Student Criticisms and Remarks.

The action of the Faculty in answering the petition of the architects is exceptional, and it seems very probable that their case is not thoroughly understood.

The petition asked that the Architectural Building be kept open week days until 10 o'clock p. m., Saturdays excepted. Knowing the financial condition of the Institute, the failure of the petition must pass without comment; but when the Saturday afternoons, which the second and third year students have previously enjoyed, are no longer allowed, it seems evident that the Faculty do not appreciate our position. It appears that the petition would not have been granted even if heat and light could be afforded. Had the petition been for more work, or for less work, the architects would not have been so dumb-founded; but since it was for neither, the refusal seems odd enough. As a matter of fact, no more or no less work would be done if the building were open at night; the architects have all they can do now, if they do it properly.

The benefits anticipated from such a change are these: the students would not be compelled to carry home great drawing boards, T squares and instruments regularly as they now have to do. Drawing done in students' rooms is necessarily not their best, since it must be done with poor accommodations. On the other hand, drawing done at convenient desks with good light can be done better and quicker than in students' rooms. The results of this change would be threefold, and it was hoped it would take away the necessity of working on Sunday: first, the saving of time and the being put to needless inconvenience; second, increase in standard of draftsmanship; third, removing of injurious strains on students' eyesight. The last result is not likely to be over-estimated. It is needless to say, however, that two hours accurate drawing by a poor light may leave a bad effect for several hours. The Faculty, in closing the second and third

year students' drawing rooms, have forced these students to do part of their drawing at home and on Sundays.

A member of the Faculty said, in conversation with a student: "You have too much drawing in your course already." This sounds to the architects like saying, "You have too much architecture in your course, and not enough of something else." The regular architects appreciate the advantages offered at the Institute in their non-professional studies, and the Faculty must not think otherwise. Without desiring to neglect these studies they wish to make the most of the professional course which is the peculiarly valuable one of our Institute, and can be found nowhere else. The architects need greater opportunities in the library, since they must study there in connection with design. Their time is too fully occupied during the day to permit of its use then for the best results; and when they looked to the Faculty for sympathy and encouragement, feeling that they deserve it, the Faculty's treatment of them seems very unfair.

The question of the advisability of Technology students going to the Fair in a body has not been dropped altogether. The latest development is the appended letter, which shows clearly that there will be some place at which Tech men can meet, the Northwestern Alumni Association having so kindly allowed us the use of their apartments in Chicago as a rendezvous. We print extracts from the letter, feeling that it will prove of interest to many of our readers:—

We have secured rooms corner Michigan Avenue and 43rd Street,—one block from main depot of the Illinois Central Railroad, one block from Cottage Grove Avenue cable line, and one block from "Alley" Elevated Road—all direct routes to the Fair Grounds. Right behind us is a seven-story hotel, where by "doubling up" fellows can secure accommodation for, I believe, about one dollar per day a head. There is a café attachment where you could get all your meals if you so desired. Our rooms, of course, will be free to all Tech men to be used as club rooms, meeting rooms, etc. There are a good many hotels going up near the Fair Grounds, where you could also probably lodge for about one dollar a day.

Very sincerely,

Solomon Sturges.