

The Varsity

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TORONTO, FEBRUARY 5, 1912

ARE YOU AWAKE?

How many men, not Science men, have been through the "Strength Lab." at the School? How many, not Meds, have seen the Pathological Museum? How many, not in University College, have seen—or rather noticed—the interior decoration of the most beautiful of the University buildings? For the matter of that, how many in U.C. itself have noticed it?

Really, we are very very narrow and provincial, we at Toronto. The men of one College know lamentably little about the other colleges, in their studies and accomplishments, their surroundings, even their undergraduates. A good deal of our ignorance is due to lack of observation; more to sheer indifference. The Arts man boldly talks about his "general knowledge," but too often knows surprisingly little outside his course; he has the vaguest ideas on strength of materials and the potentialities of H₂SO₄, on the difference between the carotid and the cranium, on the number of board feet in a given pine. The School man boasts of being practical; does he, as a rule, know too much of the great principles of the origin, flux and reflux of the wealth that enables him to drive his lines, to sink his shafts, or to feed his batteries and dynamos? Does he appreciate the slow, age-long steps of development that have given him the knowledge that he has? We venture to think that, as a rule, he does not pay these things the attention that their importance warrants. The same sort of statement might be applied with equal justice to the other faculties. Very few of us have any but the faintest notion of what the men not in our own college are doing.

This is, it seems to us, a state of affairs that stands in the way of the greater unity of Toronto that those who have her interests at heart are so eager to see brought about. Ignorance precludes sympathy; we cannot have a real sympathy among the colleges, if they continue to hold aloof from each other as they seem to do. The great trouble—the source of this, as of nearly all our most crying evils—is indifference. If the undergraduates would begin to take an interest in colleges other than their own, the greatest step toward obtaining real unity in the University would be made. The new Union will help to make permanent the results thus reached; but the first move must come from the undergraduates themselves. The University needs the unity that such a move would lead to. Will her undergrads fail her?

Dr. MacDONALD TO SPEAK

University Students will have an exceptional opportunity of hearing one of the greatest orators of the Dominion in the person of Dr. J. A. MacDonald, who will deliver an address "The Call of the Nation" in the West Hall of the Main Building, Thursday, February 8th from 5 to 6 o'clock. This meeting is being held under the auspices of the University College Y.M.C.A. and every epicurean of the oratorical art should take advantage of the exceptional opportunity presented.

ONLOOKER'S CORNER

Let us remark the studious fellow. He is the recluse collater of texts, the ardent follower of time-tables, the honoured man in examinations. He is popularly termed 'swot', and is said to read the letter of academic work and to miss the spirit of it. But it is also he, prithe observe, who has a solitary interest in his college, and from him comes a loyal support in all its doings. It is the studious man who becomes the cultured man, with whom, in twenty years, you butterflies will claim acquaintance. You will hang his photograph in your studies, and speak of him affectionately as 'George.'

It is amusing to hear the number of men who calmly speak of their lack of application as a virtuous breadth of interest in University life. It is this generally accepted excuse that puts the student proper in his uncomfortable place. He should be more respected, because it is well known that men of great practical sense and of brilliant intellect are always students. Our greatest minds were distinguished at school. On the other hand, genius cannot be kept to the rails. But genius is not wanted yet. A young nation must do its teething on bone. One might almost say on bone-heads—at any rate hard heads, practical heads. Now look about for the man we need, who will be found on the rails, going strong—a student.

THE ONLOOKER.

HABITUAL HIGH-BROW



The atmosphere of the Medical Building was disgusting in its fetidity. But my feet rang cheerful on the iron stairs, for I was confident that College Life lay at the end of the climb. Entering the amphitheatre, I made for the nearest seat and looked around.

"At last!" I murmured, "at last I have found it." For I saw a hundred men and four-score women, note-books open before them, drinking wisdom from the lips of a bewhiskered lecturer below. There was an incessant scratching of pens and the lecturer's voice was pleasant to hear. I did not know what he was talking about. I did not care. Enough for me that my quest was ended; after a while I heard the voice no more.

A book flopped to the floor and I awoke to find the lecturer still at his task. Apparently all was the same as when I had dropped out of consciousness; but on a second look—*quam mulatus ab illo*. The pens no longer raced; except that some few girls with true feminine conscientiousness, took down in detail the labored sentences, while an aesthetic youth nearby busied himself with the composition of a love sonnet. The majority had drooped into easy postures and conversed in whispers or stared around waiting until the interminable hour should end.

When this occurred, the dozing class pulled itself together and filed out, listless, enervated.

"Surely this is not College Life," I sighed, stumbling to the door. "I must seek elsewhere."

CORRESPONDENCE

REPLY TO O.D.S.

To the Editor of The Varsity:

Dear Sir:—I noticed in The Varsity of Friday last, a letter which surprises me, only in that it, or something like it has not appeared before. It is, unfortunately inevitable that there should be some undergraduates here, who are not only content but eager, that the virtues of their ancestors should cover up their own lack of virtue, and who consider that because their father's brother's great uncle by marriage once had some intention of joining the local militia, they themselves are free from any responsibility for the defence of their fellow-citizens. In order to persuade themselves of the righteousness of their position, they generally stigmatize those who realize and face their responsibility in this matter, as alarmists, and not uncommonly attribute to them, objects which no sane man would have.

Your correspondent, "O.D.S.", is apparently a person of this sort. In his eagerness to shirk his duty, he has made at least one statement which is absolutely

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false. It is that it is the "avowed object" (the italics are his own) of the Canadian Defence League to make war with the neighbouring republic," if it will not come any other way." What absolutely foolish falsehood! The objects of the League are to maintain the Imperial tie and Canadian nationality, to increase the efficiency of the Canadian forces, and to encourage military training for every able-bodied man in the Dominion—objects at least legitimate, and in the opinion of many, entirely praiseworthy. I should suggest that before "O.D.S." again makes public his opinions on a subject, he will take a little care to get his facts correct. He might even go so far as to shew a little courtesy to gentlemen much his seniors; rudeness such as his indicates decidedly paucity of valid argument.

Continued on Page 4, Col. 2.

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Duties.—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$3.00 per acre.

Duties.—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-emption six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$3.00 per acre. Duties.—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

The Royal Military College of Canada

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education.

The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills, and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

Commissions in all branches of the Imperial service and Canadian Permanent Force are offered annually.

The diploma of graduation, is considered by the authorities conducting the examination for Dominion Land Surveyor to be equivalent to a university degree, and by the Regulations of the Law Society of Ontario, it obtains the same examinations as a B.A. degree.

The length of the course is three years, in three terms of 9 1/2 months each.

The total cost of the course, including board, uniform, instructional material, and all extras, is about \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College, takes place in May of each year, at the headquarters of the several military districts.

For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont.; or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

H.Q. 94-5. 10-11.

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