

THE VARSITY

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The sketch headed "University Discipline," which appeared in our last number, was taken from "The Firm of Girdlestone," by A. Conan Doyle. The dash which appeared before the author's name was intended to show that it was a clipping.

To those of our readers who enjoy the lighter touches of fancy which generally grace these pages the editor must apologize for the serious tone of the present number. Unfortunate circumstances over which they had no control and to which no further reference is made in this issue have prevented several members of the staff from sending contributions.

Second Year in Applied Science The second year in Applied Science have accomplished an immense amount of class legislation and other corporate work with an ease and readiness which must be the envy of the other classes. This is because they are the only class in that faculty who have a complete organization. The freshmen would do well to follow the example of the sophomores in organizing, as the business of a class is facilitated when the President has an Executive Committee to share his burdens.

On Friday night the second year men set tradition at defiance by having an oyster supper at McConkey's. It was excellent in every respect.

An Illogical Custom The annual election of officers of the Medical Society which has just taken place brings to mind a custom of that society which these new officers will have an opportunity to amend. I refer to the method of choosing representatives to the various social functions. The present practice is for the representatives to be elected by the student body as a whole in the autumn of each year. The result is therefore that the freshman vote may very well hold the balance of

power, while at the same time the freshmen may know nothing of the candidates.

Now with all true British deference to the glories of illogical customs, one cannot help thinking that such a practice, as that described above, might be improved upon. And from the officers just chosen one can hope for that sweet reasonableness of policy which can do so much in clearing away anomalies in any society's business methods.

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Lectures in English The chief end of the Faculty of Engineering Applied Science may be to equip its students with the professional knowledge necessary for an engineer. But that should not be its only object. The students should partake of some of the boasted benefits of a general University education. And there is one way, at least, in which this can be achieved. For example, the students in Applied Science might take University lectures in English. This is done in the science faculties of many universities, in McGill, for instance, where engineering students of the first year have two lectures a week in English. The advantages of the introduction of this plan into the Science Faculty here would be generally admitted. This addition to the curriculum of the "School" would, moreover, help to remove it from the essentially parochial character of a Technical School.

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Departmental Societies The extremely poor attendance at the meetings of various Departmental Societies during this and the past few years might lead one to believe that they satisfy no real demand and have not properly a place in University College life. We find, however, that the students are very desirous indeed of forming themselves into societies not differing very much from them. It is in fact not the Departmental Societies themselves but the society meetings as at present conducted that are somewhat of a bore to the students.

The meetings at which addresses are given by professors or outsiders resemble too much our ordinary "lectures" and are liked as much as most 5 p.m. or 8 a.m. lectures. Neither do the meetings at which long papers are read by students and discussed at length by professors and prominent visitors supply exactly what is wanted. The club meetings that are best liked and most largely attended are those at which the greatest number of the members take part. If the Departmental Societies are to fill the need they have set out to fill there must be less of the one outsider and more of the whole body of students taking part.