

in favor among the girls, and that a good work is being done. The committee present an excellent programme for the year. The meetings thus far have been very interesting and helpful. Each leader is at liberty to conduct the meeting in whatever way she chooses, and the result has been very gratifying. An entire lack of dullness characterizing the meetings, some of them have been delightfully informal little heart to heart talks that cannot fail to form a strong bond between those present. The girl who misses these meetings is the loser. We are glad, through "Vox," to send kindly greeting to the absent ones of our circle, and tell them that we mean to try and make this a good new year for Wesley's Y. W. C. A.

The scientific world is much agitated at present over a new chemical compound called Bennium. Although I say a new compound, it must not be inferred that its discovery is of recent date. On the contrary, it was known at least twenty-one years ago, but it is only of late years that its wonderful adaptability to the useful arts has been ascertained. The remarkable scarcity of this substance has also militated very strongly against a widespread knowledge of its valuable qualities. The localities in which it has been found are:—

(1) Ontario—Very small quantity.

(2) Manitoba—Somewhat greater quantity.

Bennium is an organic compound. Formula, B₂ H. (At wt. 145.) It is a somewhat viscous solid, reddish in color, possessing great elasticity and flexibility.

It has an antipathy for water alone, but has a remarkable affinity for it if some glucose be added to the water and the solution be saturated with CO₂. This combination is accompanied by a marked increase of temperature. This substance is very inflammable, and therefore, all parties having to do with it should take all due precautions. Bennium is also very susceptible to change of temperature, melting at 2 in the shade and becoming very white and brittle at 40

below. The extent of its utility is probably not yet fully ascertained, but already it has evidenced qualities peculiarly valuable in arts.

A TRAGEDY.

A maid
She strayed
And stayed
Upon the stair.
A youth
Forsooth
In truth
Also was there.
But why
Her eye
So shy
For him did yearn.
Likewise
His eyes
And sighs
I did not learn.
They grasped
And clasped,
But gasped,
The Prof. was there.
They slid,
They did
And hid
From off the stair.

Our reading room will soon be an accomplished fact. It is owing largely to the ingenuity and energy of Mr. W. A. Sipprell that the enterprise has reached successful completion. His fertile brain conceived the idea of sending to friends of the college all over the country letters containing a brief statement of the object in view, with a request to fill the hole in an enclosed piece of cardboard with a 25-cent piece, and return the same in an addressed envelope, which was also supplied. A large number of letters were sent out, and as a result about \$30 has been netted for the project. Of course, some of the seed fell by the wayside, some on stony ground, etc., but though only 25 cents were asked, yet some returned 50 cents, some 100 cents, and some—one cent. Some of the answers were as follows:—

"Wishing you all success."