## The Varsity

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TORONTO, JANUARY 15, 1912
opportunities in medicine

It is well known among medical men that the Carnegie Report of two years ago, places Canadian Universities high in the category of American medical
schools. This is the reason why Canadians schools. This is the reason why Canadians
have little difficulty in securing excellent posts in the large hospitals of the United States. About twenty Toron
go each year across the line.
go each year across the line.
It is interesting to note in this connection the rapidity with which the field for graduates in medicine is opening up.
Twenty years ago there were about five Twenty years ago there were about fiv years ago there were ten, whereas to-day there are quite thirty. In addition, there are thirteen fellowships and demonstrator ships in the enversity obtainable by
students. Most of these, like the hospital students. Most of these, $\$ 50$ the hor
appointments, are worl These opportunities are due largely $t$ the development of laboratory depart ments in the Medical faculty, five of
have opened in the last nine years. Doubtless this expansion will go on, and
medical men form Varsity will have less medical men form Varsity will have less and less difficulty in getting both practice and financial returns during the opening

## OUR. THANKs TO MCGILL

Through an inadvertence, an acknow edgement of the exceptionally fine Christmas Number of The McGill Daily was
omitted from our first issue of the term on Friday last. The Staff of The Daily are to be congratulated on their splendid effort, which embodies cight pages of reading matter and an illustrated supplement of four pages. There are special articles about the University and its wonderful growth, and some extremely clever original literary efforts. One, by
Professor Leacock is distinctly a treat. Professor Leacock is distinctly a treat.
Photographs of the Governors, Buildings, Student Executives, and Teams are reproduced in the illustrated section. We are highly appreciative of the promi-
nence given to the picture of our football team, and for the generous reference to

The spirit of good sportsmanship, of purest amateurism, and of broad fellow-
ship is contained in the following extract ship is contained in the following extract from The Daily, and we can assure MeGill men that they have not only our con-
currence, but our enthusiastic support, in what they are upholding as the idcal:
ames (with Varsity) and the real feature of the Queen's games was the sportsmanlike spirit exhibited throughout. Leading maintain the tone and courtesy of sport. Here's to the football champions of Canada the worthy standard bearers of the pirit of amateurism ever remain the guidng genius of University Athletics side athletics, lending itself as a criterion oo be emulated rather

## CORRESPONDENCE

BIENNIAL EXAMINATIONS

## To the Editor of Varsity

Sir:-There have been rumours from time to time that there are those on the staff of the University who would like to see biennial examinations substituted for the present system of annual ones. It is
thought that final examinations at the end thought that final examinations at the end
of the 2nd and 4th years only would lead of the 2nd and 4th years only would lead
to the students adopting a method of to the students adopting a method of
study different tothat prevelent at present. study different tothat prevelent at present.
The first years work must be grasped and The first years work must be grasped and
assimilated at the time, if the student is to assimilated at the time, if the student is to
have a good grip upon his subject at the have a good grip upon his subject at the
end of two years, especially since a four end of two years, especially since a four To the professors this may seem a strong reason for desiring biennial examinations. The students, however, would welcome the change for a similar, yet very different reason. Such a reform, it seems to them must force. a different treatment by the lecturers of the subjects studied in some of the courses. This is especially true of the modern language course. At present most of the lecture hours are spent in
reading the prescribed texts; the attain reading the prescribed texts; the attain-
ment of 1st class honours is the reward of a good memory. The philosophy of the people whose literature is being studied, their life and thought, the significance of an author's position in his country's development, all these are lightly touched upon in a rapid course in the history of the literature; and that is all. Several of Goethe's finest works are read-as textbooks. Imagine "King Lear" put to such
a use. What graduate in Modern Languages knows Goethe as the Germans know Shakespeare? Surely, if we were to be examined at the end of a two-years period, the translation of the prescribed texts would be considered merely the necessary foundation upon which to build real work in the literature of other coun-
tries-the models of style to inspire a real tries-the models of style to inspire a real
appreciation of the idium of foreign tongues.
Again such a reform in the examination system must, we hope, force a simplification of some of the courses. How can any second year student grapple with honour Creek, Latin, English, and History, and get any good whatever from three pass subjects in addition? Why the his-
tory of Mediaeval Europe alone is a subject that might well occupy a sophomore's full attention, if its treatment is to mean real understanding of a period so foreign to our modern democratic minds. Four honour subjects in themselves tax all the powers of even the most brilliant. For the so much is attempted.
And so it is from the fond hope that biennial examinations will render impossible the present disheartening state of things, that some, at least of the students look forward with such eagerness to a change. Indeed we only hope it may come soon.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER
Did you ever pick up McLean's Mag azine and then throw it down again? The question holds good for any Canadian fictional publication. There is no literary journal in Canada that can stand for a moment against American journals
of the same sort. And this is indeed a of the same sort. And this is indeed a sad state of affairs, because the magazines are the practice-fields where 'legitimate' literature trains its muscle. It is time the University took up the development of active literature, and examined for
flaws its machinery of passive learning and composition
ventures a man can have is in the reading of a Canadian novel. Few of these books concern themselves with the spirit of Canada, which is primitive. They are roblem that pertains to an mawkish blase civilization. Our novelist, to mis quote Stephen Leacock, mounts his directions.
And our poets--Oho, our poets! You can guess with considerable accuracy the particular volume of tennyson, of Word against the back-shed wall as our poet composed. The idea is to take lines at random from different works, and to shake 'em together. According to this children's author, if I had a mind to, by

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Sat in a corner,
Along came a spider
And pulled out a plum
And left their tails behind them

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## The Univers

edition inty Missourian" issued day of the Kansas football hours on Plans have been made at Yale to construct a new baseball cage which will e large enough to contain a diamond of gulation size. It will be high enough actice will be possible at any time.

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