The action of the Faculty in granting the petition for an extended recess at Christmas may indicate more than appears at first thought.

We have always held that our professors are alive to the wants and welfare of the students; yet we believe that the majority of them have little realized the tremendous increase here of late years in college spirit, or the growth of local interests and of individual appreciation of the opportunities afforded by Technology in directions other than purely scientific. This change, which has been frequently noticed and commended by many of our older students, detracts in no way from the good or efficiency of the scientific departments; but, on the other hand, it tends rather to increase the value of their training by embellishing it.

The Faculty are beginning to appreciate this centralizing student sentiment which has, in a different development, become a ruling power. The same ideas have been manifested in various phases at other colleges,—everywhere the tendency being to replace arbitrary faculty government in all cases possible by a ruling board, upon which are represented both professor and student. This has not yet been accomplished in reality at Technology, still the ever increasing attention which the Faculty pay to student desires confirms us in the opinion that Tech is influenced to no small extent by the general evolution of college governments.

It is evident to those of us who have been here longest, that nearly all the professors look now with more favor upon the various societies which have flourished so marvelously here, that they also encourage our efforts to unite the students, to introduce social customs, and, in short, to make Tech life more like the recognized college existence. This may incline toward a slight reduction of the amount of actual "grinding" here, but in return it offers opportunity to make our knowledge more useful to our fellow-men by the greater facility in presenting it, and more acceptable by the increased ease in imparting it, which the more frequent intercourse with others under all conditions must occasion. Further, since our courses are designed primarily to teach us where to look for facts, and to teach us how to study, the committing to memory of a few formulae is of less importance than the learning where to get information needed, and the ability to use to the greatest advantage the knowledge gained. Let us, therefore, welcome every broadening of our general opportunities which does not cause a serious loss of efficiency in the scientific instruction of which Technology is so justly proud.