

We now feel convinced that final exams. are doomed. The meeting was closed with the usual witty remarks of our genial critic.

Points worthy of notice: The absence of our president. The noble confessions of certain members. The self-composure of our secretary. The usual "all out."

1900.

The regular meeting of 1900 was held on the 4th inst. in the Jr. Philosophy room. The vice-president occupied the chair till the arrival of the president. After the business of the year was concluded the programme prepared for the meeting was rendered, of which the principal features were a solo by Mr. Crawford and a recitation by Mr. Arthur. It was decided to hold a debate *re* woman's suffrage at the next regular meeting.

DIVINITY HALL.

THE CONFERENCE.

THE fifth annual conference of our Theological Alumni was held in the University from Feb. 9th to 19th, and was in every respect a decided success. Judged from the number present, the variety of subjects treated, and the thorough preparation of the members, as indicated by their excellent papers and intelligent discussions, the conference left nothing to be desired. From an exchange of confidences made during the conference, among those who have done most towards its progress, we find that the doubts with which some viewed the enterprise at the outset, have now vanished, while the faith of others in its possibilities for good have been more than vindicated. In our limited space we can merely indicate the subjects discussed; we trust that many of the papers will be published for general circulation.

The chief interest of the conference centred, as in previous years, in the Chancellor's course of lectures delivered by Prof. Watson, whose subject this session was "Christianity in its Relations to Human Progress." Dr. Watson merited and received the warm thanks of all the members for the self-sacrifice involved in the preparation of this course at a time when his regular class-work demands so much attention. It would be superfluous to comment on his lectures; like all his work they were candid, comprehensive and suggestive. While necessarily treating his subject from a philosophical standpoint his peculiarly lucid style enabled him to present it in a form intelligible to all.

The development of O.T. prophecy was taken up in accordance with the plan arranged last session. Mr. R. J. Hutcheon sketched its rise and develop-

ment down to the 8th century B.C., and Messrs. Strachan, Mutch and Milligan dealt respectively with the life and work of Amos, Hosea and Isaiah. All these papers were the product of much study, and Mr. Hutcheon in particular was warmly commended for his thorough investigation of a period concerning which most people know so little. Messrs. Hay, Thompson and A. Laird gave a comprehensive outline of Tolstoi's social and religious views, and as a result of these papers a full study of the life of Tolstoi will form part of the work for the ensuing year. Dr. Thompson and Mr. McPhail opened up many problems of the pastorate, and the best methods for solving these were vigorously discussed. Prof. Watson presided over a discussion of Caird's "Evolution of Religion," which was ably dealt with by Messrs. J. G. Stuart and John Millar. Rev. J. A. McDonald, editor of the *Westminster*, delighted the conference with a paper on "The Needs of the Modern Pulpit." Dr. Ross dealt with some of the chief problems of N.T. study, and Dr. Mowat outlined the present position of O.T. criticism. Prof. McNaughton's lectures on the development of church organization in the first century were a marked feature of the conference, as were also Prof. Cappon's lectures on the interpretation of life by modern poets.

The growing demand of the times for a ministry thoroughly informed on social and economic questions is recognized by Queen's graduates and this year, as usual, a large part of the ten days was devoted to such problems. Kidd's "Social Evolution," Tolstoi's "War and Peace," the municipal problem, the development of national character, the state in relation to crime, and the economic development of labor in England and Canada were carefully studied and were the basis for much helpful instruction along social and economic lines. Profs. Shortt, Watson and Dyde and Messrs. Bland, Hossack, Hunter, Macdonnell and Peck had charge of these subjects and did them ample justice.

From the foregoing outline it can be seen how much work was undertaken and how beneficial such study must necessarily prove. We were sorry that the genial chairman of the conference, Dr. Milligan, contracted a severe attack of bronchitis soon after his arrival, but not even this affliction could suppress his sparkling sallies of wit and wisdom. General regret too was expressed over the illness of the Secretary, Mr. J. D. Boyd, who, we are pleased to learn, is now convalescent. Finally to our own Principal is due much of the credit for the success of the conference. As usual his eye was everywhere, and the skill with which he maintained a relevant and interesting discussion of the various papers added much to the profit of every session.