some instructors; at another, the Mechanicals are enjoying their lunch together; at still another, the Civils; and yet another, the Architects. A closer inspection will show that, for the most part, the men seated around any one table belong to the same course, section, class, or, at any rate, are intimately acquainted with each other. I lunch regularly with a party who arrange their work so that they can pass their lunch hour together; and it is acknowledged by each one to be one of the most pleasant hours of the day. Inquiry has shown that what is true in this case is true in several other cases.

Supposing, for instance, that one of these parties goes to the lunch room and does not turn up chairs; by the time all are seated it is highly probable that they cannot get seats together. As a result the party is broken up, and each man eats his lunch with the idea of getting through as quickly as possible. This may seem of little consequence, but it certainly is not. We do not have any too much time to talk over Institute affairs; the lunch hour, under the present conditions, offers an excellent opportunity for it. We would have more class spirit, the Institute would be better off for it, if we had more such meetings among the students. Who can deny that the frequent meeting of the students at other times than those of work is one of the greatest promoters of college spirit? It is needless to cite examples. The fact that these men know before they start that they can probably sit together, is the reason they arrange their work to meet there. If they could not turn up chairs, they would, in but few instances, be able to sit together, and hence they would not take the pains to arrange their work for this meeting.

It does not seem reasonable to suppose that any man or set of men go about maliciously or thoughtlessly tipping up chairs and leaving them vacant. One seldom sees a chair vacant long at a time during the rush. If some one has been so ungentlemanly as to forget it, his double is just as likely to come along and forget that it was tipped up. I have seen this happen several times. Furthermore you can but wish that the old principle, "First come, first served," should hold. If the first there is the first served he will get a seat. If the first there is not the first served, it is no reason why he should stand, while a later comer should sit and eat. Tipping up chairs, then, evidently allows the first comer to enjoy the most privileges, which is as it should be.

Professor George E. Hale.

Among our recent graduates, there is one deserving of all praise for his scientific achievements. Prof. Geo. E. Hale, of the University of Chicago, graduated in 'go in Course VIII. His tastes lay in the direction of astrophysics, as exemplified by the title of his thesis, this being on the "Photographing of the Solar Prominences." During a trip to Europe he read a paper on his favorite subject before the British Association for the advancement of Science. The merit of this paper evoked special comment from the many distinguished scientists who were present, and reflected great credit on his scientific ability.

Professor Hale's private observatory, where most of his original work is carried on, is located in Chicago. With the apparatus he has there a large amount of investigation on the solar prominences has been carried on successfully, and results have been attained by him as yet unexcelled. The photographic instrument used is a reflector of about twelve inches aperture, and it is fitted with a "spectro heliograph," an instrument of his own design. By its aid he has succeeded in obtaining marvelous photographs of the sun's faculae and prominences, and doubtless he will in the future devise some means of successfully photographing that pearly light known as the "corona," which extends for thousands of miles in every direction round our sun.

The new University of Chicago was not long in recognizing Mr. Hale's ability, and it conferred on him the chair of professor of astronomy. The large 40-inch refracting telescope, the gift of Mr. Chas. T. Yerkes to the University, will be under Professor Hale's direction. This is the largest instrument of its kind in the world, and will soon be erected at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, where wonderful work is expected of it.

We are glad to feel that one of our recent graduates has, through hard work and persistent effort, reached such a position as that granted to Professor Hale by the University of