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Editorial Comments.



WHATEVER be the views of Canadians as to the desirability of the changes now being so ably advocated in the English House of Commons, by our honored Chancellor, one cannot read without a thrill of pride that, in the most illustrious assembly of the world, beneath the roof which has echoed the eloquence of Britain's greatest sons, our own Canadian Blake has earned the right to have his name enrolled with those that Britons throughout the world delight to honor and extol.

We call attention to the letter of Mr. J. D. Phillips in another column.

While we may not agree with him that the possibility of being relegated to ex-senatorial abasement is a proper incentive to action, we do think that the Library Committee have been culpably remiss. It is their duty to direct the matters in their control with a view to the best interests of those for whom the Library is intended, and a regulation which practically excludes three-fourths of our students can not by any stretch of argument or imagination be held in accordance with that duty. The Committee have not been heard from lately, but if the majority have departed this life, steps should be taken immediately to fill their places with live men from whom something might be expected.

Amongst the various proposed amendments to the Literary Society constitution is that which proposes a reduction of the annual fee. This is, we think, desirable, and not less so from the society point of view than from individual considerations.

The number of fees imposed by various societies and associations is constantly increasing, and unless this increase is accompanied with a diminution in amount, in those societies where it is possible, the average student must find himself debarred from many privileges otherwise accessible.

That it is possible to lower the Society fee without in the least impairing the finances is apparent on fair consideration.

The Society has never had any surplus worth mentioning, and, at first blush, a decline in receipts would seem to indicate immediate and protracted bankruptcy.

But it is not an inevitable result that a man who has saved nothing on an income of \$20 per week should go to the Fleet if an injudicious strike reduce him to \$15.

The Literary Society could cut down its expenditure if necessary; grants to Glee Club, Banjo Club, annual games, K Company, etc., are all very well when the Society purse is plethoric, but could be very well dispensed with under adverse circumstance. A Society gives freely be-

cause as a Society it has no miserly instincts; wealth is not its ambition. So the Lit. has been lavish when it might just as well have economized.

It is doubtful, however, if the receipts would be at all reduced by adopting the dollar fee; and certainly the reduction would not be a material one. The necessary annual expenses of the society are easily within \$450, and if the present membership be maintained, this amount would be raised. But the membership would from two sources be largely increased; every year the attendance is greater than in the preceding, and many who now refuse would pay the reduced amount. We all know how the consumption of bananas is increased by a reduction from 35 to 15c per dozen.

But the greatest probable benefit is that the tendency to use corrupt influences in election of officers would be diminished. It is to be feared that in our present system we are sacrificing our sense of honor to mere unworthy emulation. What is held, and rightly held, degrading in municipal election, can hardly be less so when practised by unformed and susceptible youth in a University.

Those who desire a purer political atmosphere for Varsity should make it a point to be present on constitution night to vote for reduction.

GLEE CLUB CONCERT.

The sale of seats at Suckling's on Saturday for the concert was very successful, and augers well for Friday evening next. The Glee Club is holding three rehearsals this week and the Banjo Club is at it every day, so that a most artistic performance of their respective members is assured. The Club will issue souvenir programmes in the form of a booklet, tied with blue ribbon and will wear blue and white bands across their shirt bosoms. This, with the displays of blue and white bunting and the wearing of academics will give the event a decidedly Varsity stamp, and no man with any Varsity spirit and pride in the institutions of his Alma Mater should miss it.

Mr. Harry Field who will give two piano numbers at the concert, is an old Varsity man. He was here towards the close of the eighties, but after spending some time within our corridors, was prevailed to go abroad to pursue the study of his favorite subject, and according he bid farewell to Old Varsity, and took up his abode in Germany where he spent five or six years, altogether, with the best teachers in Europe. Since his return he has been splendidly received by both critics and audiences everywhere. He has just returned from a most successful tour with the Thomas Orchestra, and the Glee Club is to be congratulated on securing his services.