

full course in Arts for the first two years. For the last two, for those wishing to pursue the study of Medicine, a course might be arranged in Arts similar to the Natural Science Tripos in Cambridge, but not so heavy as to prevent them at the same time from undertaking dissecting and attending the hospitals. This of course is but a suggestion, and it is for the Medical Faculty to say if two years would be sufficient to complete the medical course with as great efficiency as by the present method.

There should be less trouble with the other professional faculties to arrive at a similar result, as they move in more parallel lines. In all cases, however, it is apparent that the Faculty of Arts would have to be greatly strengthened, as the present staff is utterly inadequate to cope with the additional amount of work that would be thrown upon it; and unless some benefactor should come forward to the assistance of the main faculty, McGill must remain as it is, and watch other Universities lead the way, satisfied with the great work she undoubtedly now is doing in the noble cause of education.

ATHLETICS.

For the last ten years approximately, and at practically the same period in the college session, the annual meeting of our University Athletic Association has taken place. This year the date has been fixed for the 25th of February, and a move has been made for the place of meeting from the smaller room in the Arts Building to the more spacious and commodious quarters of the Molson Hall, owing to the large increase in the numbers of the subscribers to the organization.

As will appear from an article in the Sporting column, several questions of great importance will be brought up at this meeting for the consideration of our athletes, and to these it is therefore not our intention to refer at greater length. Other and more serious questions, however, must some day be solved, and each year, as the Association grows numerically and as its financial resources become greater, they obtrude themselves in a more forcible and noticeable manner, and demand a solution.

Does the constitution provide for the best possible management for the carrying on of the affairs of the Association, and would not a more liberal infusion of the graduate element, at least to act as an advisory board if not as actual members of the directorate, exert a modifying influence on what is sometimes hasty and ill-advised action?

This suggestion is made in no carping or fault-finding spirit, but it is written from a long and personal experience of the workings of our Athletic organizations: and as the years roll on, and we find so little substantial and lasting benefit accruing to Athletics in general, in the way of the establishment of any permanent, visible and tangible institution, the question naturally presents itself—is everything being done that should be done to foster Athletics in McGill, and are our efforts being directed in the proper channel?

The committees, as formed, have in the past worked in a most careful and unselfish manner; but, as has been said, much of their legislation has been necessarily of a hasty and immature nature. Too much has been left to chance, too much done on the spur of the moment to meet what has then been considered an immediate necessity.

The matter of subscriptions has been so long a matter of debate and difference that it seems almost needless to dwell on the subject further. A more equitable manner of collecting these most necessary sinews of warfare has now been inaugurated, and has on the whole worked very satisfactorily during the session now nearly over. A general subscription is a necessity, and a division of the amount required from each individual to the general fund of the Athletic Association, embracing the different organizations, should not be permitted. The University Athletic Association should be an organization with more or less faculty supervision, composed of an advisory board of graduates, and a representative committee from the recognized leaders in college athletics in the different faculties. The board must be a thoroughly responsible one, and the accounts should be audited and the report of the same published in the FORTNIGHTLY at the end of every session.

These are old suggestions. Graduates of years gone by will smile as they again hear them reiterated, but they have been so often more honored in the breach than in the observance, that a proper understanding must some day be come to with regard to these measures, and the sooner the better if McGill is to maintain the high position she has so far successfully held in the Canadian world of manly exercises, and is eventually to rise to an even higher degree of importance in that sphere commensurate with her remarkable growth in other respects.

Disquieting rumors of cholera are in the air, if not the actual germs themselves, and opinions are divided as to the prospect of it obtaining a foothold here. In the event of an outbreak of this veritable plague, the Medical Faculty will have a chance of winning golden opinions, as the public will instinctively look to it for guidance. During the epidemic in Europe last summer, the Government appealed to the College of Physicians for a set of rules of conduct to prevent or cure the disease. If it was bread they asked, it was a hard and unappetizing stone they got, and many of the laity were found to scoff and jeer and cry, "Give us cholera instead." The burden of the work will fall upon the Pathological department, and it may appear to be one of those wise and providential events that Professor Adam was sent to preside over it.

At the annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, next week, an important paper will be read. It is entitled, "Transmission and Distribution of Power by means of Compressed Air," and the author is Prof. J. T. Nicholson, B.Sc. It is understood that the paper will be of a highly practical nature, and the estimate is to be based upon data obtained in Montreal.