HE semies are now upon us, and for the next week the Techs. will be miserable and unhappy until they are finished. Many unfortunates are burning the midnight oil and making up for lost time; but the wise man, who has not fallen behind, looks over a few notes, and goes into an examination comparatively calm. But from one and all comes the wail, "examinations do not examine." Well, we think they are about right; but what are you going to do about it?

As it now goes, examinations are largely, although by no means entirely, a matter of luck. That is, a man who knows but little about a subject, but who has crammed up on certain points, may go into an examination and find on the paper just what he knows, and may secure a good mark; while another man, who has a good knowledge of the subject, but who has not crammed up on certain points, is very apt to run up against those very things on the examination. Of course the obvious moral is, get everything down fine; but then, that is not so easy to do; and until it is done this element of luck cannot be excluded from an examination.

It seems hard that there should not be some way in which the luck element could be got rid of, but we know of none which has ever been invented which does so entirely. We venture to prophesy that the man who does invent a satisfactory examining and marking system will be very popular.

Well, until that man appears, we will all have to take our examinations which do not examine; and so The Tech wishes you all the best of luck in these coming now.

The editors of The Tech feel that but slight apology is needed from them for issuing a much smaller number this time, as our last number was considerably larger than usual, and the semi-annual examinations are so near.

It has always been the custom of the Tech. students to allow the Tech editors to do all the work on the paper, and never to assist them in any way. We have spoken of this fact so often that we are tired of hearing ourselves say it; and we do not say it now with any hope of an alteration in affairs, but merely to explain our position. It is almost invariably the case that when a man shows any interest in The Tech by writing for it, he is elected a member of the Board of Editors, so little competition is there.

Considering this fact, that we receive no outside contributions, and that the semies are so near, the editors have decided that it is too much work for them to do to get out a full number when they should be studying for their examinations; hence, the reduced number of our pages this time.