

COLLEGE NEWS.

A. M. S.

EVERYBODY admits that the Alma Mater is the most important of our college societies. Every few weeks we hear a speech from some officer or member expressing his view of what the society should be, and very frequently such speeches are pointed by a contrast between the actual society and the speaker's ideal. It might therefore seem superfluous to consider the question, What is the function of the society? It is a fact, however, that there does not seem to be any agreement upon the subject.

At present when we are just entering upon a new year, and when a new staff of officers is practically just entering upon its duties, it cannot be out of place to consider the questions, What are the objects of the society? and How may these objects be best attained? We may perhaps do this as well as in any other way by appealing to the constitution.

"The objects of the society shall be: (a) To serve as a bond of union between the students, alumni and graduates of the various faculties." It is very unfortunate that in the last few years very few medical students have attended the meetings. Every student of whatever faculty should endeavor to remedy this by coming himself and doing his best to make the meetings interesting and profitable. Also if this object is to be attained every student must regard the Alma Mater as having the first claim upon his time and attention. Neither Levana, Æsculapian or Arts society nor class organization can be allowed to interfere with it. Important and useful as these other societies may be, they must not stand before the Alma Mater which has produced and still includes them all.

The second object is perhaps as universally recognized as the third is neglected. "(c) To cultivate a literary and scientific taste among the students." This is the point in which the society most signally fails. No serious attempt has been made in the last seven years to make it a literary and scientific society. With the exception of a few papers read last session, the only literary efforts have been occasional debates, while science has been absolutely unnoticed. We have no literary society and no scientific society in the College. The

Alma Mater professes to be a substitute for both, and has therefore an ample field and ample material. A very slight effort in this line on this line of the officers would make the society much more interesting and immeasurably more profitable.

The eloquence displayed at our last Alma Mater meeting was truly marvellous. Such a treat seldom falls in the way of the patient student in the hum-drum monotony of College life. Let us have more of it!

Saturday evening, Jan. 30th, is the date fixed for the first debate of the inter-year series. Freshmen will cross swords with juniors. It is hoped that all members of the society will make it a point to be present. Subject will be announced on the bulletin board.

The report of the general committee for the conversat will be read at the A. M. S. meeting to-night. A lively discussion is anticipated, as we hear it talked about the halls that the assets are considerably below the liabilities.

Y. M. C. A.

The song service of the Association last Friday evening was well attended and much enjoyed by all. D. Strachan, B.A., was leader. Mr. McRae, Miss McRae and Mr. Sinclair, singing evangelists, were introduced and contributed greatly to the success of the meeting.

We understand that the Missionary Association is making arrangements with the Y.M.C.A. for a special Missionary meeting.

Two delegates are expected next Friday evening from McGill University, Montreal. The system of inter-collegiate visitation is a good one and deserves encouragement. It will be remembered that a short time ago a deputation from Albert College, Belleville, visited Queen's.

PROFESSOR CLARK'S LECTURE.

As students we are all deeply grateful to Professor Clark, of Trinity, for the entertaining and exceedingly profitable lecture he gave us on his recent visit to Kingston. We are sure that if the Professor had been present on some previous occasions when lectures were delivered in Convocation Hall, he would have felt flattered at the attention