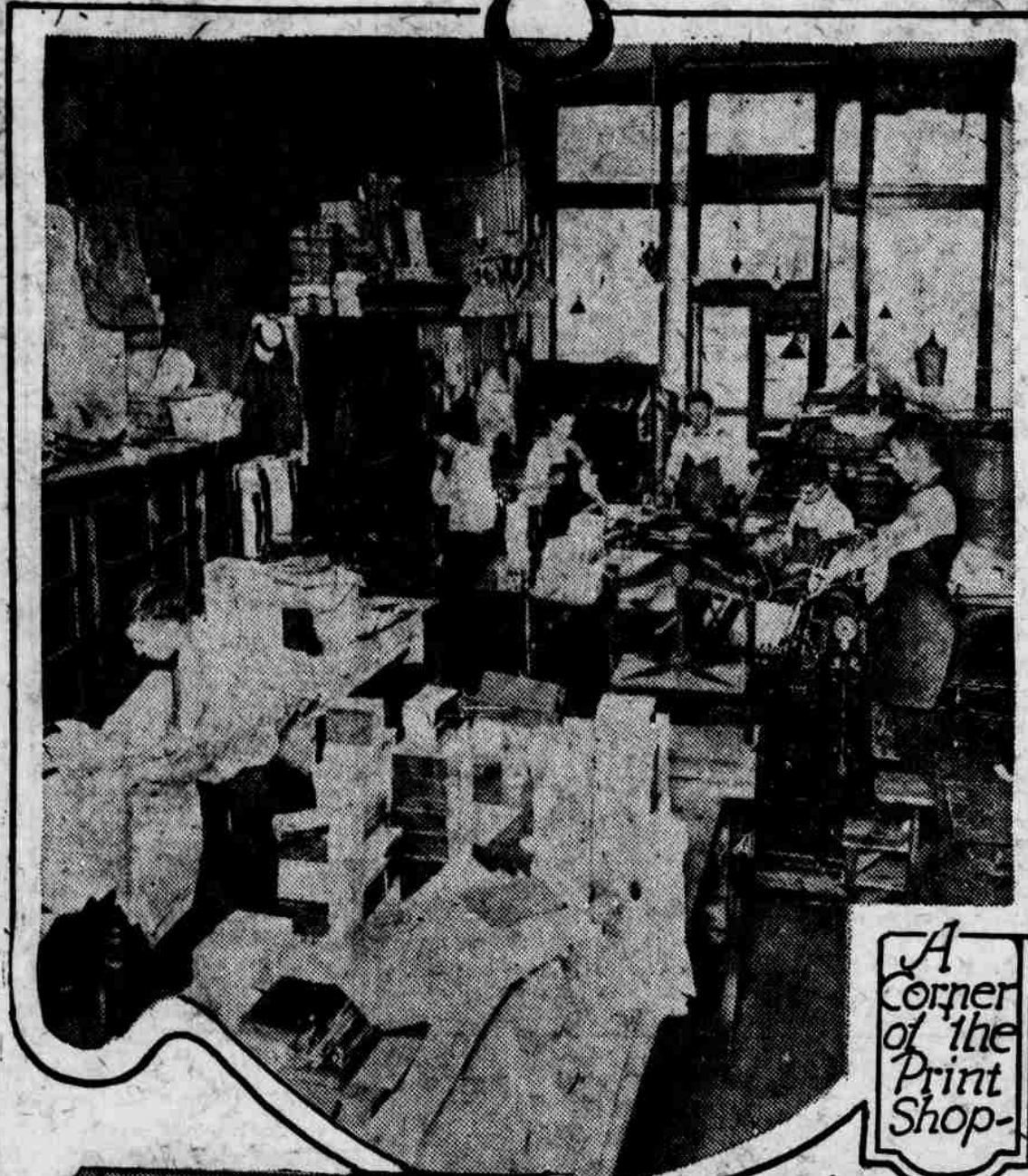


Making Brains and Brawn Both Count



A Corner of the Print Shop

Commercial High Students Sick Type and Grind Valves As Readily As They Translate Shorthand and Absorb American History—

