

The Varsity

Published weekly by the students of the University of Toronto. Annual subscription, One Dollar, payable strictly in advance. For advertising rates apply to the Business Manager. Address all communications for publication to the Editor-in-Chief, University College.

W. A. R. KERR, *Editor-in-Chief.*

ERIC N. ARMOUR, *Business Manager.*

Editorial Board.—Miss Downey, '99; G. W. Ross, '99; V. E. Henderson, '99; W. H. McNairn, '99; Miss Hughes, '00; E. H. Cooper, '00; G. F. Kay, '00; A. N. W. Clare, '00; Miss Forrest, '01; G. F. McFarland, '01; P. A. Carson, '01; W. Foreman; R. Roaf; F. McNaughton; S. P. S.

Business Board.—Miss Burgess, '99; J. B. Hunter, '99; Miss L. Wright, '00; A. N. Mitchell, '00; A. J. Isbester, '01; V. Neelands; A. Smith; S. P. S.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 19, 1898.

GREETING.

THE VARSITY, with this number, makes its bow for the session of ninety-eight and nine. Like the veteran actor, who has for years appeared before the public, it comes on the stage with some degree of confidence—not confidence in its own abilities—but confidence in the kindness and sympathy of those before whom it appears. Encouraged by that co-operation and support which it has received in the past, it feels sure that these essential elements of success will not be refused to it during this year. But while THE VARSITY is deeply grateful for the forbearance of its readers, on account of whatever failings it may have, yet it believes that it still deserves the active support of the students by whom and in whose interests it is written and printed. THE VARSITY is the organ of the undergraduates of the University of Toronto. It is their property. It is for them to use. It aims to reflect their opinions; to make known their wants; to voice their aspirations. Its columns are open to them, if they have anything to say—by anything, be it understood, is meant anything not derogatory to the loyalty which we all owe to that Alma Mater at whose feet we are together found humbly seeking wisdom. Only one other restriction would THE VARSITY place upon any communications which may be addressed to it. Argument must never be allowed to degenerate into personal abuse. But these are two things which it is not necessary to say—things of which no one needs to be reminded. THE VARSITY then calls upon the students of Toronto to write for it, to subscribe for it, to patronize its advertisers—to work with the Editorial and Business Boards in making the journal a success from both the literary and financial points of view. THE VARSITY believes that it will not call in vain.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The Editor of THE VARSITY wishes to call attention to the fact that he cannot publish any matter unless the sender encloses his name. The author's name is not necessarily for publication, but merely as a guarantee of good faith. If a contributor does not—for

whatever reason—care to sign his own name, he is at liberty to use any nom-de-plume he may choose, but his identity must be known to the Editor. With respect to anonymous matter already sent in, THE VARSITY can only print it, if those who were kind enough to contribute it will let the Editor know who they are.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

With the faculty and graduates, THE VARSITY is on terms of friendship, which go back many years, and it here takes advantage of the opportunity to thank the many members of these two bodies, who have done, and are doing so much to help it. Among the students only one-fourth are strangers, and even among that fourth THE VARSITY already counts some friends and many acquaintances. THE VARSITY welcomes the first year to college. It welcomes them to what older men have said were the best four years of their lives, the free, careless existence of the university student. But let not the Freshman imagine that this merry life has no seamy side, nothing serious to it. That would be as great a mistake as to think that the whole duty of the student is the incessant, relentless pursuit of knowledge, that his days are passed in the class-room, and his nights brooding over abstruse problems in philosophy or science. The one would be as much an error as the other. But while the student takes a moderate amount of the joys of life, he must not forget that for the four years he spends at college he owes much to himself and much to his university; he must ever be ready to stand up for his Alma Mater, to second her in all her undertakings, to be her loyal and enthusiastic son. And in this connection, THE VARSITY would like to address a few words to the Freshman class. From the first year hitherto, THE VARSITY has not had that support which it has received from Sophomore, Junior and Senior. This is due probably not to any want of goodwill on the part of the new student, but we believe may be traced to quite another cause. Scarcely has the Matriculant entered the Rotunda for the first time, when he finds himself besieged by a small army of men—fellow-students they may be, but none the less strangers to him—who canvass him eagerly on behalf of as many different schemes. Most of these are worthy enough in themselves, and this is proved by the fact that our particular matriculant will be found canvassing for them himself next year. But so sudden is the onset, so numerous the demands, such strangers are the canvassers, that the Freshman is very liable to put his hands tightly in his pockets and prudently resolve that he will just hold off for a year or so, until he may find out for himself the merits of the different claims which are pressed upon his notice. The consequence is that the Freshman gives active or monetary support to very little but lectures during his first session at college.