that in some cases there would be a "C," or "P," in place of an "F," in consequence. At any rate let us have the experiment.

In a technical school of the nature of the Institute, the three years devoted strictly to professional work in the various departments are by no means sufficient to familiarize one with the details of one's chosen profession; indeed, little more is attempted than to give one a very general idea of the subjects treated; or perhaps, more properly speaking, the object aimed at by the various courses is to teach men how to study and how to investigate for themselves. Thus the Institute man's time is more than filled, up to the very last, with studies necessarily of a preparatory nature, since, of course, in the time allotted, only comparatively few of the practical problems that he is sure to meet with in life can here be solved.

Now, speaking particularly for the moment of the course in mechanical engineering, the Institute has, within the last two or three years, acquired facilities in the way of finely equipped laboratories and work-shops in this department, that place it undoubtedly in the front rank of industrial schools of its class. Our machinery is constantly increasing every year, and is decidedly up to the times in every respect. To any student, therefore, who can afford the time and money, it seems as if, after having taken the regular course in mechanical engineering, and graduated, he could spend his time to no better advantage in learning his profession, than by devoting at least a year in pursuing a special course at the Institute. He would by the time he graduated, be sufficiently developed and trained to choose wisely some particular line of work, which he would have plenty of time to carry on, keeping at the same time an eye open to what is going on in the engineering world without.

We have taken Course II as an example, merely because of the extent and marked increase of late in its working equipments. The same is as true with regard to Course V, with its excellent laboratories, and Course VIII B, which, although as yet in its infancy, will probably in time be furnished with electrical machinery of its own, apart from the Rogers Physical Laboratory, now at its disposal, thereby enabling more extended practical research in the field of electricity very desirable. With respect, however, to such courses as architecture, and civil or mining engineering, perhaps the above would not apply with equal force.

The Institute encourages and approves of postgraduate study, as is shown by the advanced degrees which the Corporation has been authorized to confer for one or two years extra work. Even setting the matter of degrees entirely aside, it seems as if the benefit to be derived by more extended study in certain departments would be very great, and it is hoped that many will avail themselves of the advantage.

It is hoped that the students who avail themselves of The Tech's kindness by reading the exchanges which it places in the reading-room, will use more care in handling them. Most of those already placed on the tables have been so badly torn and mutilated, as to wholly unfit them for being placed on file. Will the students please bear in mind the fact that it is merely a courtesy on the part of THE TECH in thus putting the papers at their disposal, and unless more care is taken in the future they will not appear in the reading-room, for it would seem as if they could be read without being used as projectiles, or torn all to pieces.

NOTICE.—Copies of No. 3, Vol. II., No. 1, Vol. III., and No. 6, Vol. III., of The Tech, will be bought at this office at the regular price. Persons having any extra copies of these numbers which they are willing to dispose of, will confer a favor on us by notifying the Secretary.

Mr. GUY KIRKHAM, '87, has been elected an editor of The Tech, and begins his duties with the present number.