IN a recent speech before the alumni of Brown University, President Eliot made the first public announcement of a proposed change in the requirements for the Bachelor's degree at Harvard. This change has been under consideration for some time, and at a recent faculty meeting it was voted by a small majority to reduce the number of courses required for a degree from eighteen to fifteen, and to give a degree to any man who passes in twelve of the fifteen courses. This practically means a three-year course for the generality of students. The majority in favor of the change was so small that the vote was not considered final. It seems unfortunate that our oldest educational institution should take the initiative in lowering the requirements for a scholastic degree.

It is argued that the more rigid entrance requirements and longer courses required in the professional schools, make a shorter college course necessary. This does not seem sufficient cause for the change. If the entrance requirements have been made higher in mathematics, the tendency is to lessen them in languages, and the fact that four years are required for the medical and legal degrees, instead of three, is no reason for giving the Bachelor's degree at the close of three years. If, instead of shortening the time required for a degree, the curriculum could be somewhat contracted and the work of students be concentrated on a few studies, a gain would be made. American universities have already

The strength of a college is in its alumni, and from the enthusiasm of these, Technology is daily gaining her inspiration. The sons of the old graduates are coming among us with the same loyalty to family tradition which sends hundreds of men annually to Harvard and to Yale. The Associations of the Alumni are increasing in number and in strength year by year, and it is most important for the undergraduate body to keep in touch with their development. The Secretaries of the alumni organizations have been painstaking in their efforts to aid Alma Mater. Mr. Collins of the Northwestern Association recently sent us a full account of the meeting at Chicago, and Mr. McKim, a former Editor of The Tech, and Secretary of the year-old New York Society, has furnished us with the minutes of its first dinner. An account of this affair will be published next week, and we think no Technology man can read it without an answering thrill of loyalty and pride.