CIVIL ENGINEERING COURSE

By Prof. Charles M. Spofford

The Architectural Society of the Institute, with a membership of about ninety men, has been quite active this year. There have been four student visits at which the Society has been addressed by men prominent in the various branches of the profession. At the first smoker Mr. Ernest Flagg, of New York City, spoke on "Some Subjects of Architectural Design." Mr. Flagg is one of the most prominent architects in this country, having designed such buildings as the Singer Tower and the Navesink Academy buildings at Newburgh. His talk was very instructive especially as it dealt largely with the French style for which Mr. Flagg stands quite firmly. The second smoker talk was given by Mr. J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., of the Boston firm of Coolidge & Carbon. Mr. Coolidge's subject was "The Details Between the Study and the Practice of Architecture," and the advice it contained was very well received and appreciated. Mr. Hugh Cairns of Boston, not gave a very interesting talk and demonstration showing his skill in architectural modeling. Mr. Cairns was the sculptor of the figure on the Trinity Church porch. Mr. Guy Lowell, also of Boston, and the designer of the new Art Museum, was the speaker at the last smoker. He outlined a three-month trip in Europe, a trip arranged as the first trip of a young architect whose finances are limited. This outline which included books to read, a trip in preparation, places to see, railroad fare, etc., was extremely valuable to members of the Society. The next prominent speaker will be the annual banquet in the early part of May.

This year we have tried out the scheme of having talks by members of the Society at the business meetings. These talks have included R. A. Burton, describing the European trip which he and J. H. Smith took last summer; one by C. C. Clark, '88, on the "Use of Precedent in American Architecture," and a most interesting paper by

Timothy W. Sprague, '87
Frederic H. Keyes, '93
Henry D. Jackson, '97

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R. H. Dunne, '11, describing the system and work of the office of McKim, Mead and White. It has been generally decided that this new scheme is a great success. April nineteenth there will be the annual Junior Week reception. The program plans include the most successful affair. The walls of the department will be covered with an exhibition of student work and also cartoons of many members of the Society. A short play with many local bits has been written and will be given by a wide cast selected by several of the students. About 400 invitations have been sent out in many of the friends will have a fine opportunity to see the department and its work. Another of the society's activities is the Technology Architectural Record. In this Record it publishes the work of undergraduate and alumni. After four years of publications the Record has fully proved its helpfulness to the students and its value as an institution's newspaper for the Institute.

Some years ago the proceeds from the Architectural Annual, which was the forerunner of the Record, were put in trust as the nucleus for a scholarship fund, the interest of which would become available when the fund amounted to $1,000. This amount will be reached this year.

PROF. C. F. ALLEN

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