

rather than of ennobling, purifying influences. But we are persuaded better things of Queen's. However, the fact cannot be ignored, that there has been an increase of betting in our midst, and it is time for every loyal son and daughter of our Alma Mater to so frown upon this vice that no respectable student will dare to either take or offer money as a bet.

There are those who think that the only way to manifest confidence in the favorite team is by risking a sum of money upon their success. So there are those who think that to talk emphatically it is necessary to insert an oath between every half dozen words. As every student should be above the latter practice, so he should be above the former. His confidence can find other modes of expression, although loyalty does not bind a man to think it impossible that other teams could be as good as the one in which he is specially interested. Of a much higher order is that disposition which leads him quietly to wait the issue, encouraging the players throughout with his presence and his cheers, but to be asked to bet upon the game should be looked upon as an insult to his manhood and his purity.

When students awake to this fact and realize that a pure unsullied character is of more importance than the opinions of "sports," then our foot-ball matches will be freed from betting so far as students are concerned, and some check will be placed upon the betting of outsiders. May that day soon come!

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The A. M. S. meetings have been a little more brisk than usual this year, owing partly to the entertainment given by the Freshman class, and the consequent interest taken in the society by the members of that year. But already there are indications of abating interest and occasionally we hear the stock excuse, "I can't afford the time." The ground for such an excuse ought to be removed and the meetings made so entertaining and beneficial that students will say, "I can't afford to stay away." It is true that business affecting the interests of students must always take precedence, and that occasionally it will be necessary to devote much time to the discussion of such matters. But usually a part of the evening could be devoted to exercises of a different nature. We have already seen what can be done along the line of lighter entertainment. It is a reproach to our A. M. S., however, that such an entertainment should be so unique a feature in its history, and it is a matter of regret that college life tends to repress rather than to foster talent of this sort. If we are not on the eve of a revival in this respect, it is safe to predict that in no subsequent year of its course will the class of '98 find so little difficulty in providing a similar programme. But mere entertainment is not enough. Students should feel that apart from the relaxation which

these meetings give, there is some positive benefit to be derived from attending them. In view of the fact that our college curriculum makes no provision for training in rhetoric, our A. M. S. ought as far as possible to give the needed opportunity for practice in public speaking. Debates, short essays, and plain talks on various topics should be frequently presented, and wherever possible the debate, essay, or talk should be followed by a free discussion of the points raised. In the discussion of the moral, social, and political problems of the day we would be able to keep in touch with the great outside world from which students are wont to exile themselves during their college course. If regular entertainments were provided once a month and the intervening nights devoted to such features as those above suggested, the present year would mark a new era in our A. M. S.

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Apropos of the question of training in rhetoric, and also of keeping in touch with the problems of social and political life, we would like to call the attention of our Professors to a new departure which has been made at Yale this year by Prof. Hadley in his class in Political Science. This professor has formed a debating class from among the students attending his lectures. To prevent overcrowding he has decided that the meetings shall be held from 4 to 6 on Friday afternoons, and some 30 students have joined. Not many of us would care to have our hours in the lecture room increased, but if some of our professors whose subjects permit of it would occasionally reverse their present method and let the students do the talking during part of the regular lecture hour while they themselves make note of the arguments, we believe the Yale professor's scheme in a modified form would serve an excellent purpose in Queen's. Prof. Hadley has selected subjects for the whole course and at the close of each debate he analyses and sums up the arguments, without necessarily giving a formal decision. To show the practical nature of the questions to be discussed we append some of the topics he has selected for the present college year. The topics for the first term are grouped under the general head "Finance," and in this group are found "The income tax," "The single tax theory," "Protection to infant industries," "Reciprocity" and some others. The second term of the college year will be devoted to "Corporations," under which head will be discussed "Subsidies and bounties," "Public works," "Government ownership of railroads," &c., "municipal ownership of gas and water." In the 3rd term under the general head "Labor" will be discussed many of the questions now agitating labor organizations such as strikes, shorter hours, cheap labor, prison labor, &c.