

extend to it the same reasonable expenditure as has been ungrudgingly approved of in every other branch.' And that Dr. Wilson, while entering a calm and reasonable protest, is not desirous of acting the part of an obstructionist in any way, is shown in the closing sentence of his letter:—'Having thus fulfilled my duty in endeavoring to lay the case clearly before you, I have only to add, that whatever the Government or the Legislature shall determine, it will be my earnest endeavor to carry out with all possible efficiency.'

### Editorial Notes.

The joint Year Book committee held its first meeting on Thursday, and discussed the project generally. It was decided that the most favorable time for issuing the volume will be at the beginning of the College term, and with a view to publication after midsummer the Committee intends at once to appoint its several departments amongst those best fitted to attend to them. The work will then be done during the vacation, and will be ready for the printer if possible by October 1st.

Some further ideas on the Modern Language question will be found in a letter signed X. Y. Z., and published in another column. Our correspondent is inclined to lay to the charge of the curriculum the present unsatisfactory condition of affairs, and believes that a change in the specified books would be followed by a material improvement in other ways. Those who have discussed the question seem nearly unanimous in the opinion that there is need and room for change. Of the manner of effecting it there are divers opinions, which, if put into practice, would revolutionize the study of the Modern Languages in the University. It is clearly the duty of the Senate to carefully enquire into the needs of the case, and to apply the proper remedies.

A deputation from the Executive Committee of Convocation waited on the Attorney-General last Tuesday for the purpose of presenting the memorial of Convocation in favor of additional University endowment. From the hopes to be gathered from Mr. Mowat's reception of the memorial, the motions and remarks touching this matter in the House, and the known opinions of many of the members, there is no doubt that this question will be discussed at the beginning of next session. There is now no possibility of action this year. That the matter may be thoroughly understood, all correspondence has been moved for, and will soon be in the hands of the members of the House.

We understand that the Forum, which was organized two years ago by the members of the first and second years, is now defunct. How far this was owing to the recent changes in the mode of procedure of the Literary Society we cannot say, but doubtless, under the present arrangement, 'Forensic' debaters find the atmosphere of that institution more congenial to their tastes than hitherto. The changes in the constitution were to all intents and purposes an approximation to the forms of the Forum, and to it the introducers of the new scheme were largely indebted for their inspiration. While, however, we believe that the Literary Society is now performing, pretty satisfactorily, the work of both institutions, yet we think it advisable in the interests of University College, that some junior organization should exist among the students of the first and second years. The presence of seniors is doubtless embarrassing, and a society where the new men could express themselves without reserve is, practically, a necessity. We hope to see this important adjunct to the Literary Society revived next year.

The opinions expressed in Mr. Edwards' letter with regard to the desirability of change in the *status* of our degree of LL.

D., coincide with our own in the main. We have indicated very plainly our objections to the present system and the desirable direction of change. And Mr. Edwards thus forcibly formulates his objections:—'The system is wrong because it offers a degree, which is throughout the world accepted as a mark of eminent scholarship or ability, and which usually accompanies mature years, to the successful writer of a couple of theses, who at the time of competing has probably done nothing to distinguish himself, and who may or may not afterwards prove himself worthy of his honors, and because it practically excludes those of her children whom the University would be proud to honor, but whose busy, useful lives leave no time for such idle work as writing theses.' In connexion with the last suggestive statement in this quotation, we would insist that we have never intended to make an attack upon any of our Doctors of Law individually. But we believe we were correct in assuming that a degree of supposedly so high a character habitually and necessarily granted to those whose lack of avocation leaves time for 'the idle work of writing theses,' could not represent the ability of our University men. If, as regards the past, we are wrong in this assumption, we will be glad to know that a better state of things than what we would expect to be the natural and normal one, does really exist. With regard to confining the degree of LL. D. to our own graduates, this is a question we have not yet considered sufficiently to state a definite opinion about.

### University News.

#### LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

The regular weekly meeting of the Society was held on Friday evening last, the President in the chair. It being nomination night there was an unusually large attendance. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed.

The Rule of Order requiring Notices of Motion to be given having been suspended, that portion of the Report of the House Committee referring to periodicals was reconsidered. The following papers were struck off: *Toronto Truth*, the *War Cry*, *The Judge*, and *The Atheneum*. The following were added: *The School Supplement*, *The Mathematical Visitor*, *Puck*, and *The Boston Literary World*. Several proposals to place certain Canadian weeklies on the list were lost.

The nomination of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Mr. Alfred Baker, M.A., rose, amid great applause, and in most eloquent terms nominated the Rev. Father Teefy, M.A., of St. Michael's College, as President for the coming year. Mr. Baker spoke at considerable length, and mentioned the various qualities necessary in one aspiring to the position of President of the Literary Society, and pointed out how admirably the Rev. Father Teefy fulfilled all the many and exacting requirements which he enumerated.

On arising to reply, Rev. Father Teefy was accorded a right royal welcome, which plainly showed that the Society appreciated and endorsed the unanimous choice of both parties, a fact which must have been most gratifying to the rev. gentleman. Rev. Father Teefy thanked the Society for the honor they had conferred upon him by choosing him to fill the Presidential chair. He referred with satisfaction to the fact that St. Michael's College was affiliated with the Provincial University, and that the members of the Literary Society had shown such a feeling of liberality and good-will towards that institution—always loyal to the University—by selecting him as their President for the coming year. Rev. Father Teefy concluded his speech by assuring the Society that the Roman collar which he wore, and which he was proud to wear, would never, as far as he was concerned, displace the University gown,—a remark which drew forth the heartiest applause.

Mr. J. Mackay, B.A., nominated the retiring President, Prof. R. Ramsay Wright, and paid him a most deserved tribute; testifying to the great acceptance with which he had filled the chair during the past year, and to the great interest he had shown in the society.

Prof. Wright briefly replied, and congratulated the society upon the fortunate choice of a successor it had made, and with-