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Editorial Topics.

THE ELECTIONS.

This is the time of elections. Before another month has gone by our two great institutions, The Athletic Association and The Literary Institute, will have chosen the men who are to hold the reins of government for the coming year. This is an interesting time at Trinity, and the keen observer has a chance to see much that is interesting, instructive and amusing. The world over one touch of elections makes candidates akin. The aspirant for honours looks his prettiest now. Is he a candidate for a chair? "His walk is slow, his accents grave, his speech deliberate." Perchance he seeks the treasury, or the rolls and books? He is diligent in business, systematic for the nonce, and speaks of the responsibility of office. From here to the jumping-off place the politician is the same; you can tell the breed. For one month in the year we have in Trinity a perfect miniature of the genuine political situation. Beneath the surface of the usual life we smell the atmosphere of intrigue. Almost we have the same intent to treat our neighbour as a means. Who can I use? Intensified is the usual question—who is my friend? Here is the candidate; here too is his boss and pack of heelers, planning, plotting, trapping the unwary. Everybody is engaged in working a little private gerrymander "on his own." Go on ye doughty politicians. Play your cards. It's interesting to see and all in the way of business. The free and independent voter finds himself an object of solicitude now. It's nice to be important. He didn't know he was important before. Go on Sirs; it's a pretty play. May the best man win.

CONGRATULATIONS.

We congratulate Toronto University on the successful completion of negotiations for affiliation with the University of Oxford. Although the attendant privileges are not very great, still they have a distinct value and it is a matter of some satisfaction to have obtained them. It was an unnatural state of affairs that the stand-

ing of a Toronto University man desiring to complete or extend his course in one of the great English Universities should receive no recognition. Oxford and Cambridge are two great conservative institutions and give scant recognition to degrees other than their own. The privileges they grant to Universities enjoying what is known as "affiliation" are doubtless incommensurate with the standard of scholarship obtaining in the majority of them, but half a loaf is better than no bread and we should try and secure all concessions possible for Canadians desirous of completing their education in the Old Country. The idea of education in the liberal sense of the word cannot be too much encouraged in a young and lusty country whose intellectual development suffers from the restless energy in the pursuit of trade and commerce; moreover the successes of our students redound to the credit of Canada. Again we congratulate Toronto University on the conclusion of a wise and proper step.

THE CON- VERSAZIONE.

The annual Conversazione was a success. The council's arrangements were carried out by competent sub-committees without a hitch. We were able to offer our hospitality to a great many friends, and of these we may safely say the majority found the evening, especially the latter half, thoroughly enjoyable. We are glad to be able to write this in perfect sincerity. There is, however, another possible way of speaking. For how many more years will this annual function be, in the proper sense of the word, a success, under existing and increasing conditions? The Conversazione was a success; it had all the elements of success. For two hours the place was crowded to suffocation; the passage of the corridors was made at imminent risk of life and limb. For two hours from the time that access to the cloak-room became a physical impossibility, the ladies who graced the scene suffered positive discomfort. Everybody—literally—was present. It is true there were even some who came uninvited, but surely people who can thus guarantee their welcome must be acceptable to their hosts. Cela va sans dire; another element of success was added gratis; let us be thankful. The Conversazione is a function not quite an ordinary dance to entertain our friends. Doubtless there were some present who are not within this charmed circle, but the circle, or a good part of it, was there; even if we couldn't find them our friends were present, and that's the main thing. And our friends will continue to be present of course. Even if they are to be squeezed to death, even if our circle increases till it includes the great unwashed, our friends will continue by their presence to make our Conversazione the enjoyable event it has kindly been called. They like us so well, they are infatuated with us. Besides it is the greatest compliment in the world to ask people to come, be exquisitely uncomfortable and enjoy themselves. In two years' time our friends will like immensely to come and meet everybody they don't like. The Conversazione is a great event, not one to be judged by ordinary standards. It was a success; let it rest.

The Week of February 21st publishes an interesting letter bewailing the absence of adequate recognition of Professor Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen on account of his great scientific discovery. Amid the plethora of detailed