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**PROF. GRUMMANN WRITES ON LANGUAGE METHODS**

Has Article in May Number of Monatshefte, "The Teaching of Vocabulary"

Prof. Paul H. Grumann, director of the department of fine arts, has written an article entitled "The Teaching of Vocabulary" for the May number of Monatshefte, a monthly devoted to the study of German and Pedagogy. Professor Grumann says: "Some authorities have asserted that the mastering of a small vocabulary is the proper aim of an elementary course. It would not be impossible to work out the sentences of every day intercourse and to teach this rather simple vocabulary to the beginner in a comparatively short time. The pupil then would be helpless in all but a very limited range of reading. The child at six has such a knowledge, yet the schools devote eight years to the task of teaching it to read the mother tongue.

"The difficulty that is found over and over again in second and third year classes, is that the child has no fund of words to fall back upon when it encounters new compounds. It is not rash to assume that the vocabulary has not been taught properly, or such a fund would be available."

He defines the child's "active" vocabulary as the small part of the language the child hears daily, which he understands. In referring to the process of learning, he remarks: "The process of learning them becomes a gradual assimilation of language material from the strange, the subconscious, the conversant into active consciousness."

That the direct method books often ignore the names of every day, ordinary things which the pupil should know, or that their introduction is often by chance is, he maintains, a weakness of this method. The teacher is also handicapped by lack of sufficient time to devote to the individuals.

**PROFESSOR FRANKFORTER LECTURES ON ASPHALT TO LINCOLN H. S. CLUB**

Prof. C. J. Frankforter spoke to the Lincoln high school chemistry club Wednesday evening at the high school auditorium on the subject of "Trinidad Asphalt," including the mining of it, the colloidal condition of the mineral matter in it.

The talk was illustrated by moving pictures, the reels being furnished by the courtesy of the Barber Asphalt Co., of Philadelphia. In the pictures, the movement of mineral matter in the asphalt is shown as observed under the ultra-microscope. These particles range in size from 1 mu to 100 mu in diameter. An idea of extreme smallness of them can be gained by the fact that 1 mu is equal to one thousandth of a millimeter, and 1 mu mu is equal to one millionth of a millimeter. As shown upon the screen, these particles of matter are magnified over fifty million times.

**ENGINEERS WILL CONFER WITH DEFENSE COUNCIL ON WAR CO-OPERATION**

The society for the promotion of engineering education, of which Prof. George Chatburn of the college of engineering is president, has selected an educational committee which will meet with the advisory commission of the council of national defense early in June. At this meeting, the committee will endeavor to secure definite suggestions as to the best way in which the society can aid the government in the war.

Professor Chatburn has made a complete outline suggesting various ways in which the society may be of aid, not only in engineering problems, but in producing expert engineers for use in the war, as well as educating all those under draft age who can be secured, for engineering work.

It ain't the guns or armament,  
Nor the funds that they can pay,  
But the close co-operation  
That makes them win the day.  
It ain't the individuals  
Nor the army as a whole,  
But the everlasting team work  
Of every bloomin' soul.  
—Rudyard Kipling.

Anyone in Drake university who is interested in chickens of any species, kind or variety, has a chance to study them now. The Embryology laboratory at Drake is making slides of fowls in their first stages of development.  
—Ex.

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