

THE VARSITY

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The Report of the Commission

The main features of the report which will be made by the University Reorganization Committee have been made known only so recently that we cannot refer to it at any length editorially. But if the report which appeared some days since in *The World* is to be trusted there are two features of it upon which all persons who are interested in the University cannot but have opinions; first, the appointment of the Council of the Faculty of Arts; second, the appointment of a Board of Trustees with real powers and real responsibilities.

The Council of the Faculty of Arts

The Arts Council will consist of all permanent members of the Arts staff and will practically manage the strictly academic side of University work. It will take the place of the University Council. At one time control of academic affairs was vested in a few persons, who were perhaps jealous of their powers and loath to allow others to share them. And even now only the heads of departments sit on the University Council. But this is to be changed and the majority of teachers who have now nothing to say except by courtesy will have a voice in shaping academic affairs. In proposing this change the Commission have followed the plan adopted in the great American universities, which some of its members lately visited in search of information. The same wise and just plan is followed by our own School of Practical Science, for all its permanent teachers are members of its Council.

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees are to be appointed by the Government, and in it are to be vested all the powers that the Government now have. In our issue of Feb. 15th we expressed the hope that this Board should be appointed by the Legislature as a whole. In this connection we said: "If the Legislature are entrusted with the appointment of the trustees each nominee will be placed clearly before it, and the people; his qualifications will be presented and the whole matter will be carried on in the bright light of open discussion. But if they are appointed by the Government, it will tend to be a two-man appointment, and will conceivably be open to all the dangers of cliques getting control." We are now more than ever of the opinion that if this

body is to be really independent and is not to feel at every turn that it has to record the opinion of the Government or of some member of it, it should be appointed by the Legislature as a whole. If not, it would be better, as *The Globe* said editorially some days ago that the Government should retain the more important powers to be given to the Board and be held strictly to account for them; for it is possible for the Government to appoint the Board so as to continue its control, but so as to shift the responsibility. We do not question the good intention of the Government, but legislature should be perfect in itself without regard to the persons in power.

Concerning Diets

Several men have asked us to voice their complaint that their boarding house fare is not up to the standard set at the beginning of the year. Alas! the wily manager knows that now within a few weeks of the close of College few of us can be troubled by looking for new boarding houses. But let us take comfort, for others have similar trials: Emperor Francis Joseph has found that the Hungarian diet disagrees with him and he proposes to try a change. The Hungarian diet has never been an easy one, but even it is nothing to the diet of Worms which Luther had to cope with. However this question of pure food is liable to develop into a poor feud.

Some Acknowledgments

We acknowledge our great indebtedness to Roy M. Mitchell, '09, "Matthias Rex," formerly city editor of *The World*, who has given up his college course and has just gone to Winnipeg as correspondent of the Associated Press.

Many others, especially the members of the Writers' Association, who have given their time and their best thought freely to *The Varsity*, deserve the warmest thanks of the editor. We believe we are right in saying that A. J. Connor, our "city editor," has made his office a more important one than it has ever been.

A Donation to Our Successor

We have set up about a page too much material for this issue; therefore we are constrained to leave out, among other things, a good account of the Nashville Convention. We believe that all our readers have already seen reports of this great student gathering in the daily papers. We have enough copy on hand, much of it excellent, to fill several issues which we have not had space to publish. This we bequeath to our successor, John L. Lang, of the Faculty of Applied Science, who needs no introduction to the readers of *The Varsity*.