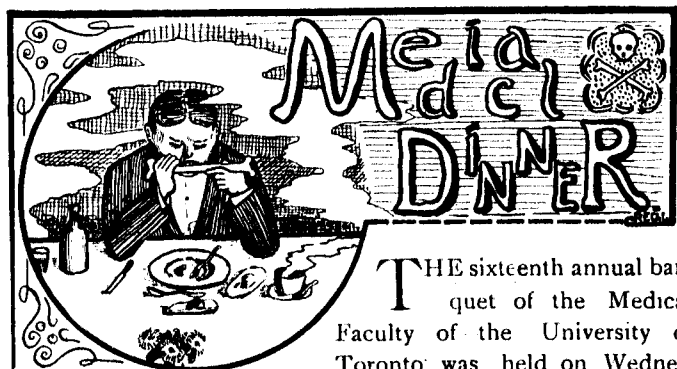


THE MEDICAL DINNER.



THE sixteenth annual banquet of the Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto was held on Wednesday evening, December 3, in the Gymnasium, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. It was in every respect the most successful of all of the sixteen, and the committee in charge well merited the praise given them by Professor Reeve in moving a vote of thanks to the President at the close of the function.

The dinner was in Webb's best style, and the menu cards were works of art. The front page in the University blue and white, was crossed by the red, white and black of the Faculty, and the centre was taken up by a cut of the new Medical building. The back was decorated with the pictures of Professors Reeve and Primrose, Dean and Secretary of the Faculty, set in medallions joined by a scroll in the college colors. The other pages contained the items of the menu and the toast list in red interspersed by quotations apt and witty, and original drawings in blue. The drawings were by Messrs. Walker, '03, and McKinley, '05, and were well executed sketches of professors and students in various incidents of college life that have thereby become immortal. During the dinner, with the encouragement of the orchestra, all of the old songs and a few of the new were sung, and then, when the cigars had been passed, Mr. R. F. Foster, President of the Committee, addressed the assembly and gave the first toast, "The King," which was received with full honors. Dr. Peters, Honorary President of the Committee, proposed "Our Country" in a vigorous speech, and to it the Hon. Geo. E. Foster replied in an eloquent address that stirred the latent patriotism of every man present, and especially those of Imperialistic leanings. Mr. Byron E. Walker proposed "The University of Toronto and its Faculty of Medicine," speaking of the duty of the Government to provide for university maintenance by direct taxation or other means ensuring a permanent and stated income. Vice-Chancellor Moss and Dean Reeve made thoughtful and sanguine replies to the toast. "The Professions" was offered by Dr. Barker, of the University of Chicago, and a Graduate in Medicine from Toronto in the class of '90, in a speech dealing with educational tendencies in the United States. On behalf of the Church, reply was made by Rev. Prof. Clarke, of Trinity University, and Law was represented by Mayor Howland. Everyone regretted the indisposition that prevented Senator Landerkin from responding to the toast on behalf of Medicine.

Mr. James Biggar, '03, in a most happy speech proposed "Sister Institutions," and replies were given by Messrs. H. E. Munro, of McGill; J. Graham, of Queen's; J. Webber Kelly, of Bishops; F. Campbell, of the Western; C. H. Duggan, of Trinity; D. A. Walker, of Victoria; F. E. Brown, B.A., of Osgoode; W. N. Sesmith, of University College; R. W. Morley, of S.P.S.; R. L. Dudley, of the Dental College; J. P. McFarlane, of the O.C.P., and James Little, B.A., of Knox College. Prof. McKenzie proposed "The Ladies," and R. Leslie Clarke, '05, replied in what Professor Primrose characterized as a philosophical romance as he rose to propose "The Freshmen." To this toast, Mr. H. A. Stewart, '06, made an

effective response, when the singing of the National Anthem brought the banquet to a close.

Early in the evening, Mr. G. A. Winters, '03, Secretary of the Committee, read letters of regret from His Excellency the Governor-General and members of the Federal Government, from Hon. G. W. Ross and the heads of various colleges and universities, as well as from several other prominent men unable to be present. The programme of speeches was also pleasantly varied by a violin solo by Dr. Wagner and several fine songs splendidly sung by Mr. Arthur Blight.

ORIENTAL ASSOCIATION.

The second meeting of the Oriental Association on Tuesday, December 2, was a decided success. The attendance was large and the lecturer most interesting. Dr. Murison had as his subject, "The Earliest History of Egypt." The origin of the Egyptians was noted and their history brought down to the 18th dynasty. The portrayal of the old customs, manners and religious practices of this ancient people was very vivid. The past veritably lived over again. The lecture was illustrated by a valuable collection of ancient Egyptian relics, recently presented to Victoria College by the Exploration Fund and kindly loaned to the Association for the afternoon. The discussion that followed the address was led by Professor McLoughlin and Dr. McCurdy.

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, December 16 at 4 p.m. in the Oriental Seminary, when Mr. R. G. McKay, the president, will address the meeting on, "Metrical Forms in the Psalms." An instructive and interesting afternoon is assured to all who come.

T. J. M.

THE ECONOMIC THEORY OF DIMINISHING RETURNS
APPLIED TO STUDENT LABOR.

TO MOST students it must seem a piece of rude irony that the term used to designate our daily toil meant in the original tongue "to be fond of." We all feel at times, in varying degrees, the ecstasy of the seeker after knowledge, but the inconvenient regularity with which we are required to prosecute the search frequently begets an admitted weariness, any tendency to yield to which is disapproved and indeed vetoed by the haunting prospect of the annual test, and so the pretty general experience is that "studio" comes to have the unclassical rendering "I labor." Apart from this, however, is the fact that study, even when it is a matter of pleasure and the voluntary motive (for a brief space) supersedes the compulsory, is labor, in the sense that it requires the expenditure of energy and involves the exercise of the mental organ whose capacity for work, like that of every other organ, is necessarily limited.

The law of diminishing returns is applied by economists to the productivity of land and, in short, states that after a certain amount of labor and capital has been applied to land any further expenditure, while it will bear some fruits, will not have the same rate or proportion of increase to the labor and capital used, but will be found to yield "diminishing returns." Does not this idea admit of application to our student labors? There is a limit to the yield of mental labor as well as to the more purely economic; for we all have reason to know that there is a point of time in the history of each day's work when any further effort is attended by diminishing returns (at least). But it is not in a strict application of the economic principle that the student feels its force in his particular realm, but rather in a deviation or addition not used in the economic field, namely, in that after reaching the point past which come the diminishing returns there is the additional possibility and in many cases the grave danger of positive and irremediable injury being sustained.

It is sufficiently agreed by all (as Cicero would phrase it),