

a committee, to some member of which he could direct uncertain students, 'it would considerably lighten his work, and could hardly fail to prove advantageous to students. It is not desirable to make it impossible or even difficult to change from one course to another. Many men never discover what they are really fitted for until they have spent a couple of years at college. But, it is advisable, in the interests of both students and professors, to do away with unnecessary changing, and an advisory committee would be a great assistance in this direction.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Y.M.C.A. Convention held at Queen's last week cannot but prove beneficial to the work of the association in the four universities represented. This is the age of conventions as well as of inventions. Every year hundreds of them are held. Men are coming to realize that no one, not even a specialist, can claim a monopoly of ideas on any single subject. It is well then, for men who are interested in any line of work to get together occasionally to discuss matters. Every person who thinks at all seriously on a question must have something interesting to say on it. If he feels deeply and truly, his very way of uttering even a commonplace thought will give value to it.

Queen's Quarterly for January has just come to hand, replete with good things as usual. Several of our professors have contributed articles. Prof. Dupuis has a criticism of Dr. Wallace's theory that the earth is the only habitable body in the universe. Prof. Knight has an interesting ar-

ticle on the human skin. Prof. John Marshall contributes an estimate of the poetry of W. B. Yeats, the apostle of the Celtic renaissance, treating mainly of Yeats' love poetry, his impulse toward nature, and his quest after beauty. Dr. Goodwin publishes his recent address on Paracelsus, and Prof. Cappon a series of articles on current events at home and abroad. W. L. Grant contributes the first instalment of an essay on the Church and the State in France, and R. H. Cowley of Ottawa a severe but timely indictment of Ontario's rural school system. He characterises the educational methods in vogue in the rural sections as clumsy and nerveless, and the section system itself he calls mere relics of pioneer days.

The marvellous rise of Japan within the last decade has been variously explained as due to political, economic and moral reasons. It has remained for Prof. D. S. Jordan to deduce a biological reason. He denies the truth of the old theory that constant war is conducive to growth in the virile and sturdy properties of a people, and points to Rome and Greece as nations, which fell simply because their best manhood was drained away and wasted on the battle field. The loss to society by the premature death of every man of ability is incalculable. His death removes from the nation a quantity of nervous force and power which can never be regained, and when such men die by thousands as they do in every war the loss cannot but prove disastrous to the nation, whether it be victorious or not. For two centuries Japan has had almost unbroken peace, and not only have the ranks of her best men not been de-