

The Varsity

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News Editor for this Issue—**O. D. STEVENSON**

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 15, 1911

OUR LEGISLATORS

'Tis an old thought:—how unsuspectingly the great scientist walked under the apple tree. Who would ever have dreamed that the great law of gravitation came into the human mind upon that simple act! Who would have imagined, either that the little Parliament, organized back in 1905 for the purpose of developing the power of public speaking, and of quickening the mind in debate, would develop as it has into the powerful representative body which it now is! Our oratorically-inclined alumni had little idea that they had laid the foundation for one of the most vital and useful features in the history of the University.

In 1905 the Parliament in existence had nothing whatever of an executive nature. By the following year the need of a thoroughly representative central body was recognized, and the "Undergraduates' Parliament" was clothed with authority, and given a liberal constitution with a representation of five per cent. of the enrolment in all faculties. On towards the end of the academic year of 1906, it was found that this proportion of membership made altogether too unwieldy a body, and three per cent. representation was arranged. Progress of legislation was then from the Parliament to the Executive of the Parliament. But with the constant increase in numbers of members there came a falling off of interest on the part of the average M.P., and by 1910 a reversal of the process of conducting business was thoroughly ingrained. The Executive proposed practically all the legislation and the Parliament acted upon their recommendations.

The fault which brought about this method of government was the one aimed at by the outgoing Executive of last year, when it passed on to the Executive of 1911-12 a recommendation that the number in the Parliament be greatly reduced, so that every member might be given a sense of responsibility and a chance to take an active part in the business of conducting undergraduate affairs which over-crowding formerly prohibited.

This has been acted upon. The present Executive has asked the various faculties to send representatives according to a new schedule, which cuts the membership of the Parliament almost down by almost three-quarters. This change the incoming members will be asked to ratify at the first meeting on Thursday night.

Thirty-one men will control the affairs of the undergraduate body. Each one will have very great responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for any member to neglect meetings or remain uninformed on the affairs of the student body, as did many and many a man in the old Parliament. Election to this assembly will be henceforth an outstanding honor, and those who head the polls in the general elections which will be held in the spring of each year will be assured an education in the conduct of business without parallel in the University.

We have some puerile traits to discard, it is true, and doubtless we measure up very closely to what a graduate now very prominent in Federal affairs recently, said about us: "Toronto University is a sort of glorified high school. The great part of the students do not know their own minds

and the rest have no minds to know." But we are making wonderful progress. Toronto University's clean sport is a by-word in the Dominion, it is winning championships, it is dominating all athletics. Identically the same status in all other affairs can be attained. See, for instance, how we are winning plaudits for our conduct in Hamilton, at the Track Meet, and in the general celebration over our latest victory. The city of Toronto is realizing more and more that our University brings something else than a nominal prestige and an annual toll of two and a half million dollars: namely, an example of good living, clean sportsmanship and lofty purpose.

To our Parliament we shall look for guidance and example in all our affairs. May integrity, zeal and pluck show themselves now, more than ever before, in our legislators!

APPLIED SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP

As announced in another column the Boiler Inspection and Insurance of Canada Ltd., through their secretary, H. W. Roberts, have donated a scholarship to the Faculty of Applied Science. The lack of scholarships in this faculty has been long felt and this offer will help to supply a great need.

It speaks the interest taken in the work of the 'School' by engineering organizations, nay more it is an appreciation on their part of the good work accomplished here.

It is we hope the first of a number of scholarships for the Faculty, scholarships which will tend to promote the highest standard of scholarship and render the relations between the University and the outside world still more cordial.

Needless to say the staff and students alike heartily appreciate the generosity of the donors and thank them for their very kind and thoughtful gift.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER**THE SENILE SWOT**

We haven't very many of him here, for which favour we may well thank the guardian angel of our University. Nevertheless, you will see him occasionally around the halls and in the lecture rooms. You will recognize him by his preternaturally old face, his large, round owl-like eyes, his thick spectacles, his stooping shoulders, and his shuffling gait; but, above all, by his enormous load of books which will you know him. He carries them with an air of conscious pride, for your true Swot is very much of a Pharisee. He studies in the high places of the library. He carries a huge armful of books as a mark of caste. He looks scornfully upon all who study less than he by so much as an hour daily. Yea verily he is a Pharisee.

But do not think that studying a certain number of hours a day constitutes a Swot. It is studying by the hour that does it. Your confirmed Swot studies by rote. He lives by a time table. He is not capable of becoming really interested in the spirit of his work, rather he is possessed of a certain bulldog tenacity of purpose that enables him to labour through a certain number of pages each day. He may read broadly but he thinks narrowly. His whole views of life is pedantic, it is bounded by his scholastic work as with iron hands.

But of course you are not a Swot. You are not narrow and pedantic. You work for the value that is in the work rather than for the pleasure of getting the work done.

So there is nothing more to be said on the subject.

CORRESPONDENCE**OTTAWA CHEERS**

To the Editor of *The Varsity*.

Sir,—Last Saturday afternoon the University of Toronto again won the Inter-collegiate Championship. With the victory itself we have no fault to find. But where were the cheers for Ottawa? Answer echoes, where oh where! At least twice during the course of the game, the supporters from Ottawa cheered Toronto and on both occasions the bleachers responded very nobly and promptly with the *Toronto* yell. To be sure we did execute with some vehemence a yell entitled 'Ottawa,' number thirteen on the song sheet, but the title of the selection must have been rather mystifying to the citizen with a programme, since the yell consisted merely of the three synonymous words, hurrah, Varsity and rah. We also gave Phil Cornellier a cheer



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at one stage of the game, but surely that is not sufficient. Why not make a practice of giving the college yell of the visiting team at least three times during the course of every game? If we do not know the yells of the other colleges let us get them and learn them. Let us have the yell of the visiting team printed on the song-sheets and let the cheer leaders see that it is heartily given—once when the team enters the field, again after some exceptionally good play, and finally just after the game—whether we win or lose.

ARTS SOPH.**BAD VENTILATION**

To the Editor of *The Varsity*:

Sir,—When I read F.M.'s complaints of bad air in the lecture rooms of University College, it makes me, as a member of the Medical Society, blush for shame. If last week's fresh air advocate would some day drop into the reading room of the Medical Society, I am sure he would forget his own troubles and immediately call the health officer. I am sure the air in that and surrounding rooms and corridors is nearer that which existed in the Black Hole of Calcutta, than any atmosphere this side of Mars.

The fault, here, is not in the building; it is simply that the ventilators have been rendered useless by the too diligent application of a screw-driver. In the room are four large windows which if opened every hour for about five minutes would keep the place thoroughly ventilated, but, as I said before, some one has been working overtime.

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The Royal Military College of Canada

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education.

The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills, and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

Commissions in all branches of the Imperial service and Canadian Permanent Force are offered annually.

The diploma of graduation, is considered by the authorities conducting the examination for Dominion Land Surveyor to be equivalent to a university degree, and by the Regulations of the Law Society of Ontario, it obtains the same examinations as a B.A. degree.

The length of the course is three years, in three terms of 9½ months each.

The total cost of the course, including board, uniform, instructional material, and all extras, is about \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College, takes place in May of each year, at the headquarters of the several military districts.

For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont.; or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

H.Q. 94-5. 10-11.

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