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IN a university city like ours where the
citizens, as a rule, take such a live inter-
est in the university and its work, it seems
but right and just that it should afford to
those citizens interested in the acquisition
of knowledge some opportunity to take ad-
vantage of the instruction which it provides.
In the university towns and cities of Britain
such provision has of late been made in the
shape of special lectures on topics of general
interest coming within the scope of univer-
sity work. These have been steadily grow-
ing in popularity with the most beneficial
results. Last session Prof. Watson under-
took to provide the intellectually athirst of
Kingston with opportunities to learn some-

thing of the Ethics of Hedonism, and though
those who attended that course of lectures
were very much pleased with the result, yet
many abstained from attending through a
vague fear that the subject was one beyond
the scope of their understandings. Certain-
ly knowledge worth having can not be
absorbed with as little effort on the part of
the recipient as the entertainment of a comic
opera or ordinary concert; but if those who
were not afraid to do a little thinking had
overcome their fears as to the unfathomable
depths of the subject they would no doubt
have found the lectures much more interest-
ing than they had anticipated. However it
seemed that for the present the demand for
philosophy, in however mild a form, was not
very pressing, hence no attempt was made
to follow up the departure during the present
session. Still, as it was thought that there
might be a demand for something which
had not such a profound aspect on first
sight, and which might appeal to a larger
fraction of the citizens, it has been decided
to open the summer Botany class to all who
wish to attend it. It is almost universally
admitted that there is no more interesting
field of study as an introduction to the
science of nature than that of Botany. How
few Canadians there are who know any-
thing, even so much as the ordinary names,
of our common wild flowers; and yet there
can be few more interesting studies for the
average person who aspires to know a little
of nature than that of the flowers of field
and forest which deck his or her native land.
There is certainly no study which can be
prosecuted with less inconvenience and ex-