

THE TRIP TO QUEEN'S.

HE who hasn't taken a trip with "the team" has missed one phase of University life which has a charm all its own.

It is the one occasion above all others when the student forgets temporarily that he is a student and gives himself up to the honest enjoyment of youthful spirits. What is it that makes a crowd of student excursionists, above all others, give themselves up to such relaxation, such all-embracing enjoyment and such boundless good-nature? That question is still a mystery. But the congenialness of the company and the university culture may explain some of it.

The striking feature of the Kingston trip was the fact that from the minute of leaving Toronto, till the time it was reached again, there was not a minute's cessation, except the few hours of sleep at Kingston. The special "football" coach was the scene of a noisy collection as Toronto was left. Sweaters were substituted for the less comfortable, if more elegant, apparel of the street, in anticipation of the practices at the stations along the route. The attack on the lunch counter at Cobourg was worthy of a band of Manitoba harvesters, and the line-up at the other stations won the admiration of the girls who had the luck to be out. But the boys by no means confined their attention to the stops, and unfortunate was he who thought to while the time away by talking to a girl. For Bob. Pearson headed a noisy band of singers who made life miserable for all such daring individuals. The *modus operandi* was for Bob to get at one end of a coach with his band, and Ernie Patterson at the other, with another choir, and the two put up rival performances. When they had the occupants of the coach thoroughly subdued and resigned to their fate, they would progress to the next and repeat the performance.

It was a hungry crowd that swarmed into the dining room of the British American, a very few minutes after we reached Kingston. A sovereign cure for dyspeptics would be a trip with a football team. The evening was spent in many ways, though the Freshman's reception at Queen's claimed a large proportion of the excursionists. And then the next day there were the two great games. It is unnecessary to say anything about them now, except that the undiminished good humor and high spirits of the boys after the games was a magnificent tribute to the good sense of University students.

In the evening, Ernie Paterson marshalled a crowd of Varsity men to what was described as "The only correct dramatization in five acts of the life of the famous bandit, 'Jessie James.'"

Ernie was only prevented from presenting a bouquet of one chrysanthemum to one of the members of the troupe by his inability to decide which was the better—Jennie Summers, alias "Spirit of the Cave," "Witch of the Gulch," "Drunken Tom," and "The Woman in Black," or Ermani, "the dainty, spectacular, electrical dancer, in her beautiful, bewildering, bewitching, instructive dances." As a specialty between the second and third acts, the boys sang "In the good old summer time." This did not receive the entire approval of the gods, but they weren't running the house that night.

From 11.15 till train time, night was made hideous around the hotel by the rendition of all known songs and college yells by the entire company. Mr. Dooley was the great favorite. "Dooley" couldn't sing it often enough.

At 1 a.m. we started for home. But who could describe that trip? No sleep did anyone in the coach get that night

and no sleep did anyone want. For it is not every day one gets such a galaxy of wits as was there gathered together. We cannot describe Don. Sutherland's stump speech "to the intelligent body of farmers before him"; nor can we give the Shakesperian speeches of Bruce Burwell. They were inimitable, indescribable. To those who have not heard them we can only say, "go on the next trip the football team takes." The famous story which the bandit, Antonio, told on a dark and dismal evening will not be forgotten soon. So passed the hours, all too rapidly, and at seven a.m. we were back again.

It is a pleasant memory and one which will be slow to fade away. In memory will the trip be taken many times again and the fight fought over, and the grey limestone buildings of old Kingston will always have pleasant recollections for those who journeyed there on Hallowe'en, nineteen hundred and two.

SEQUEL.

L'ALLIANCE FRANCAISE.

BRIEF mention was made in last week's VARSITY of the initial meeting of the Alliance Francaise. The formation at Toronto of a branch of this Association is of peculiar interest to all modern language students, Undergraduates as well as Graduates. The Alliance, which has been in existence some twenty years, numbers now about 35,000 members. With Paris as its headquarters, it has established branches in all the most important cities of Europe and the United States, and in Montreal and Quebec. Altogether it has now about 124 foreign committees.

The object of the Association is to disseminate the knowledge of the French language, literature and customs, and to aid foreigners in their study of the same. In China and in Africa the society entirely supports several schools, while, by means of gifts to other schools, it aids materially in the spread of education and, consequently, of civilization. The aim of the Association at Toronto will be somewhat different. The object is to bring together in monthly or bi-monthly meetings all who are interested in the study of French, with a view to aiding them in their work in the pleasantest and most practicable manner possible. These meetings will take something of the form of the meetings of a literary society and will be carried on entirely in French. Each member will receive as much assistance as he desires, the officers being always ready to help the members in any way. Upon enrollment with the Society each member will receive a card from the Association at Paris, which card will entitle him to be received as a member of the Society in any city where a branch is established. Very material aid will be given him by the Society, such as finding boarding-houses, piloting to places of interest, giving information upon all manner of subjects, and, in brief, acting the part of a friend to a stranger in a strange land.

The first public mention of the formation of the Alliance at Toronto was made last winter. Those who had the pleasure of hearing Monsieur Hugues Leroux will remember that both he and Monsieur de Champ spoke briefly of the Association—its object, and its possible formation at Toronto. On Tuesday evening, Oct. 28, a number of those interested met at University College, with the result that the Alliance was formally established at Toronto. The following officers were elected: President, Monsieur St. E. de Champ; Vice-President, Mrs. Rose; Secretary, Mr. L. R. Archambault; Treasurer, Mr. John D. Falconbridge. Councillors—Miss Drynan, Monsieur E. Masson, Mr. F. N. Kennin, Mr. J. H. Cameron. After the President had thanked the society for the expression of their confidence and had outlined a plan of procedure for the coming session, the meeting adjourned. Information concerning the Alliance may be obtained from the President or Secretary.