

augurate a "forum," but owing to lack of support it was unsuccessful. President Pritchett in an article in the last Junior Week issue of THE TECH draws attention to the desirability of a "somewhat informal Debating Club, to be called the Tech Forum," whose proceedings shall be part of the Saturday evening meetings at the Union. Beyond this attempt and Dr. Pritchett's suggestion, nothing has been attempted at the Institute.

There is no doubt that a public forum would be of inestimable benefit to the student body, and highly desirable as a part of Tech life. The ability to express one's opinion, extemporaneously or after preparation, on matters of local or public interest, or in fact on any question, is an accomplishment which few men have. This "art of conversation" which Dr. Pritchett so strongly emphasizes, is a necessary part of an engineer's training, but unfortunately it has been neglected to give way to technical training. But of what avail is the engineer's technical skill if he cannot express his ideas in a concise, intelligent way to a party of capitalists or others interested in engineering enterprises? The doctrine of "flexibility of mind" might well be dilated upon here, but it is unnecessary. The fact remains that few men can stand up and give a straightforward talk on a subject, and if we can develop this accomplishment by means of a forum, it is our duty to do so at once in the most practical way. As Dr. Pritchett expressed it, "Why might not some class make its own name famous by taking up the idea of the Tech Forum and putting it into operation?"

OUR EXCHANGES.

THE large number of men at Tech who have at some time been connected with other colleges warrants the enlarging of our exchange list to include the leading papers of every important American college. Some of them are hard to reach

and the process will take time, but during the interval we will try to have on file in the General Library any college paper which a student may ask for. A signed note left at the "Cage" for the Secretary of the Board will insure the receipt by the desired paper of a copy of the next TECH, and if we receive their exchange the copies will be placed on file with the others, and if not, the fault is not ours. It is not only our pleasure but our duty to keep up this branch of our work, so the men need not hesitate to avail themselves of this offer, for we are not granting them a favor as much as they are doing one for us.

THE LOCAL CLUBS.

THE activity of several of the clubs made up of men from certain localities, notably the Wisconsin and the Missouri Clubs, point out the lack of such clubs here. Why is there no New York Club and no Philadelphia Club? There is always a field for such an organization; probably fifteen states have enough men here to make for each a respectable society, a third of the towns in eastern Massachusetts can say the same, and there is hardly a county in this state which has less than eight or ten men at Tech. Do these clubs pay to form? Ask any member of the already existing ones. Their formation is only a question of a bit of push on the part of one or two men, and every one connected will be the gainer by it. There can not be too many of these clubs, be they state, town, or school.

Senior Portfolio.

The following men have been nominated for the Senior Portfolio Committee: W. W. Cronin, E. Harrah, C. B. Williams, G. W. Eastman, G. H. Powell, A. Kemper, W. E. Hadley, R. Hazeltine, R. Faulkner, G. C. Riddell, A. C. Willard, A. M. Holcombe, E. T. Wood, C. R. Haynes, W. L. Cronin, B. Blum, W. A. Wentworth.