

Pages Missing

THE VARSITY

A Weekly Journal of Literature, University Thought and Events.

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No. 16.

Editorial Comments.



THE action of the committee which has in hand the printing of the revised constitution of the Literary and Scientific Society has been balked for the present by the discovery that the clauses relating to the membership and the franchise are almost inextricably confused. This confusion has arisen from a series of circumstances for which no one in particular is to blame. Some years ago, when the University of Toronto was a less complex institution, and when University College was alone entrusted with the teaching department, the University confining itself to examining, the position of students in the University and their consequent eligibility or ineligibility for membership in the Literary Society was a comparatively simple question to decide. With the exception of a few students taking the LL.B. course (who, moreover, were generally graduates in Arts), every undergraduate was a student in Arts and attended lectures at University College. The Society was, therefore, an Arts society, and in fact, as well as in name, a University College society.

But changes came in the organization of the University which it seems to have baffled the ingenuity of constitution-builders to follow. The Toronto Medical School was changed into the Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto. Here were two or three hundred new students who, though they had nothing to do with University College (for the School still continued to teach), were yet undergraduates of the University and, as such, became immediately, without any change in the wording of the constitution, eligible for membership in the Society. An effort was made to change the constitution so as to include them and keep the Society, as it had been before, in the hands of the students in Arts. But the idea of an all-embracing undergraduate society prevailed. The medicals retained their membership and the name, "University College Literary and Scientific Society," became a misnomer—a greater misnomer after the students of the School of Science were admitted, for they have never had anything to do with University College,—a still greater misnomer after the passing of the University Federation Act, which made confusion worse confounded. The McMillans, the Higginsons, the MacNamaras, the Coatsworths and the Waldrons might "kick on the constitution," but they failed to make it consistent with the legal status of the University. First, the University was given teaching powers in certain departments which were withdrawn from the college. The result is that students in Arts who take Mathematics, Natural Science and Political Science, which are "University Subjects," have nothing to do with University College, are not attending lectures there, any more than are the medicals, and therefore have no vote, for undergraduate offices in the Society, under the franchise clause. Again, provision was made in the Act for the affiliation with the University of a number of surrounding institutions such as Knox College and Wycliffe. Students registered in these colleges, and paying fees there, may attend lectures in the University of Toronto, but they have nothing to do with University College, and moreover are not necessarily undergraduates of the University itself. So that they are not only excluded from voting by the franchise clause as it now stands, but are not members of the Society at all. The same is true of the students of certain other institutions, such as the Guelph Agricultural

College, the School of Dentistry and the College of Music. These of course have never been considered members, but there is as good reason to do so as in the case of that species of person known as "literary men" in Knox; and there is this further fact, that while the University grants no degrees in Theology it *does* grant degrees in Agriculture and Dentistry, so that under the graduate clause the graduates from those institutions are members. This, surely, is carrying the joke too far and certainly was not intended.

Such is the confusion—a confusion, it must be remembered, for which the recent changes in the wording of the constitution are not in the least to blame, unless it be in the last mentioned phase of the graduate qualification. Those changes created no new difficulties. By removing the ceremony of nomination and election, and basing the membership in theory, as it had always been in fact, immediately upon the standing of students in the university, they simply laid bare difficulties which had, at bottom, existed from the first. The Society may have walked by faith and not by sight in accepting amendments in reference to membership, but the bog in which it stands constitutionally is the same old bog nevertheless—with the underbrush cleared away. How then are matters to be set right? One thing is certain. All reference to University College or the students who attend there must be removed. For if by that term is meant the building (as the framers of the old constitution seem in some places to have intended) there is no record kept of the students in Arts, Medicine, Law, Practical Science, etc., who take lectures under its roof. If more properly, we mean by University College that corporate body of men engaged in teaching certain subjects it must be remembered that only a portion even of the students in Arts have anything to do with them. Shall we say, then, "undergraduates in Arts, Medicine and Law" as the designation of undergraduate members? That might be satisfactory were it not for the fact that a number of those whom we wish to be members are non-matriculants, and therefore not undergraduates. It would also throw out the Knox and Wycliffe men who take a few lectures in the University, but do not intend to take a degree and are not now undergraduates.

The above is a plain statement of the existing state of affairs, a state which can, we believe, be remedied best by the fullest discussion of the subject by the members of the Literary Society. We can only hope that the members will give the matter their "most serious consideration," and each assist as best he may in arriving on the night of the 27th at a final and satisfactory decision.

EXCHANGE NOTES.

The *Nassau Literary Magazine*, of Princeton, always receives a hearty welcome at the Sanctum. The last number is an unusually good one. It is filled with sparkling bits of verse, interesting editorial matter and several charming short stories. "A Study in Terra Cotta" is the best thing in the number, and is a most delightful piece of reading. We should like to see many more such stories in college journals. We must remark, however, that the use of that word "fiancée," under the circumstances, does not commend itself to us.

The Yale navy is to have a new launch that can make fourteen miles an hour.

ÆSCHYLUS AGAMEMNON.

vv. 1372-1398.

