

COLLEGE SINGING.

What with (1) the hustle here to stay—re-established on an abiding though not a perfect basis (the attainment of perfection in the hustle line under the restriction of keeping away from any of the University buildings remains for '04 or some subsequent class; (2) the resurrection of the good old custom of wearing the college gown; (3) the institution of the dining hall in our midst with its ample opportunity for comradeship; (4) the reviving or starting on the way of class dinners, thanks to the illustrious example of '02; (5) the active and enthusiastic interest ("greater than has been") aroused in the work of our Alma Mater Society the "Lit," we have every reason to believe that our much talked of college spirit will be found to be a very positive quantity in the several departments, year classes, colleges and in the university as a whole.

May we suggest still another custom—time honored, though of late fallen into disuse around Varsity—as fit subject for recalling from among the shades of the departed to these scenes of our academic life and activity, and as a worthy companion in the good and noble work of rousing our undergraduates to a fuller sense of their opportunities and privileges in these their college days—the singing of college songs.

To this end it is suggested that as many as possible of the students secure copies of the new Varsity College Song Book, and do all they can to bring this book into as general circulation among our students as possible, and that new and suitable songs from time to time be printed under the supervision of the executive of the Literary Society, in such form that they could be inserted into the song book.

It is further suggested (1) that the students of the different years when they gather in their respective class-rooms, especially when they meet in goodly numbers, should spend at least a part of the time between lectures in singing college songs. This would give us an agreeable variety from stamping, hammering seats, etc., also at our class meetings and receptions, and at our class dinners too when once we have made up our minds to follow the example of the third year in this regard (and by the way this is the one thing that was lacking at the third year dinner, the general and hearty singing by the class as a whole); (2) at the "Lit" before the regular program for the evening is begun or as part of the program of our regular or public meetings; (3) at other public meetings where students attend in a body, as the meetings of Inter-college Debating Union, Hallowe'en celebration; (4) in Student Parades, as Athletic Field Day, Laurier Demonstration, Hallowe'en Parade and the reception to our returning soldiers.

We can give our various yells as well as there is any particular need for, but we are simply not in at all as far as singing in a body is concerned, and it is not that we lack ability to sing, but rather owing to diffidence, indifference or disorganization in this regard.

Few things will help more to make us one than singing together. In raising a common song an impetus is given, an inspiration received, to be had in no other way, and which we cannot afford to lose. It may be too that music will win many a student's sympathy when logic or oratory has failed. Marching to the accompaniment of voice or instrument undoubtedly lessens greatly the fatigue of the march.

Singing in public by the student body will be received favorably by the citizens of Toronto, and will serve to keep our college prominently and favorably before the public, and as nothing takes better than a good college chorus it might also assist the Harmonic Club in getting better support from the public as well as from the students at their annual concert.

Here, too, is a field for action in the matter of the central organization of the city colleges.

May we all hope that the proper parties will take immediate action in the matter, that college songs will once more be heard in our halls, adding not a little to our present enjoyment, and sweetening the memories of days yet to come, that every undergraduate will do all in his power in this and other matters in adding to the fair name of Varsity, and in this work of fostering a love for our own particular class year, loyalty to our Alma Mater, and our patriotic sentiment towards this fair Canada of ours and our world-wide British Empire.

F. W. BROADFOOT, '03.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

If a former member of the society had dropped in on Friday night he certainly would have come to the conclusion that "Constitution night" had been changed from March to November. Nearly two hours were spent in discussing the first report of the committee appointed to revise the Constitution. The two changes proposed both met with considerable opposition. Section 1., Article 1. regarding membership of students in affiliated colleges caused considerable discussion in which Mr. Fisher took a prominent part, being so zealous in defence of the constitution as it now stands, that he nobly earned the title "Defender of the Constitution." The clause was referred back to the committee for further consideration, and then everything went smoothly until Section 4 was reached which prohibited discussion of political as well as religious questions in the society. Here an animated discussion took place which resulted in the decision of the meeting to leave out the word political, as before.

The following notices of motion were given:

By J. L. McPherson:

Whereas, the University Council has generously offered the third house in the old University residence for the use of an Undergraduate Club; and, whereas, for some years there has been a widely recognized need of such an institution; be it resolved, that we as the Literary and Scientific Society assume the responsibility of forming such institution, and that as soon as possible definite steps be taken in that direction.

By D. B. Gillies, '03:

That the Literary Society devote a part of its funds to the purchase of a trophy to be awarded to the winners of the Inter-year debating series.

On recommendation of the executive the society decided (1) to co-operate with the Ladies' Literary in tendering a reception to Miss Barrows, (2) that there should be no meeting on the night of the Rugby Dance, December 7th, and (3) that a Mock Parliament should be held on November 30th.

On behalf of the Dinner Committee Mr. Kylie reported difficulty in fixing the date of the dinner. The meeting after some discussion decided to hold it on November 29th.

At last the literary part of the programme opened with a solo by Mr. R. H. Rowland, B.A., '98, which was most heartily encored.

The subject of the debate for the evening was, "Resolved, that a University education fits a man for business life." Messrs. Irwin and Cassidy, of '01 ably supported the affirmative, and Messrs. Younge and Phipps, of '02, the negative. The debate, which was decided in favor of the negative, was acknowledged by all present to be an exceedingly good one.

After a short speech from Mr. Rowland, the meeting adjourned.