

course this subject would be brought up. But whether we have the gymnasium or not, let us not permit these games to die out, but see that all possible arrangements are made for their benefit before this session closes.

HERE is being discussed in some of our contemporaries the necessity for a third personal pronoun, singular, of a common gender. This lack in our language has often been felt by all, and still no attempt worth speaking of has ever been made to supply the deficiency. The most acceptable proposal we have yet heard is one suggested by the *Ohio Educational Monthly*. It is that we use "they, theirs, them" in the extended form in which the pronoun "you" with its compounds is used. This has been done by many writers of acknowledged correctness, and it is almost universally used in every-day conversation; and still any one of us would say that grammatically it is an incorrect expression. Why not drop this fiction and let this use of the pronoun be generally accepted? as it long has been in reality.

Some word is needed to fill the vacant place: to invent a new one would perhaps be easy, but to introduce such a new one into general use would be almost an impossibility. Instead then of being longer thus crippled in speech, let us overcome the qualms of our delicate grammatical conscience and hereafter not only use but openly avow the pronoun "they" to be virtually of either number.

THE library has received a valuable addition from a source and in a manner that enhances the value of the addition. The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury in answer to an application from the Senate and Trustees have made a grant to Queen's College of all the publications of the Scottish Record Society. These records have been published in folio volumes for a great

many years, and consist of the ancient charters, minutes of the Privy Council, and everything bearing on the antiquities, history and monuments of Scotland. The application was made on the ground that Queen's having been established by Scotchmen, it was fitting that all such records should be in the library of the University. Though the Lords Commissioners are very chary in granting such applications, and have no intention of relaxing their rule on the subject, they granted the request made to them, having "had regard," they say in their letter, "*inter alia* to the circumstances that this University is incorporated by Royal Charter, and bears the Queen's title." The thanks of every friend of the University and of all Scotchmen in Canada are due to the Lords of the Treasury and to the Colonial Office for their kindness in so promptly acceding to the request of the Senate and Trustees in this matter.

THE approaching final examinations in Arts reminds us of a proposal which we have often intended to make but which as often we have neglected. We have in Queen's a system of examinations for prizes, which has everything to be said in its favor for the tendency it has to promote thoroughness of work, and to correctly fix the standard of rank among the students. Before the change in classwork these examinations were held monthly, and though now the number of examinations depends on the number of hours a week a class is held, the old name is still retained by many, and the system is virtually equivalent to the old one.

This system of examination for class prizes is one the fairness of which has never been questioned. The frequency of the examinations causes even those whose whole study is cramming to have at least some knowledge of the subjects on which they are to pass, even a longer time before the ex-