

WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 7, 1915.

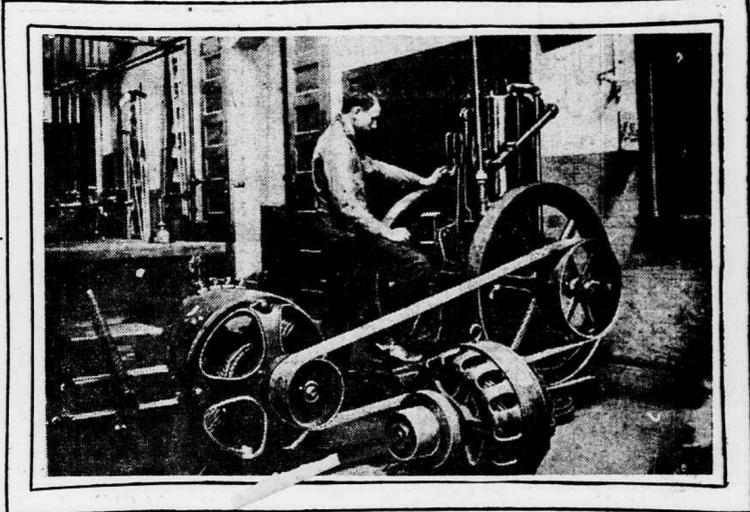
## Journalism, Mechanics and Wireless in High Schools



A TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RECEIVING A WIRELESS FROM A DISTANT CITY.



BUSINESS PUBLICISTS PRINTING THEIR BI-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.



MASTERING THE INTRICACIES OF THE NEW TEN HORSEPOWER GAS ENGINE AT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL.

WHEN a certain parent having his child in one of the high schools of Washington went one day last week to see the principal of that school and learn how his child was progressing, he was given one of the greatest surprises of his life. Figuratively, this parent was another Rip Van Winkle, who had been asleep to the progress of the high schools since the time when he had received his own diploma, twenty or more years ago, and since that time had seen only the outside of the building.

This parent was but one of many who do not realize that numerous and great changes have taken place in the high schools during the last fifteen or twenty years. Most of these changes have been brought about through the same thought which has been largely in fact, almost wholly—responsible for the demand and development of vocational education—the desire to prepare the youth of Washington more completely for life—real, practical, everyday, workaday life. The fact that a number of the innovations are "after school" activities has not lessened in any degree their educational value.

Being students in a school where engineering, electrical work and other kindred subjects are taught, the boys at Tech who have elected to "dissect" and reconstruct the automobile chassis already know the difference between the carburetor and the magneto. But there are plenty of things about the machine which they do not know and which are to be taught them by the skilled mechanic teacher in charge.

They are to learn just about all there is to know. With a drag placed on the back wheels they will be able to operate the machine under conditions pretty nearly real. When they get through the course in the road, they will have an intimate acquaintance with every part of the machine, and if they ever get "stuck on the road" will know whether they've got a short circuit or are simply short of gasoline. At Tech he should not be surprised to find his son lying on his back under an automobile chassis and making an inspection of the machine with the air of an expert.

The press which Vernon Snow has loaned the Business High School for the printing of the Ledger, bi-weekly student publication, is not a toy outfit in any sense of the word. At present it is run by foot, but it is planned to attach a motor to it in the near future. Running off more than a thousand copies of the Ledger is a hard job by any power, even if the boys take turns at it.

Several cases of type, including all sorts and varieties, accompany the press. As a matter of fact the news items are set in type outside of the school, this being done by a linotype operator. The advertisements are all set by hand, however, and the paper is "made up" in the little room which is set off as the printing office.

The writing of school news by the various members of the staff to the printing of the papers on alternate Friday afternoons keeps a large number of students busy, no small part of the time long after school hours. Mr. Snow not only has an active hand in the printing of the paper, but he also draws the cartoons for it.

The business end of the work is handled by the same staff which handles the business of the Balance Sheet, the official school magazine. It might be mentioned here that the editor of the Balance Sheet, William C. La Clair, worked on a Washington newspaper last summer during his vacation, in order to learn as much as possible of the real "game." This year he is putting into practice many of the things which he learned while on the daily.

Publications appearing monthly and quarterly have been issued by the high schools for many years. It is only recently, however, that the bi-weeklies and it is only recently that special attention has been given to placing the

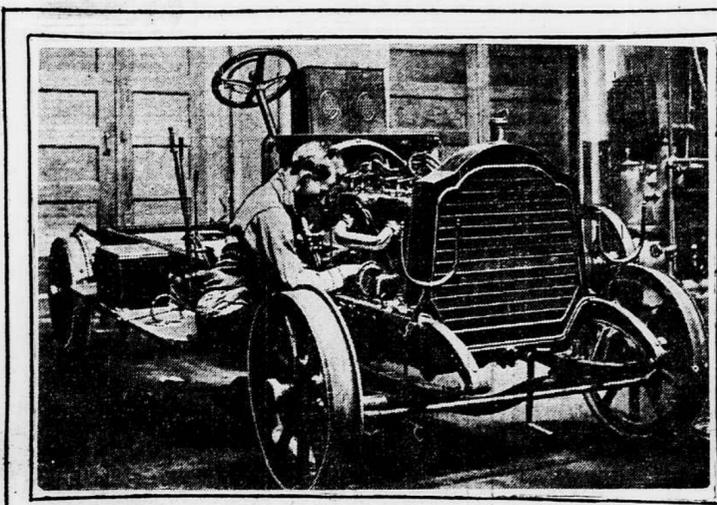
publication of them on a basis of practical value for those who do the active work. Central and Western High Schools have established classes in journalism, and who know every step in the making of a modern newspaper from the works written by men who have de-

