

# VARSAITY

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## THE VARSITY.

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## Topics of the Hour.

The grand memorial which the graduates of Toronto University laid before the Government has not resulted in the desired legislation for an increase of graduate representation upon the Senate of that institution. Still, the agitation to that end has been most advantageous in its general influence. It has created another band of union among our graduates and has brought them into closer and more intelligent sympathy with one another. Through this agitation, also, the university public, have discovered the exact attitude which the representatives of University College and the other affiliated institutions are pleased to assume towards the graduates and their purposes. This is a most important fact and one which our graduates will doubtless keep well in mind. It sufficiently ex-

plains the mystery of the recent appointment and will throw considerable light on what else might have been a secret and powerful opposition policy in the future.

As the time approaches for the annual election by Convocation of its representatives in the Senate of the University, our graduates are desirous of knowing who are likely to be put forward as candidates, and what are their recommendations. And good candidates are particularly required at the present moment. The graduate representatives now in the Senate—most of them, at least—are fighting a good battle in behalf of their constituents, and the strengthening of their hands is a thing to be much desired, for they have a strong opposition to contend against, much of which, however, comes from quarters from which might rather have been expected sympathy and support. Men must be chosen, then, whose position is clear, unambiguous and firm. Two such men are already in the field: Mr. E. B. Edwards, M.A., LL.B., will be nominated from Peterborough, and Mr. J. A. Culham, M.A., from Hamilton. Both these gentlemen have been for years among the most active members of Convocation, and have done much in their respective counties towards working up strong graduate associations and developing university feeling and interest. In addition to this they promise—a promise we think they will keep to the letter—to attend regularly the meetings of the Senate, which not a few of our graduate representatives have undertaken in the past with apparently little intention of carrying it out. We think that Messrs. Edwards and Culham would represent in the Senate the views of Convocation on all the important questions now under consideration, which are likely soon to be considered, in our University government, and that they would give plain expression to those views, without hesitancy or fear. In our opinion, Convocation could not do better than elect these gentlemen as two of their representatives during the next five years.

In view of the great recognized needs of other departments of learning in University College, we felt called upon recently to protest against the creation of a new chair in Oriental languages. The method of procedure in the case was also irregular and open to serious objection. The VARSITY will continue to protest against this policy of secrecy in the conduct of University and College affairs. The university public have a right to know the reasons why such an important step was taken, not only without the advice of the Senate, but even without the knowledge of that body. While objecting to the manner in which this chair was created, we are not, however, precluded from a proper appreciation of the gentleman who fills it. It is not to be supposed that the sins of an official superior are to be visited on him. An imprudence in the matter of announcements gave occasion to one of our contributors for a humorous article which, we are told, was