

one reads in the sporting papers of the Varsity rugby matches between Harvard and Yale: Yet the students here calmly assume the name for this little University of Toronto, and when their friends ask them where they are studying, they confidently reply with delightful indefiniteness, "Oh! I'm attending Varsity!"

The fact remains, however, that Toronto isn't the only University in the academic grove. Cornell and Princeton could put in claims just as strong or stronger than Toronto's for exclusive right to the name "Varsity," but they would not abandon their soul-rousing battle-cries for any such colorless chorus. In another column a yell is printed which it is suggested all students of Toronto University use on Hallowe'en. If anyone has any better suggestions to offer afterwards, let him submit the same to the readers of this paper.

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There is something very amusing in all this mad rush for post-nominal capitals.

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Over and above the Ph.D., the University of Toronto has already two post-graduate degrees—the M. A., and the LL.B.—and they are both wretched farces.

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Student government is being tried in the new dormitories of the University of Pennsylvania, and so far has proved a complete success.

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Abundantly confident as VARSITY is that its views on the new Ph.D. course are perfectly correct, it gives the editor much satisfaction to be able to quote the following sentence from a note received the other day from one of Toronto's brightest and most distinguished graduates: "Your position on the Ph.D. business is thoroughly sound. I am sure that practically every graduate who has gone into the larger post-graduate institutions would agree with you."

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After all there isn't such a very great difference between the "plug" and the "sport." The one comes to the University chiefly for the sake of the sheepskin, the other for the sake of the pigskin.

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The departmental societies are already setting merrily about their merciless task of making the narrow mind of the average undergraduate still more narrow.

PROFESSOR PROUDFOOT OVERCOME.

During the third year lecture on Roman Law on Monday, Professor Proudfoot was overcome with weakness, and fell to the floor. The desk fell on top of the old gentleman, but a score of students rushed to his assistance immediately, and willing hands bore him to his private room. Once there, he soon regained his strength, and when his carriage arrived, went home. It is sincerely hoped that the Professor will be able to continue his lectures.

EDITOR CASTIGATED.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—As one of the many undergraduates of this University who read with great surprise and disapproval the extravagant attack on the new Ph.D. course which appeared in the initial number of THE VARSITY, I beg leave, in the absence of a doughtier champion, to deprecate the course pursued by the college journal in this most important matter. I do so the more readily, because I am confident that the article referred to does not at all represent the views of the student-body in regard to the inauguration of the post-graduate work in Canada's greatest University.

Those should be grave reasons indeed, that should justify such a sweeping condemnation of the new departure. Let me consider the reasons assigned.

At the outset it appears that the establishment of a Ph.D. course in this University is a serious blunder owing to the fact that certain misguided mediocrities will seek the new degree not for its educational value, but in order that their names may have a "pleasant and most sweet sound." No doubt such a spirit would be basely utilitarian, and therefore very reprehensible on their part but though this is a caustic reflection on human frailty, very creditable to the ripe experience of the editor of a college journal, it does not carry much weight as an argument against the efficiency of the course itself.

Again, "the library is not at all adequate to the requirements of post-graduate students." Most of us have been under the impression that 70,000 volumes in our tasty abiding-place for books provide abundant opportunity for the most ravenous book-worm, but if you have made a personal inspection of these volumes, Mr. Editor, and have found them inadequate, I bow to your erudition in this regard, but direct your attention to the fact that, even if it were so, THE VARSITY would be better employed in appealing to the patriotism of the friends and graduates of this University than in ridiculing the heroic enterprise of our Alma Mater in entering upon this great undertaking.

Further, "it is only from a few out of the many departments that major subjects may be chosen." As a matter of fact, we may choose from six out of the ten honor departments of study. Post-graduate work has been commenced in the three science departments, and in philosophy, political science, and oriental languages. True, one may not as yet pursue higher studies in classics, modern languages, or mathematics, but THE VARSITY would be the first to condemn raw haste. We cannot hope to have a fully-equipped Ph.D., course in all the departments from the very beginning.

Finally, sir, you are seriously misinformed as to the nature of the post-graduate course, when you state that "post-graduate lectures will interfere with lectures to undergraduates." Comparatively few lectures will be delivered in the post-graduate department at all, the object of its establishment is primarily, original research. Graduates are to come here to work under the periodic supervision of the professors and not to attend lectures. If you have any doubts upon this matter, I refer you to any of the members of the Faculty in those departments in which post-graduate study has been established, and as this is the matter upon which you have laid greatest stress, I trust you will remodel your views.

Believing as I do that this movement marks a great era in the history of the University, and that it is so regarded by the undergraduate body, I earnestly entreat THE VARSITY to reconsider its position.

Yours truly,

H. H. NARRAWAY, '98