

THE COLLEGE GIRL

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO AS SEEN BY A VARSITY GIRL

After a retrospect of the two months spent at the University of Chicago the impression that is left with me is a very pleasant one indeed. Of course there were blue days at first when I would have given anything to be back once more at "dear old Varsity."

What struck me most perhaps the first day I was here was the vast number of students that seemed to stream from all quarters. It made one feel rather insignificant. The students themselves form a great factor in the interest of the life here. In Beecher Hall, one of the girls' dormitories, there are a number of graduate students from all parts of the continent—among them girls from Mount Holyoke and Bryn Mawr, and many from universities in the South. It is quite interesting to hear of the different universities, but I have yet to find one who can persuade me that her's equals Toronto. There are a number of Japs and Filipinos—the Filipinos have been sent here by the United States Government. The other day one of the girls called us to look at one of the queerest specimens of humanity. He was a man of very dark skin, with long, black bushy hair and carrying a huge cane with such a dandified air. We were told later that he was a Hindoo come to arouse sympathy here for his cause against the oppression of the English in India. I took this statement with the proverbial "grain of salt," and have seen nothing of him since.

There is a Canadian Club with quite a large membership. The club meets only once a month. You will find that Canadian universities are held in very high esteem here and of those Toronto especially is recognized. In fact the words "University of Toronto" are "open sesame" to all things here.

Of the work, special emphasis is laid on the graduate work, and it is consequently very good. The undergraduate course is quite different from that of Varsity. In the freshmen and sophomore years there is segregation. Then the academic year is divided into four quarters of which one is a summer quarter, when those who are busy during the rest of the year attend. In each quarter a certain amount of the work is completed and credit given for that work. The work is not divided here into departments as "Moderns," etc., but great freedom is given in selecting the courses, provided the required amount is done. One of the courses required is a course in gymnasium work. Quite an interest is taken here in athletics among the girls as well as the men.

Football is the all-absorbing sport. Before an important match is to be played a huge mass meeting is held in Mandel Hall to practice the yells and to encourage the team generally. There is besides a University band which attends all the matches and helps to keep up the interest in the game.

The social life for the girls centres around the halls. There are four girls' dormitories. Once a month each hall gives a large reception. Besides

these there are five halls for men. These also give receptions and, certain of them, dances. If I had time I would tell you of our celebrations on Hallowe'en and of what the "old girls" and the "new girls" in the halls have done in honor of each other.

Isabel Elliot.



THE WOMEN'S LIT

The regular meeting of the Women's Literary Society on Saturday evening was most successful. After the singing of "Toronto" and the transaction of the business, a piano solo by Miss Fairhairn, '09, was very much enjoyed. The second inter-year debate was scheduled for the evening, upon the subject: "Resolved, that happiness does not increase with civilization." The affirmative was upheld by Miss Roberts and Miss Rottery representing the first year, and the negative by Miss McLaughlin and Miss Knight, '08. After the withdrawal of the judges, an open debate upon the subject was engaged in for ten minutes in accordance with the system at Oxford. Miss Thompson, '06, rendered a charming violin solo, and a piano duet by Miss Oakley, '07, and Miss McLennan, '09, was heartily appreciated. The discussion of a song for the University College women was next taken up. Such a song has been written recently, but has not yet been practised or put into use. The need for it is urgent. The characteristic song of the Victoria girls and the pretty Greek medley of St. Hilda's have made every one wish that Varsity might have something more distinctive than "Toronto" when occasion demands. The judges, Miss Edgar, Miss Rac, and Miss Johnston, then returned with their decision, which was given in favor of the negative. Miss Murray, '07, acted as critic of the meeting, and, after her report, the motion to adjourn was made.

On Friday afternoon, the inter-collegiate debate between McMaster and Varsity was held at McMaster in the Castle Memorial Hall. The debate, "Resolved, that in the residential colleges of America the student body should be self-governing," was preceded by a short musical programme. Varsity had the affirmative, Miss Van der Smissen and Miss Osborne being the speakers. The negative was upheld by Miss Pugsley and Miss Waters. The speaking on both sides was particularly brilliant. The judges, Mr. Wm. Houston, M.A., of The Globe; Dr. Wallace, of University College, and Prof. Kierstead, of McMaster, decided in favor of the negative.

A. S. B.



A CORRECTION

There seems to have been a missapprehension in some quarters regarding the article on the Women's Residence Association. It was not intended to convey the idea that the Association had furnished the funds for the erection of the residence. Indeed it contributed very little financial support, but it was the energy and persistence of the members of the Association which led the trustees to take up the matter and finally to provide for the women students of University College their long-wished-for residence.