

Dear Sirs:—Please send to M. P. Roberts, Abilene, Texas, plans for changing a one-room school building into a two-room.

(Signed) J. S. Smith,  
County Superintendent.

The first of these writers was given a course in drawing from dimension, the second was offered a course in railroad transportation, and the third was sent a bulletin specially prepared to meet remodeling building requirements of rural schools.

## **A HEATING PLANT AS AN EXPERIMENT STATION.**

The big steam plant at the University of Texas has other uses than the furnishing of heat for the buildings on the campus. Under the direction of some of the faculty of the Engineering Department, it is being used also as a sort of engineering experiment station, where various problems are worked out. The resident students have the benefit of watching these experiments, but they are carried on primarily for the benefit of the State at large. The results will be made available for any who care to make use of them. One experiment that is to be carried on shortly has for its object the elimination of waste in the firing of lignite. This fuel is so brittle that a considerable per cent of it falls through the grate before it is burned, and, while it is cheap, its use is made uneconomical by this leakage. For experiment in lignite, the University heating plant has installed what is known as a chain grate to save this leakage, but this in turn was found to have its disadvantages. The fuel does not leak, but neither does it burn well enough. The next step proposed is to rig up the boiler for the use of lignite and oil in combination. It is believed that the spray of oil will make the lignite burn freely while the chain grate will prevent waste. Such is a typical problem. Other experiments soon to be under way will attempt to contrive a water purifying system economical enough to be used in small plants.