

THE VARSITY.

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TORONTO, November 12, 1902.

THOSE of our readers who have given thought to the purpose and function of a university will be interested in the excerpts which the November Outlook gives from the address of Dr. Woodrow Wilson at his inauguration as President of Princeton.

The old university ideal, expressed in that much-abused word—culture, and realized in a gentlemanly knowledge of Greek, Latin, Mathematics and English, has had to undergo considerable modification. Science has forced its way to a most prominent place in the curriculum of all universities, and its culture value has been well recognized. Indeed, it has become a maxim that the study of philosophy or the philosophic study of any other subject will give that mental discipline and balance which is the desideratum of a university education.

There is danger, however, that the reaction from the old ideal may have gone too far and that our universities may be turned into mere technical schools. Hard-headed, self-made men, permeated with the commercialism of the age, and applying their one standard, gold, to all things, clamor for practical education and specialized skill, forgetting that the end of education is the development of the man and not the manufacture of a cunning tool.

While recognizing the importance of technical education, Dr. Wilson carefully distinguishes it from the function of a university, which he says is "to give its students elasticity of faculty and breadth of vision so that they shall be not only successful bread-winners but noble citizens."

To quote The Outlook, the note of idealism and of service which was so distinctive in Dr. Wilson's address is clearly sounded in a passage which may be taken as its climax:

"And there are other things besides mere material success with which we must supply our generation. It must be supplied with men who care more for principles than for money, for the right adjustments of life than for the gross accumulations of profit. The problems that call for sober thoughtfulness and mere devotion are as pressing as those which call for practical efficiency. We are here not merely to release the faculties of men for their own use, but also to quicken their social understanding,

instruct their consciences and to give them the catholic vision of those who know their just relations to their fellowmen."

The same number of The Outlook also reports President Hadley of Yale, speaking at the inauguration of Dr. Strong as chancellor of the University of Kansas, as saying: "The great thing that the English colleges have done, the great thing that our best American institutions are doing in their collegiate courses, is to lead the student to value some other ideals besides the commercial one—to recognize that there is some measure of success in life higher than the mere power of money-making," not that money-making is an unworthy ambition, but, "constituted as society now is, our young men are far too apt to over-value this ideal, as compared with the ideals of civic duty, of religious earnestness and unselfish devotion to causes which promise them no personal advancement."

In the utterances of these men, the representatives of the highest in American scholarships, the readers of THE VARSITY may find a message. While appealing particularly to Arts men, the addresses of Dr. Wilson and Dr. Hadley should not be without interest to students in the Faculties of Medicine and Science, which, it is well recognized, have in the University of Toronto a broad scientific basis.

Nor would it be amiss to call the attention of the Government, which has of late taken so gratifying a stand in reference to the scientific departments of their University, to the fact so well stated by Dr. Wilson that "the problems that call for sober thoughtfulness and mere devotion are as pressing as those which call for practical efficiency." Let the University of Toronto be first not only in Science but in every other department on her curriculum.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is a long lane that has no turning, and at last our football teams have shown themselves in their true form. All this season, in spite of the plethora of first-class material, the Rugby team has had to cope against unexpected difficulties in the line of parental opposition and the like, but last Saturday, after all hope of winning the championship had been lost, we were able to put on the field a really representative team and the old-time superiority of Varsity on the gridiron has been vindicated. The double victory of our Rugby teams did much to lessen the sting of November the first, and the splendid victory of the University College Association team will again suffer us to entertain Christian feelings towards our Kingston brethren. Here's to success in the Argonaut games!

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There have been many favorable comments on the first experiment at organized cheering at the games. The section of the bleachers reserved for students, despite the unavoidable absence of the school men, was well filled, and under the able direction of Messrs. Maurice Darling and Percy Biggs some really creditable cheering was done. The singing was a trifle weak, but will improve with practice. Saturday's experiment should result in the Athletic Association arranging to make these demonstrations a feature of all future games.