

As Mr. McKinnon asks, is it, under present circumstances, worth a man's while to turn out and endeavour to win athletic fame for his college, when doing so renders him liable to lose his year through the operation of a rigid and indiscriminating attendance rule? Candidly, we think not, and, as lovers of a square deal, we do not blame the man who thus finds no option to eliminating athletics entirely from his programme.

Let us turn, then, to the Faculty's point of view. Is McGill's high reputation as a Science school in such danger that the only way of preserving it is to keep the men's noses to the grindstone, morning, noon and night? And is the work so uniformly essential that the loss of three hours per week for two months out of seven and a half should blast, or even endanger, a man's whole professional career? Any experienced engineer will assure us that such propositions are ridiculous, and that the whole value of a college education lies in the mental training which it involves, and in the strength of character which it creates.

If this is not the case, it would greatly militate towards general satisfaction if the Faculty would, for a moment, descend from their Olympic heights and tell us so. If they are right, it should not be impossible for them to demonstrate the fact; and to do so would vastly strengthen their position in the confidence of the students. In fact, if the Faculty prolong their silence on the subject it can only be to the detriment of the University, as affording to those who are seeking it, an opportunity to believe that the Faculty are not sure of their position.

For the present, the "Martlet" prefers to remain impartial, for, while we like to think of the Faculty as verging upon infallibility, we cannot overlook the right of the students to be taken into the confidence of the Faculty with regard to their theory of technical education. At dinners and meetings they repeatedly assure us at considerable length that this is the finest college in America. If so, surely the staff, which is presumably the most competent on the continent can devise some satisfactory alternative to the present untenable state of affairs. In this connection, we should be extremely interested to learn why the eight o'clock lecture solution, as to which both Faculty and students were so enthusiastic, met such an untimely fate.

But perhaps the Faculty are really entirely opposed to athletics, and are dreaming of the happy days when McGill will become another Tec.; and when the Campus will be useful mainly as a parade ground for the perambulators of Professors' wives, or as a space for Science sophomores to map out. It is a pleasing prospect, and we wish them joy of its realisation.