

in their language and manner of speaking. Young speakers, especially, should make careful preparation before attempting to express their opinions on any subject. There is not generally any vital principle upon which the members will divide, so as to form two parties necessary for a Parliamentary Society, and consequently much time is lost in useless argument, and in personalities. We are becoming more strongly convinced that a Literary Society should be conducted in such a manner as to make careful preparation necessary for each appearance before the Society.

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**T**HE University Calendar is now before the public.

In the Almanac the principal changes are such as arise from the statute making all examinations annual, and requiring them to begin one week earlier. Also supplemental examinations are to be held in September only.

The course for the degree of B.A. has been considerably changed. The Senate, believing that the training of a University should be broad and general, rather than special, retained until the present year, an extensive pass course, to which students applied themselves exclusively throughout their first and third years, and a large part of the second; the fourth and the remainder of the second being devoted to honor work.

The charter of the University, however, makes it necessary that the standard of qualification be not lower than that of Toronto University, and so honor courses equal to those of Toronto University were added. The result was, that students had to confine themselves to a pass course, or undertake an honor course, which few were able to master in the allotted time.

A number chose to take five years to prepare the course. Still this was found a grievance.

In order, then, that no more be required of the students, than at other universities, the Senate has lessened the pass course, thus allowing the greater part of three years to be spent in the preparation of honor work.

Text books are changed from time to time, so

that the freshest and best thought may be placed in the hands of the student.

The course for the degree of Civil Engineer, has been materially altered. Little has been added except in the mathematical department, but the course has been distributed over three years instead of two.

In the Divinity course the four years' study, previously required, has been shortened to three, the percentage on papers submitted to candidates considerably raised, and altogether, a much more attractive and desirable curriculum presented.

The other changes will speak for themselves. Altogether the Calendar would have been the best ever published, had the mechanical work been performed as desired.

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#### DUTY ON BOOKS.

**W**E are glad to know that several colleges throughout the Dominion are making an effort to secure the removal of the duty on books, especially such books as are designed for public libraries and collegiate work. The Government at Ottawa could do nothing that would be more satisfactory to all concerned than the repealing of the Act touching the point under consideration. We believe in every citizen bearing his share of the public burden, but there are special reasons that could very satisfactorily be presented in support of the present agitation. A tax, either direct or indirect, on the circulation of knowledge and the literary elevation of a people, is certainly not for the general good, especially when such tax is not needed to supplement a revenue largely in advance of the public expenditure. There should be a constant and determined effort to convert uneducated into educated labor. It is calculated that the net gain from such results alone would increase the wealth of the United States by the handsome sum of \$400,000,000.00 annually. Ignorance has certainly never been the road to national or individual wealth.

We are yet a young country and it can hardly be expected that we would possess a native literature in the Sciences, and in all the highest departments of thought. As a matter of fact we must look to