

University elections thus carried on would have a highly educative tendency, and would be one great step towards preparing graduates to act the part of men in the politics of the day, and to be governed, not by party spirit, but by reason.

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Following out the prevalent notion of the present day, that a College curriculum should embrace every branch of human attainment and furnish instructors in every department of learning and of accomplishment, several of the larger Universities in the States have established and endowed special chairs for training the young aspirant for honors in the wide field of Journalism. The successfulness of the venture is seriously questioned. And no less a critic than the veteran Charles A. Dana, of the *New York Sun*, has given his deliverance against the advisability of the scheme. Upon the subject of Journalism Mr. Dana must be admitted by all to be a competent and trustworthy judge. And his recent address before the students of Union College is well worthy every student's careful perusal.

To the youth of to-day no walk in life possesses half the attraction of a profession, and the profession of Journalism opens up a new avenue to every College-bred young man whose talents do not find their natural outlet in the older departments of Divinity, Medicine and Law. But let no young man suppose that the mere fact that he is possessed of a College training, or even that he has had the privilege of listening to lectures on Journalism in his College halls,—let no young man suppose that because he has had the advantage of this theoretical work, that he is destined to success in the difficult and ever varied sphere of Journalism, or that he is equipped in all necessary requirements for the broad demands of modern newspaper work. In Mr. Dana's words, "When you begin to practice the profession of a newspaper man, then is the best time to begin to learn it." The great end of an education is "to be able to tell what you know," and this ability, together with the gift of accuracy and method, constitute the leading qualities which are the fundamentals of success.

As to the most suitable course of training so far as general College work is concerned, Mr. Dana offers a few suggestions. A knowledge of English and the ability to use it stand in the forefront. An intimate acquaintance with politics, as a science and as a practical element in national existence, a thorough understanding of the constitution of your own country and of the principles which underlie it, and a broad and systematic hold of all the problems of human history and of human action, constitute the main lines of thought along which the young journalist's attention should be directed. Besides these general suggestions, the question of the books which the student of journal-

ism should read and digest is one of great importance. First and foremost is the English Bible, which considered merely from the point of view of professional preparation and utility far out-ranks any other that could be mentioned. Its suggestiveness, its sublime simplicity, and its lofty integrity in motive and in style, make it a volume without a parallel. The student in journalism must make, besides the Bible, the writings of Shakespeare his constant companions and friends. These two works, the English Bible and Shakespeare, furnish an inexhaustible wealth which no one who looks forward to journalistic endeavor can afford to neglect. No writer is to be taken as a model. Every man has his own natural style, and the aim of the student must be to develop that style into simplicity and clearness. Imitation is the sure mark of shallowness, and in Journalism, above almost any other profession, shallowness is death. These hints, amongst many others which might be given, should certainly come home with power to any student who looks forward to Journalism as his goal. But after all has been said, we must come back to the point at which we began, and reiterate with Mr. Dana, that the best place to prepare for Journalism is in actual practice. The men who have risen to eminence in the ranks of Journalism have been the men who have climbed to fame on the ladder of actual service. And while a college education is a useful thing, and any man is the better equipped for life who has one, still there is nothing in the college course that can take the place of actual newspaper work. Certainly the calling is a grand one, and the need for good men is great. May the inspiration of Mr. Dana's wholesome words waken into action the latent genius of our day!

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Every student of Queen's has noted with pleasure the advances that Kingston has made during the Summer in the matter of Public Works. The paving and improving of its streets along with the introduction of the electric street car service will do much towards increasing the business importance of the city in the minds of occasional visitors.

Too frequently these people noticing the condition of the streets and the seeming lack of public spirit and enterprise among its citizens, have accused Kingston of "Rip Van Winkleism" and concluded that its social life must be quite unendurable. When we have told of the exceptional kindness of all its citizens and the push and business ability of many of its business men, our statements have often been accepted "cum grano salis." Yet, when one considers her unrivalled natural position, her social and educational advantages, and above all the increasing public spirit of her citizens, it seems evident that Kingston should rapidly progress. Certainly as students we wish her every success. We