

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES.

THE HONORABLE GORDON HUNTER, B.A., K.C., CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE Honorable Gordon Hunter, B.A., K.C., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, is the eldest son of J. Howard Hunter, M.A., K.C., who for many years has held the office of Inspector of Insurance, Registrar of Loan Corporations and Registrar of Friendly Societies in this Province, and takes his christian name from the family of his mother, whose maiden name was Annie Gordon.

Chief Justice Hunter was born at Beamsville, Ontario, on May 4, 1863, and received his preparatory training at the Brantford Collegiate Institute. He matriculated in 1881, and took a brilliant course at University College. In addition to a number of scholarships he was the winner of the Lorne and Lansdowne Medals Awards for general proficiency in the Second and Third Years, and graduated with high honors in Classics and Modern Languages in 1885. In that year he entered the Law Society of Upper Canada, and became a law student in the office of Messrs. McCarthy, Osler, Hoskin & Creelman, where he had the advantage of an intimate association with the late Mr. Dalton McCarthy, for whom he prepared some of the most important briefs ever held by that eminent counsel. Mr. Hunter was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1888, but soon went to British Columbia—at that time the centre of attraction to the active spirits among the younger members of the local bar. In 1892 Mr. Hunter was called to the Bar of that Province, and settled in Victoria. He was the first official law reporter to the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and afterwards became the editor of the Provincial Law Reports. He was appointed the Crown Solicitor for that Province, but resigned that position in 1894 to form a partnership with the late Hon. Theodore Davie, the Attorney-General of British Columbia. This partnership continued until Mr. Davie was appointed Chief Justice of the Province, on the death of Sir Matthew Bigbie. Mr. Hunter's sound knowledge of law, and his success as an advocate have been generally acknowledged; he was appointed one of His Majesty's Counsels by the Provincial Government, and declined the offer of the Gold Commissionership in the Yukon from the Dominion. The Chief Justiceship was offered to Mr. Hunter early in the present year, and his acceptance of that high office was received by the profession and the press with the strongest expressions of general approval.

His classmates and his many student friends of the early 80's have watched Gordon Hunter's advancement in the profession with great interest, and they will unite with Varsity in wishing for the new Chief Justice a long career of judicial distinction.

COLLEGE PRAYERS.

“**L**A QUESTION de Dieu,” says a Frenchman, with the French gift of putting a large expression into a few words, “manque d'actualité.”

The question has always been, and will always be, unreal to a large number of mature men and to a certain number of mature women. It is not generally unreal to childhood or youth any more than to old age. In the hope, faith, charity and generous idealism of youth, it has often found a reality and an evidence which doubters can never undermine.

It the past it has been pressed upon youth by the system of compulsory attendance in most places. Of the effect of this system opinions will always differ. Familiarity with sacred things and names perfunctorily repeated is apt to breed contempt; it is apt, no less, in more susceptible minds, to deposit unconsciously refining associations, such as are transmitted into later life like a breath or memory of health.

In the irreverent spirit of the eighteenth century, such compulsory attendance was even made a punishment for breaches

of discipline—the offender against the college laws was made an unwilling ministrant at the Christian mysteries.

With the disappearance of this irreverence, compulsory attendance has in many places disappeared as an incongruity. Attendance itself, in consequence has fallen off, sometimes so far as to raise the question whether the service should be continued. Something of this sort has happened to ourselves, not because the Undergraduate in Arts or Medicine of to-day is more indifferent to the why and whither than his predecessors—he is conspicuously less so—but because he is more busy, and comes to his college for practical purposes and has little time to spare.

Beneath these questions, and fused with them, lies the ultimate of all questions, the question of character, which has never “lacked actuality,” and which is of more vital importance to the world to-day even than all the characteristic triumphs of material science.

It has been represented to me that our college prayers as hitherto conducted have been poorly attended, and partly on account of the place and time, thrust into a lecture-room occupied before and after their reading for other purposes, and into a few minutes intervening between lectures in perhaps widely different parts of the building. They did not seem to possess a local habitation or a name in their own right, or to represent the “two or three” to whom the promise was made. Some who remained to pray had intended only Latin prose—some who would have been present were prevented.

After conference with the various years, and other representatives of the student body, I have decided to change the hour and place, so that the prayers shall begin the work of the day and shall have their own place. They will be read on and after Monday, November 3, at ten minutes to nine, in the East Hall. The hour is rather early—a prayer is not much if it is not also a sacrifice. They will be necessarily limited to the reading of a few verses of the Bible, and a few prayers suitable to members of any denomination. The College represents, not Godlessness, but undenominational Christianity, an academic dream in the minds of many good people. Some dreams are too good to be true; but, at any rate, it is a dream which appears to be in the air, and to be drawing all the churches together with a good deal of force.

MAURICE HUTTON.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

THE second meeting of the Engineering Society of the School of Practical Science was held on Wednesday, October 29, with the President in the chair.

Dr. Galbraith gave the address of the day, treating the question of “The Heating and Ventilation of Modern Buildings,” or, more particularly, of scientific laboratories and the buildings containing them. He referred chiefly to the systems which had been inspected in connection with the design of the heating and ventilating plant of the new Chemistry and Mining building. The scheme which had been adopted for the latter was, in his opinion, the best yet devised.

In approaching the subject, the Principal wished his hearers to remember that only in the newest buildings had the problem of scientific ventilation been solved at all. Among all the buildings that the speaker had visited, few had anything like an adequate system. In the Pittsburg and Lake Erie Railroad station, Pittsburg, Pa., he had found an admirable plant for heating and ventilation, the design of which, he was pleased to state, was largely due to a Graduate of the School, Mr. A. R. Raymer, '84, who is at present assistant chief engineer of the road. The systems in use in the Chemistry building of the University of Pennsylvania and in the Chemistry and Mining building of McGill were very good indeed.

The speaker then rapidly outlined the proposed system of ventilation for the new Chemistry and Mining building, which,