

Chemistry. Looking at the third year's work we see Technical Chemistry. On first thoughts one would think that surely there had been some mistake, yet the third year students find to their sorrow and disgust that they are expected to master this subject.

In Mineralogy the whole study of Systematic Mineralogy, with, perhaps, the exception of a slight drill on the optical characters of Minerals, might profitably be eliminated from the course. For example, how many of the successful Mining Engineers of to-day know, or care to know, the explanation of a "Solution plane," or that "The arms of a percussion figure on a cubic crystal of Halite are parallel to the dodecahedral faces." Yet the whole of the second year's work in Mineralogy is of about as much practical value as the example given.

Time and time again we have heard the question asked: "What earthly use are these subjects to a practical Mining Engineer?" and so far no one has been able to solve the problem. On one occasion we heard a professor say in reply to such a question that the students should consider the aesthetic side of their studies not merely the financial. This is all very well but stern necessity will not let us entirely overlook the money view. The fact is that the great majority of the students are taking this course with a view to bettering their condition, and could not the time spent on these subjects be more profitably employed in Engineering and Mathematical studies, or in increasing their knowledge of rocks and minerals from a prospector's standpoint.

While every Mining Engineer should have a general knowledge of

all subjects connected with his work, still the ground to be covered is so great, that this knowledge must be superficial in all subjects that are not absolutely necessary if he is to make his own special work a success, and we think that the subjects referred to, while very suitable for a specialist's course, should, if not altogether omitted from the Mining course, at least be optional.

## Athletics.

### INTERCOLLEGIATE HOCKEY.

#### BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE.

ON Saturday evening before the rush for seats at the Intercollegiate dinner table, a special meeting of the delegates from McGill, Varsity and Queen's was held in the drawing room of the British American Hotel to discuss the possibility of forming an Intercollegiate Hockey Union. This is a theme that has come up before for discussion, but in this instance action was necessitated by a resolution recently passed in the Alma Mater Society of Queen's, advocating such an organization. The sister universities promptly responded to the challenge by sending delegates to Kingston to discuss the matter.

Mr. Clifford R. Gilmour, president of McGill hockey club, journeyed to Kingston as a special convener, and with Mr. Percy Molson, voiced the opinions of the eastern university. Captain Jack McCollum, of the champion rugby team, outlined the Varsity position, while Queen's was represented by secretary Jack McDowall, vice-pres. Dalton and president Weatherhead. Mr. Gilmour, in a neat, forcible speech, expressed the enthusiastic support that old McGill had invariably