

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE NEWS.

ALL reports from Societies must reach us by noon on Thursday to insure insertion.

### LITERARY SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the society was held on Friday evening. A telegram having been received from the President announcing his inability to be present, the chair was occupied by the 1st Vice-President.

The programme opened with a reading by S. J. Rothwell, entitled "Reuben and Rose." Mr. D. Donald followed with song, which was encored.

The subject of debate for the evening was: "Resolved, that a lawyer is justified in defending a criminal whom he knows to be guilty." The affirmative was supported by Messrs. J. B. Pent and M. Currie and the negative by Messrs. W. H. Grant and W. A. Wilson. The debate was then thrown open, when Messrs. MacNamara, Forin, and Mackay each spoke. The chairman summed up the debate but left the decision to the meeting, which decided for the negative by a majority of one.

Mr. J. S. Copland gave notice of motion to have the designation of the society's conversazione changed to the conversazione of the Literary, Musical, and Scientific Societies. The same gentleman also introduced a motion to give the various other societies who took part in the conversazione recognized representation on the committee. This matter provoked considerable discussion and was not settled till after midnight.

The following are to take part in the Public meeting on the evening of the 14th. Chairman, Prof. R. R. Wright, B.A., B.Sc.; Essayist, T. B. P. Stewart, B.A.; Reader, J. Munro; Speakers, Alex. Smith, C. A. Stuart, D. A. Burgess, and J. A. Mackay. The subject for debate is: "Resolved, that in the policy Great Britain has adopted towards the French Canadians she has acted in the best interests of Canada."

### MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The Club met on Monday evening last, December 3rd, at 4 p.m., in the Y. M. C. A. building. The evening's programme included an address by Mr. Thomas O'Hagan on the "Genius and Character of Henry W. Longfellow." Owing to some misunderstanding, Mr. O'Hagan was not on hand at the appointed hour, and his place was filled, for the time being, by Mr. D. R. Keys, who gave an extempore but very interesting address on the subject named. Mr. O'Hagan, arriving later, was called on at the conclusion of Mr. Keys' brief remarks. His lecture proved very acceptable and was interspersed with readings and recitations from Longfellow's works. One of these was perhaps somewhat extravagantly rendered; all, however, showed considerable elocutionary power. At the close Mr. O'Hagan received the hearty thanks of his audience. The meeting then adjourned.

Next Monday a French meeting will be held, at which Balzac and his works will form the subject of the essay, readings, and subsequent discussion.

### ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

The society held its fourth meeting on Tuesday, 27th ult., in the large draughting room of the School of Science, the president in the chair. T. R. Roseburgh, B. A., read a paper on "Scale Calculus," being a practical method of traverse and hydrographical surveys without the use of formulæ or calculations. After explaining the construction of the scale he showed how the different parts of a triangle could be found by the method, also the application in calculating dimensions, etc., in traverse surveying, the production of chain surveys to traverse surveys, in obtaining latitudes and departures in different denominations, in hydrographical survey, reduction of barometer to zero and slope distances to horizontal distances. Mr. Roseburgh calculated several triangles, etc., and demonstrated the degree of accuracy of the results obtained in this way. The explanation of this method called forth a very interesting discussion. T. R. Deacon, '91, read a paper on "Surveying in the North-West," in which he described the

survey of the external boundaries of the National Park Reserve, Banff, N. W. T., and the survey of parts of the Spray and Bon rivers, and the sub-division of land into sections. The different instruments and the difficulties occurring in making use of them were treated of at some length. The system of surveys in the North-West, the method of making base lines, allowing for convergence of meridians, and planting and marking township posts, etc., were fully described. The writer concluded by touching briefly on the pleasures and reverses, etc., which a surveyor meets with whilst in the field. In the discussion which followed much amusement was caused by several members relating their experiences on their arrival in a civilized district after spending a few months in the bush or prairie. The meeting adjourned after the president had made a few remarks on the gymnasium building scheme.

### PRACTICAL SCIENCE.

The following letter has been issued by the Minister of Education. The object in view as therein stated is a desirable one, and the course proposed by Mr. Ross, of calling to his assistance the best counsel of practical men interested in his proposal will commend itself to those specially concerned. The conference in the Education Department on the 19th instant for a full discussion of the matter ought, therefore, to be well attended. The Trades and Labour Council might do well to interest itself in the subject. Mr. Ross' letter reads as follows:—

"I propose submitting to the Legislative Assembly at its next session a scheme for establishing in the School of Practical Science full courses of instruction in applied chemistry, applied mechanics, and architecture.

"While in the interests of the industrial classes it is necessary that the course of instruction should be thoroughly practical, and at the same time educational, it is also necessary that the special wants of the industries of the country should be kept in view. It occurred to me, therefore, if I only could consult those employing skilled labour of various kinds, that I should be able to provide this special training with more certainty and satisfaction to both manufacturer and artisan.

"I have accordingly decided to invite a number of manufacturers, skilled mechanics, and others having interests of a similar character, to meet me at the Education Department on Wednesday, the 19th instant, at 2.30 p.m., in order that I may ascertain, if possible, on what particular lines instruction, such as I have indicated, could be made most useful.

"The attention of the meeting will be mainly directed: (1) To a consideration of the various kinds of skilled labour now required to carry on the industries of the country and the best means of rendering it more productive and therefore more valuable; (2) to a consideration of what courses of instruction would be necessary to provide such skilled labour at home as is now supplied from abroad, and (3) to enquire what industries (if any) not yet established in Ontario could be made productive, provided we could supply them with skilled labour.

"I shall be gratified if you can make it convenient to attend at the time above mentioned and aid with your counsel and experience."

### SECOND YEAR CLASS SOCIETY.

The students of the second year met on Tuesday night, in the Y. M. C. A. hall, to consider the question of forming a permanent class society. A motion endorsing the movement was carried amid great enthusiasm, and a provisional committee was appointed to draft a constitution as soon as the information to be gathered by the fourth year committee is published. The committee consists of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Munro, Walker, Currie, R. C. Rose, Northwood, Dockray, G. H. Ferguson, Kirkpatrick, Stone, Stewart, McMurchy, Armour, Briggs, McLaren, and G. L. Johnson.

### POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB.

The club met in the Y. M. C. A. hall yesterday afternoon. Mr. Houston occupied the chair. A paper was read by Mr. Woodruff on "The unearned increment of land." Professor Ashley, as well as several undergraduates, spoke on the subject of discussion.