means that he could not take a fifth year of study. Why should he not combine in his course all the different classes of advantages which have been indicated,—the strengthening tendencies of the scientific studies, the liberalizing tendencies of the philosophical studies, together with the bread-winning power of the technical arts and acquirements which, in one line or in another, are taught in every one of the professional courses?

It seems to me that in such a course would be found the ideal education of the present age; and that any student at the Tech. whose means will allow him to stay another year in the Institute, will do well to take up the Five Years' Course in the department into which his tastes and aptitudes carry him.

Francis A. Walker.

The Twentieth Century Club.

The Twentieth Century Club held its regular meeting in Room 11 Rogers, Monday, March 23rd. In the absence of President Ripley and Secretary Meserve, Messrs. Mathews and Waterman filled their respective places.

On the question "Resolved, that Eight Hours should constitute a Legal Labor Day," Messrs. Leeming and Skinner spoke for the affirmative, and Kauffman and Hart for the negative side. An open debate followed, after which Mr. G. E. McNeill was introduced and further discussed the subject. The main points of his speech may be briefly summed up as follows:

The question of the length of the labor day should not be complicated by the introduction of foreign factors, and the question relates rather to future wealth and prosperity than to the distribution of present wealth. By making eight hours constitute a labor day the possession of the wage worker is increased. The objection, of course, is that impersonal capital is unable to afford the extra cost.

If a line could be drawn from the beginning of history showing the progress of civilization up to the present time, it would exactly coincide with the line showing the increase of wages. The highest wages have always been paid in the most civilized countries, and where there is a depression in the wage line, there is one just as deep in the line of civilization. Consequently high wages mean high civilization, and wages cannot be reduced without lowering the standard of civilization. It is therefore important that the highest possible wages be paid, and the question is, how shall it be done?

By a reduction of hours the product is lessened, while the demand remains the same. More labor must be employed, and the first result is an increased cost. But the demand keeps increasing. Demand is created by the ability of people to purchase, and by the additional employment of workers, an additional number of consumers is made. Also, as the cost of a product is regulated by the amount demanded, and not by the wages paid the workman, the cost is lessened.

It is estimated that there are at present nearly two million men in the United States who are unable to find employment, and of course a large percentage is dependent on charity. By the reduction of two hours in the labor day, a need is made for one fifth more laborers, and thus this army of loafers would be given employment, and taken off the hands of the State.

Mr. McNeill mentioned other advantages resulting from the eight hour day, among others being the better education the masses would be able to command, and in conclusion said that a place could not be found where a reduction of hours had not resulted in good. We have adopted Australia's ballot system, and we want to adopt her labor day.

At the University of Virginia no holidays are given, with the single exception of Christmas. Lectures proceed on Saturdays, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, and Washington's Birthday, just as if there were no such things.