

swering them be all that each student requires, and not have it, as at present, a race against time, making it not a question of knowledge, so much, as one of speedy writing. Let the time for orals be lengthened; let them be more uniform, and give them a more prominent position in the examinations. It is by them, an examiner, if capable, should be able to find out the true worth and real capacity and knowledge of a man.

When we reflect that it is on the result of these examinations that the Faculty grants its medals, prizes and honor standing, as well as the degrees, we see the necessity of having them conducted free from all charge or suspicion of unfairness in any way. No one would think of breathing a charge of unfairness against any of the examiners; but we think the method of examination might be improved in several and important respects.

THE LIBRARY.

As the instruction received from the professors is not the only, though, perhaps, the principal, factor of an Arts Education, it is essential to the best performance of "the work we came to do" that the greatest possible facilities should be given to the prosecution of *outside reading*, which is one of the subsidiary factors. The establishment of libraries in connection with a large number of colleges has been partly due to a desire for the furthering of this end. A library affords a two-fold advantage to a student: there are text-books and works of reference in his own subject, or subjects, while the remainder of the library constitutes a fund on which he may draw for his outside reading. Moreover, for the bulk of our students, outside reading can only be indulged in by means of a public library.

Now, without actually finding fault with our library, we wish to point out a few improvements that would greatly increase its usefulness, as regards outside reading and reference. One feature which has recently been introduced is the regulation requiring that deposits be paid at the Bursar's office. As those who use the library have already found out, this is, to say the least, a great and useless trouble. We would say, restore the old regulation requiring deposits to be made with the librarian.

More facilities for reference are needed, especially among the senior men. These have to hunt through many books for want they want; and under the present regulations no student is allowed to take down books for himself. We would suggest that men of the fourth year should be granted freedom to go into the alcoves and examine books, without making out

"forms". If this be too general a concession, let a student, on presentation of an order from a professor, have this freedom. The last suggestion is of the same nature as the foregoing. Let there be chosen by the Faculty of Arts, the librarian, or some other competent judge, several men from the senior years who would each give a certain time per day to the work of the library. In return for this, they might receive "the run of the library." This has in it benefit to the students as a whole, and to those chosen. The same idea has found form in Toronto, where it works very well. If some such arrangement were made, Mr. Taylor would be enabled to leave the library during the day, and be present some evening—as the petition now being prepared requests. It would also obviate the necessity of the closing of the library when the librarian is absent. Such are a few suggestions which seem worthy of notice. They are briefly,—more facilities for consultation to the senior men, and more facilities to the general mass of readers by having two or more assistants always present; also greater convenience in the making of deposits.

The following is from the "Leading Article" of *The Varsity*, of March 20th:—

A mass meeting of undergraduates was called to consider the matter. At that meeting the following resolution was carried by a large majority. It was moved by Mr. F. F. Macpherson, and seconded by Mr. A. H. Young, both of them well-known scholarship men of the fourth year:—

"Whereas, in the opinion of the undergraduates, medals and scholarships are detrimental to the true interests of education; and

"Whereas, contrary to the expressed wishes of the undergraduates, scholarships and medals have been restored by the College Council; and

"Whereas, from a lack of funds, the Library is not equipped so as to afford students all the advantages such an institution should confer; and

"Whereas, there is the greatest necessity for the appointment of a lecturer in Political Economy;

"Therefore, it is resolved, that the undergraduates, protest against the restoration of medals and scholarships, and also against the action of College officials in soliciting contributions for such purpose, thus diverting public benefactions from more worthy objects."

There is no uncertainty in the tone of this resolution, nor in that of the two letters which appear in another column on this subject.

The objections against the system of scholarships and medals have not been exaggerated. This system sets up unworthy objects before students, and obscures the highest ideals and aims of education. It intensifies all the evils of competition and of competitive examinations. It tends to produce jealousy and distrust among students following the same courses. It forces our best students, no matter how unwilling they may be, into an unhealthy and degrading rivalry. It confers undue honor on a very few at the expense