

chronically indifferent. They belong to the class who are primarily responsible for the greater part of the corruption which has crept into politics in America. They have no independence of spirit in themselves and seem utterly impervious to any which a university training might be supposed capable of instilling. This class, fortunately, is not large at Queen's, though it is large enough to play an important part in a close election. But it is not only in close elections that the fruits of organization are seen. Its results are even greater when enthusiasm is lacking, and when those who usually take an active part become themselves careless or indifferent.

Canvass is an evil when it is not a necessity, but it becomes a necessity when there is danger that without its assistance a good man may be beaten by an inferior one. It has come to be a factor in elections at Queen's simply because there are electors at Queen's who can be influenced by it, and as that class of elector is not likely to decrease, canvass in our elections is not likely to depart. It has come down to this, then, that it must be used by both sides. The merits of a man, the solidity of a faculty, the importance of an issue can no longer be depended upon to win an election. It seems too bad that this should be so in a university, of all places. But it has one advantage. It gives us while students a fair idea of what we may expect in the cold outside world. It is but the translation of a piece of the outside into our academic experience. It is unpleasant, but we shall be able to recognize it later, when it faces us in a more ugly form, and shall, let us hope, be more able to deal with it, from having met it before.

For some time many have seen the desirability of breaking up hard and fast faculty and interfaculty combines at election times and substituting therefore some platform or issue which would divide the electors on lines not connected with faculty matters. This year's election was a step in the right direction. The interfaculty combine was broken, and even faculty lines were not followed as closely as in the past. An issue did come in, though not intentionally, and indeed it was scarcely a worthy issue. Year disputes and little wrangles over "At Home" matters should not be allowed to interfere in matters concerning the great foster society of the university.

Altogether matters have assumed a partially new appearance and all are wondering what will happen in a year's time. Shall we follow the new road on which we have started or shall we drop back to our old ways?

THE ATHLETIC CLUBS.

THE little trouble last week over the appointment of a secretary-treasurer for the Rugby Football Club throws an interesting side-light on the workings of Queen's athletic organizations. To secure any of the important positions in any of the clubs a man must in reality be appointed three times. He is first chosen informally by the members of the team. This choice is in no way recognized by the athletic constitutions. Then he must be elected formally at the regular meeting of his club, and this election must be confirmed by the Alma Mater Society. At either of the last two stages the members of the team may find their nominee rejected and a man foisted upon them