

condition is not much better than last year, and the institution has still to rely on the aid of private subscriptions, obtained through the efforts of our Honorary President and other friends.

### **The Life Classes**

have continued to be an important professional privilege during the winter, for which we are indebted to the Council of the Royal Canadian Academy for its usual grant. These have been opened to students of the school and others under careful restrictions, which have been judiciously carried out by our committee. An evening reception was jointly held by the Society and the School, upon the completion of the improvements.

The 24th annual exhibition may fairly be deemed a surprise when the present times are considered, as artists have shown much courage in preparing works, and incurring expense necessary in the face of but little prospect in return.

It may be doubted whether any other class exists who would evince such pertinacity, thus proving that material gain is not their chief aim, but that a strong love of the work itself sustains them in their course. Were it not so the world might bid good-bye not only to Art progress, but to Art itself.

The conditions on which the Society receives its annual

### **Government Grant**

have been changed this year. By these the Government requires that a selection be made of work by the Society to the amount of two hundred dollars, to commence a collection for the Educational Department. This is being complied with cheerfully, and is regarded as desirable. A ballot will be taken this evening to select two works from the present exhibition of the value of one hundred dollars each for this purpose. We have cause of satisfaction that the Society has sustained no losses by death during the year, and but one name has dropped from the roll.

It is also pleasant to observe that old members who for reasons of their own had left us are now rejoining, and the