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short talks. Among these might be mentioned plans for an engineering publication, for a united society among engineering students, and for greater publicity for the School of Engineering.

The affair was a very enjoyable one to all present and clearly demonstrated the usefulness of the new social room.

### Forestry Inspection Trip.

The Friday, January 17, Prof. Hugh P. Baker accompanied by four junior students in forestry left here to make a forestry inspection trip. At Harrisburg they were met by Mr. Sterling, forester for the P. R. R., who accompanied them to Pomeroy, about 40 miles west of Philadelphia. The effect of the Black Forest Borer and of mice on the tract of saplings which the P. R. R. has there were studied. From Pomeroy the party went to Philadelphia and then to Shenandoah to make a study of the forest conditions on the Stephen Girard Estate. This estate has some of the best plantings in the country, and some made as early as 1881. The main point of study here was the method of protection against fire. The trip was very interesting as well as educational and the students feel well paid for their trouble. Prof. Baker left the party at Shenandoah to attend a meeting of the U. S. Forestry Service in Washington.

### F. Hopkinson Smith.

The reading by Mr. F. Hopkinson Smith on last Friday evening was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience. Mr. Smith's reputation as a reader was fully appreciated by every one, and from start to finish he held his auditors as if spellbound.

From his "Colonel Carter of Cartersville," he read a few portions with such inimitable expression that he seemed to transfer his hearers to the scene to see "The Colonel" or

the old family servant, "Chad," in their every action.

He then read from his short stories, "Jonathan," "Captain Joe," "A Waterlogged Town," and "Five Meals for a Dollar." In each of these he held the attention of his audience to the very end, when they burst into spontaneous applause.

His reading was indeed a rare treat and it is hoped that his presence may be enjoyed again. "But," he said, "I'll only come back when there is a railroad to take me away."

### Penn Relay.s

The Penn Relays are arranged to take place on Saturday, April 25, on Franklin Field at Philadelphia. Penn State will be represented as usual and the prospects of winning in the class in which we are placed are very bright. Last year we were classed with Lafayette, Swarthmore, Ohio State, and Virginia, but the Penn management has for some reason broken up this arrangement. Syracuse, Swarthmore, and several others claim championship form but instead of being put in that class a special group is made up for them. The so called minor colleges are as follows: Second class—Syracuse, Georgetown, Amherst, Brown, Dartmouth, Swarthmore, Lafayette, and Ohio State.

Third class—Johns Hopkins, Penn State, Bucknell, Virginia, North Carolina, Williams, Wesleyan, Maine, and Mass. Tech.

### Campus Notes.

The Civil Engineering Society is now making arrangements with Mr. Newell, director of the United States Reclamation Service, and Mr. Snow, chief of the State Department of Health, to deliver lectures some time in the near future.

Those interested in chess please meet for a short time in room 130, Main Bldg., at 7:30 p. m., Friday, Feb. 14.