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COMMUNICATION

At the big five year re-union in June, the alumni wish to make the singing of Tech songs an important feature of every event. In order to make this a success some practical leadership is essential, and as the scattered alumni have no opportunity for securing this practise, they will depend to a great extent on the undergraduates for such leadership. A slight effort on the part of any considerable number of fellows would furnish a nucleus on which could be built a chorus as large as desired, and yet there seem but few who are willing to make even this slight effort.

Dr. Underhill, a class-mate of the immortal Bullard, and an enthusiastic and accomplished musician, has consented to give up part of his time every week to directing the singing that should give the desired practise. One would expect the appreciation of the fellows to be shown at least to the extent of courteous attention and some effort to help in the singing. And yet on his visit last Friday, fully half the fellows who were in the Union continued their conversations, chess games, or card playing without interruption; and even the stirring strains of the "Stein Song" found many who were unwilling to pay to the Institute and to the memory of the Class of 1887, the compliment of rising to join in the singing.

Today Dr. Underhill will be at the Union again between 1.30 and 2, and it is hoped that every undergraduate who can will not only be on hand, but also make an effort to help overcome the weakness which at present characterizes our singing.

Maurice R. Scharff

DR. GUERTLER SPEAKS

(Continued from page 1.) combinations possible, the lecturer stated that if 50 elements only were used and were mixed two by two the number of alloys resulting and differing from each other by more than five per cent would exceed 50,000. If these elements were mixed by threes, millions and millions of alloys would be obtained.

A man can not find any real useful alloy by helter-skelter mixing. To obtain desired results a man must well understand mineralogy, geology and metallography.

Dr. Guertler defined an alloy as an amorphous matter, a mixture of crystals. All metals are crystallized and all alloys are crystallized mixtures. It is possible however to obtain two liquids which will not mix, analogous to oil and water. This is quite often the case, aluminium, and sodium for instance will not alloy, the sodium remaining at the top and the aluminium at the bottom of the mixture. In the case of lead and zinc each metal takes part of the other but no true alloy results. Thallium, lead and bismuth will not mix.

All metals in crystallizing follow the natural laws of crystallization of salts. The natural alloys, as meteorites, form very slowly in big crystals, of nickel and iron principally. Dr. Guertler showed several interesting slides on crystallization and methods, illustrating the forms of crystals and the surrounding eutectic or solid solution.

The great result that modern research has accomplished for the production of alloys is that now there are well defined rules and a scientific basis to go by. In mixing metals a man can tell with reasonable certainty what will happen. Heretofore the process has been more or less a matter of experimentation, usually unsatisfactory.

A projecting microscope of great enlarging powers was used to show the various forms of metallic crystallization.

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