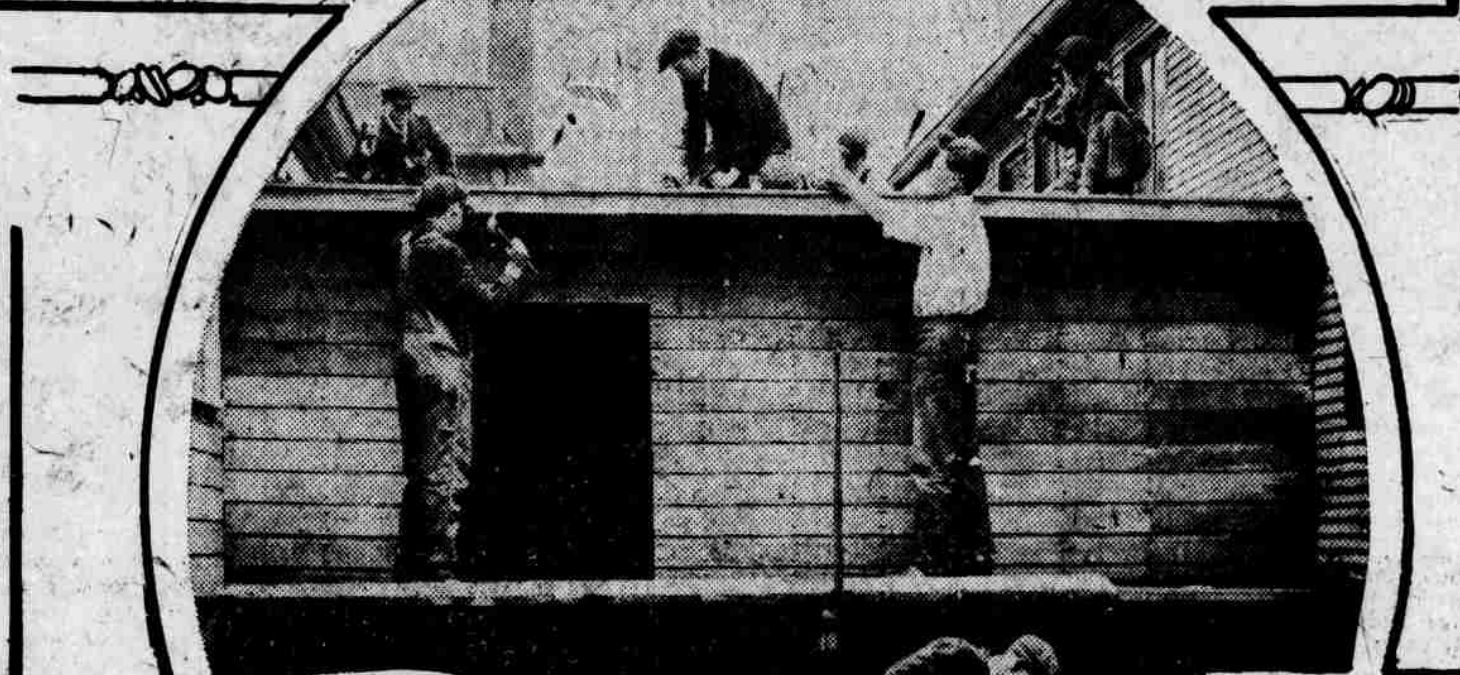


In The Machine Shop

