

THE VARSITY.

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TORONTO, NOVEMBER 4th, 1903

STRENUOUS and, generally speaking, successful efforts are being made to organize the alumni of the University of Toronto throughout Canada into associations which shall have for their aims the promotion of the best interests of Alma Mater, and the education of the public to appreciate the necessity of further support. With these efforts we are in hearty sympathy. We rejoice at the success attending them.

It is but fair, however, to assume that the reason why so much effort is necessary to organize our graduates is that they were not properly organized as undergraduates. If a proper University spirit had been cultivated in the latter it would not need so much nourishment in the former.

And here we naturally ask whether there is any improvement in this matter evident to-day, or shall we continue to drive the mill with water which has run past? There is grave danger that we may be so busy reclaiming the prodigals that we may fail to develop fully the sons at home.

We, as undergraduates, are expected to work for the University along the lines of her recognized policy. We are assured of the existence of great and imminent questions with which we may be called upon to deal. We hear of momentous issues, of crises. How many of us have been taken into confidence regarding these questions? How much do we know regarding the policy of the University and her needs aside from what we hear indirectly? It may be because experience has proved the wisdom of the words, "You are too young your powers to understand," or, as Prof. Cody said on Friday evening, "There is a danger of University men being treated as children."

We do feel that for some reason or other we are not in close touch with either the faculty or the governing

bodies of the University. As a proof of this it is only necessary to instance the confessions of popular and proficient professors that they *know* only three or four in their special honor departments.

We are sure that there are many men among the undergraduates who can be trusted with greater confidence by those who control the destinies of the University, and ought to be brought into closer touch with the faculty especially. Just how this may best be done we may venture to suggest on a future occasion. The accomplishment of it cannot but tend to develop us as individuals, knit the several units of the University more closely together, and result in permanent benefit to our combined interests.

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HALLOWE'EN is again a matter of history. After the regrettable occurrences of last year, in which the students, while doing some damage, were blamed for much more than they were guilty of, and many innocent students suffered at the hands of over-zealous policemen, it was felt that, for this year at least, it would be well to omit the regular street parade. Nor is it right to suppose that this idea obtained in the minds of the faculty alone. It was general among the students, and both the faculty and the undergraduate body united in an effort to provide suitable entertainment at home. As a result, dinners or receptions were held in the several faculties. All agree that this has been a pleasant and profitable means of celebrating this historic night. The day of wanton destruction on the part of students is past. No longer will it be possible for others, under cover of our parades, to wilfully destroy property. We have invented a more pleasant and dignified manner of working off our surplus energy. For this we are glad.

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OUR Rugby team has been successful once more. The game on Saturday was a splendid example of Toronto's staying power. Unless over-confidence creeps in, there is no reason to doubt her ultimate success. The conduct of the spectators exhibited a prominent present-day tendency—the disposition to applaud achievement and to remain silent on the unsuccessful issue of worthy effort. When Beatty punted or Baldwin made a phenomenal run, the onlookers were quick to show their appreciation, but when our score was not increasing and our men needed most encouragement, all were silent. This may be natural, but it is certainly not conducive to plucky up-hill work. We need organized rocting, which will be most hearty at critical moments rather than when some notable play has been made.