

The Intercollegiate Debate.

THE Inter-collegiate Debate between Acadia and Mt. Allison took place the evening of March 28th in Sackville. For thoroughness, conciseness and clearness the debate was unexcelled. The different speakers reflected much credit upon themselves and the colleges they represented. The Mount Allison team, composed of Messrs Guy (Leader), Ruggles and Fitzpatrick, presented the case for Mount Allison in a series of strong speeches, which were logical and well-presented. For clearness of presentation and conciseness the Acadia speakers, Messrs Illsley (Leader), Baker and Home, were somewhat superior and proved an especially well balanced team.

At eight o'clock the Judges, Messrs W. E. McLellan, of Halifax; Dr. McPherson, President St. Francis Xavier; and M. G. Teed, St. John; took their places. Then followed the teams, amid the cheers of the Mt. Allison students and the small bunch of Acadians who had accompanied the team. The question was

"Resolved, That Canada should contribute financially to the British navy rather than build and maintain a navy of her own in accordance with the policy of the late government."

Financial contribution was defined to mean gold, bullion or negotiable papers. Policy of late government to mean: (1) Ships shall be built in Canada. (2) Naval Service Act shall apply.

Acadia upheld the negative and Mt. Allison the affirmative. Prof. Tweedie presided and called upon Mr. Baker to open for the negative.

Mr. Baker, for Acadia, clearly defined the issue by showing that the negative were not called upon to defend the naval policy of the late government in detail, but merely the general principles. This being true, the burden of proof was upon the affirmative. In choosing a policy, we aimed to benefit first the Empire, then Canada herself. The issues were accordingly these: Which policy would best maintain the unity and permanence of the Empire? Which policy would the more increase the sea-power of the Empire? And which policy would be the better for Canada. The three speakers would consider these issues in their order.

In answer to the first question, Mr. Baker advanced three arguments;