

The State University of Iowa NEWS LETTER

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Released Tuesday, Nov. 21.

WIRELESS EDUCATION LATEST UNDERTAKING

State University Announces Course of Lessons to Be Flashed Out to Amateur Operators.

Iowa City, Nov. 20.—Education by wireless telegraphy is the latest thing in the world of learning, and the University of Iowa is probably the first school in the world to offer such a course.

Time was when the only way to acquire knowledge, except by personal endeavor, was to sit at the feet of some man of extraordinary wisdom and listen to his discourses. The making of books and the establishment of libraries and schools lightened the work of becoming cultured. Next came extension courses through which learning was carried to the people by the educators.

Now Comes by Wireless.

Now man may go to school by setting up a wireless outfit, learning the code, and listening at stated times. There is no tuition, no registration, laboratory, gymnasium, or graduation fee,—in fact none of the cost usually incident to attending school.

Hereafter on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:15 the University radio station will send lessons of about 300 words each designed to give amateurs a practical and technical course in wireless telegraphy. The speed of sending will be ten to twelve words a minute. The course will include from fifty to seventy-five lessons, continuing throughout the winter.

To overcome any difficulties which may arise from inability to include pictures or diagrams in the lessons, Prof. A. H. Ford will answer by mail any inquiries which the amateur wireless operators send to him on points not perfectly understood.

First Wireless 300 B. C.

The first lessons will give an outline of the course. The next two will tell briefly the history of wireless communication from 300 B. C., when the Greeks used systems of lights to signal between points, to the modern time of the Marconi system. Some other lessons will explain the methods of obtaining high efficiency, coding of wave lengths, use of wave meter in timing, theoretical principles of operation, use and construction of parts of receiving and sending apparatus for damped and undamped waves, and different types of connections and their advantages. A lesson will also be given concerning the laws governing wireless stations.

The Wednesday night news service of the station will be discontinued but the Saturday night bulletins will continue as before.

SHOWS HOW TO DIM AUTO HEAD-LIGHTS

The problem of dimming automobile head-lights has been solved by Prof. A. H. Ford of the electrical engineering department of the State university in the invention of the "Totalux" dimmer.

This consists of a lens made in the upper two-thirds of prism glass and in the lower part of smooth glass. This conserves all the light and throws it on the roadway instead of into the eyes of approaching automobiles, or against the trees along the way.

Released Wednesday, Nov. 22.

PHYSICAL TESTS OF MEN SHOW INTERESTING FACTS

For Example, the Average Iowa Young Man at 21 Is 5 Feet 8 and Weighs 141 Pounds.

Iowa City, Nov. 21.—Interesting facts concerning the physical characteristics of the Iowa young man at the stage of entering college have been disclosed by the examinations of all first year men at the State university. The results of 372 examinations have just been announced.

The average first year man was found to be 141 pounds in weight, 5 feet 8 inches in height, and 21 years old. The tallest man in the class is 6 feet 2 inches tall and the shortest is 4 feet 2 inches tall. The heaviest freshman weighs 205 pounds and the lightest weighs 98 pounds.

Lift 410 Pounds.

The average lung capacity is 235 cubic inches, and 410 pounds is the load which the average man can lift under the most favorable conditions. Members on the left side of the body are inferior to those of the right both in size and in strength. The average grip with the right hand was ninety-nine pounds while with the left it was nine pounds less. The girth of the right thigh is one-tenth of an inch greater than that of the left, and the girth of the right forearm proves also to be a trifle greater than that of the left.

Coincident with the physical examinations, medical tests were made on both freshmen and sophomores. Of the 597 men who were examined to determine their organic condition, only one was found whose condition was bad enough to make it advisable for him to refrain from taking gymnasium work. Four hundred and fifty-four men were declared to be physically and organically all right, and 137 were found to possess slight defects which the gymnasium instructors think they can relieve in time.

Discover Serious Ailments.

Five cases of Bright's disease, four cases of bad hearts, and fifteen cases of broken arches were discovered in these examinations. Persons suffering from these were immediately sent to the hospital for a more detailed examination, and for X-ray pictures in the case of broken arches.

When a man is sent to the hospital he is followed up by the gymnasium authorities to learn how he is progressing and to prescribe special corrective exercises for him when the hospital authorities think that he is able to exercise. Whenever the ailment is of a serious nature, the parents of the freshman are notified of the fact and advised to see that the patient be given a certain treatment. University students are allowed treatment at the University hospital free of charge.

Must Learn to Swim.

Eight hundred men are enrolled this year in swimming classes. Of this number only 258 were unable to swim at the beginning of the school year and 542 more could swim at least one length of the pool. A large percentage of the 252 non-swimmers at the first of the year have since learned the secret of making themselves buoyant. Every freshman and sophomore must be able to swim at the end of the year twice the length of the pool without resting.

Life saving methods are taught by the instructors and the swimmers are given actual practice in jumping into the pool, dragging out a person by the hair or chin, and going through the act of forcing the water from the lungs of the victim and resuscitating him.