

THE COLLEGE GIRL

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THINGS, so far as the College Girl is concerned, seem to be going in the "even tenor of their way." Christmas gaieties are past and gone, so are our procrastinations. Already a certain expression is beginning to appear on surrounding faces, which, though translatable in various ways, to the initiated or, I may add, "fellows in misery," means something like "do it or die." The contrast between the expression worn to-day and that universally noticed four weeks ago is in one sense quite appalling, and yet it has its ludicrous side. It certainly would supply excellent working material for a chapter in "Afterthoughts" or "Memories of the Past and Forecasts of the Future."

We all, beyond a doubt, came to college last October with a firm determination to distinguish ourselves this year if we never did before. Some of us thought we had profited by experience, and therefore would shun with brave self-denial the allurements which heretofore had charmed us from the straight and narrow path of self-improvement, or, in other words, of "work."

Others, in not quite such an outspoken spirit of utter self-abnegation, were far-seeing enough and, shall we say, honest enough, to affirm that "they knew they would not get much work done before Christmas," thereby shocking the most self-righteous of us at the time. But alas and alack for brave resolutions and weak executions!

By the time November had come even the most dutiful had, for the time being, cast all warning whispers to the winds, and blindly, yea, trustingly, we went on our merry way. In December how regretfully astonished, forsooth, were we to find into what "fantasies of the brains" all our brave resolutions concerning the interests of life in general and of college life in particular, had resolved themselves!

And yet, despite the fact that we have found ourselves deluded—nay, more bitter to relate, *self*-deluded—and now, in the intervals, sadly realize that, truly indeed, "what we call time enough always proves little enough," we somehow feel perversely glad that, after all, "poor old experience was mocked with thanks for her instruction," and that we didn't commit the egregious error of condensing all aspects of education, including physical, social and moral, into the intellectual, with a capital I.

After all, we are not surprised to find that we have our fair share of the foibles of human nature, and we comfort ourselves with the reflection that, just as "slang" is said to be the life of a language, so it may perhaps be that the life of a college is best demonstrated by the wide-awake state of its students—even if, to keep wide awake, 'tis at times necessary to lose sight of the library shelves and the volumes thereon.

Life, like literature, needs the inspiration which idealism quickens and promotes. Idealistic days, 'tis true, are over for the present, but we do not regret having had them. They have but given us inspiration for the intensely practical days to come. "The young future is nurtured by the past, yet aspires to a nobler life." "Let us, then, be up and doing, and doing to the purpose, so by diligence shall we do with less perplexity."

A. R.

THE LIT.

THE first regular meeting of The Lit for the Easter term was held Friday evening, with a debate as the "piece de resistance."

Secretary Day's appearance without a gown was not to the liking of the crowd, but he won forgiveness by cutting the minutes short. The vice-president in the chair mooted the project of a University College At-Home. Messrs. Gillie's, Odell, Baird, McAllister, Megan and O'Leary expressed views on the matter and it was resolved to hold an At-Home in the first week of February.

Mr. French presented the following resolutions from the Executive Committee:

1. That Mr. C. J. Allan and Mr. W. Morrison be the leaders of the Government and Opposition respectively in a Mock Parliament to be held next Friday evening—carried.

2. That the following constitute the At-Home Committee:

Fourth year:—Messrs. W. H. McGuire, (chairman), H. L. Hoyles, C. M. Colquhoun, J. G. Lorrimer, H. W. O'Flynn, W. Morrison.

Third year:—Messrs. W. J. K. Vanston, H. G. O'Leary, L. Eedy, G. Ballard.

Second year:—Messrs. Philips, Mason and Balfour.

First year:—Messrs. McCreary and Lang—carried.

Mr. Megan, as chairman of the Dinner Committee, reported that the attendance at the dinner had been larger than in previous years and that in consequence the committee had been able to meet all its liabilities.

This concluded the business of the evening and the society turned its attention to the literary programme. Mr. Arch. Toulds, accompanied by Mr. Collins, was roundly encouraged for his violin solo, and Mr. Bilky sang "Crossing the Bar" with effect.

Now came the event of the evening, the debate on the proposition. "Resolved that Canada should contribute to an Imperial fund for the General Defence of the Empire." Mr. Munro '05 and Mr. Harrison '04 suggested the affirmative and Mr. Hofferd '06 and Mr. McKinnon '03 the negative. Messrs. Megan, Gillies and Vanston were appointed judges.

Mr. Munro, in introducing the delegate, urged the necessity and difficulty of defending the Empire. It was time for Canada to assume international responsibilities as she was assuming international relations. Canada was able to contribute to the navy, a force essential to the protection of Canadian commerce manufacturers and produce.

Mr. Hofferd contended that Canada should be the granary and not military support of the Empire. A satisfactory means of controlling the expenditure of the fund had not been suggested. Canada should develop self-reliance and the alternative of a Canadian navy was proposed. Canada was not in a position to spend more on military matters than she had, and the proposition altogether was reactionary.

Mr. Harrison represented the Empire's need of our aid. We were unable to defend ourselves single-handed, and by our aid alone could the navy of the United States be prevented from surpassing that of Great Britain. Canada's contribution to defence was insignificant when compared with that of Great Britain. Canada was in danger from the United States and her safety lay in the closer consolidation of the Empire.

Mr. McKinnon levied the possibility of such a contribution securing us representation in an Imperial council. In the past Canadian interests had always been sacrificed to Imperial interests. We should look to our own interests and develop our own resources. Our contribution would not lessen the burdens of the English taxpayer, nor, indeed, was the navy necessary to protect our commerce. It was unwise to bind our future or encourage militarism. He ended with a brilliant peroration on the works of the Hague arbitration tribunal.

Mr. Munro replied effectively to some of the arguments of the negative, but after some consideration the judges awarded the debate to the negative.