

OBSERVE the utility of the READER. We noticed the 2nd-year boys tramping into the lecture-room the other day each armed with a copy. Boys, subscribe for it; it must be worth reading if a Professor uses it as the basis of his remarks.

SHEEP-SHEARING started on Feb. 27th. We noticed our experienced shepherd, W. E. Holfiday, flitting lightly about the wool room and sheep pens armed with a pair of formidable shears. The Dorsets are coming well to the front as regards number and strength of lambs.

We are being treated to fish for dinner, and eggs for tea on Fridays. One would think, the other night, that all the roosters in Guelph were in the dining hall. Two hens at our table kept up a continuous cackle but the English table caused the most laughter by a concerted "Cock-a-doodle-doo."

THE horizontal bar once more is erected and affords ample opportunity for the "Model Ducks" to exercise themselves upon. It is greatly patronized, and passing through the locker room it is a common thing to see a pair of yellow (stocking) webbed feet gripping the bar while body and wings sway gracefully below. Oh, for a gymnasium proper!

THE first missionary meeting in connection with the Y. M. C. A. was held on the 27th, ult. Mr. Whitley led, reading extracts from letters of men hard at work on the mighty Congo, thus giving a good insight into the manners and customs of our African brothers, and some idea of the encouragements and difficulties of missionaries on that field.

AN oft-quoted line from a song in the entertainment noticed in our last issue runs, "They say Mr. Storey is going to be wed, — later on." We have been thinking that in this case the adage "there is many a true word spoken in jest" might be fulfilled, for our worthy farm foreman has been away such a time buying a team of horses, and then he came back without them looking particularly radiant, while he skittily parroted all quizzing allusions to the wife.

WE trust that students' wages will improve shortly. With all due respect to the teaching of Political Economy we contend that boys deserve fair wages for a fair morning's work on cattle. It is undoubtedly policy to hustle a boy out of his nice warm bed at 5.40 to clean out cow stables and then pay him 7 cents for an hour and-a-quarter's work. Boys who work honestly all afternoon packing ice, threshing, or picking over rotten oats are worth more than 7 cents, and why do they not get it?

AT the Literary Society's meeting on Feb. 21st, the programme opened with a song from Mr. Whitley. Mr. Wood followed with a maiden speech, taking for the subject of his remarks "Cornish." Mr. J. H. Cowan then spoke on "Shortness," giving a pretty minute account of the early history of the breed. Mr. G. A. Brudie then opened the evening's discussion, urging that heavy horses are more suitable for the ordinary farmer's use than light ones. Mr. R. E. Cowan opposed him making out a very good case. The subject was then handled in a lively fashion by several members, and proved to be one of the most interesting discussions we have had for a long while. Mr. Carlye continued in the same strain for his five minutes' speech, and Mr. H. C. Thomson put us all in good humor to go visiting by a comic reading.

ON the 24th, Feb. we had the pleasure of a visit from Capt. W. D. Andrews, R.H.S. He related in a very modest way the his-

tory of the many medals that adorn his breast, causing us to reflect as he did so that the age of heroes has by no means passed. The valiant Captain, a member of the Toronto Harbor Life-saving crew, has rescued no fewer than 69 people from drowning, in many cases at most imminent peril of his own life. We all most heartily cheered the brave fellow as he stood before us, and greatly sympathized with him at the loss of his eyesight, which has been caused by exposure to weather and water while a member of different life-saving services. The Captain gave us several recitations of his own composition in a stirring manner, and as he departed cheered us by saying he hoped to pay us another visit "later on."

FIRE drill has now been instituted. Professor Angell has delivered lectures on the science and instructed us in the practical handling of hose and wrenches. We trust it will be long before a fire visits any of the buildings, but if one should come, no matter in what obscurity its origin may be involved, we fully believe, other things being equal, that the O. A. C. Fire Brigade will be able to successfully cope with it. The first practice was great fun. It had been arranged that a trial of speed should take place at 4 p.m., but according to authentic records the alarm was given at 3.30. (Ex-students will doubtless remember the old trick of ringing the bell from the smoking room.) Out rushed the boys from stoves and in a very few seconds were sending a fine stream of water over the laboratory. One boy, a little late, yet anxious to do his best at rescuing imaginary persons from the roof, could hardly descend the ladder against the strong volume of water. "We're all unlucky passers-by! The pressure was strong, and many an unwary traveller got a good soaking. Much to the annoyance of the Commander-in-chief the new hose was used and naturally got delightfully muddy; however, it soon dries in the live stock class room.

THE meeting of the Literary Society on the 14th, was of a purely agricultural nature. Owing to some misunderstanding the arranged programme fell through, and within 10 minutes the whole of the items, including the debate, were arranged for. The proceedings opened by Mr. Whitley singing "The Bugler." Mr. A. Thompson followed with one of his comical and always welcome recitations, the only possible objection that could be raised to it is that it was too short. Messrs. Buchanan and Morgan then gave a duet for violin and organ, which was enthusiastically enjoyed. The impromptu debate was the next item, the resolution being "That Side Shows be abolished at Agricultural Fairs." Messrs. Whitley and McCallum upheld the motion, while Messrs. Hadwen and Monteith spoke against it. Several arguments were brought forward, and a good discussion followed; the affirmative side won, gaining the favour of both the committee and the house. Mr. Zavitz, B. S. A., next recited in capital style, "Come with a Handhammer Man." Mr. White followed in an extempore speech, continuing the subject of debate. As the critic was speaking Mr. J. C. Harris took his place for the evening and gave many useful pointers to those taking part. The Society was favored then with a short but pithy address from the Honorary President, Professor Pantou. Some hints were given on speaking, and the great advantages to be obtained by attending the meetings: a few earnest and well chosen words followed on the building of character. The Professor's idea was that the building of one's character should be enclosed by the four walls, Sobriety, Honesty, Industry, and Purity, the whole to be roofed in with Religion.