THE VARSITY.


CRAMMING
Is the cramming process which will be in progress during the next few weeks at the University conducive to that higher education which the institution is supposed to supply. Most educational authorities will agree that it is not. Then why is it the common method of covering the
University work? The answer may be found partly in the character of the students themselves. Civilization has not reached a stage in this country where culture is placed in general high esteem. Wealth is rather that to which the eyes of Canadians are directed. Hence, many come to the University, not to acquire culture, but as a pleasant place to spend a ew years before entering on life's real work, making money. This element could not be expected to enter into the real condition Unversity no matter may be ex pected, then, that many students from this young country, will be certain to treat their studies as a joke until examinations are upon them.
But it may, fairly be asked if the man who really wishes to study has any in centive to do so. The chief incentive is interest in the subjects of study. student to become interested in as wide range of subjects as are to be found on that when he has studied a subject sufficiently to become interested he is furced to leave it and begin another. In this, he has no interest, and hence little incentive to give it thorough study. Knowing that he will not have time really to work out the subject, and that the examiners do not require thorough knowledge, the student is tempted to let the subject go until just before examinations, when he will cram
it all up sufficiently well to slip through only a few days work. He is all the more likely to do this with subjects that do not interest him and on a wide course, there are bound to be some such. There are, who look with cynical indifference on the work of their courses, following their own inclinations throughout the year and depending on their ability to cram to pass either more conscientious or less courageou ous, who struggle throughout the year, endeavoring to do the work laid out for ing is obtained by an entire sacrifice of the student's powers of originality. Could not a system be devised where cramming would not be encouraged and full use made of all the student's mental powers

## MUSIC AT SERMONS

Two weeks ago the Medical Octette
was advertised to sing at the Sunday morning service in Convocation Hall. Last Sunday morning the Victoria Col lege Quartette was announced for the same work. On either occasion was the music given; the sufficient reason is that
on the former of the two occasions two of the Meds became ill and on the lat. of the Vic men was most unexpectedly called out of town. Even the Colleges Sermon Committee is not exempt from the "ills that flesh is heir

ONLOOKER'S CORNER

It all depends on how you look at a thing. If you stand on your head, the into the air. Marbles roll along the oeiling Books drop up to the floor. You find a new point of view that surprise you. Now, it is the slavery to the custom of standing on one's feet that is the trouble with us. Let us change our viewpoint by standing on our heads, and we shall discover a new world. Old institutions that are still institutions because they are old, will appear to us in their true light. For instance: spires are relics of dead mediaeval days, when all men had one god. They were symbols of man's strife for the infinite. We have spires still on our temples, though they cannot truly symbolize our strivings. But stand on your head and the whole matter is plain. Then the spire is pointed downwards. It is a mighty symbol-it is a drill, which digs into the earth where there is gold and iron.
Some are born in this world already on their heads (God love 'em!) We call them unconventional. They think nothing of brandishing a saussage at table, by way of emphasis. The world looks so grotesque from their point of view that their natural actions are surprising. Yet after all, the convention that forbids a man to brandish a sausage seems quite silly. (I believe am turned.)
Let us then break nature's bondage of
pedal procession and outlook.
The Onlooker.
HABITUAL HIGH-BROW

privave waged private war upon
my bow tie, and spoken harsh words to my shirt stud.
I have shaken hands with many patronesses and begged waltzes
from beautiful
girls. I have rage with my fellows at a buffet and borne off treacherous-looking salads to my lady; and then more waltzing, punctuated with vapid remarks on the decorations, the weather, and the good music.
I have fought like a fiend for my over coat and sent out search parties after my errant Taxicab; now I am
sleep. But it was fated otherwise. My head was on the pillow; my brain was other where. One cannot control absolutely his trend of thoughts
ife. For when the dance is college dife. For when the dance is over there is nought left but a memory. College Life must produce something that will away. When graduation day is gone behind we must know our College not by memory, but because it has made us what we are. Memory is of the past, and there is no past. College Life means omething more lasting than the brillianc and harmony
seek elsewhere."
Whereupon I rolled upon my left side
and slept like a child

## CORRESPONDENCE

To the Editor of The Varsity:
Dear Sir:
A modern Cincinnatus has spoken; but a man vastly different from the Roman Cincinnatus, who left the plough to serve
his country and returned to his plough his country and returned to his plough
after the victory was won. He nceded no after the victory was won. He needed no
military lectures, no blaring of trumpets military lectures, no blaring of trumpets
to spur him on to the defence of Rome. to spur him on to the defence of Rome.
Your correspondent will have it that Your correspondent will have it that
we are cowards, we who do not shout our oyalty from the housetops. We are eager that the virtue of our ancestors shall cover up our own lack of virtue. True, there are some of us-l an onemands of British Capitalists in South Africa, nor wage bloody war on honest Germans in order to keep down the world's population or to till the pockets of Dread-naught-builders. But let me tell Mr. Cin liberty should be placed in jeopardy, we will show our teeth and do as good work as any of his flag-waving Colonels, or the Queen's Own Rifles.
Time was when no one walked on th street without a rapier. And the time is coming when nations will walk withou
 excited and die on a battle-field. It takes the really brave citizen to stay at home and do the worlds work, with no brass band to cheer $h$.
him for his toil.

BIBLE STUDY CONFERENCE
The Bible Study classes held their final session this week and the Conference which activities for the year is to take place on activities for the year is to take place on
Sunday morning next, February 11th. Professor G. A. Johnston-Ross, late of Byrn Mawr, Pennsylvania, now of the
Presbyterian Theological College, Montreal, is to lead the conference. It will real, is to lead the conf
consist of three sessions:
11 a.m.-College Sermon, Wycliffe Convocation Hall.
3. pm.-A meeting for University men in the University Y.M.C.A. building Professor G. A. Joh "The Cross in Christian Expon the subience.
Experience.
7.30 p.m.
7.30 p.m.-Service in St. Andrew's Church, King Street. Sermon by Pro fessor Johnston-Ross. Dubject-"The
Reasonableness of Christianity." Rev. Crawford Brown has set apart this Sunday evening service as "Students Night" in St. Andrew's Church and issues a cordial invitation to all students to be present.

In the Swim.-A reviewer in the New York Nation illustrates his own comments on a certain new volume of essays by story that is worth putting into circulation X., hearers, he says, of the admafter the sermon "Wing in the vesible arked the first, "that the doctor dives deeper into his subject than any other preacher." Yes,. said the second, and stays under the third.-Western Christian Advocate

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