

sumed and the speakers held the floor, being interrupted only when the Seniors wished to impress upon the minds of the "Freshies" important points brought out in the speeches.

Convocation being formally opened, the presentation of prizes and fellowships was proceeded with. Hon. David Mills, introduced the fellows, Mr. B. E. Walker, Prof. Galbraith, Prof. Fraser, the prize winners, and Mr. J. C. Glashan and Prof. Baker, those who won medals. Owing to the fact that Prof. Mills had to leave early, he was the first to be called upon for his address. This is the first time, since he has occupied his present position, that the Professor of Constitutional and International Law has been present at Convocation. He spoke briefly in advocacy of the department of political science, and urged its importance in relation to both the social and governmental institutions of the nation.

Mr. B. E. Walker, after presenting the prizes in mineralogy and geology, spoke of the importance of these studies in the development of the mineral sections of the country. He urged the absolute necessity of securing more funds. Part of this work is done in the university, and part in the S.P.S.; his remarks referred only to the university section. After Prof. Fraser had presented the prizes in Italian, and had explained that they were given by the Italian Government, and this year for the first time, the President arose to deliver his usual Convocation address. The honored gentleman gave a clear, concise talk on several points which are now of particular importance to the university, and which are agitating the minds of both students and alumni. The progress of the university, in scholarship, was dwelt upon, and he came to the conclusion that this institution is "a light spot in the darkness of the Western World." But a decrease in the number of students in attendance was remarked, and as the small number of Freshmen accounted for this decrease, this disappointing circumstance must be due to two causes: The increase of ten dollars in fees, and the uneven nature of the matriculation examination. He lamented the fact that the fees had been raised, but explained that such an action had been necessary. He commended the undertaking to publish a series of "University Studies." These studies will bring Toronto University into touch with the scientific world, and will be of a pecuniary value in being exchanges for many hundreds of dollars' worth of foreign scientific journals. Again, since the university is not fully performing its functions if it is content to be merely a transmitter of knowledge, but since it must add its mite to the sum of human knowledge, an opportunity to publish and preserve this mite is given, and thus the studies serve as a barometer to report the progress of the intellectual life of the university. He claimed the new degree of Ph.D. would enhance the reputation which the institution has already earned for scholarship. He noted the importance of athletics, as an auxiliary force, and in this connection, advocated the formation of a university battalion. He concluded by making a strong plea for an improvement in the department of Mineralogy and Geology.

Hon. G. W. Allan, Chancellor of Trinity, and Bishop Sullivan gave short addresses. The latter urged the restoration of the Ridgeway window, as a memorial to McKenzie, Newburn and Tempest, the three Varsity students who fell in that engagement.

Hon. G. W. Ross, Canada's eminent orator, then took the platform, and delighted his audience with his

brief address. After touching upon the progress of the university, during the comparatively few years that he had been connected with it, he spoke of the tendency to specialize, and its effect in raising the standard of matriculation. He did not favor a too high standard of entrance. He lamented the fact that the university had not projected itself more into the national life. Very few university graduates enter politics. He explained that the standard of High Schools must be kept up, else the university would also deteriorate. Upon financial affairs he did not touch—did not even sympathize with the students in their necessity of having to pay increased fees. This finished the programme inside, but towards the end of the proceedings a movement among the students of the higher years was noticeable, at the same time the paleness on the Freshmen's faces was becoming more ashy and a quiver seemed to be visible at times. They saw the inevitable was coming, and the sight of the Rugby suits at the doors convinced them that their organization would avail them nothing. This impression was by no means false. Their organization meant their ruin, for the fact that they were in a crowd showed the Senior his best opportunity for hustling them all, while the boldness engendered among them by being shoulder to shoulder, seemed to challenge subjection by the other students. Wisely they refrained from making their exit through the upper small door, but confined their charges to the large door on the main floor. But the plan of the building, both inside and out, affords excellent opportunity for extending a welcome to gentlemen of the first year, and they received a royal welcome. It had been raining during the day, so the terrace was quite slippery, but to avoid accidents, and to save time, extra water was thrown on, and down this declivity, the Freshmen were allowed to glide in any fashion they might wish. But words fail to describe the scene. In short, it was the best hustle administered for years, and the melee in the ravine which met the eye of the spectator will not soon be forgotten. The Freshies are now full-fledged students.

The Convocation of University College, in the evening, was not so well attended as that in the afternoon, doubtless on account of the inclement weather. The successful prizemen, scholars and medalists, were presented for their hard-won honors, amid the generous applause of the audience. On this, the lecturer of the evening, Prof. McCurdy, was introduced, to deliver his lecture on Greece, Rome, and Israel, and, by his able and scholarly effort, firmly established his already high position among the great teachers and scholars on this continent.

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#### SENIORS ELECT OFFICERS.

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The class, '99, acting promptly, as usual, met on Monday afternoon, October 10th, and selected the following officers for the ensuing academic year: President, Alex. Macdougall; 1st Vice-President, Miss B. M. Jamieson; 2nd Vice-President, S. A. Dickinson; Secretary, W. H. McNairn; Treasurer, A. J. Dickson; Orator, J. J. Monds; Judge, A. L. Burch; Prophet, E. G. Robb; Critic, A. C. Kingstone; Mus. Director, H. E. Abraham, Ath. Director, W. A. Groves; Historians, W. Rea and Miss E. Dennis; Councillors, Miss C. C. Benson, Miss D. F. Wright, F. Halliday, and R. J. Clegg.