

THE COLLEGE GIRL

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In any sketch of the college girls' activity, first place should, it seems to me, be given to the Women's Literary Society. The fact that almost no college is without a literary society, shows that it fills a universally-felt want in college circles. In our college work itself, we are more or less bound by the curriculum, and so the literary society is almost the only place where the girls may do really original work—may lay their own plans, and carry them out in their own way.

It was doubtless with the consciousness that something of this nature was needed, that the Women's Literary Society was established in 1891. The objects of the society, as laid down in the constitution, were two: the encouragement of literary and scientific pursuits, and the management of such affairs and the discussion of such questions as should come within the province of the members. And so ever since the attention of the society has been devoted to such subjects as may prove of interest from a literary point of view, to the management of various kinds of business, and to the free discussion of all sorts of questions.

For those who are not familiar with our literary society a few details of our work might be given.

Every year there are three inter-year debates, usually on subjects of special interest to students. Then there is one inter-college debate, in which the feeling of loyalty to our Alma Mater serves to strengthen the interest in the contest. These more strictly intellectual forms of entertainment are varied by lighter kinds of amusement in the shape of musical or dramatic evenings. One play in English or French is usually given each year, and it may safely be said that the efforts of each and every budding Ellen Terry are fully appreciated. We are fortunate enough to have among our number some girls who have considerable ability in music, and who do much to contribute to the enjoyment of our meetings. Certain evenings are spent in the study of the lives of great composers. Papers are read, and selections from their works are played. The plan of evenings with special authors has also been suggested, and we hope to see this plan carried out. After Christmas the society gives an open meeting which takes the form of a reception. An informal reception is also given to the girls of the first year, which is known as the Autumn Tea. But of this full notice will be given later.

And now I have mentioned what are, I think, the main features of our literary society. The plans of the committee are well laid and no pains will be spared, but in reality the question of success or failure rests with the body of women stu-

dents. Their interest and their hearty co-operation alone can make our society what it should be. The work is varied and should appeal to most of the students. It is hoped that all who can will take part in some branch or other of the society's work. Those whose interests lie in the direction of music, of debating, of acting, or of more strictly literary work, will find congenial employment and a sympathetic and appreciative audience.

I ought, perhaps, to lay special stress on the opportunities given in our society for public speaking. In these days when it is so important as well as so rare a thing to be able to express one's self intelligibly and concisely, none of us can fail to recognize the great service our literary society may be to us in this line.

Here, as elsewhere, we may apply the maxim, "Work is for the worker," and I am sure that there are none who give any of their time and interest to our literary society but will feel richly repaid, when in the spring we hold our last meeting, have our elections, and all join hands to sing "Auld Lang Syne."



Y.W.C.A. Missionary Conference

On Oct. 5th, the Fall Missionary Conference was held in the Y.M.C.A. building. The meeting was especially interesting on account of the presence of Miss McDonald, who is about to leave for missionary work in Japan. Miss Little, the General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A., welcomed the representatives of the different colleges of the city in her opening address. She spoke of the spiritual equipment every one needed and of individual responsibility in the matter of influencing college friends for right. "A great door and effectual is opened unto you and there are many adversaries" is a sentence that lingers in the minds of all her hearers. One of the adversaries is pressure of work, another, indifference on the part of those whom we are trying to influence; but let us remember that faithful, tactful, prayerful perseverance will always pierce indifference. The third adversary is the temptation to let the work run itself and the last is self, but by consecration of self to Christ we can overcome this dread obstacle.

The purpose of the Y.W.C.A. was then dwelt upon by Miss McDonald, after which the Topic Membership was discussed. In this connection many hints were given as to the best method of getting the girls to become interested in Y.W.C.A. work. Our leaders gave us some excellent reasons for a young woman's joining this great band of Christian workers. The first one was because in this way she identifies herself with Christian students; secondly because she needs the inspiration of Christian spirit, and what is more important than either of these she has through this medium the strategic opportunity of working for Christ.

The subject "Meetings" next engaged the attention of the Conference. Preparation for them was discussed, under which heading Miss Little spoke of choice of subjects, choice of leaders and the active co-operation of each member in preparatory and careful study. Then, in reference to the actual conducting of meetings, promptness and business-like methods were essential.