

The students of Queen's have been following with interest the difficulties between the students and council of Toronto University. These have developed into two distinct issues: one between the Political Science Club and the authorities, and the other between the *Varsity* and the authorities. We cannot but feel that the trouble has been magnified by the Toronto papers, some of them claiming that discipline must be maintained at any cost, as if students were a lot of unreasonable children, while others approved of the action of the students. Any movement to prevent students from listening to men of recognized ability, on a subject of such wide range as political science, does not look like a fearless investigation of truth, and in our day is almost inconceivable, and any talk of suppressing undergraduate opinion is, to say the least, unwise. It is very unfortunate that the strained relations between students and faculty, pointed out in the last editorial of the *Varsity*, have existed, for the best work can be done only where there is considerable elasticity in the relations of students and authorities. We trust that concessions will be made that will result in a mutual understanding, but agree with our contemporary in maintaining the right of undergraduate criticism, and heartily endorse his position that "so long, at least, as the present editors are at the head of the *Varsity*, we can assure our readers that, while its liberty shall not be allowed to degenerate into license, its freedom of speech shall be jealously and faithfully guarded."

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Our attention has been called at different times to two movements that have recently taken place affecting nominations and scholarships in Arts and a few words may not be amiss. From a student's point of view it is naturally difficult to understand why the possibility of prize-winning has thus been spirited away from him without any further announcement or explanation than their disappearance from the calendar. It is a great question if the competition involved in the winning of scholarships is beneficial, and it is still more doubtful if they can be awarded with any degree of fairness. But neither of these causes seem to have operated seriously, as both movements were apparently occasioned by hard times and a lean treasury, that necessitated the application of such monies to more important objects.

The first came into practical prominence in the difficulty found by last summer's matriculants in obtaining nominations. So far as we can understand many of the founders of scholarships were induced to waive their right of nominating students to their benefits. This change will certainly be of financial advantage to the university, may not have any perceptible effect on the number or quality of matricu-

lants and will not seriously incommode a large section of the students. But this should be carefully remembered, that there is a large class of Canadian students, nor are they the least able or deserving, to whom these nominations have meant a great deal in a four years' course; so much so indeed that many of them in the past could not have had the benefits of a university education without these facilities and many more may be prevented in the future. There is no doubt that the authorities have a plausible reconciliation of this withdrawal and the proposed increase of class fees, with the boasted free education of our country which we have so often heard proclaimed in ringing tones from convocation platform. But it would certainly be a treat for the students to have the whole question thoroughly discussed.

The other movement referred to was the abolishing of undergraduate scholarships, and this many are at first inclined to term a grab game for money. Unwholesome rivalry and unfairness of award (as the winner may have several others a very few per cent. behind him, and this often by accident), make the advantage of scholarships a doubtful one and might justify their removal. If, however, setting this aside, the money *must* be applied to other objects, how is its place to be taken for those deserving students who look forward to this means of help in securing a college education? "Do without," the present calendar in effect says, but that answer is decidedly too negative for the best interests of the university. These awards of merit cannot be considered illegitimate inducements, and it is to be hoped that some positive move will soon be taken. The difficult question to be decided by the authorities will then be whether this help should take the shape of a loan fund, or be awarded on the former system of competitive examination.

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At the late elections for the Medical Council of Ontario, several candidates advocated the establishment of a Dominion Council of Physicians and Surgeons. Whether these men intend to put forth further efforts for this institution we do not know, but it shows that the matter is becoming more and more prominent, and if some medical men are good prophets, this council will be established in the near future. There are many arguments both for and against such a council, but it seems contrary to our national spirit that one part of the Dominion should be closed to followers of one profession from a sister province, unless they buy an entrance; because in all cases the registration fee appears to be nothing but an entrance fee.

We believe that a council and a fee are necessary and beneficial to the profession, but why not have a council of such a nature that, when a student passes