

ated by the wisdom and sagacity of Principal Snodgrass and Professor McKerras, in consultation with the Board of Trustees. In this Council, graduates of all creeds and denominations have regularly met and deliberated respecting every matter affecting the welfare of the University, and it may with truth be said that all the most important advances of the last 25 years have been either originated or promoted by the Council. Thus it is obvious that the broad spirit inherited from the founders has permeated the whole body and may be taken to explain the marvellous vitality and growth of this seat of learning. This liberal spirit was again manifested in 1889 when the Parliament of Canada was asked to broaden our constitution with the view of increasing the efficiency, and extending the usefulness, of the University. An act was then passed enabling the University Council to elect from amongst their numbers five members to sit in the Board of Trustees, irrespective of creed. These members represent the whole body of graduates.

"The University has reached a position where the interests committed to her extend far beyond the bounds of the Presbyterian Church. This was recognized from the first as implicitly inherent in her constitution when her charter stated that her education must be open to all, irrespective of creed. It was inevitable that the University was designed to be free and open, and that the students were to be under the best influence of eminent professors. This condition of things the Church recognized in 1875, when at the union of the different branches of the Presbyterian Church the position was taken

that Queen's was an institution extending beyond the sphere of the Church.

"This condition has become more and more manifest, and has been fully recognized by the Church and the country.

"It is this continued growth and expansion which make it imperatively necessary that the frame of the constitution should be properly adjusted to the actual facts.

"This does not suggest or imply that there shall be any break in the friendly relations which exist between the University and its mother Church. That is a relation which cannot be broken. The historical and traditional connection must always remain—and continue to influence most deeply the destinies of Queen's.

"In the broadening process that has gone on, there has not been any severing of old ties or affiliations. The enlargement of the constituency has meant the gaining of new friends, not the dropping of old ones. Each step taken has had the approval of the Alumni and benefactors, including the mother Church, the greatest benefactor of all.

"When it was proposed to make the change in the constitution which had separated the University from its historic connection with the Presbyterian Church, the first step taken was to consult the Church itself, and the answer given by the Church is recorded in the minutes of the General Assembly held at Halifax in the year 1900. It expresses approval of any well considered change in the constitution of the University which would still further increase its public usefulness by making the body of Trustees most com-