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Salve Alma Mater!

Back once again to academic shades,
To crowded halls and lecturers' tirades,
To pleasure, grief, repose and ceaseless toil,
We now shake from our feet the clinging soil
Of sordid everyday pursuits and aims.
The world is now forgotten and its claims,
Its vain and false allurements are ignored;
We to our inmost selves are now restored.

And for a season sweet it is to muse
On what lies hidden from our purblind eyes,
From truths discoverable to choose
The richest jewels, sweetest melodies.
This is our mission, this our Holy Grail,
To search for Truth, and, not despairing, fail;
Till some day out of darkness we shall see,
Beholding Truth's refulgent clarity.

R. C. R., '05. 47.



The Outlook

The Faculty of Arts

VICE-PRES. RAMSAY WRIGHT, DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS

The Editor's request for a short article on this subject comes at a time when the adjustment of details incident to the beginning of a session tends to confine one's attention to the immediate foreground of the prospect, leaving the distance more or less obscure. Apart from the federation of Trinity—the great event of the year, already dealt with by the President in last issue—there is one element of great interest in the foreground, to which I may suitably devote the space reserved for me—that afforded by the class of students who have just entered the University.

A new registration formula was used for the first time this year, which elicits a good deal of information as to the incoming students, all of which I have not yet assimilated. But there are two kinds of statements included which I find of special interest, viz.: the occupation which the student is looking forward to, and the way in which he proposes to prepare himself therefor in the University.

First, however, a word as to the number of the class of '08. On no previous occasion has the registration been so prompt, with the result that never before—even leaving out of consideration for the moment the accessions through Trinity College—has the number registered been so high within a few days of the beginning of the session. Altogether 324 students are already enrolled. They are distributed as under between the three Colleges: University College, men 138, women 63; Victoria College, men 49, women 34; Trinity College, men 28, women 12. The vast majority of the students are of course natives and residents of Ontario, but the other provinces from Nova Scotia to British Columbia are well represented. My impression is that their certificates show them to be well prepared for entering on University studies, although there are no doubt some who would be relieved if matricu-

lation were merely—what it once was—the inscription of their names in a university "Matricula."

I have not been able yet to examine the records from all the Colleges with regard to the two special points I have referred to above, but I shall not be far wide of the mark in saying that some 65 per cent. of the students have definite intentions as to their future careers, for which they are anxious to prepare. I need hardly say that the ladies are perhaps more reticent than are the men on this subject. Now, of the students who have such a definite programme before them, 30 per cent. are looking forward to teaching as a profession, 20 per cent. to the ministry, 20 per cent. to medicine, 12 per cent. to law, 7 per cent. to commerce in some form or other, and the remainder to journalism, engineering and other pursuits. No doubt the development which a four years' course in Arts insures will bring about deviations from the programme, but it is at least interesting to know the aspirations of such a large number of our entrants.

A fact which is not without significance is that of 53 students announcing their intention to qualify themselves as teachers, 21 only are men. This is perhaps to be attributed to the low salaries which have been paid to High School teachers, so that men of ability, energy and ambition are tempted to look for more lucrative occupations. I am informed, however, by a high educational authority, that there is at present a dearth of good teachers, which is already leading to an improved scale of remuneration.

All of the entrants have announced the courses which they intend to follow. Some 10 per cent. are occasional students, perhaps 65 per cent. have already selected definite honour courses, leaving 25 per cent. in the general course, from which, however, some will be drafted into those honour courses, which begin in the second year. Of the 65 per cent. referred to above, 23 per cent. are entering one or other of the Moderns courses, 17