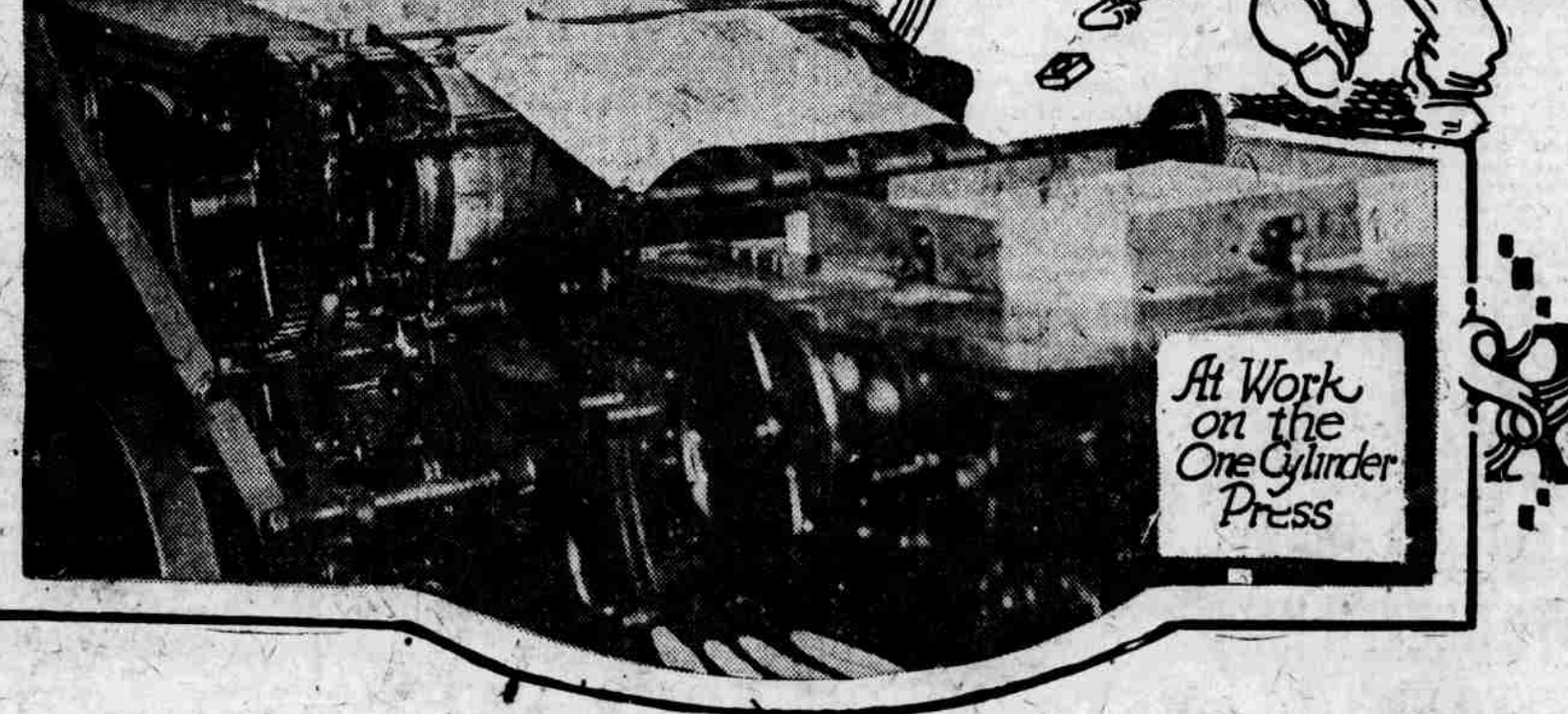
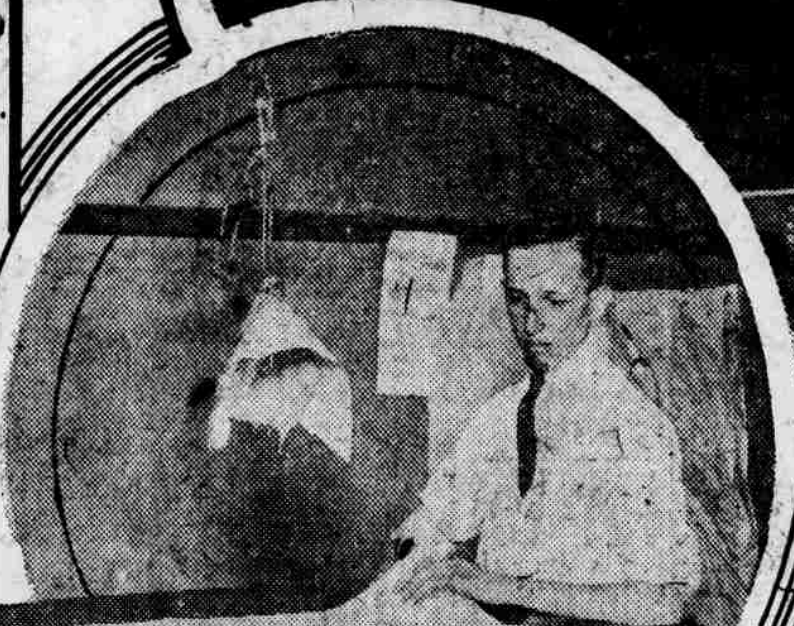


