

The Varsity

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TORONTO, DECEMBER 15, 1911

THE LIBRARY

A good wine needs no bush, but a good play is the better for a prologue. Hence, a good library may be the better for some recognition. The scope of the library is great and little known. The average student rarely ventures outside his 'prescribed reading.' The School men hold themselves down to texts. But much can (and will) be said in praise of browsing. There are undoubtedly some leisure hours in our days, which can be no better occupied than in a little promiscuous reading. The Library's shelves contain everything from the ancient classics to G. K. Chesterton's latest epigram. This range suits everyone's taste as far as leisure reading is concerned.

It is the intention of the Varsity to introduce a 'Library Column' once a week, in which a list of noteworthy books will be published. The list will be headed by a short notice descriptive of the best volume in the list. The list of half-a-dozen that follows, will be accompanied by a few words relative to contents. The column will not be restricted to literary works. Any good but neglected texts will receive honourable mention. And also, announcements of all new books will be given.

This feature, we feel sure, will meet with the approval of a number of our readers; and to some who have no means of satisfying their desire for a little modern literature, it will prove a source of trustworthy information.

TOO EXPENSIVE

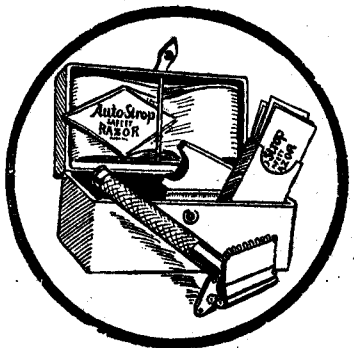
As we glance down the list of "Coming Events," we note, with some satisfaction, that there are no more dinners imminent. Not that we are posing as *ennuis*, far from it, for every dinner (not many) which we have attended has provided an immense amount of enjoyment. But there has been disappointment. In the first place, the dinners have really cost too much, and in the second place there were not enough, not nearly enough of our undergraduate body present.

We are frank. We believe that monetary considerations alone prevented a couple of hundred Arts men from attending the University College Dinner. We do not believe that the dinner itself is the main attraction in the time-honored institution bearing that name. The joy and enthusiasm of the gathering, together with the inspiration which comes from clever addresses by the prominent guests who grace our festive board are what we chiefly desire in a dinner. And yet we pay from one to two dollars and a half for a rather unexceptional meal as a mere preface to the pleasures which we really desire.

Would it not be possible, then, to minimize the extent and the importance of eating, and devote ourselves to songs, joviality and speeches? We want the dinners; we want more of them (the speeches and conviviality, at least) and yet they are too great a drain on our pockets.

Would it be possible to hold "dinners" consisting mainly of coffee and cigarettes, after the manner of the German students, cut expenses in half and spend the bulk of our money on good orchestral music and decorations. The speeches would reach a great many more men, there would be more "plain living and high thinking" and a great deal of wasteful expenditure eliminated.

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CORRESPONDENCE

ORGANIZED YELLING.

The Editor of The Varsity:

Dear Sir:—I should like to be allowed to express my feelings on the subject of "organized yelling," as it is termed, in your columns. I have been a regular attendant on all the Intercollegiate football matches at the Stadium this year, and every time my ears have been afflicted with the praises of "Trono 'Varsity'" from the lungs of its sturdy supporters. Why should this continue? What benefit does it confer? It were much better to return to the English idea of continual shouting than to train special men to shout doggerel. It detracts the attention of the spectators, and of the students themselves from the football match, to see which all presumably have come, and it shows to the chance on-looker a most undesirable side of University life. It has been advanced that this yelling is a healthy exercise for the lungs; very well, but let us return then to the English system afore-mentioned, in which every man yells as much as, and what he likes, and nobody tires of it. Also, to my eye the sight of a man waving a baton like a monkey on a stick in front of a mass of men who are shouting nonsense is excessively absurd. I suppose it is done in all the American colleges, but why on earth should it be done here? This University has established its position as the foremost institution of its kind in Canada, and would our lack of "organized yelling" imperil this position? Hoping to hear a reasonable defence of this practise, I remain,

Yours sincerely,
H.W.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER

ABSENT MINDEDNESS

One of the fruits (or should I say flowers) of academism is absent-mindedness. It is a malady that affects peculiarly the studious. A mild mannered student enters a tobacconist's to buy a packet of Old Gold, and is prevailed upon by a wily clerk to purchase also one of those automatic gasoline pipe-lighters. Two hours later, he fishes it from his vest pocket, snaps it open and shut several times, and wonders what the dickens the thing is. He finally decides that it is a toy he had bought in one of his kindlier moments for his baby brother. This decision when acted upon causes domestic infelicity. The absent-minded young man is given ten dollars with which to pay some fees. Three days after, while hunting through his capacious pockets for a match or a meal-ticket, he pulls forth the money, and for the life of him, he can not remember how he came by it. He concludes that the good fairies have given it to him, so that he can buy that edition de luxe of Kipling he has been coveting. More infelicity! Curbstones cause the absent-minded man much unhappiness. He walks along, his thoughts far from worldly things, and suddenly, to his misfortune of his pipe, his books and his dignity—bump goes his left leg down ten inches.

Alas! there is no cure for absent-mindedness. When one is trying to remember not to be absent, one usually forgets that one is smoking one's pipe in the lecture room.

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The great commercial development in the past few years in the use of steel alloys, for all purposes where a steel of great hardness or of special mechanical qualities is required, renders the consideration of molybdenum of special interest to Canadian engineers on account of the number of workable deposits to be found in Canada. Ores of molybdenum occur in Canada in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia. In view of this it is gratifying to read that molybdenum is to be regarded as an important factor of steel alloys in the near future, and will, on account of the quantities to be found in Canada, no doubt give a great impetus to the steel industries of this country. An article which includes historical notes of the discovery and isolation of this element, a list of its ores, a consideration of the various methods of dressing the ore, and some analyses of Canadian ores, is to be found in the "Canadian Engineer" for December 7, 1911.

Some men we know pay something down, but never up.

Peyps was the man who stuck to it after deciding to write a diary.

Some people get angry because they can't plant birdseed and raise canaries.

The boy who tells his mother he is going to run away, loses his determination when she offers to pack his grip.

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The Royal Military College of Canada

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education.

The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills, and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

Commissions in all branches of the Imperial service and Canadian Permanent Force are offered annually.

The diploma of graduation, is considered by the authorities conducting the examination for Dominion Land Surveyor to be equivalent to a university degree, and by the Regulations of the Law Society of Ontario, it obtains the same examinations as a B.A. degree.

The length of the course is three years, in three terms of 9 1/2 months each.

The total cost of the course, including board, uniform, instructional material, and all extras, is about \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College, takes place in May of each year, at the headquarters of the several military districts.

For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont.; or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

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