

ON THESES

In the case of theses for the degree of Master, In an article on Flexner's book on "Universities, American, German, English" there is a statement signed "F.H.U." in the April, 1931, issue of the Canadian Forum to the following effect:

"And what would be revealed if the Chamber of Horrors in each university library which houses the M.A. and Ph.D. theses were unlocked by some Canadian Flexner?"

These suggestive insinuations are insidious and unjustifiable.

The theses are open to the whole world to inspect and to criticise. They are frequently consulted by professors and students of McGill and of other universities. Those for the Ph.D. degree must involve some contribution to knowledge, and be presented in good literary form. One examiner is the McGill professor with whom the student has worked at his research and thesis. The other examiner must not be a McGill man, but he must be a professor at some other university, such as Toronto, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, where some authority on the matter of the thesis may be found. In the case of Chemistry and Physics, for example, with which the writer is naturally best acquainted, the condensed results of the full thesis are for the most part published in one of the high-class scientific journals of Canada, Great Britain, or the United States. So, also, the theses in Economics are published by the Department and form a real contribution to