

A few weeks ago a notice desiring students interested in forming a German Society to send their names, course, etc., to Box 53 at the "Cage," was published. Apparently this has not met with a serious response. In comment it must be said that facility in the use of German is worth all the time such a club would take.

The rules of the Mining Engineering Society permit second year men to join in their second term. Course III. is exceptionally large this year and it is expected that large numbers will become members very soon. All men desirous of joining should send their names and addresses to the secretary, Mr. R. H. Allen. A number of interesting lectures are being arranged.

Regular meetings of the Journal Club will be held every Thursday afternoon at 4.15 P.M. instead of Wednesday. The program for the meeting of Feb. 18 was as follows: G. Richards, "Mining Experiences in Mexico;" W. G. Ball, "The Outlook for Mining in the New Territory Opened up by the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad;" G. F. Loughlin "On the Differentiation of Igneous Magmas and Formation of Ores."

Change in Military Department.

Capt. William Baird, who has been in charge of the military department as Professor of Military Science and Tactics for the past three and a half years, has been relieved from duty here, and detailed for duty with the militia of Maryland, on the governor's staff, as representative of the War Department. The Class of '07 presented Captain Baird with a new regulation sabre and belt last Saturday after Military Science.

In the absence of a regular army officer, Lieutenant Worcester, who has been Captain Baird's assistant, will assume charge of the department.

How Far Ahead is Tech?

The question is not infrequently asked, "Why do men from Sheffield and Lawrence Scientific School apparently get on as fast and rise to as responsible positions as graduates from Technology?" The question cannot be answered by a simple denial of its truth, for these men undoubtedly *do* gain as much in after life as our own graduates attain. Since the question cannot be settled by denial, an answer must be sought elsewhere.

In the first place we must consider that, while these men are grounded only in the fundamentals of their courses, and lack the minutely careful preparation we receive, they have at least one thing beyond our reach. Briefly, this is the advantage of college life. To the average Tech man who has never fairly considered the relative advantage of college life and our own undergraduate life, it seems absurd that college life should be so highly important a factor. He readily explains that Harvard and Yale men have a "pull" which we do not. Surely our reputation and the grade of society of the average Tech man offset entirely this idea, and force us to consider instead the advantages of college life.

Suppose a man enters college. We will consider that he may be awkward, shy, perhaps dressed in poor taste, perhaps a boor. At meals and in the evenings he has daily intercourse with well groomed, intelligent, upper class men, who treat his opinions with a respect to which he has perhaps been accustomed. He sees the difference in appearance between himself and his new acquaintances, and adopting their style, finds himself far more at ease. Keeping up with questions of the day, he gains a knowledge of affairs, and in daily conversation acquires a practical ability in expressing himself beyond mere affirmation and denial.

Suppose, instead, that this man comes to Tech. What opportunity does he have? Not living in a dormitory or a college house, he sees little of his fellow students except at reci-