

The Varsity

Published Three Times Weekly by the Parliament of the Undergraduates of the University of Toronto.

Subscription Price, One Dollar per year in advance.

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TORONTO, OCTOBER, 2, 1911

MEN WANTED FOR ATHLETICS

Toronto University has the reputation of having more men actually engaged in athletics than any other college on the American continent. And yet there are not nearly enough of the undergraduates taking part in the advantages which the Physical Director has laid before every one in the University. Dr. Barton after his trip last year through the departments of physical instruction in the largest of the United States universities, stated that while we here have excelled in the number of teams and contestants in the various undergraduate competitions, we have wanted in enthusiasm for physical development on the part of the individual student, who for one reason or another does not make a place on the various teams. "We lack the man who needs the exercise," said Dr. Barton.

It is safe to say that if more students would make a specialty of one branch of athletics there would be a much higher degree of health and spirits in our midst. There is no place like the football field, the running track, or the hockey rink to make a man feel his latent powers. In keen competition, man to man, there is the basis of development of health, strength, grit, patience, and the spirit of genuine fair play. Nor is there a better opportunity for a man to make friends. We call a man by his first name five minutes after being introduced, when the meeting place is the locker room or the football field. And, while the sequence is not infallible, the man who can play a good clean game is the man whom we cherish as a friend for life.

Men of the junior years, and men of the senior years who have neglected your opportunities, turn out and be a physical man once in a while! Learn to play football, learn to box, to fence, to swim, to handle a tennis racquet or a hockey stick. Get that exhilaration which comes in no other way but through keen competition with your fellow.

There is room for two or three more football teams in each faculty; the boxing classes are never over crowded; the fencing room awaits you, the tennis courts are there for your use. If the whole University had more the spirit of our athletes there would be more spontaneity among us.

HE'S A COLLEGE BOY

(Contributed.)

The college-boy of the musical-comedy chorus and of the Blumenthal posters is obviously considered an exaggerated type, but the truth is that many come to college secretly cherishing this type as the ideal. The man with the debonaire manner and the extreme clothes is followed about by vapid grins of admiration. No ridicule follows him as it follows the same chap who forgets to press his trousers. And yet follow that man of fashion into his boudoir and you will see him sitting over a rugby hand-book painfully memorizing the positions of players so that, with this full knowledge of the game, he can stroll on

the sidelines and fill his retinue with admiration by languidly remarking that so-and-so makes a corking scrim, or that such-a-one should never play half. Listen to him on the side-lines and he will causally make it known that the only reason he refrains from playing the game is that he is too rough, and couldn't hold himself in to good team-work with weaker men. He is fond of the Yonge Street promenade, and he knows the exact location of every-plate-glass window between College and King where he can receive a full-length reflection of his immaculate person. At the games you can see him earnestly striving to wave his pennant and to join the yells after the manner approved by tailors' advertisements in the Saturday Post.

Can't we lose him? Can't we drop this lightweight into some post-hole? We lustily sing—"velut arbor aevo,"—and yet we allow this fungoid growth to sap the strength of our dear old tree. Let us now demand sincerity in everything and in everybody. Sincerity is full-sister to simplicity, and to solidity; and when we have this family elevated to the pedestals in our halls, we shall have a spirit of good-fellowship that is befitting this, one of the finest Universities of the continent

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT

To the Editor of "Varsity."

Dear Sir:—Allow me to voice my indignation at the indecent occurrences attendant upon this year's registration at the office. My own experience has prepared me for a little bustle and pushing in connection with admission to the office but never have I witnessed such a disgraceful occasion as on Thursday last when a crowd of waiting freshmen made a determined rush at the open door, and by flinging aside and crushing to the wall ladies who had been waiting much longer, gained admittance. It is indeed regrettable that the lining-up of applicants in the hallway is not enforced, and more that the young men on that occasion, apart from their own sense of courtesy should so soon forget the substance of the President's address on the previous afternoon.

Sincerely,
Toronto, Sept. 29. "Graduate."

CONVOCAATION HALL

(BY A FRESHMAN.)

This will ever be a memorable day to me, for on it I have attended for the first time, as a member of the newborn class of one-hundred and fifty, my first convocation ceremony at this University.

In after years, when the conflict with man and affairs has turned my hair grey, I will, when in a reminiscent mood, put my feet across the hearth, and, gazing through the circling clouds of cigar smoke, look back to this day, when I found myself a solitary unit in that immense concourse of students and realized that my academic career had begun.

Standing outside the "Round Church," almost a total stranger, I was possessed of a great longing to read the thoughts of each man, there assembled, and judge of his attitude to what lay before him. But this was denied me, and acting upon advice judiciously given "I got in right," went up stairs to the right, and at once found myself in a puzzling maze of passages and galleries. Coupled with this feeling of strangeness there was always the danger that I should by accident stumble into undesirable company. One well intentioned man, warned me against any aggregation of "shool men," as they were noted for "passing up" and "throwing out" any visitors who might by chance stray within reach of their arms. This fact I presently found to be literally true.

Finding a set of men who seemed to be peaceably inclined I sat down in a position directly opposite the platform and watched the entertainment.

Never before had I witnessed such a scene and the novelty of it made it strangely fascinating. The banks of faces rising tier upon tier, the millinery of the freshettes

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below, the magnificence of the building, the electrical condition of air, because of yells and counter-yells, all served to keep one on the "qui vive."

Here it is obvious that the School of Science men are masters of the situation. They are organized and their resonant yell coveles all others into silence. Growing bold, they attack unsuspecting parties, wrench them from their seats and pass them bodily over their heads to the exits. For a time one can see nothing but a swaying mass of humanity, and above them a waving pair of arms or legs. In the process they made themselves doormats for dirty boots, but in every case emerged triumphant. A little organized opposition on the part of the Meds. and Arts men, is soon howled down, and the School is supreme.

There is a prolonged sh-sh-sh and from the side entrance the faculty headed by Principal Falconer, pass in with measured and dignified pace. There are the "patres," the men of weight and intellectual ability. In another setting they might have closely resembled the historic scenes in the Senate House at Rome when the greatest orators the world has ever seen, faced the great assemblies of that age. There is loud burst of applause and as they take their places, and every student rises in his place. This is a grand magnificent, inspiring moment, surely one which the President of the University must look forward to from year to year.

Presently every one is seated, and the President steps to the central position on the platform of this vast auditorium. Every eye is fixed upon him, and robed as he is every inch a President, he does not disappoint the onlooker. The applause again bursts out, and is prolonged until it has had time to rise to the vast dome above, and echo to every corner of the building, then it dies away as the speaker opens his lips and there is an impressive silence.

Continued on Page 3, Col. 3.

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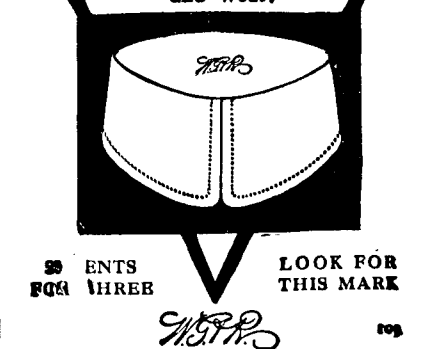
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