

The Varsity

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TORONTO, DECEMBER 19, 1911

JOURNALISM

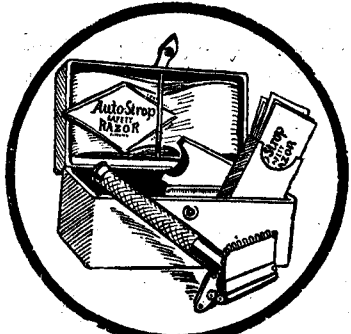
In "The Globe" of last Thursday appeared an editorial, in which the Editor-in-Chief of "The Varsity" was rather severely scored for what "The Globe" thought "The Varsity" said that he said at the University College dinner. If the representative of "The Globe" had been present on that occasion he would have realized that every man who heard Mr. Campbell speak realized—that the construction which "The Globe" put on the report in "The Varsity" was hardly just.

Professor Hutton, the Principal of University College, in proposing the toast to "The Press," in a very witty but none the less serious speech deplored the tendency of the modern newspaper to pander to King Demos. "Demos," he said, "is the one absolute ruler of the world to-day—Demos as he sits at the breakfast-table with his paper in his hand, Demos as he sits in the evening with his slippers upon the hob, and his newspaper still in his hand." Now, the point that Professor Hutton was bringing out here, was the immense power of the Press. In the rest of his speech, he deplored the fact that modern journalism does not exert its influence for the uplift, mental and moral, of this tremendously powerful despot. "The Press" says "The Globe," "is the servant of the crowd." Would it were so. The press, Principal Hutton maintained is the fawning flatterer of the crowd. "Give the people what they want" is the slogan of modern journalism. So the newspapers fill the ears of the powerful, ignorant Demos with wildly distorted truths on half-truths, coloured generously with purple patches, that will amuse him; they tickle his self-complacency by telling him in never-ceasing strains that he is truly great, truly wise, truly good; that he is infallible, beneficent, far-seeing. Instead of educating him they degrade him. The publicity they glory in, is also faulty. It encourages men—statesmen, soldiers, sailors—to play to the gallery, to strive for public praise, instead of for the solid satisfaction of having done good work. The applause of the crowd, not the well-earned praise of King of General or Admiral, is now the goal of ambition, thanks to the Press.

In reply, Mr. Campbell said that the supremacy of an uneducated and narrow-minded despot such as Professor Hutton painted King Demos, should be fought tooth and nail. He suggested, in defence of publicity, that if the Press could be brought to do its duty. King Demos might become educated and broad-minded, and said that the uplift of the crowd, not the taking of power from them, was the solution of the difficulty. With regard to publicity, he said that if the newspapers would realize their responsibility, and give all the news, not merely the sensational items, and give it in a fair and unbiased way, a great deal might be done towards changing the present tyranny of ignorance into a wise and enlightened government.

"The Globe" lays the responsibility for the uplift of Demos upon the University man. The University man is already doing a great work to this end; he realizes his responsibility; he does not want to shirk it. By University Settlements, and in other ways, he is striving for the uplift of the masses. But the Press, by pointing out our responsibilities, cannot shirk its own. There is an old parable about motes and beams, that we might refer to, but shall not. We return

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to the main reason for writing this article. "The Globe" attacked Mr. Campbell in an editorial without taking the trouble to ascertain what he really did say: and has, by so doing, shown that Professor Hutton's remarks were well warranted, and that Mr. Campbell's plea for more fair-minded and unbiased publicity was much needed.

CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of The Varsity:

Sir—

Why not agree on one pronunciation for our motto "Velut Arbor Ævo", and stick to it in all our songs and yells? In listening to a body of men singing the "Blue and White", for example, one cannot help that the effect of the whole song would be greatly improved if the men all pronounced the words "velut" and "ævo" in the same way. The various "veluts", "veluts", "evos", "ivos", and "avos" do, not mix very well, and it would be a great benefit to the student body, if some of the Classics men would put us right in this matter.

JUNIOR.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER

[EDITOR:—We had considerable difficulty in finding the Onlooker for this issue. The special constable that we have assigned to him, was found asleep on the road-side, and from this clue we were able to follow fairly well. We found our man in the rural districts, where he was tramping along at the head of a troop of small children, and discoursing upon Santa Claus and the fairies. He was carrying a small fir-tree in his hand, and his person was decorated with sundry sprigs of pine and parsley. In his teeth he held the end of a statement: that the world was saved by the Spirit of Christmas—the only relic of ancient sanity that garnishes this mad generation. Similar delightful sentiments sprung from his lips, but were lost in the excitement of the moment. The following article, written on rice-paper with our pencil, was composed at the corner of Yonge Street and Stop Twenty:]

"MERRY CHRISTMAS!
THE ONLOOKER."

CONDUCT AT PARADES

The Superintendent of Buildings is in receipt of a letter from the Deputy Chief Constable of the city expressing definitely the satisfaction which all felt at the immense success of the student parades during last month. Constable Stark says in part:—

"The University is to be congratulated on the very praiseworthy conduct of the students during the processions held at the close of the last two meets, which was creditable alike to the students and the University authorities. The processions were splendidly organized and marshalled through the streets in a manner that reflected the highest credit on the ability and tact of those entrusted with that exceedingly delicate task. On neither occasion was there a single instance of disorderly conduct reported by citizens or by the police covering the route of the procession, for which all concerned are to be congratulated."

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It's a good thing to cultivate a little bounce these days, when one may slip on the ice at any moment.

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The College is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education.

The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills, and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

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For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont., or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

H.Q. 94—5.

10—11.

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