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## The Physical Science Laboratory of the State Normal

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## THE PHYSICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY OF THE STATE NORMAL.

BY A. C. PAGE.

The Physical Science Laboratory, now nearing completion, stands midway between the Auditorium and the Gymnasium at the north end of the quadrangle.

It is of fireproof construction, and is 112 feet, 6 inches long, 64 feet, 6 inches wide, and, from the ground floor, is four stories high.

The foundation is of Cedar Falls limestone and cement, the first story is built of Bedford, Ind., limestone, and the three stories above this are of Gladbrook red pressed brick, with a belting of Bedford stone between the third and fourth stories. Mason City hollow brick are used in the structure of the inner walls, and the ceilings and side walls are finished with hard plaster.

The floors and roof are made of concrete reinforced with expanded iron, the floors being finished with three inches of cement with colored border, and the roof with S tile. The roof-gutters and ventilator are of copper, the doors and casings are of quarter-sawn oak, and the stairs of iron.

The tables and apparatus cases were built at the school, of oak, Alberine stone being used for the table tops of hoods, and for the tables of weighing rooms.

The heating plant of the building includes the indirect fan system for day heating and ventilation, while the direct steam heating is employed when the laboratory is not in use, thermostats in all the rooms controlling the temperature. The building is furnished throughout with electric lights.

The laboratories are supplied with water, steam, gas, compressed air, electricity from a storage battery, and both the direct and alternating currents from the school and city plants respectively.

The ground floor provides three rooms to be used temporarily by the Geography department, a cloak room, two toilet rooms, and a store-room connected by a dumb-waiter shaft with similar rooms on the floors above.

The first floor is occupied by the Physics department: a general laboratory for the first three terms of study, a dark-room for photometer work, a laboratory for light and sound, a laboratory for mechanics and heat, a laboratory for electricity, a shop, a storage battery room, and a room for apparatus.

The second floor has a lecture hall for the use of both departments with a preparation room adjoining, a physics library, two lecture rooms, two instructors' offices, an apparatus room, and a cloak room.

The third floor is devoted to Chemistry, and includes a laboratory for general chemistry, a supply room for apparatus, a library, a private laboratory and preparation room, a lecture room with raised floor, a weighing room, a laboratory for quantitative work, a room for work with the microscope, polariscope, etc., a supply room for chemicals, and a cloak room.

The building is amply lighted, is well equipped with the best apparatus for the work to be done, and is a credit to the State which has provided it.