

THE EDITOR OF THE MARTLET.

DEAR SIR:—

Something over a week ago a committee was appointed by the 4th year in Science to investigate the  $\frac{1}{8}$  attendance rule and to suggest some scheme of remedying our so-called grievances that would meet with the approval of the Faculty and students alike. After several meetings that committee has the following report of progress to bring before the Science Undergrads. for approval before rendering it to the powers that be. However, that it may obtain the consideration of every science man and meet with his approbation or dissent, we take this opportunity of putting forth our case with arguments pro and con.

The solution, Mr. Editor, is as follows:—Instead of the present order of things we suggest that lectures occupy the hours from 8.30 to 12.30 and from 3.30 to 6.30, leaving an interval of three hours in the middle of the day to be utilized by the individual student as he sees fit.

To begin with, let us remind those interested that our reason for introducing the above is not "athletic" only—the whole condition of affairs in science is responsible for the move.

It is a patent fact and endorsed by certain members of the faculty that the preparation of the majority of men in science is totally inadequate. We think that undue stress is being placed on the taking of lectures and of what use we ask are lectures without preparation. The break in the day allows a man two hours at least during which he may go over his morning lectures or prepare other work. But we hear someone object, he will only go to Bennett's or "bum" the time elsewhere.—well men do get drunk and if McGill men haven't realized that small allowance is made here for "bumming" we can only hope that experience will live up to its reputation. However, we do not suggest that a man must work through this period—that remains with himself. If he wishes to take it for recreation it should be worth more than time at the end of the afternoon when it is getting dark. Under the proposed adjustment should a man take an evening off, his work need not necessarily suffer, whereas at present such time taken is irretrievably lost.

To the student so inclined, this respite in the day's work may be employed in reading up some of the many references so earnestly recommended by our instructors and just as earnestly neglected under the present regime. Could he not use this time, or his evening period if he prefers, in reading a technical journal, or to quote a recent speaker before the Science Undergrad., in keeping in touch with what is going on around him in the way of current events and public expenditure? At present the student in McGill pursues for four years nothing but technical matters and on graduation disappoints those with whom he comes in contact by his narrowness and lack of culture.