

beginning of his course, he is still unable to prevent his last session from being a continual cram. Work read three years, or even a year before, has invariably to be read again, for we all have not the memory of Lord Macaulay; and thus, do what we may, the last year is a steady cram from start to finish.

I quite agree with the opinion that the first year Honour exam. should be compulsory; but it should also free the student from further examination on the works taken during that year. Moreover, I would be glad to see the course made, as "W.L.G." suggests, a full three years' course. This would not necessarily imply an addition to the list of authors, but a thesis might be required and lectures given on the history of the languages, the development of the drama, etc.: and, in accordance with my remarks above, there should be an examination at the end of each year, which would free the student from further responsibility concerning the studies of that year.

I would also like to suggest an improvement which would be quite practicable even in the present session. Could not a list of the "best books" in classics be made out and left in the library for reference? Surely there are some books on the subject worth reading besides those mentioned in the rather diminutive list in the calendar, and if so, why are we not told of them?

Yours truly,

W. W. K.

#### REPLY TO "HOSTESS."

To the Editor of the Journal:

DEAR SIR:—I do not hesitate to admit that "Hostess," in her communication to your last JOURNAL, has given the students a criticism which all, to some extent, deserve. But while allowing this, I wish to make a few remarks which, I hope, will serve to show that the truth which her communication contains is only a half truth.

"Hostess" has made the mistake of writing in a moment of disappointment, and even disgust, and, consequently, what was meant for a criticism is really a *whipping*. One would fancy that she had been nursing her wrath for weeks, or even months, and now that she was exceedingly glad of the opportunity to give it vent. The very evident *spirit* of her letter has made her overlook facts which should have been considered in any thorough criticism. Let me mention a few of these. In the first place she has made a sweeping condemnation of *all* students, whereas her remarks can justly be applied only to some, and these, I believe, the minority. There are scores of men in the University who do not consider "their presence at her home a compliment to the hostess," and who do not escort a lady to her home as if it were "a fatiguing duty which so-

ciety has imposed upon them." Had "Hostess" remembered this her criticism would have been more genial.

Then, in the second place, she should have taken pains to inform herself as to whether her experience corresponded with that of others who entertain the students in their homes. I, for one, have attended many successful and many unsuccessful entertainments given for students, and I have always felt that nature has gifted some ladies with a more pleasing presence and greater entertaining powers than others. Perhaps, then, "Hostess's" complaint should have been made against nature, and not against the students.

A third fact which should not be overlooked is that students often receive their invitations only a few hours before the entertainment takes place, and do not, therefore, get time either to make arrangements for going or to write their regrets.

Again, "Hostess" has criticised the behaviour of the students when they themselves turned hosts. But whatever point her criticism may have had in reference to all entertainments previous to the last conversazione, the behaviour of the students at the latter was such as to have received the highest praise of all who attended.

I am quite conscious that very many, perhaps the majority, of the students are, from a social point of view, awkward and undisciplined, but their critic should remember that very many of them were born and bred in the country, and therefore upon their entrance into the social life of a city have many things to learn, and what is much more difficult, many things to unlearn. But I am quite sure that there are very few students possessed of such an innate stubbornness as to be unable or unwilling to learn the ways of social life. I think the criticism by "Hostess" will do good, but it would have been more just had she tried to see things from the students' point of view as well as from her own.

STUDENT.

## SPORTS.

### HOCKEY.

A MEETING of the Hockey Club for the election of officers took place on Dec. 13th, with the following result:

Hon. President—Prof. Cappon.  
President—A. B. Cunningham, B.A.  
Vice-President—D. R. McLennan.  
Captain—Guy Curtis.  
Secretary-Treasurer—C. B. Fox  
Committee—Dean, Rigney and Lyle.

The prospects for a successful season for our team are good, as many of last year's men are again in their places. The only discouraging thing is that