

literary part of the contest. The subjects that had been submitted to the Normal students for consideration were: "The Advantages of Disadvantage," "Socialism," "The True Function of Criticism," "An Estimate of Kipling," "The British Empire in 2000 A.D.," and "The Peace Conference." Only two essays had been handed in for the consideration of the judges, Revs. Dr. Lyle, John Morton, and Dr. Beavis, hence there was only one prize—\$10—awarded. This fell to the lot of Miss Bulmer, who, later in the evening, read her essay on "Socialism."

The competition in poetry was somewhat keener, there being eight entries, and two prizes, one \$10 and the other \$6. The judges, Messrs. J. L. Lewis, of *The Herald*, and J. S. Gordon, arrived at the conclusion that Miss Bauer's poem deserved first place and Mr. Willis' second. In the absence of Miss Bauer, the chairman read her work.

In awarding the prizes in oratory Messrs. Hugh Murray, G. L. Staunton, O. C., and A. T. Freed decided that Mr. Reid should carry off the first prize of \$15, and Mr. Wren the second amounting to \$10.

In announcing the decision of the judges in the essay contest, Dr. Lyle made a short address. Referring to the speeches, he said they were exceptionally good this year. With regard to the essays the judges had found it hard to decide as they had been written on different subjects. He wished those in charge had limited the competitors to one subject. The same difficulty had occurred last year in the case of two of the essays, the one displaying more sentiment, the other being more philosophical and showing a deeper grasp of the subject. Where two essays were so different it was impossible to give a clear and fair decision. The state of affairs was similar this year. The one essay showed higher literary merit, more freedom of

touch and beauty of expression; the other however excelled in thought and was judged from the higher development of the subject and higher method displayed. He was glad to see that oratory and essay writing were so well cultivated here. The Normal College was doing a magnificent work not only for the city but the whole country, and he wished all the students success in the larger spheres in which they would soon be stationed.

Mr. Hugh Murray, for the judges in the oratorical contest, congratulated the College on the four excellent orations which had been delivered.

Evidently it was felt that there had been enough patriotic display for one night, and the last public meeting of this year's Normal College students was brought to a close without so much as "God Save the Queen" having been mentioned.

#### **The Canadian Democracy and the Responsibility it Entails Upon the Citizen.**

First Prize Oration by E. J. Reid, B. A.

Honor and responsibility are twins. As it was in Greece, so now in Canada, it should be the most cherished wish of every citizen to be a recognized member of an autonomous state. Our forefathers have bequeathed to us a priceless legacy, in that we are born citizens of Canada, a State possessing all the possibilities of self-government. This is an honor, but it implies great responsibility.

That honor and responsibility are inseparable may be clearly seen, when we consider what the government of a country means. Does it not mean the management of its affairs in its numerous departments? Such as:—the currency, militia, post-office, railroads, the administration of justice, the raising of revenue by means of taxation, the guarding of the lives and property of the citizens, the giving permission to certain people to immigrate and others to emigrate, the