

society work which doubtless every member wishes.

It is the will of the societies to do the best possible thing for its members, but when the membership is so great that the practice and instruction in literary work which is desired is not obtained, it is high time that something be done. What shall it be? The question thus opened seemingly admits of but one answer: establish a third society. It may be folly thus to hazard an opinion, but any one who justly considers the matter can do naught but conclude that the good of all demands it. Where such a movement should take its start is a question for each to consider. Loyalty to his own society might prevent any present member from taking the lead in such a question. Let it start outside the limits of membership of our present societies. Whether such a start should be made by the Preparatory students or by the body of new students, they would receive the hearty support and co-operation of the members of both societies.

Under such auspicious circumstances success would surely attend the efforts of the few who would venture to be the starters of a new enterprise. These few words can only serve as a suggestion, but, if we succeed in placing the matter before the students for their thought and consideration, our purpose has been accomplished.

* * *

THE petition submitted to the Faculty some weeks since, requesting that students whose class standing for recitation work during the term is 85 or more, be exempted from examination at the close of the term, has never been answered. It would be a satisfaction in some sense to know at least what the action of the Faculty has been and what are their views. From the standpoint of the student we say that we think the change suggested by the petition is desirable. It has been adopted elsewhere, and is working satisfactory to students and Faculty. The good to be derived by the student in the study of any text-

book must be absorbed by him during the term; it can not be drunk in during the brief period immediately preceding examination.

If the student were exempted from examination on the conditions named, or some similar conditions, he would have a goal before his eyes as regards this matter. As it now is we have the necessary evil, examination, assured in any case. It will be admitted that in the case of those who now make high term grades examinations would be unnecessary. Would these persons not then make their high term standing doubly sure by increased carefulness in their daily work? In the case of those who now approximate the lower limit of exemption proposed, would there not be increased effort? If fear of examination in prospect at the close of the term will cause a student to exert himself, will not the hope of escaping it do so? Would there not be less opportunity and temptation to some classes of students to practice dishonesty? Would there not be more careful study in preparation for the detailed work of the recitation room than is now given in order to get a syllabus of the term's work, which is likely to appear in examination? In the case of those whose ambition would not be roused the right of examination would be reserved. Moreover, the week of examination could be spent in further pursuit of the branches being studied.

* * *

THE engineering students have at last organized a society, the object of which is to awaken a more lively interest among students pursuing engineering courses in the work of the engineer. The means of awakening this interest will be by holding regular meetings, at which papers prepared on live subjects will be read and discussed. The benefits to be derived by discussing engineering topics of the day are many. (1) It acquaints the student with matters not intended to be taught in the class room, owing to the limited time of a college course, and yet of invaluable worth to the professional man. (2) It