

## Queen's University Journal

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## Editorials.

### THE ENGINEERING SOCIETY DINNER.

THE question as to the nature of the Science Dinner was fully discussed at the last regular meeting of the Engineering Society, and the report of the committee recommending the non-use of wines or liquors adopted. An endeavor was made a couple of years ago to have a Dinner on this plan, but it signally failed, for the evening was a wet one. This year the committee in charge of the affair was a very representative one, and after a thorough discussion of all aspects of the question, unanimously decided in favor of the report as read to the Society. Last year's dinner, which was not dry, was a deplorable failure in many respects, but this cannot be attributed to the use of hard drinks alone. The Medical Dinner has, for the past two years, been conducted very successfully and the students were supplied with, or were allowed to use nothing but soft drinks. We are glad to know that Science is following the good example set.

There are several points to be taken into consideration in settling a question which is as debatable as the one now under discussion. There is no doubt that an academic function, like a society dinner, whose influence might be highly educative, ought to be consistent in all its aspects. Such dinners as the Science and Medical faculties were accustomed to having three or four years ago, were more of the nature of a disgrace than of a credit to the students. The free and unrestrained use of intoxicants which was then indulged in did not tend to elevate the moral and intellectual standards of the student body. The dinners then had the reputation among a large number of the students of being merely "booze fights." The boys went to them for a good time and probably had it. Many members of the societies shunned them for this reason.

The real importance of these functions has just lately come to be recognized, and we note with pleasure the growth of a wholesome public opinion among the students in favor of a dry dinner. This style of an affair is surely more fitting a crowd of young men who are to be leaders of their professions in this country. The JOURNAL does not take it upon itself to discuss the question of the merits of