

abundance of good magazine literature furnished by the Union Literary Society, ACTA is working to no purpose in publishing such articles as by great effort her editors can obtain gratuitously from well-known writers, unless they write upon college topics, and even then such a course fosters a literary standard at the expense of our independence.

Last year one of the advisory members of the Board urged us to make ACTA representative of Canadian literature; but is not that entrenching on the sphere of other publications, while giving very poor encouragement to struggling authors, since we can give little financial support? With more reason we might be expected to foster the talent now left undeveloped among us, that when students leave the college halls they may have served their apprenticeship in writing. If even once in a decade the development of a successful writer rewarded ACTA's efforts, more would have been accomplished for Canadian literature than can ever be obtained with our present ideals, even though they have given us such creditable issues as our recent Christmas numbers.

"We are here to prepare for our life work" is a familiar phrase around Victoria, yet one and all agree to neglect one of the greatest opportunities their college life affords—training in expression (and that in the face of the ever increasing power and influence of the newspaper and magazine). We want to be of influence upon the political life of our country and in the world of thought, and yet we allow college matters, which are absorbing our interest, to pass unnoticed in the organ which should give expression to our thoughts upon the events of our college world. We long for more college spirit and fail in the surest way of cultivating it, except through the "Locals," which though treating only of college gossip is easily the most popular department—the one first and most eagerly read, just because it is most representative of college life. We complain that our graduates lack interest; yet, with the way provided, neglect to keep them informed of the things which are of vital interest. ACTA is losing its hold even upon the undergraduates, because they do not find the things which interest them discussed in its columns, and is in danger of becoming a mere waste-paper basket for Canadian authors, only to be filled by them after much persuasion on the part of the editors. If Victoria men and women would discuss in ACTA the things which present themselves for deliberation, both Victoria and her students would feel the benefit, and the life of the editors made easier.

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