In a recent issue of The Tech mention was made of the prizes offered by The Engineering News for the best theses submitted by students from any college in the country. In the list of the prize winners of last year Technology did not appear. This undoubtedly appeared strange both to students and friends of Technology. It is, however, easily explained by the fact that Tech students were not encouraged by any of our professors to enter the contest, on account of the fact that presumably these prizes are offered in order to secure the theses for publication, and hence many highly meritorious theses would, by reason of the subjects treated, not be of sufficiently widespread interest to be published in the columns of the paper in question. Thus in view of the fact that an unbiased judgment would not in all probability decide the relative merits of the theses received, it was thought best not to advise students to enter the competition. This, however, does not prevent any student from doing so, if he wishes; but in case any should compete, the result cannot be taken as a measure of the merits of the theses of Technology in comparison with those of other colleges having a less scientific character.

It is a surprising and almost unaccountable fact that the percentage of failures in Heat, within the last five years, has varied only within five per cent. This year the per cent of failures is exactly the mean between the limits of variation. Unfortunately, we are unable to obtain the exact per cent of failures; but if we are to believe the traditions which come to our ears, or those carved upon the desks in the examination halls, we must give Heat the palm for failures. Why a subject which is so short as Heat should fail so many students is not easily answered. In this subject the F's fall promiscuously upon the honor man and the average man as though the marks were a matter of chance.

Heat is the most scientific subject which is taken by all courses in common, and, therefore requires the most exact statements and the closest study of any of our general subjects. Then, out of the thirteen courses which take Heat, the majority are not only not interested in it, but they feel that it will never be of any practical use to them. It is looked upon as a dose of medicine,—not pleasant, but necessary. This alone may explain why the subject is not studied minutely, and this, in part, will show why so great a number fail to pass.

In studying the "Lecture Notes" the student is warned that, "in reading these sections, the foregoing statements and phraseology of these