HERE seems to be something unsatisfactory about the present manner of choosing a course. A Freshman is too often influenced by the decision of those about him, or by the desire to become a member of the most popular course. Certainly every man is perfectly free to choose what line of study he most desires to pursue, and is perfectly at liberty to speak and act for himself in this matter; still it would seem as though some slight attempt should be made to regulate the percentage of men in the different departments according to the demand for one class or another of graduates. Men come to the Institute, in general, to learn a profession, and it is very much to their advantage to be able to obtain a lucrative position after graduation, taking up that class of work for which they have here prepared themselves, provided they enjoy it. It is most encouraging to a man to find himself available for one or two good positions, and it is quite as discouraging after four years of hopefulness and hard work to find that his knowledge and his degree are of no assistance to him in obtaining a situation.

Let us take, for an example, the first course in the Institute—Civil Engineering. For the past three years there have been many more applications for graduates from this course than there have been men available. In some years the number of applications has been very nearly double the number of graduates, and yet the department has not made the least endeavor to obtain these applications. Last year there were thirty-one available men and thirty-six positions offered. Twelve of these men found positions for themselves, two went abroad, and the remaining seventeen were left with the thirty-six positions to choose from. Mr. Mendenhall, who lectured in the Lowell Free Course of lectures a short time ago, said that he could find good positions for fifty good men annually. Such statistics would be of very great importance to some students.

We have given the condition of affairs in but this one course, as we do not feel that we strictly have the authority to publish at this date any further investigations in the matter. Some of the departments would show a high efficiency in this respect, and some would show a low. At all events, authorized statistics of this sort in regard to each professional course, would, we believe, aid much in the proper distribution of men among the several departments.

WITH the weekly Tech fairly well started on its career toward success, the retiring Senior editors can look with complacency on its future prospects. The Editorial Board has been increased to safe proportions, and a good man has been chosen to lead it. Mr. Price needs no introduction to the majority of Tech men, and it is sufficient to record here the assurance that his associates feel that a successful future awaits this paper under his guidance. The policy of THE TECH will undergo no change; it will continue to be, as heretofore, the exponent of student opinion, only it will try to be this in a better and still more universal way. THE TECH has been far from perfect during the past term. It is doubtful if it has even reached the standard of former volumes; but it has perhaps been, and this will be sufficient praise, as successful as might have been expected considering the new departure that has been inaugurated. It has suffered, as it has always done, from lack of co-operation among the student body. It has overcome but partially the long standing indifference among the members of the Faculty; but the efforts that have been made to overcome these obstacles will not be discontinued, and must some day reap success.

THE TECH also suffers under a popular apprehension that it is a money making affair, an impression than which no other could be more dangerous or more difficult to successfully combat in a community like ours. It is useless to deny it; it will remain, and yet it is not true. THE TECH is of the students, and for the students only. Any man who has ability is