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Engineering Notes.

Frank Miller, an old student, has been visiting friends about the University, and looking over the old stamping ground. Mr. Miller is now a bridge engineer with the Canto Bridge Co., and has headquarters at Omaha. Incidentally the annual competitive drill was taken in. During his Senior year Mr. Miller was first lieutenant of Company C, and his company won second place in the competitive drill that year.

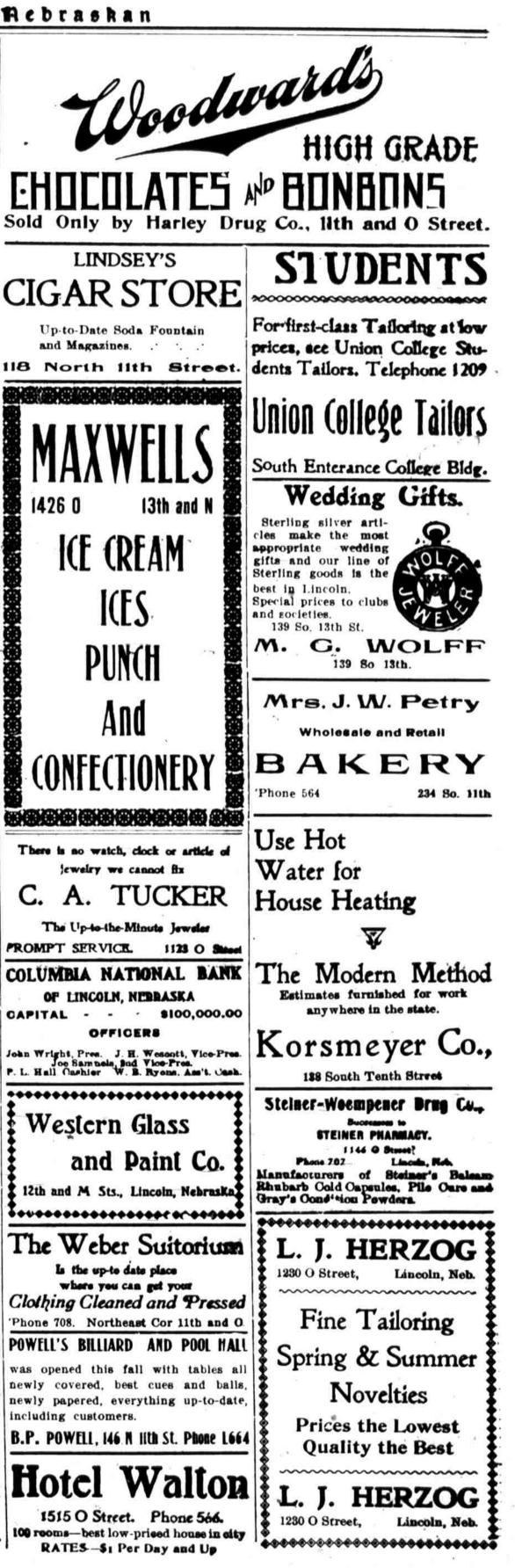
The thesis of Messrs, J. B. Davidson and L. W. Chase, which is nearing completion, is probably one of the most interesting and valuable ever undertaken in the engineering departments. The subject of this thesis is "The 'Design, Construction and 'Efficiency of a Four Horse-Power Gasoline Engine," and it will be offered as part of the requirement for the degree of B. Sc. in mechanical engineering. The work has been particularly complete, involving the design of the engine, construction of patterns and castings, and the complete construction of the finished machine, together with a series of efficiency tests of the completed engine.

The engine is of the two-cycle, closed crank case type, and it possesses a number of novel features in its design. While a number of difficulties have been met in connection with the work, they have been successfully overcome. In connection with the tests a novel form of calorfimeter was designed to determine the heat in the exhaust gases. The heating value of the gasoline was determined in a Junker's calorimeter, so with the knowledge of the heat in the exhaust, a complete heat balance becomes possible.

While the work possesses a considable general interest, the value to the men immediately concerned is very great, as it has given them experience rarely obtained in undergradute theses. It is understood that Mr. Chase has been offered a position in the gas engine works of Fairbanks, Morse & Co., and Mr. Davidson with the American Gas & Mining Machinery Co.

Ware and Thomas have completed the readings on their thesis. The series of experiments they have completed bears on the "Strength and Security of Bridge Floors," and constitutes one of the most important and valuable additions to practical engineering science ever contributed by students of the University.

Not only was the development of the subject in itself a difficult work, but the devising of means for making a large number of reliable and comparable tests was in itself no small achievement. This was accomplished by means of an ingenious system of levers, the load being applied by the large Riehle testing machine. The results were entirely independent of any erratic action on the part of the latter, the deflections of the floor being measured by an independent leveling device.



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While, of course, laboratory tests can never equal in value those made under service conditions yet the information obtained by the experiments is of considerable general value and will be for the men themselves of more benefit than any of their other school work.

that it is by furnishing to the scientific world such results as these and in graduating men of capacity and energy to attain them that a University proves itself worthy of a place among the great educational institutions.

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