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TORONTO, TUESDAY, FEB. 8TH, 1898.

HEARD IN THE HALLS.

At the Varsity School of Science debate to be held Friday evening, Feb. 18th, in Students' Union, the following subject will be discussed:—Resolved that the Canadian Government acted wisely in the Yukon railroad deal. Messrs. W. Fred Mackay and N. D. R. Sinclair, of Varsity, will uphold the affirmative side.

"Jack" Hobbs spent a few days at his home in London last week.

The Varsity Glee and Banjo Clubs are arranging to take part in a grand concert to be given in Massey Hall, early next month. Among the artists will be Emma Juch and Davies, the famous baritone.

Miss M. McBean, '99 Arts, is coming to the city in the spring to write on the 3rd year exams.

The Varsity Women's Literary Society At-Home will be held Saturday afternoon, in the West Hall of University College. The following executive committee are arranging the programme: Misses G. H. Hunter, M. T. Northway, D. F. Wright, H. M. Hughes, B. Rosenstadt, N. Cleary and M. L. Wright.

Nominations for the editorial board of THE VARSITY will take place at the Varsity Lit meeting Friday evening, Feb. 18th.

Invitations are out for the Trinity College Literary Institute's debate, which takes place on Thursday evening February 17th, at eight o'clock to be followed by an informal dance. Mr. A. Lee Ireland is the energetic secretary of the affair.

The ladies at Varsity are arranging a petition to secure the use of the bowling-alley in Students' Union for their fencing class during the spring months, when the east and west halls are used for examinations.

"Clemmie" Keys, B.A., '97, of Hamilton Normal College, was present at the Conversat and spent Sunday with his old classmates in town.

The following ladies will compose the Tea Room Committee at the Women's Lit "At Home" Saturday afternoon: Misses Cleary, Wright, Tennant, Beatty, J. Johnston, Cockburn Darling and Robertson. All the women graduates of the city are expected to be present.

Miss Florence Manson, of Peterborough, formerly '99 Arts, was present at the Conversat Friday evening. Miss Manson intends spending a few days in town, the guest of Miss Helen Woolverton.

G. A. Reid R.C.A., will lecture on Mural decoration in the chemical building Saturday afternoon.

The Political Science Club held its third meeting for this term on Thursday, in room 9, University College. The Honorary President, Prof. Wrong, was expected to preside but in opening the meeting he requested Mr. B. E. Walker, who showed his kind interest in the club by being present, to take the chair. The attractive titles of the two papers on the programme for the day and perhaps also to some extent the learning and popularity of the two readers, had attracted quite a good sized audience, among whom were several ladies. Mr. G. C. Sillery, B.A., had notified the secretary that he would not be able to read his paper on "The Alabama and the Alabama Case," and so the remaining paper on "Political and Social Arithmetic," was read by its author, Mr. S. M. Wickett, B.A., Ph.D., and Fellow in Political Economy. The essay dealt with the history of statistics from its origin in the ancient Roman Census up to the present time, and gave a brief account of its extent in the different modern nations of to-day. The material and style of the essay gave evidence of much studious research and care, and Mr. Wickett's ability to cope with the subject was quite manifest by the views he

expressed as to the great value and importance of statistics. At the close of the reading Mr. Walker asked for discussion upon the subject, and added a few remarks upon the growing value of wide and careful statistics particularly in his own line of business, viz.: banking. Mr. C. C. James, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and Chief of the Bureau of Industries for the Local Legislature, was present and gave the club some valuable facts based on his wide experience. Mr. James thought that figures were not so dry as popularly believed, but that an immense amount of very valuable information could be deduced from carefully accumulated statistics. However it was Mr. James' greatest regret that though figures could not lie, those throughout the Province, to whom the forms were sent for the figures of their district, were most unreliable. He also laid great stress upon the importance of statistics for commercial, insurance, legislative, and purposes of public health. According to this high authority there are not more than six trained and able statisticians in the whole Dominion of Canada, and he urged the importance of there being some provision made in our University for instruction in this line, or at least in training coming politicians to be able to read statistics correctly, and to get the best that there is in them from the study of a Blue Book. The next meeting of the club will be held on February 10th, and promises to be a very interesting one. It will be a "Historical Meeting," and addressed entirely by the ladies of the Political Science course. Miss Patterson, '99, will read a paper on Gladstone; Miss Macdougall, '98, one on Bismark; and Miss Stovel, '98 one on Cavour. All friends of the club and the public generally are cordially invited.

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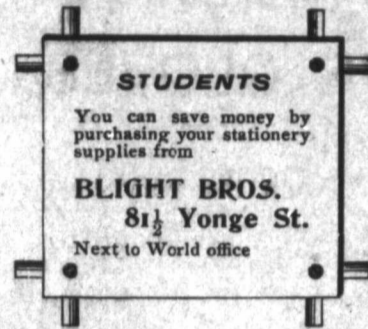
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