

THE VARSITY

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One Man One Office

The multiplicity of organizations connected with the University of Toronto is a fact that calls forth frequent comment. Some go so far as to advise the abandonment of the majority of them, that the demands upon the time of the undergraduates may not be so great as to interfere with regular academic work. This will not solve the problem. We may admit that in each faculty some societies might be dispensed with, without any appreciable loss, and yet, so long as they can render any service to those interested they have a right to exist. The root of the evil will not be reached in that way. Something far easier and far more effective can be suggested and now is the time to put it into operation. Men are being chosen for the various executives for the year 1906-7. No good man's efforts to make any organization progressive can be despised, and in every case the best possible men should be sought. But, no matter how good the man, his usefulness is diminished if his energies are distributed too widely. No man is so indispensable to the University that, unless he take the initiative, a half dozen of its societies will go to smash. Rather let him relinquish his monopoly and grade his activities according as he estimates the opportunities for serving the University and for developing his talents for use in the broader field of life. In his senior year every man should be a leader in some department. "One man, one office," should be made the rule. And what will result? Fewer overworked men. Fewer good men crowded out. No defunct or half-hearted organizations. A place for everyone and everyone in his place.

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The University Question in B.C.

There are two bills before the British Columbia Legislature which, indirectly at least, affect Toronto University. The tendency of these bills is to make McGill University the paramount factor in the higher educational system of British Columbia. One section of Bill 23 pro-

vides that McGill may exert a controlling influence on secondary education. As far as we can judge, the effect of the bills if passed, will be to make the High Schools throughout the Province feeders for McGill, to the exclusion of other Canadian Universities.

There is already in British Columbia an institution for higher education, the Columbian College, and it is affiliated through Victoria College with this University. The proposed legislation will be most prejudicial to its interests and has drawn forth strong protests from its management. These protests together with those of University graduates and others interested in educational matters, will doubtless have a great influence on the fate of the bills, and it is possible that even yet they may be withdrawn.

But the most incomprehensible phase of the question to us is why, instead of contributing to the aggrandizement of an institution geographically and otherwise remote, the Legislature does not establish a provincial university of its own. It cannot be for lack of resources, for most of the Canadian Universities, including our own, were established at a far earlier stage of development than that of British Columbia to-day.

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Comstockery

Our undergraduate girls are good friends of The Varsity and considering the proportion of subscribers amongst them they are the most loyal supporters of it. And surely undue levity or frivolity has never marred their contributions to it. No man, no woman, or even Editor Bok, of The Ladies' Home Journal, can truthfully say otherwise. Little did we think that we should ever have to defend the columns of "The College Girl." And yet one who has written for this page notifies us that she will discontinue her contributions to The Varsity as they have been censured by one of the authorities whose special charges are the girl students. This is not the only case in point. More than one young lady has refused to write for us for fear of censure from the same source.

We are at a loss to account for this. Can it be that the witch scene in "Macbeth," recently portrayed by Ben Greet, has hypnotized the imaginations of these powers that be? Is that the reason they prepare the cauldron for the unhappy editor? Must he hear in every breeze that whistles through the trees in Queen's Park the weird shriek of witches preparing some horrid doom? Not so fast, not so fast, gentle critics; the University has a Domestic Science Department to be reckoned with, and the fair votaries of this art unanimously say that a tough bird (like the editor) to be made delectable must be boiled slowly.