

such tendencies in connection with the life of this University? Let us give all honor to those who do become great athletes, but not imagine that the making of athletes is our alma mater's primary function.

We have thus wandered away from the subject of the rowing club, to discuss the matter of university athletics generally. We have tried to show what we consider should be the right way in which to regard this important side of our life. If our position is understood, one can see how we could not do otherwise than welcome this new movement, which has taken its rise during the past week. By all means let us have diversity in this as in other matters. All cannot become active oarsmen, but this is not necessary for a prosperous realization of the idea of a rowing club. Let but those who have an aptitude in this direction show what they are able to accomplish, and, in time, we believe that our athletic achievements upon the water will, at least, equal those upon what is to most of us our more native element.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Literary Society came to order last Friday evening, at the appointed and customary hour. The genial President was unable to attend longer than was necessary for the preliminary executive meeting. In his absence Mr. J. H. Hancock, Vice-President, filled the chair, a position for which he is becoming, mentally and physically, more capable each succeeding week. The audience was not unusually large, but of normal proportion, seeing that there were no elections of any kind in view. Mr. L. H. Tasker, fourth year Councillor, was substituted for the Recording Secretary, and read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted, *nem. con.* The first hour was taken up in discussing business pertaining to the Conversat. Mr. George Black, as Secretary of the Conversat. Committee, was expected to make a report in accordance with a motion by Mr. Dingman at the last meeting, setting forth the proposed allotment of moneys to the various Conversat. committees. Having received no such communication, he announced that he was "not prepared." Several of the members insisted, and, but for the timely interference of Mr. Little, who took Mr. Dingman into his confidence and persuaded him that he was misinformed as to the doings of the Executive, there was every prospect of a "scene." Upon the motion of Mr. C. H. Clegg, the report was taken as read, with a sweeping majority of two. An invitation was read by the Corresponding Secretary, from the Woman's Enfranchisement Association, asking the attendance of the members of the Lit. at their annual meeting.

The programme was then proceeded with, and Mr. B. K. Sandwell borrowed a gown from the Chairman, which he did not forget to return, and put the audience in good humor with one of his inimitable piano solos. Apologizing for monopolizing the attention of the audience, he appeared a second time to read an essay by Mr. Macfarlane, whose illness prevented his attendance. We had hoped that, by this arrangement, the reading would have been given without the hurried delivery of the author, but the substitute, imbued, no doubt, by the former's spirit, was no improvement, whatever. The subject of the essay was "Nicotiana"—an account of the history and use of tobacco. The style, as well as the matter, was original, and revealed some good points in the author as an antiquary.

Mr. J. G. S. Stanbury, '96, ex-Vice-President, who was among the audience, was called on at this juncture for a speech. Agreeable and graceful, as of yore, he responded

at some length and with good effect. He reminded the audience, amid applause, of the contest of the representatives at McGill that evening and prophesied them success.

Upon a sign from Mr. J. T. Johnston, who reclined comfortably upon the table, the Chairman announced the subject of debate. Resolved,—That Independence for Canada was preferable to Annexation. This was an inter-year contest between '97, which was represented by Mr. T. Ingram McNeece and Mr. W. W. Edgar; and '99, whose cause was championed by Mr. W. Alexander and Mr. W. F. McKay, for the negative.

The leader of the affirmative, Mr. McNeece, laid stress upon the evils of annexation and pointed out with lucidity and fluency the superiority of the Canadian form of Government over that of the United States. The leader of the negative, Mr. W. H. Alexander, charged him justly with attacking the subject at the wrong end, and proceeded to show that annexation was the evident intention of nature and was the only solution of the racial and religious questions which were the perplexity of Canadian unity. Mr. Edgar, in support of the affirmative, related many internal issues of disquietude in the United States and inferred that on this account annexation was highly undesirable. The supporter of the negative, Mr. McKay, spoke in a pleasing and effective manner, but lost sight of the question for a time in discussing the merits of Free Trade vs. Protection. Both of the speeches of the champions of '99 "smelled of the lamp," and it was doubtless on this account that, after a five minutes' reply by the leader of the affirmative, the decision was given in favor of '99. The Sophs. were jubilant at the result, and the meeting adjourned to give them an opportunity of exchanging congratulations.

CRÆSUS.

S. P. S. NOTES.

W. B. Mundie, M. Am. Inst. Arch. of Chicago, will deliver a paper on "The High Building Problem," before the Engineering Society, on Feb. 10th.

In these days so innumerable are the institutions, clubs, schools, etc., that exist all around us, that language becomes exhausted in the attempt to give a logical and significant name to each. Consequently it is advisable for people for their own sake to observe the exact names of institutions with which they are in correspondence. There is a school of Practical Science in the city, commonly called for brevity's sake, the School of Science; but it is not a school of cookery. A curious blunder, consequent upon a muddling of names, resulted in a post card being delivered to the School, addressed: "Mrs. ——— School of Science, Toronto, Ont. (Domestic Dept.)." On the other side was written: "Dear Madam, Would you kindly tell me the name, price and where procured of your latest recipe book, and oblige, Mrs. ———, D. ———, Ont." We explain the foregoing as the result of a muddling of names—there being, no doubt, several schools in the city where cooking is taught—as we cannot see what could have inspired the good lady with the idea that we possessed a "Domestic department"—unless she had been visiting the assaying laboratories. True, the work down there does bear a strong analogy to that of the kitchen. But the "cook's" wear dirty, brown aprons instead of clean, white ones; and "roasting" furnishes nothing more enticing than sulphurous fumes. And although we go to the extent of obtaining the "noble" metals from the "baser" ones, we do not provide the elixir of life such as would a domestic department in cooking. But, perhaps, she visited the engineering laboratory during an engine test. Now, these tests last for two or three days, and going home at mid-day, on the part of the experimenters, is out of the question. If she had appeared about luncheon time, she had, very probably, seen several of the fourth

to be photographed and we are quite willing to stand by the decision.—Frederick Lyonde, Photographer, 101 King St W.