

## Queen's University Journal.

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## Editorials.

### Y.M.C.A. CONFERENCE.

IN another column will be found a report of the Intercollegiate Y. M. C. A. Conference recently held at Queen's, the first of its kind in the history of our Canadian universities. Both from a University and from an Association standpoint the effect promises to be a thoroughly satisfactory one. In the past the relations between the Canadian universities have not been of the most cordial character; indeed in too many cases they have been strongly tinged with jealousy and suspicion. But we believe that we are now seeing the dawn of a better era. Our universities are beginning to understand each other better; they are coming to see that in a country like ours, rapidly expanding in population and wealth, there need be no serious clash of interests. Each may find plenty of scope for its energies, and not only so, but if the higher life of the nation, in all its departments, is to receive its proper development, all must join together heartily

in the work—with different systems and methods it may be, but yet with a common national aim. To the strengthening of this better feeling such gatherings as the recent one will, we are sure, materially contribute. Men from the different colleges, representative men no doubt, have become acquainted with one another, have talked over their academic work, compared notes as to methods and results and have returned home to impart to their own university circles wider ideas regarding the sister universities and to stir up a deeper sympathy with the work these are doing and with the faculties and student-bodies of which they are composed.

Each association also will benefit largely by the conference, both by having come into closer contact with the other societies that are engaged in similar fields of labor and by the help that each has received from the other. In regard to the Association work the addresses and discussion revealed the fact that the aim of all the Associations is one, and that all recognize the fact that their work is so essential to the best life of the university that it must be pushed with ever-increasing vigor. In many particulars methods were found to vary. Some societies had found success along lines that others had never thought of trying, and more than one delegate left the conference determined to make a trial in his home society of some of these new methods of which he had learned.

One of the most interesting features of the conference was the discussion on Bible Study. The common opinion of the delegates seemed to be that the encouragement of this