gathering of the news to the actual printing and distribution of the paper. No less popular than the study of newspaper making and the publication of bi-weeklies is the study of the wireless telegraph. A model wireless plant, licensed by the United States government, has been established at Tech, and a number of the members of the Tech Wireless Club are rapidly becoming experts in both the sending and receiving of messages. Added interest has been

given this work recently, of course, through the success of wireless telephony. Although school activities as a whole are just beginning for the season, the wireless club has been active for several weeks in overhauling the aerial and other parts of the apparatus. This winter it is planned to send messages greater distances than in previous years. The school has recently received a one-half kilowatt transformer and two new receiving condensers.

Messages from any distance now may be "picked up" by the station. With the practical work, which is conducted under the direction of J. E. Smith, a member of the faculty, is supplemented by lectures during the year. These lectures are usually held Wednesday, the regular meeting day of the club. Experts in wireless telegraphy are obtained from the government and private service for these lectures.

The completion of the new Central High School will offer to the school boys and girls, too, an opportunity to learn swimming at school. The pool is to be twenty-four feet wide by eighty feet long and will be lighted by direct sunlight. Shower baths and locker rooms are to be provided adjacent to it, and its entire equipment will be "up to the minute."



GETTING A FIRST-HAND ACQUAINTANCE WITH AN AUTOMOBILE.

### BILL TO STEVE.

BY RING W. LARDNER.

(Copyright, 1915, by Ring W. Lardner.)

CHICAGO, Nov. 7.—Steve. Well Steve we had that china shower for Fred and Clara last night and for a while it looked like it would be a real china shower with china plates and cups and so 4th. showering all a round the rm. They was an invited guest name Myers that must of had a drink or 2 before he come and he got fresh and started a quarl and I was jest getting ready to clean up when he lost his nerve and appolazized and its a good thing he did or his name would not of been Myers but it would of been Dennis or some thing. I would of Myered him with a chair.

Heres how it come of. We had sent out invatations and on them we says they would be lots of stuff to eat soup fish and salad and meat and so 4th. But what we really had was only some sandwiches and ice cream and coffee and beer. So when the refreshments was past a round this here Myers says this is some banquet and he was sarcastical. So I says if you dont like this feed you can go down to Matts and get some thing your use to at his free lunch counter. So he jest laughed and says some thing a bout I and Gussy getting the crowd there under the falts pretences and then he says when your giving a china shower you should ought to have a chop suze and rice and tea and I says what do you know a bout what kind of refreshments to have at a party because the only party you was ever mixed up with is the political party that gives you \$.50 for your vote.

So then he got sore and says he would take back the present that he had gave to Clara and Fred and I says all right you cheap skate I dont believe you brot no present a long but go ahead and pick out the 1 that looks good to you and may be you can sell it some wheres for a dime and buy your self a real feed.

So he says he did to bring a present a big china plate and he says he had a noshion to bust it over my head. So I says it would be the last plate he ever busted over any bodys head and I says the best thing you can do is put on your last years hat and beat it. He says No he wasent ready to go home and he wouldnt go till he got a good read so I says I dont know weather you got a home to go to but you got out of here or I will put you out. So he says go a head and try it. Thats when I was going to bust him but the girl he come with butted in and she was scarred to deth I was going to kill him so she says cut out the quarling gents. I and Myers will go as soon as I finish my ice cream and not before. So I says hurry up and throw it in to you before I loose my temper.

So Myers says he supposed I would put his girl out to if she didnt hurry and I says No I dont fight with girls but only with men that insulted me and he says he didnt think it was possible to insult me so I says all right if you didnt mean no insult we will call it square.

So Myers was O. K. after that accept onct or twel wile we was playing rummy he for got him self and swore and I says cut out that languidge in the presents of ladsy or youll leave the house head Ist. I all so had a little trouble with a man named Robison that accused me of short changing him in the rummy game and we was all most coming to blows when Gussy give me the wink to not start no trouble on acct. of me being the host so I give him the dime he says I was holding out on him and then he shut up.

Well Steve I guess evry body had a good time. I know I did and evry body else says they did and Myers when he was finely leaving says he was much obliged to evry body for the \$1.50 he win in the rummy game and it would buy he and his girl a stake on the way home. I says Yes it will buy you a bout 10 of the stakes you use to eating. He didnt say nothing back. I win a bout \$2.00 my self and Gussy win \$2.50 so I guess we broke a bout even on giving the party and of course Fred and Claras got some nice hand paint it china that they wouldnt of had if we hadent gave the party. And they wasent no body that got what you really call drunk accept Myers and Robison and Fred and I or 2 others.

Reapy. BILL.

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