

GLEE CLUB'S NEW CONDUCTOR.

When the University Glee Club lost the services of Mr. Walter H. Robinson, as conductor, it was felt that no slight difficulty would be experienced in filling his place. The committee spared no pains in their search for a new conductor who would be thoroughly capable, and when it finally secured the services of Herr Rudolf Ruth, the club received many hearty congratulations from the musical public. The energetic manner in which he has taken charge of the organization, his immediate popularity, and his high qualities as a musician, show that President Black and the other members of the committee have made a most happy choice.

Herr Rudolf Ruth is a German gentleman, having been born in Hanau. He commenced his education at Hanau College, and soon gave promise of great musical abilities. Accordingly he went to Dr. Hoch's Conservatory at Frankfort-on-the-Main, where he pursued his musical studies for five years. Before entering on a public career as a musician, he spent two years in Brussels perfecting himself in his art. He also received a very flattering invitation to join the German army, in which he served for three years, and to train for an officer.

It was while in Brussels that Herr Ruth made his first bow at a concert. Upon the invitation of H. R. H. Prince von Hesse, the nephew of the Queen, he performed at a benefit concert, in which the Prince also took part. Shortly afterwards he started on an extended concert tour through Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, England and Scotland. In the last named country he was the guest of the famous "Pen and Pencil Club," of which the Marquis of Huntley was then president.

It was due to Mr. William Steinway, so well known for introducing artists to America, and to Victor Herbert, who is now connected with Gilmore's Band, that Herr Ruth visited New York shortly afterwards. It was through their influence and recommendation that he came to Toronto, where he accepted a position with the College of Music. After four years he severed his connection with the College to accept a prominent position in the Toronto Conservatory of Music, now the leading musical institution in Canada.

An artist with such a brilliant musical record behind him, is sure to have a bright future before him. He has had not only wide experience and pronounced success in orchestral, choral and concert work in general, but as an instrumental soloist he enjoys the very highest reputation. That the University of Toronto Glee Club will prosper mightily under his care is a safe prediction.

ALMOST LOST PRINGLE.

G. C. F. Pringle, of the fourth year philosophy class, turned his back on Galt this summer, and spent the four months of his vacation in the Gopher state. While there he ministered to the spiritual needs of the heathen of Chester and Pleasant Valley, settlements about 100 miles southeast of Minneapolis. His congregations were motley crowds—Germans, Scotch, Irish, Norwegian and English—and he says that the Englishman in that territory is regarded as a foreigner just as much as the Norwegian.

"They do not seem to recognize that they themselves and the English come from the one stock," Mr. Pringle said to VARSITY.

"Any Canadians there?"

"Yes, I met lots of Canadians," he replied; "and if a person is a Canadian out there, that's all he needs to get along."

"What are their views on England?"

"Oh," he said, "they're Anglophobists. They class England with France and Germany and Russia, and seem to have no idea whatever of her naval supremacy."

Mr. Pringle said that a common mistake made by both

Englishmen and Canadians in the Western States was to brag of their nationality. In his opinion, it's better to line your pockets with Yankee coin (such as it is), and say nothing. The people he found very kind and liberal and neighborly, and the country a fine one.

"I'd make a fine American," he said; "I was very nearly staying there all winter."

His many friends, however, are glad that the charms of Minnesota were not sufficient to rob the college of one of its best students.

The old Varsity yell is still good enough for a football game.



HERR RUDOLF RUTH.