

THE O. A. C. REVIEW.

THE DIGNITY OF A CALLING IS ITS UTILITY.

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EDITORIAL.

THE Managing Editor is temporarily blind of one eye, and cannot see out of the other, the Assistant Editor is playing football, and all the other Editors are in various stages of decline due to overwork. Things being in this cheerful condition, it devolved upon the "devil" to write up the editorial column. The thought that a free born "devil" has to descend to editorial work is certainly very depressing. Poor "devil," fallen from his high estate and forced to grub up editorials which nobody ever reads! Heigho! such is life; and now let me see what there is to talk about anyway.

Of future events, probably the most important is the meeting of the Experimental Union, which takes place December 21 and 22. We hope to see many of the old "boys" at this meeting, and we are quite willing to repeat the experiment as to how many grown people can sleep on a bed two-and-a-half feet wide, with safety to the bed and the occupants. A more extended notice of the meeting appears elsewhere in the columns of this paper.

So our football team got whipped 2-0 by the Galt Seniors on November 17th. The only wonder is that the defeat was not more severe. Fine players are the Galt fellows—sharp, sure, active, and gentlemanly too. Our fellows are just as fast, but they lack the combination. The great trouble is, our team gets no practice with good teams in order to bring out what is in them. If they had the privilege of playing more matches with such teams as Galt there would soon be a very different story to tell. We believe we have as good material here as there is in the Province, but they require more practice with good teams.

THE REVIEW received a very kind and complimentary letter from the Hon. Jno. Dryden. We feel much encouraged by his words of commendation, and are very grateful for the liberal subscription which accompanied them.

THE REVIEW received another letter. It was not exactly complimentary—at least, thin skinned and over nice people might not regard it as complimentary. In fact we are inclined to believe that it was this letter that interfered with the usefulness of one of our beloved chief's visionary organs. Still the rebuke was put very mildly, and we don't see why anyone should feel hurt. It read about as follows: "Your paper is a disgrace to the institution." The doctor predicts a speedy recovery for our chief, and we believe that by judiciously mingling the bitter with the sweet we shall be enabled to resist the luring attractions of the insane asylum for at least another month.

But here comes the Managing Editor with blood in his

presentable optic, and he wants to know what in thunder we have been doing all this time to have filled only two sheets of copy. The Assistant Managing Editor winks the other eye and pretends to be absorbed in determining the nutritive ratio of corn ensilage, while we glide out of the sanctum and gently fade into the dismal darkness of the blank, bleak corridor.

THE SUMMER SCHOOL AT THE O. A. C.

THE problem that demands the attention of many a farmer in Ontario to-day, is, how to keep his sons upon the farm. The young men of rural districts have become restless and yearn to reach the congested centres of life, imagining they will find there greater excitement and more attraction than in the quiet atmosphere of a country home. They are leaving permanent homes for transient ones; the healthy air of the country for the stifling atmosphere of the city; sacrificing a life of independence for one of little freedom, and exchanging a life of comparative peace for one of worry and feverish anxiety. How to check this tendency among young people of agricultural districts is a burning question to-day. Ontario is preeminently an agricultural Province, and therefore its success depends upon the attention given to agriculture, which is certainly the foundation of our prosperity. Several things might be suggested, but the writer will refer to only two, viz: Make the home life more attractive and the occupation more interesting and instructive.

The latter will reduce the drudgery of farm life to a minimum and make intelligence a great factor in all its operations. The reason *why* certain operations are done should be made as important as *how* they are performed.

This object may be reached by teaching the pupils in our rural schools the great scientific principles which underlie much of farm work, and making them familiar with the Book of Nature as it lies open before them. Encourage them to observe natural phenomena, as they are expressed in the air and soil, and in the varied forms of plant and animal life. With such knowledge, one would be more than a mere machine, grinding out an existence in slavish toil, and life would possess many charms unknown to him, before whom the marvellous pages of the Book of Nature are blanks.

To reach this enviably goal, we therefore must begin at our rural schools, and there introduce a form of instruction based upon the teachings of science as illustrated in the operations upon the farm.

To do this it is neither necessary to increase the number