members of parliament before their time. Ordinariiy, college societies for debates or the reading of papers will take the men's attention. Such societies are almost beyond number, and all have the one strangely orthodox mode of procedure: After private business, in which the officers are catechised, a member reads a paper or introduces a motion, and thereupon a general discussion waxes warm. If visitors do not intrude, and the noises in the quads die away, the men may read a brief space before "Big Tom" from Christ Church tolls out midnight and the busy day is done.

Balliol College.

E. J. Kylie.

THE NEW SCIENCE COURSE.

THE course in Biological and Physical Science has apparently amply justified its institution by the popularity it has already attained. There are at present enrolled in it four students from the Third Year, seven from the Second and twenty-five from the First. A few words in regard to it may be, therefore, not out of place and in writing it seems almost necessary to compare it with the other courses in Science, and especially with the Natural Science course which it is likely to a considerable degree to supplant.

Perhaps its most striking feature is the number of subjects other than scientific that it includes. Thus we find that while other science courses require but one of the two languages, French and German in the First Year, the new course requires both and in addition a sight examination is required in both at the end of each of the four years. Another additional subject is that of Psychology, which is required in the second year.

On the science side it also shows considerable divergence from the Natural Science course. Practical work in Physics and Chemistry has been greatly increased and Anatomy is placed among the subjects required in the Third and Fourth Years. On the other hand, several subjects have been dropped, viz. Botany of the Second and Third Years, Palacontology, Geology, and Physcological Psycology.

Any science student will appreciate the wisdom of the additional requirements in Modern Languages and Psychology. A scientist without a knowledge of French and German is at best severely handicapped, cut off from more than half his tools and supplies. In addition to this he finds himself shut off from one of the chiefest means of culture. The course in Psychology, too, should be of great value in giving to the science student some idea of the relation between mind and matter and so in counteracting the warping tendency of too close application to the study of material phenomena.

The science side of the course has been evidently adapted to the special needs of the student intending a medical career and here it seems to me to be more open to criticism. The term "Biological" seems somewhat misapplied to a course which provides for but one year's instruction in Botany and which neglects entirely a subject so closely allied to Biology and so important as Palacontology; on the other hand, Human Anatomy seems to smack too much of the technical medical training to be included in an Arts course especially as it takes the place of much more broadening subjects.

"Notwithstanding these defects, the new course is almost certainly destined to be one of great importance to the Arts department of the University. It is already bringing in students who, had it not been instituted, would never have taken an Arts course. I believe it is destined to occupy a relation to the Medical profession similar to, though closer than, that occupied by the Political Science course towards Law and the course in Philosophy to the Ministry. However, to the man who desires to pursue the study of Biology for its own sake, who wishes to get a thorough and yet comprehensive grasp of the principles underlying the phenomena of living nature, and in this way to acquire a culture, the same in essence as that obtained by a study of Language or Philosophy, this course will seem lamentably lacking. Such a one will turn to the course in Natural Science and will find in it a pleasure and a fascination not to be exceeded by that found in delving in the lore of the ancients or in attempting to fathom the mysteries of the mental and moral nature.

AD DOMESTICAM MEAM UNICAM, COQUAM EANDEM, ATQUE ATRIENSEM.

Si vis, Sara, Diaetaria Esse rara ; Coquinaria Non avara ; Cancellaria Rerum gnara ; Tutelaria Non amara ; Atriensis Perquam clara ;

Sint cibaria Non precaria : Soror Maria Non contraria : Luminaria Nunquam varia, Tenebraria : Neve area Suis hara :

Fies, Sara, Æque cara Neque cara.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB.

M. Huton or

On Thursday last, the Political Science Club was treated to an extremely interesting address on "The Climate of Canada," by Mr. Stupart, director of the Dominion Meteorological Observatory, Queen's Park. He gave a brief description of the chief characteristics of the climate of each province, beginning with British Columbia. He showed the cause of the extreme variations in the temperature of the west; the rainfall is also similarly variable. The past few years have been unusually moist, so that for the next five years comparatively dry summers can be expected in the West. In Manitoba the rainfall is fairly constant, and no droughts need be feared. The effect of large bodies of water in moderating the temperature is seen in the peninsula of Ontario, which has the finest climate in the world. In the Maritime Provinces spring begins later than in the West, but the summer is longer.

The speaker also touched on the climate of the Yukon, which is much less severe than ordinarily supposed.

The whole of Canada is favored with a greater percentage of sunshine than England, France and Germany, being inferior only to the south of Europe. The climate is not changing perceptibly in any part of the country; the change is so slight as to require centuries to become noticeable. The relation of climate to steamship routes was also discussed.

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