

obvious advantages considered in the report it is pointed out that the construction of the canal would make available a large amount of water-power that could be used for industries along the waterway. It is beyond doubt that the proposal to construct a Georgian Bay canal will receive more careful consideration as a result of the information furnished by the report just placed before parliament.

The Ottawa-Queen's Debate.

For two consecutive years the championship trophy of the Intercollegiate Debating Union has been in the possession of Queen's. As a result of the final debate of this season's series, held in Convocation Hall, Jan. 14th, the coveted symbol of success passed into the hands of Ottawa College. The debate on the whole was a good one. Queen's was represented in the debate by Messrs. Fife and Chatham; Ottawa, by Messrs. O'Gara and Stanton. The judges were Rev. Mr. Sykes, Mr. T. J. Rigney and D. M. McIntyre, K.C. The University Debate Committee, arranged for a short programme, consisting of a vocal solo by Mr. Beecroft, and a violin solo by Mr. Findlay.

In opening the debate the leader of the affirmative argued that in view of the present dependent and submerged status of the laboring class, they have a right to special indulgence from society as a whole, and that a pension system would satisfy that claim.

The burden of the speech of the second speaker of the affirmative was that pensions could be given as a right to the aged poor, that a pension system would encourage thrift, and would cost little more than our present inadequate system of charities.

The first speaker of the negative showed that a state pension system is wrong in principle, that we have no need in Canada for one, that it would not be as satisfactory as our present system of poor relief, that it would not supplant our present system, and that the system had been very detrimental to thrift and self-reliance in the Australasian colonies and elsewhere.

The second speaker of the negative, urged preventive legislation: regulation of immigration, protection of the labor market, provision for workmen's compensation, and protection against strikes, temperance legislation, and the establishment of facilities for industrial savings and insurance.

The judges, in rendering decision, announced that the contest had been a close one, Ottawa winning by three points. Their announcement also carried the implication that the superiority of Ottawa in the matter of form had turned the balance in their favor from the standpoint of Queen's, the result alone is unsatisfactory. Our representatives fought ably and vigorously. Both Mr. Chatham and Mr. Fife worked assiduously in preparation of material, and both deserve the thanks of the student body for forceful presentation of arguments and general proficiency in the contest. To Ottawa we extend congratulations. Her representatives were strong both as regards matter and form. Our hope is that next year will see the Cup of the Debating League returned to Queen's.

At the conclusion of the debate the representatives of Queen's and Ottawa, the judges and members of the Debate Committee were entertained by Principal and Mrs. Gordon.