

The great difference in the kind of work done in this College and in Toronto is due mainly to the difference in the system of teaching. In Elmira the responsibility of accomplishing the work falls rather on the teacher than on the student. It is rarely that the student needs to look farther ahead than the prescribed lesson. The work in class partakes oftener of the nature of drill than of lecture. Nothing is known of that oppressive responsibility of an individual review of the entire year's work that comes so heavily on Toronto students. Term examinations count as finals. Occasionally in some departments when the study of a book is finished a review will be held and the book laid aside for good. More intimate relations exist between teacher and student in Elmira, but it is doubtful whether the same independence of judgment is attained by the student under this system.

One or two special features of the work may be interesting to note. In modern languages great importance is laid on the spoken language, the classes being largely conducted in the foreign tongue. The music department is very strong, and often attracts students for its sake alone. A different problem from the one which confronts Toronto lady students with regard to gymnasium exercise, meets a rest loving Elmira student, for not only are arrangements provided for gymnasium work, but all students except seniors are required to attend classes.

The faculty is composed of both men and women. The President, Dr. A. C. McKenzie, is a Canadian by birth. Miss Leach is the Lady Principal. The Romance languages are under the direction of a Toronto graduate, Miss M. E. N. Fraser, Ph. D.

There are about 150 students in attendance, 75 of whom live in the building. It seems a large number when one hears the hum of merry conversation in the dining-room. The girls are seated at various small tables, each presided over by a lady teacher. Bedrooms are sometimes occupied singly, but usually two girls share a room. The glimpses to be had from the corridors of tea-tables, and divans piled high with cushions, and walls covered with photographs, are very attractive. For fear domestic intuitions should pass entirely out of the girls' nature, all are required to make their own beds, and Saturday morning brooms and dusters are flourished about in a very energetic manner.

There is no one association which would correspond to our Women's Literary Society, but the girls belong for the most part to one or two rival local Greek Letter Societies, which are social, literary and dramatic in character. Members receive their friends in the beautiful parlors furnished by the societies, where also the girls find much pleasant intercourse and enjoyment of the libraries and pianos. Each society rivals the other in procuring the services of noted lecturers, expenses being more than paid by the patronage of the public. Some dramatic programs have consisted of the reading of "The Bachelor's Dream," while it was being acted out in pantomime, of the presentation of Tennyson's "Dream of Fair Women" in tableaux, of scenes from "The Dolly Dialogues," and occasionally of plays written by some of the members. A strong New York Alumnae Association busies itself improving the finance of the college, and contributes every year to the Historical section of the library. The Christian Association holds weekly prayer-meetings and monthly Sunday missionary meetings. An enthusiastic chapter of the College Settlement Association contributes a large sum annually to the work in the great cities, the money being raised by subscription and by a sale. The only clubs in connection with departments of study are the Biological and the Mendelssohn Clubs. Owing to the

great interest taken in music the latter is largely attended. The result of the good work accomplished is evidenced by the beautiful singing at daily service in chapel.

There are two publications, one an annual in book form published by the Juniors, a memento of the personnel of the faculty and contemporaneous students, and the other a paper entitled "The Sibyl," published by the Seniors five times a year. "The Sibyl" is a very attractive paper, both as regards its appearance and its contents. Essays written for class purposes and already criticized by the teacher are sometimes used. The stories are fresh and amusing, and the poems of unusual merit. "The Sibyl" is represented in the Intercollegiate Press Association. It might be worth while for "Sesame" to arrange an exchange with "The Sibyl."

Some quaint customs are, I believe, peculiar to Elmira College. Each class, upon entering, elects one of the faculty to be its Patron Saint. If the choice is a happy one, and if the Saint and his or her protégés are in sympathy, the beneficial influence of this office can hardly be overestimated. At all critical periods in class history the students may count on the careful and loving advice of their Saint, though this is seldom given except upon request. One Patron Saint said playfully that her duties consisted for the most part in accepting gifts of flowers and going for drives when invited. The social pleasures of the class are naturally shared with the Saint, as for instance the annual entertainment—usually a sleigh ride—which the Juniors give the Seniors, and the banquet which the Seniors give in return. At the banquet the Seniors' Patron Saint is toast mistress. It is in the careful keeping of the Patron Saint that the Seniors upon graduation leave a legacy to their successors. This is called "The Sibyl Box," and is always accompanied by directions as to when it shall be opened and by a program which calls for certain performances on the part of those who receive gifts. The contents are usually of a symbolic nature, as when the business manager of "The Sibyl" received an oil can to keep things running smoothly.

On the fourth story, contiguous to the library, are the Seniors' apartments, known as Senior Hall. Here even those Seniors whose homes are in Elmira have lodgings, and three rooms are set apart for parlors. Each year the new class furnishes these parlors to suit its individual tastes. Here are held banquets and all important Senior functions.

In closing mention must be made of the pretty surrounding country and the beautiful views of hills which may be had from almost every window; for

"Hills draw like Heaven,"

and must not be counted among the least of the uplifting influences of college life at Elmira.

The Y.W.C.A. was favored last week by the presence of Miss Elizabeth Ross. Miss Ross visited the College on Thursday and met many of the girls.

Ladies' Glee Club Concert

Wednesday, Dec. 13

NORMAL SCHOOL
THEATRE

An entertaining and instructive
programme.

MRS. KNOX BLACK and others.

Normal School Museum will be
open after the Concert.

Tickets: 25c. & 50c.

To be had from members of the
Committee and at the Janitor's
office.