

ing. In fact we would suffer an actual loss of \$250,000, which, added to a loss of subsidy from steamships, would make a total loss of more than \$370,000. The argument was clear and concise and, in addition to a splendid oratorical effort, made a very favorable impression.

Mr. Balcom closed the argument for Acadia with one of his characteristic rebuttals. He pointed out the numerous mere assertions made by the appellants and the assumption that union would give greater power, without any attempt at proof on their part. He showed that union is strength, only under natural conditions, and the conditions of the case in hand are natural, not to union, but to separation. He proved that credit would be decreased not increased, by union. The historical argument advanced by the opponents was cleverly turned in favor of non-union. That the matter of interest is different in degree and not in kind is true; but this is just what is necessary to disprove their own argument. They say dissimilarity of interests could be eradicated. This could not be possible owing to dissimilarity in nature, which men have not the power to change. All their argument is based on union; they have *not* proved the basis of assumption; therefore their conclusion is not valid and their case remains unproved.

In his rebuttal, which closed the debate, Mr. Smiley declared that the subsidies would not be lost to the Provinces. The subsidies had been granted to the people themselves and were constitutional rights that the union would not be able to take away. The union would be entirely voluntary, and if these subsidies and rights were taken away, the people would never consent to the union. As far as geography is concerned Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are just as much united as Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. Mr. Smiley declared that the second speaker for the negative (Mr. Shortcliffe) had merely placed difficulties in the way of the union, which had nothing to do with the question, for in that the union was taken for granted. The speaker concluded with a recapitulation of the affirmative arguments.

The judges, through the chairman, gave a unanimous decision in favor of Acadia, on the dual ground of argument and presentation. This result places Acadia in the lead in the intercollegiate league, giving us four straight victories and no defeats.

After the debate, the speakers, judges and faculty representatives