

Printing of Examination Papers.

In Oxford and Cambridge there is a regularly constituted board of examiners who attend to the printing of examination papers and to whom the returns of examinations have to be sent. This board does practically the same work as is done in Edinburgh and Glasgow by the Registrar. One point of difference from our methods should be emphasized, namely that the papers are not received in the Registrar's office at all. The examiner is responsible for sending them to the printer directly, so there is one chance of leakage less in their system. The printer notifies the Registrar as soon as the paper has been received and all that the latter is required to do is to receive the printed papers and send them to the examination hall at the proper time. This method can be carried out well in universities which have their own printing press; with us it would not be so easy.

University Buildings and Grounds.

The McGill University Buildings compare very favourably with, and in some cases are superior to, those which I saw. Our situation is better and the arrangement of the buildings is as good as any.

In one respect, however, we are far behind and that is in the appearance of the grounds. Everywhere university and college grounds are beautifully kept. There are no disfiguring patches, such as appear on ours, because they are not open to the public as is the case here. Their playing-fields are, of course, not as trim as their campuses, but that is not to be expected, whereas our playing-field looks better than our campus, or at any rate did, up till the last football game. The trouble with McGill is that one part of the campus is constantly in use throughout the summer by the so-called McGill Cricket Club on which probably there are not more than one or two McGill men. We shall never have a decent looking campus until the privilege they have been granted is withdrawn. I doubt if it would be tolerated anywhere else.

Another reason for the unsatisfactory appearance of the grounds is that there is almost no restriction as to the use which can be made of them by the public. I have seen small boys playing baseball, football and indeed all sorts of games on it, and it is a veritable paradise for hoboes, out-of-works and nurse maids. One improvement was made this year in that the benches that used to be placed around as an invitation to stragglers to use it as a public park were not in evidence. This kept out a good many of the undesirables, but there is still a row on the west side, mainly I presume for the accommodation of the cricket game watchers. These too should be removed, for when games are not in progress they are chiefly used by nurse maids.

It does not look well to have what is practically a public park, with all its unpleasing accompaniments, at our front door, especially when we have the control of that park ourselves. Apart from this there is the harm done to the turf by frequenters of the place following regular paths. In the case of other University grounds this would not be allowed for a minute (I tried it at one of the colleges at Cambridge and was promptly called back).

On account of the case taken by the Universities generally the lawns