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PROF. HOFFMAN HAS APPARATUS TO TEST HEAT CONDITIONS

An apparatus for testing the conditions of furnace heat as supplied to houses is being set up by Prof. James D. Hoffman of the M.E. department. The first test was run last Saturday.

The apparatus at present consists of an electric furnace having a range of from .9 watt to 30 watts. This gives a constant flow of heat as in a furnace and the velocity, temperature and expansion of the air can be measured.

Tests will also be run on humidity and air washing in the near future. The wood laboratory is at present working on the patterns for the castings and apparatus used in revolving the domes of the new astronomical observatory. The patterns for the Bessey Microtome are also receiving careful attention and A. E. Bunting, who is in charge of this department, expects to have them completed soon.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO with which is affiliated RUSH MEDICAL COLLEGE

Offers courses in the medical branches leading to the degree of M. D. The courses offered in the Summer Quarter correspond in character and value to those offered in other quarters.

Summer Quarter, 1917
1st Term June 18-July 25
2d Term July 26-Aug. 31

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What will you sell this summer
An Eastern Corporation wants eight men to sell

A WAR SPECIALTY

Inquire Mr. Caldwell, Savoy Hotel
Thursday:—2 to 4 p. m.
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Owing to unusual war conditions the ordinary things which college and University men sell may go pretty slowly this summer. Here is an excellent opportunity for eight live wire men. TWZ

MAKE INTERESTING TESTS WITH CORE IN CASTING

T. H. Smith, instructor in foundry and forge work, is making a series of tests to determine the tensile strength, relative porosity and the amount of gas which would be given off by a core in a casting, with interesting results.

To determine the tensile strength of the core an apparatus is constructed which has a pair of grips made on the order of scissors. The briquets are made of sand and being friable make the use of the ordinary briquet grip very difficult so the scissors construction was restored to and the tensile test made in the ordinary way.

To test the porosity of a core a reservoir of compressed air of definite capacity and pressure is exhausted through a one-inch cross section of the core. The time required to exhaust the reservoir will depend upon the porosity and we thus can compare the relative porosity of different cores.

From these two tests the core would be made up as best determined from plotted charts, and exposed to the action of molten iron. The gas is collected and measured.

From these three tests the core would be made up to suit the requirements in a logical and scientific manner rather than by depending upon the experience of some one man.

A very interesting phenomenon came to light the other day during the hardening of some steel arbors. The arbors were placed in a cast iron box and packed with charcoal. The box was then put in a gas furnace and heated for six and one-half hours but the heat of the furnace was so great that the box was melted, although the arbors were not damaged. During the excessive heat the box under went a peculiar change. The outer surface of the box formed a heavy oxide or iron and, this having a greater affinity for the carbon than the iron itself, extracted the carbon from the iron for a depth of about 1-16 of an inch. A fracture of the box shows that a steel case has been formed on the outer wall of the box and a distinct line between the cast iron and the steel can be seen with the naked eye.

When examined under the microscope the inner surface of the box shows the carbon to be in the original state, in small flakes of graphite throughout the iron, while the outer surface shows holes which were once occupied by the carbon but from which the carbon has been extracted.

ENGINEERS VISIT LINCOLN TELEPHONE PLANT MONDAY

On Monday morning Professor Hollister's class in telephone engineering were given a little insight into the practical operation of telephony by a trip through the exchange of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company. Mr. Brewster of the traffic department was in charge. This plant has a total of forty positions or sections of central board, thirty-two of which handle toll or long distance work. Direct supervision over both local and long distance traffic is had. In addition to these boards there is a "B" board which was installed at a cost of fifty-thousand dollars and is to the company's knowledge the largest of its kind in operation. This company handles press and news for the dailies and is able to transmit both telephone and telegraph work simultaneously over the same lines.

ENGINEERING NOTES

Due to the unsettled conditions brought about by the war, the good roads school which was to have been put on by the college of engineering during the first week in June has been postponed indefinitely.

C. K. Paine, E. E. '13, visited University friends this week. During the past year he has been located at Clinton, Ia., with the Curtis Bros. & Co., where he has been responsible for the electrification of their wood-working plant. He is now on his way to Oklahoma City, Okla., to take charge as manager of their branch at that point. He has just spent five weeks in visiting other branch houses and acquainting himself with the up-to-date details of their lumber and mill working establishments.

The department of electrical engineering has in the course of con-

struction a high tension high frequency transformer which when completed will be capable of delivering a half-million volts at a frequency of four hundred thousand cycles per second. The transformer will be contained in an oil-filled case and will be much better than the one built last year and used in the laboratories on engineers' night. The work is being done by students under the supervision of F. C. Holtz.

Classified Advertising

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