

debates that get the most value out of them; and it is a pity, though it is not to be wondered at, that it is so difficult to get students to take the debates. The practice acquired in public speaking is valuable, even for those who do not expect to make public speaking their vocation, for it trains one to think quickly and to put his ideas plainly and concisely. Besides that, the aspiring orator frequently undergoes the same training that Demosthenes was wont to undergo when he spoke to the waves. Then there is in addition the knowledge acquired not only by reading up for the debate, but also by putting what you read into logical and connected form. Of course to take part in a debate means the sacrifice of considerable time, but the time so spent is not wasted; it is even worth one's while to miss a few lectures in order to take part in a debate. To take part in a debate means work, but the work is well repaid, not only in what you gain yourself, but also in the satisfaction of having done something for your year.

Were the debates brought off earlier in the session there would, perhaps, be less difficulty in finding persons to take them. Still the students should adopt the principle suggested in the Political Science and Debating Club by one who had acted upon it himself—to take part in every debate they can.

WE might in this connection offer a further suggestion that the inter-year debaters should not be limited to the one faculty. It is but natural that the debaters should as a rule be picked from the Arts students,

for it is they who are studying subjects which bear more or less closely upon the subjects usually submitted for debate or which otherwise enable them to take part in debates more readily. But as the inter-year debates, like the inter-year contests in track athletics, football and hockey, are matters of general interest, the appointment of debates might very well be left in the hands of a committee of the various faculties, by which means not only would a more general interest be awakened in the debates, but also able debaters might be found in the other faculties.

In fact it would be a good idea for each year to have a committee composed of members of the various faculties, to whom all inter-year contests could be referred, and who would report through its [members to the various year organizations. If such a committee was appointed and held responsible for the honour of the year, more regularity might be secured in bringing off the inter-year games than is now the case.

THE meetings of the Alma Mater Society have of late been very interesting. We have had since Christmas two inter-year debates, addresses from members of the medical faculty on the care of the health, and a most enjoyable programme by the ladies' musical club. The programme rendered was a credit to the University and speaks volumes for the work done by the club. Why could we not have more such programmes? The executive of the Alma Mater have led us to anticipate a few more such interesting programmes. We must commend them for what they have already