THE Senior Class is unusually tardy this year in the selection of its class-day officers. 'Ninety-six had its nominating committee elected at this time, and '95 had at least adopted a method for its election. If this delay means deliberation upon the important subject with a view to the selection of truly representative officers, the sign is a good one. It is devoutly to be hoped that a better choice may be made than has been the case in some recent years; and to this end THE TECH suggests that the stupid custom of choosing the nominating committee by courses be discarded. This is a method which lends itself particularly to any one who wishes to "play politics," and is very much less likely to express the real voice of the class than a general election. Another disadvantage is the emphasis given to course rivalry, already a decidedly injurious factor in Institute affairs. Neither course nor fraternity interests should be allowed to prevail, but only the fitness of each candidate to do credit to his office.

ONE of the facts about the work of the Institute which is but little appreciated by the majority of the students, is the value to the general engineering public of the results obtained from the tests in our Engineering laboratories.

These tests are all conducted under conditions similar to those which occur in practice, and are on a practical scale. In carrying on the work of this department from year to year, the same tests are not made over and over, as is done in some places, but each year the work is laid out so that the data obtained may be of value.

The results are classified under the heads of steam, hydraulics, and applied mechanics, and are published in the Technology Quarterly, from which they are afterwards reprinted in pamphlet form, where they furnish a record of valuable facts, many of which could be obtained nowhere else. Similar work is carried on in the Engineering labora-

tories at Munich, Berlin, and Zurich; but there is no other American college or university where the work done by the students is so arranged that it may contribute to the knowledge of the general public. That the work is appreciated by engineers, is shown by the many flattering letters which have been received from time to time.

ONE of the most direct and practical agencies for good in the Institute is the Cooperative Society, which, as is well known, affords financial aid in the way of free scholarships to not a few deserving students each year. At a recent meeting of the Society a dividend of $617 was declared; all of which will be devoted to scholarships of $200 and $100. This money was obtained from the sale of the Society membership tickets, and of supplies at the beginning of the term.

The directors of the Society, chosen by each class, serve without remuneration. A membership ticket entitles a student to a considerable discount, ranging from ten to twenty-five per cent, on all manner of goods for sale by the various firms listed in the Society's handbook. It seems a good plan that the Co-op., as suggested by Dr. Tyler, take hold of the supply rooms left vacant by the janitors in the Architectural and Engineering buildings. These supply rooms were of the greatest convenience to the students, and if the Society should undertake their management its annual scholarship fund would be largely increased.

IN the column of Communications there appears a letter from the Secretary pro tem of the Class of '95. The meeting of this class last week is significant as an outcome of the scheme started by the Alumni Secretaries at their recent Technology Club dinner. Not only does the formation of the Alumni Secretaries' Association strengthen the Technology Club as an organization, but what is more promising, this action assures to our graduates a strong mutual bond heretofore lacking. We