

WHAT IT COSTS TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

In the last number of your paper there is an article headed 'What it costs to attend University College.' It may be possible that a student can get through a year on the \$165 mentioned by 'K,' but it must be the experience of a very few. I should say most decidedly that such a case would be an extreme one.

To speak of each of the items in the order 'K' takes them. In the first place of board, 'K' talks of \$2 or \$4 per week; perhaps board may be obtained at these prices, but it certainly cannot be of a very excellent sort. In residence, where the board can hardly be described as sumptuous, on the average, board, room, fire and light, cost from \$5 to \$6.50 per week; and I am inclined to believe that tolerably good board, etc., can hardly be obtained in the city at a lower figure than the former of these two. So far as my own experience goes, I can say that I have only spent a part of one year out of residence, and that during that time I paid \$10 per week for board and lodging—fire and light extra—at which price the board did not rank above fair. I should call \$5 per week the lowest reasonable rate for board.

The next item is washing, which 'K' puts at the ridiculous figure of \$8 for thirty weeks. Someone's laundry bill may have been only \$8 for an academic year, but I hardly think the individual who paid that amount would be a marvel of cleanliness; \$8 would barely cover the expense of having an ordinarily 'tidy man's' top shirts washed at a laundry. Three times 'K's' estimate on this head would be a fair average.

\$12 for fees is correct.

'K' makes \$20 purchase books for the year. Upon this great latitude is allowable, for, owing to the excellence of our library and its regulations, it is not absolutely necessary for a student to spend any large amount on books; but if a student buys all the text books of his course, together with the necessary stationery, he will probably not get through the year on less than \$30, though, as 'K' truly says, much depends on the course taken; twice to three times the amount mentioned by 'K' has been my annual expenditure on college books and stationery.

As to 'K's' next and last item, \$5 for subscriptions to games, etc., he is about right. In this case much depends on the inclination of the student. I do not mean to say that a student absolutely cannot get through on the amount mentioned by 'K,' but I do say that to publish it as a fair estimate of what it really costs the average student to attend University College is misleading. The student who would live upon \$165 for an academic year would indeed be a martyr to his desire for a higher education. LUCIUS.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

One of the recognized institutions of all universities, with any pretensions to greatness, is an athletic association. This association, as a rule, governs all the games, sports, etc., that usually make their home in a university. I shall endeavor in this article to prove that such an association is a benefit to the students and to the institution with which it is connected. In the first place, it is an understood fact that no body of students can advantageously pursue their studies without exercise of some kind, and that a student, who by the judicious use of his muscles, tones up his physical powers to greater endurance in the arena of mental contests, can always overthrow an antagonist whose every opportunity is spent in communion with his books—their mental powers of course being equal; and how many men with brilliant abilities have been beaten by men of inferior powers through inattention to the above necessity. This necessity for exercise takes the form of whatever games the traditions or taste of the students

inclined them; thus, in the University of Toronto our chief games are football and in the summer a little cricket—rowing has not made a place amongst our athletics as yet. Football is played by three different clubs in Toronto University. The 'University College Football Club' playing the Rugby Union game, the 'University College Football Association' and the 'Toronto School of Medicine Football Club' playing the Association game. As for the cricket club it is yet in its infancy, although last spring great exertions were made to put it upon a substantial basis. So far it can hardly be called a success. Another feature in our athletics is the annual athletic games, which interest the students more than either football or cricket, probably on account of the value of the prizes. I might mention also, in connection with our sports, the rifle practice and matches of the University Rifles, at which also valuable prizes are given. Now let us take an example: The University of Michigan Athletic Association, with which we have now become connected as regards football, and for my part, I being well acquainted with that institution, think that no more complete or well-founded association exists. This association takes cognizance of all the university athletics, the games, football and base ball. A president and officers are appointed annually to take subscriptions, appoint officers for the different clubs and arrange matches. My proposal is that we form an association on this model and after this manner. Five members of committees of games, Rugby football, Association football, Medical football and cricket clubs, meet and appoint a president, secretary and treasurer, and a committee consisting of two members from each of the above committees. Next year each club will choose two of its committee to act on the association committee in this manner: President, 1; secretary, treasurer, 1; cricket, 2 members; Rugby, 2 members; U. C. Association, 2 members; Medical Association, 2 members; committee of games, 2 members. Thus the committee would consist of a president, secretary-treasurer, and a committee of ten. The WHITE AND BLUE would, I am sure, be glad to hear some more proposals on this subject, and before next spring some such association I have no doubt will be formed. I might add before finishing that this association would prove a great help towards providing a gymnasium, which the college is sadly in need of. H. T. B.

RUSSIAN UNIVERSITIES.

A writer in a Berlin paper gives the following description of Russian student life during the year 1845:

The poorer and more industrious students attended the lectures with a certain regularity; the rest contented themselves with occasionally appearing in the corridor, to remind the inspecting officials that they belonged to the University.

This "mass" was divided into three classes: The aristocratic young men, most of whom lived with parents or relatives, rushed to elegant cafes in the morning and receptions or the theatre in the evening, and sometimes dashed up to the door of the University in magnificent sleighs; provincial vagabonds, who never sent into respectable society, but spent their time drinking and smoking in obscene taverns and notorious public halls; and poor men, who lived by giving private instruction, learned their lessons by heart, and by faultless conduct and submission to their superiors sought to obtain the advantage of free attendance at the lectures or a "crown scholarship." There was also a small number of Germans, who in connection with a dozen pupils of the Academy of Medicine and Surgery, living outside the barracks, played at "student life"; in the obscurity of the "Viborg suburb," that is, secretly formed one or two corps, caroused behind closely fastened window shutters, beat drums, sang German songs and donned gay caps, but did not disdain the pleasures of Russian, French student dissipation, and knew as much

about the "dancing classes" as other people. Relations with the professors were seldom permitted, only in rare exceptional cases, because they were regarded with disfavor by the superior officials and needed to be managed with great caution. Among the older gentlemen were many cultivated and kindly people, who studied in Dorpat and foreign countries, were considered liberal and therefore compelled to be 'circumspect'; the younger tutors, who had grown up under the prevailing system, were usually excessively tiresome and without timid.

TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

It has been decided that the sixth annual dinner will take place on Thursday, the 13th November, at the Kossin House. It is expected that a large number of the students, graduates, faculty and other leading men will avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of meeting together once more. The dinner, as usual, is to be strictly temperate. The following gentlemen have been elected to preside for the evening:—Chairman, W. J. Cross; 1st Vice, J. H. Duncan; 2nd Vice, B. H. Anderson.

There is a Literary and Debating Society belonging to the School. It was inaugurated last session, and lived through its first year with a good deal of life and energy, and there is promise of increased interest in its welfare this year.

The faculty having enlarged the school by an additional wing, are therefore able to fit up a commodious apartment as a reading room for the benefit of the students.

The Medical Company of the Queen's Own has been again stirred into a show of life, and a strong muster of members has already taken place. It is expected soon to get the company under the care of a permanent captain. There is material in the school to form a crack company.

GYMNASIUM.—The meeting held on Wednesday in reference to the proposed gymnasium was well attended. The following committee was appointed to receive subscriptions from men of their respective years: Messrs. Shortt, Hague, Laidlaw, Ruttan, Bristol, Woodruff, Wright and George. It is to be hoped all undergraduates will join in the endeavor to provide this much needed institution.

H. T. B.

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