Learning to Sick Type

Just About To Tune Up Lizzie



With Hammer and Saw



At Work on the One Cylinder Press

By H. R. HARRIS.
Fascinating and well-nigh astonishing is the work being done by mere slips of boys and slender youths, by girls with pigtails down their backs and girls of sweet sixteen or thereabouts in the mechanical department of the Omaha High School of Commerce, where the youngsters are being taught to use their brains and hands with such knowledge and skill that they may step right out of school into the great classes of independent wage earners.
The printing class has a regularly equipped job print shop and the boys do regular print shop work from "sticking type" to running a linotype machine and operating a job press.
Over in the garage and repair

shop of the auto mechanics class there all of the bustling activity that you will see in a regular auto repair shop. Cars you will see that have suffered ill at the hands of a telegraph pole, or a curbing, a ditch, or another car. These the boys are putting into running shape again. Tires are being repaired, cars put together, parts made, every one is playing the game in deadly earnest.
Erect Two Buildings.
Embryonic carpenters have, all by themselves, erected two splendid buildings for the school and are just completing a hallway between them.
Every angle of carpentry is taught to the boys. Many a man might learn a vast deal from and look with a great deal of envy

at the mere driving of a nail by some of the lads who are yet in their knee pants.
In the rooms where radio and telegraph operators are being turned out you will find the only girls in the mechanical department. Boys and girls, they seem, to the layman, to possess an uncanny ability to pick the meaning of the dots and dashes out of the air. So great is the demand from the business world for these young people that those who finish the course and wish to take up this line of work are gobbled up at once.
Four Printing Classes.
W. S. Crichton is conducting the four printing classes in which there are enrolled 34 boy students. One day a week recitations are held on a text book. The other days of the school week the boys spend actually working out the

problems of the print shop.
The printing classes are now running off a 25,000 edition of the Public School, the official publication of the Omaha public schools. The students also print each week the High School of Commerce paper. The boys do all of this work themselves under the direction of the instructor. They have a linotype machine, a two-revolution Campbell press and two job presses.
The full printing course extends through three years. It was started two years ago. Already one of the boys who received his training in the course, Nathan Harris, is employed in the shop of the National Printing company of Omaha.
Autos Rejuvenated.
The big shop where auto mechanics is taught is a place filled with interest even for one uninitiated into things mechanical. There are dozens of autos around the

shop in various states of wreckage. Around some of these are gathered little groups of boys bent intently on diagnosing the damages and fixing them.
At one end of the big shop there is a forge with boys clustered about it, some of them dealing doughty blows with hammer on the red hot portions of iron rods and bars.
Make Own Parts.
In one corner of the shop are the machines which cut iron and steel into desired shapes. At each of these there is a boy working out his particular problem.
A room adjoining the big shop is given to vulcanizing and other fire work.
The auto mechanic course was started two years ago. It has proved quite popular. Forty-five boys are enrolled this year for the two-year course. In addition to auto mechanics these students are taking English, mechanical draw-

ing, mathematics, physics and other scientific studies.
"I believe that every man should be able to work with his hands as well as with his brain," declared E. H. Orchard, head of the industrial department, which includes in addition to auto mechanics, carpentry, machine and electrical and forge shop work, carpentry, and mechanical drawing.
When the department is housed in the new school quarters to be erected between Thirtieth and Thirty-third and Cuming and Burt, an electrical shop, pattern making and a foundry will be included.
William Brewer, secretary of the Omaha Carpenters' union, has charge of the carpentry instruction, which covers everything that those who are to follow this vocation should know.
Remarkably fine work has been done by the boys in the carpentry

course in the erection of the two buildings in which they are housed.
In another building of the small village of structures which compose the high school is located the class room in which the instruction in mechanical drawings is held. Here the boys are studying for both commercial and architectural work. Plans are drawn by the boys which are used in building various articles in the carpentry department.
Many Are Enrolled.
There are 84 boys studying in the carpentry department and 242 enrolled in the free-hand drawing course.
Mr. Orchard's assistants, in addition to Mr. Brewer, are H. Robertson, Robert Galt, O. J. Franklin, H. T. Eddy and E. H. Shelley.
Two instructors are training some 206 young people to become radio and telegraph operators. Of

these some 225 are taking telegraphy, the rest the radio work. The classes are divided between F. P. Durand and H. E. Bennett.
Talk Only on Wire.
The class rooms conducted by these two instructors present a novel appearance. The instructor sits with a telegraph key on his desk, on which he transmits questions and tests to the students. He receives replies through a resonator and sounder.
Each student has the same sort of apparatus. There is no talking. The conversation is solely on the wire.
There are as many girls as boys in these courses.
The telegraphy courses extend through nine quarters. They were started in 1913 and have become so popular that the rooms are crowded to capacity. The telegraphy courses composed the first vocational department to be established in the high school.