

**THE UNIVERSITY & THE NEW ERA.**

A meeting is to take place, to-day, in the Town Hall, to consider the ways and means by which the city can help our University. But that is only a partial statement of its object, for the real fact is that the University seeks the city's help that it may be the better able to aid the city, and through the city the country and the Commonwealth. The development of the idea of the League of Nations makes us realise the more fully that help to the Commonwealth is help to mankind. Thus the meeting has no merely local or insular interest. The demands upon the services of the University are increasing by leaps and bounds. The war has imposed upon it increased obligations in teaching; the war has shown us the imperative necessity of continued and accessible research, the war has shown us the pre-eminence of science; the war has impressed upon us the need for the spread of humanism. Science demands laboratories—humanism demands libraries—and both a great library which shall serve as the tool-house of scholarship in all its spheres.

But Universities cannot stand still, and the range of studies calls for constant widening. We doubt not that to-day the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Adami, whose enthusiastic leadership and charming bonhomie are insuring for him golden opinions, will place before us the specific requirements which call for immediate attention. The sciences and their applications are so obvious in their appeal that we do not need to urge their case. But a word may be said on behalf of some other branches of learning. The Faculty of Arts was never more essential than to-day. After the bitter experiences of an age which had been taught the materialistic doctrine of the supremacy of force, we yearn for sweetness and light. We need a revision of values, a reassessment of the pleasures of life, that we may seek them by the key which unlocks a world of beauty. Poetry, the plastic arts, and music claim a more permanent place in our academic life—they are the great illuminants, shedding radiance where darkness and gloom reign supreme. History is the basis of good citizenship; philosophy the prelude to clear thinking; geography is a greater need than ever now that the world is uniting in a manner to which the records of the past supply no parallel. Similar conditions dictate closer attention to the modern languages; while the glory of a University which boasts a foremost School of Archæology make it incumbent upon us to see that the classics, the vehicle of the most meaningful messages of ancient Europe, shall flourish, and their remembrance remain fresh. Social conditions necessitate extended objective teaching in economics and political science, that theories may be tested by the light of knowledge, and doctrines by the touchstone of experience. Our new responsibilities in the Near and Middle East call for a School of Oriental Languages, particularly Hebrew, Arabic, and Persian, and finally the development of a sane outlook upon the problems of statecraft and the progress of reconstruc-

tion cry out for a strengthening of the Law School, that by our intensification of its less technical aspects it may attract a larger number of students who would aspire to a legal training as part of a liberal education.

This extension of methods means an extension in men—and both mean an extension in money. The cost of living has not passed the academic world by. We must make the academic world safe for its staff. A university is not a living force by reason of bricks and mortar, but by flesh and blood giving of their best energies to make of it not only a seat of learning, but of life. And we need not only money for the teachers, but for the taught. Scholarships, studentships, prizes, and grants ought to be available in abundance, that those who thirst may come and drink from the living waters. The University comes not to get, but to give—but it needs our help, that it may continue to serve us. Now is the time to show our gratitude to our University. With civic pride the citizens may recall the fact that they were its builders, and upon the foundation they have laid may a greater superstructure be raised, more perfect in all its parts and still worthier of its builders.