

The Varsity

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TORONTO, FEBRUARY 12, 1912

ATHLETICS

With the new gymnasium in sight, the attention of the undergraduates is drawn to the inadequacy of the old building. In it, there are only 600 lockers; and these accommodate over 800 men. Besides these 800, well over 300 would use lockers if there were any available, as is shown by the fact that easily that number engage in athletics, who are not able to get accommodation in the gym.

The number of men engaged in organized athletics, considering the gym and field space available, is remarkably great. In the fall, three University teams and eleven college teams play rugby, using about 250 men. University College, Meds., and S.P.S. each put two teams into the Mulock Cup series, and Victoria, Trinity, St. Michael's, Forestry and Dents. each one. More men play soccer than is generally thought—more, indeed, than play rugby. Two University and fifteen College teams are in the field, and over 260 men play. U.C., Meds. and School have, as usual, two teams, as have Dents, and Victoria Wycliffe, Knox, Forestry, Education, Pharmacy and Vets. have one each. In hockey, there are the same number of teams as in soccer—seventeen; but only about 170 men play in the organized series. In hockey, however, there are far more unattached teams than in any other sport, and the number of men playing, all told, must be much more than 200. On the track, there are easily 100 men, the harriers interest about 30, lacrosse about the same, tennis about 50, and cricket about 20. At the lowest estimate, nearly 900 men are engaged in outdoor athletics.

Indoors there are not so many, owing, partly to the lack of accommodation, but mainly, no doubt, to the general preference for fresh air. Two teams represent the University in basketball, and thirteen college teams are in the Sifton Cup series. At least 110 men are playing basketball on organized teams. About fifty men are actively interested in boxing, about fifteen in wrestling, and about twelve in fencing. There are twenty undergrads in the curling club, and there are about sixteen in the senior gym class. In swimming there are this year about 150 men. There are three University water-polo teams, and eight college teams, the inter-college series owing its existence to the efficiency of the central heating plant. Besides the water-polo teams, there are about 22 men who are actively interested in swimming, and about 50 others who take the life-saving classes. The total number of men engaged in indoor sports is, then, about 325.

This makes a grand total of at least 1200 men engaged in athletics, a result of their activities that must be extremely gratifying to the Athletic Directorate. It must be remembered, too, that this number includes those engaged in original athletics only; the innumerable year teams and others of a similar nature are not included at all. If these were added, the numbers would be greatly increased.

When the new gymnasium is completed, the accommodation will be greatly increased and we may well expect that every man who is physically fit will be taking part in some form of athletics. This is the object towards which the undergraduates should work. It would aid greatly in making the product of Toronto in every case a really "all-round" man, an embodiment of the old ideal of "mens sana in corpore sano," and when, with all the present handicaps of lack of accommodation, the Athletic Directorate has succeeded so splendidly, he would be a pessimist indeed who could not look forward confidently to the time when every man in Toronto will be the better not only mentally but physically for the years he spent here.

If a freshman is fresh is a sophomore so?—Ex.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER

I see by the papers that we are to have a theatre of our own. Now for added dignity to our amateur theatricals! Instead of creaky temporary stages and bashfully winking footlights, we are to have the real thing. And this real thing, if properly handled, will be the nucleus of great things. The dramatic clubs that have been so often dreamed of, and the dramatic authors who have so often dreamed, will have the outward encouragement of a waiting stage. When great actors come to town, the little theatre could be used for off-day performances; and before we knew it, we would have a body of picturesque actors and playwrights adding to the mixed scenery of our front campus.

Perhaps we are only a few, who have an interest in modern literature. Perhaps our little unborn theatre will be dedicated to language clubs' productions, to elocutionists, and to Shakespeare in his weaker moments. But if it falls into the hands of lively spirits, there is no reason why it should not be the medium of a literary club, whose members would make the Union outshine any Mermaid Tavern and its hangers-on.

Modern literature! When you are seen reading a strange book, everyone asks you—is it a text? And some with eye-brow amazement, ask you if you read it for your own pleasure! A broad interest in the moderns is needed. And this little star on the horizon—our theatre—is a hopeful sign to many. Therefore take also a hopeful signs those preparations for the future of drama here—hair a la Paganini, flop ties and velvet pants.

THE ONLOOKER.

HABITUAL HIGH-BROW



His landlady told me to "go right up," and I easily located his room by the dim slit of light issuing from the almost closed door. I knocked, waited long for an answer, and then pushed right in, for our acquaintance was close enough to warrant such a liberty.

He was sitting at his work-table with head down upon folded arms, and I knew in a moment that he was asleep. I glanced around the room. Pennants and prints; a group Committee picture framed on one wall; flashy ties looped over the backpiece of his washstand. And as a central figure himself, hair dishevelled, coat and vest discarded, asleep amid his books.

Seeking to learn what soporific had been getting in its work, I tip-toed to the table. Under the glare of his shaded study-lamp, for all eyes to see, was the evidence. He had been synopsisizing Mommsen. There lay the notebook, there lay the funeral volume. As if this were not enough, to one side I noticed a red-bound Thucydides lying open upon its translation, marked with many references to Goodwins' Moods and Tenses. I could not bring myself to waken him. I synopsisized Mommsen once myself.

"If this is College Life"—I murmured bitterly, as I groped for the stairs, "but it cannot be. I must seek elsewhere."

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of The Varsity:

Dear Sir:

I have been interested in several letters which have appeared in your columns recently about the military lectures, and crave permission to say a few words on the subject. I am entirely in sympathy with Cincinnatus and his attitude. O.D.S. seems to have a misconception of the aims of the Defence League, and appears to approach the matter with distorted eyes. Let me ask the honourable gentleman if he reads the Toronto Star and if he saw Saturday last an article headed "Gov.-General favours a Military Training." Permit me to quote from it. In reply to an address from this same Canadian Defence League, the Duke of Connaught says:

"The first essential of military training is the production of a healthy, disciplined manhood, and no thoughtful person could dispute the desirability of this subject. Health and discipline are desirable for our own daily life and for the successful conduct of business and an effort to secure

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them for the rising generation cannot be laid open to the charge of militarism, which has sometimes been brought by the ignorant against such associations as yours."

If O.D.S. will read the objects of the Defence League, he will see that this is what they stand for. They wish to build up a high standard of citizenship, and also to prepare men who may be at their country's call should it ever be necessary. Some day we may do away with armaments, but that time has not arrived. If England had not kept up her two-power standard she would have been at war with Germany long ago.

The military lectures in this University aim at preparing a good class of men to take their place in military regiments, and how better could we raise the standard of the militia and the ideals of citizenship than by putting into the regiments men with ideals trained in our universities.

Thanking you for space,

H. V. H.

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Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre.

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A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties.—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

The Royal Military College of Canada

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government Institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education.

The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills, and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

Commissions in all branches of the Imperial service and Canadian Permanent Force are offered annually.

The diploma of graduation, is considered by the authorities conducting the examination for Dominion Land Surveyor to be equivalent to a university degree, and by the Regulations of the Law Society of Ontario, it obtains the same examinations as a B.A. degree.

The length of the course is three years, in three terms of 9 1/2 months each.

The total cost of the course, including board, uniform, instructional material, and all extras, is about \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College, takes place in May of each year, at the headquarters of the several military districts.

For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont., or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

H. Q. 94-5. 10-11.

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