There has been more or less talk among the members of the battalion regarding the benefits to be derived from a change in the drill hours. If, for instance, the period at the armory were to be from half past eight to half past nine, there would be, in the first place, a full hour of drilling instead of but forty minutes. Again, it would then be possible for the men to dress in their room, and thus leave for those out of town plenty of room at the gymnasia, making, it would be safe to say, the satisfaction for more general. Moreover, a number of lockers would be left vacant, which would be very useful to other Institute men wishing to take up afternoon gymnasium work. These considerations certainly seem to be worthy of notice. In any event, may the Freshmen have what it is their right to have,—accommodations. These will aid, as we said before, more than anything else in renewing the flagging interest of the men in battalion work.

A PLAN which is said to be on foot, to introduce military instructions into the Sophomore Year, is one that presents many advantages, inasmuch as the time now allotted to drill is so short, that but little progress is possible. After allowing time for dressing, there remains hardly an hour and a half each week for practical work, one hour being devoted to lectures. This is even less time than is required of the state militia, and there is much time wasted at the beginning of the year for want of competent officers; many men coming to the Institute who have never had military instruction of any sort, and others who have much to unlearn. Thus, to obtain a high standard of efficiency in this department, these disadvantages must be overcome.

If the proposed scheme is carried into effect, there will be, during the year, instruction in “setting up” exercises and squad drill only, giving the men an excellent foundation for what is to follow. This will include battalion drill, field practice, instruction in military theory and the art of war, together with lectures upon the organization of the armies of the United States and foreign countries. In addition there may be formed a class in military engineering which will be given actual field practice. The advantages of such a system are obvious, and while it is a well known fact that many of the students regard the present drill exercises as merely a bore, to be avoided if possible, it is more than probable that under an arrangement such as the above, they would take a lively interest in the work.

GENERAL dissatisfaction seems to exist among the Seniors taking the thirty-thirty course in English with Mr. Herrick. And well might they be displeased with the action of the Faculty in giving them, at this period of their course, a subject not only foreign in its relations to their course, but one which they have already taken in their second year under an instructor who taught his subject thoroughly, and in an improved manner.

Seniors begin the second term with the idea that with the view of having them devote most of their time to their theses, as little work as possible will be prescribed for them. Instead of this being the case they are given a preparatory course in English literature; a course carried on in the most elementary manner. The very idea of Seniors taking notes for the sole purpose of seeing how well they can do so, meets with censure from even the most liberal minded student among us. And if these sixty, or more, hours must be spent on English let us have it done wisely. A course