I spake to you before, and what I spake
 Suted the time : now am I not ashamed
 To strike th' opposing notes : for how should one
 By open enmity to secret foes
 Fence them in snares of death too high to leap ?
 That which I did, I did not heedlessly.
 There was a feud of old, which bred this strife
 Though after many years : here, where I stand,
 I struck him for his deeds : and so I struck,
 (For I deny it not) that neither flight
 Was in his power, nor yet to ward the blow.
 An ample net, as 'twere for fish, I cast
 About him and about, a fatal wealth
 Of vesture : twice I struck him : twice he groaned,
 Then bowed his limbs : and on his prostrate form
 I struck a third blow yet, a thank-off'ring
 To Death who keeps the dead : and so he lay,
 And poured his spirit forth ; and from the gash
 Breathed gasps of blood, and with dark gory gouts
 Besprinkled me : wherein my soul rejoiced
 As basks the corn-field in the rain of God
 When th' ears are bursting. Elders, thus it was :
 And ye—if so it be that ye rejoice—
 Rejoice thereat ! I glory in the deed !
 Aye, were it meet to offer thank-off'ring,
 Then were it just, nay more than just ! for he,
 * " Who drugged my cup with curses to the brim,
 Himself has drunk damnation to the dregs."

M. H.

MISS PETIT RECEIVES.

HE—How do you do, Miss Petit ? So lucky to find you at home.

SHE—A kind fate kept me at home to-day. I am seldom in on Wednesdays.

HE—You see I quite forgot that Thursday was your day until I saw the doubtful look on the maid's face when I asked for Mrs. Petit.

SHE—Mamma is not at home, but she will be in presently.

HE—Oh, I hope not— That is, I—I hope so.

SHE—That she is out ?

HE—Unkind as ever ! You know I always like to meet Mrs. Petit. She is a charming hostess, and her place is not easy to fill.

SHE (going toward the door)—Possibly I had better not try to do so, then.

HE (quickly)—Oh, wait ! You have mistaken me. Please sit down. Let me explain. I was not thinking of you at all—

SHE—Thank you.

HE—I mean I was not thinking of comparing her with you, but with other hostesses.

SHE (taking the chair he has offered her)—Do they try to fill her place ?

HE—Certainly they do. There was her sister, Mrs. Bryan, for instance, who stayed with you last summer when Mrs. Petit was in Scotland, and—

SHE—How rude of you to call my aunt an unsuccessful hostess !

HE (indignantly)—I did nothing of the kind—as you know. At all events, Mrs. Bryan never made her guests feel uncomfortable.

SHE (penitently)—Oh, I am so sorry if I have done that. But you know you compared me to Beatrice once, and—

HE—You are trying to wage "a merry war" on a very poor Benedick. I am not able to keep up my end at all, Miss Petit, (aside) except in feeling vicious.

* The last two lines are from Blackie's version.

SHE—Oh, you'll do better with a little practice.
 HE (laughing)—Don't patronize me, please. It's so inane. My Beatrice is degenerating.

SHE (aside)—His Beatrice ! Better change the subject.
 (Aloud)—Do you like Timmer, Mr. Kinnear ?

HE—Well—not in mid-winter. Do you ?

SHE—I was not thinking of the season. It seems hot enough in here. (A sudden thought strikes her. She moves across to a low table, takes from it a box of chocolates, and offers some to him.) Won't you take some, please ? They are quite fresh.

HE—Thank you. You are fond of chocolates ?

SHE (sitting down again on a low couch, and placing the box beside her)—Very. Some one sent me this box this morning with some verses on top of the chocolates.

HE—Were they original ?

SHE—The chocolates ? Oh ! the verses ? Yes, I should fancy so.

HE (hesitating)—Did you like them ?

SHE—I really don't remember. It is quite six hours since I received them.

HE—Would you—ah—would you mind my seeing them ?

SHE (indifferently)—Not in the least. They are inside the box. No ? In my escritoire, possibly. No ? Then I must have lost them. No matter—they were in blank verse. (Suddenly enlightened by a blanker look on his face.) But very good, you know.

HE—As far as you remember. (Aside)—My first and last poem.

SHE (aside)—This is delightful. Who would ever have thought of his writing poetry ? (Aloud)—May I give you some tea, Mr. Kinnear ? (Aside)—Tea has often a soothing effect. (Rises, and is about to ring the bell.)

HE—No. . . I thank you.

SHE (aside)—He declines to be soothed. (Aloud)—Won't you change your mind ? (Rings the bell, and a maid brings tea.) Now (seating herself, she pours out two cups, and offers him one), I am going to have some, and we will drink the cup of peace together.

HE (coldly)—I did not know we had quarrelled.

SHE (slightly confused)—Well—ah—I was speaking figuratively, you know. One often does.

HE—Does one ?

SHE (spiritedly)—Yes, one does when one happens to mean me. When it means you, possibly one does something superior.

HE—It might mean us both. But no, one could not mean two—unless—

SHE—Unless ?

HE (aside)—I seem bent on rushing to my death. (Looking straight at her)—Yes—unless—unless the two were—

SHE (quickly)—Now you are taking me beyond my depth. When you swim out in the mysterious waters of speculation, I want to get towed back to the beach, and—

HE—Oh, I should be charmed to tow you—anywhere !

SHE—catch hold of the rope of—

HE (confidently)—Nothing like a man, if you're sinking. SHE—reality, and let the little waves of thought splash about my feet.

HE—What a bold metaphor ! Your command of language is excellent.

SHE—A woman's only weapon.

HE—She needs none.

SHE—Shall I keep silence, then ? Positively, Mr. Kinnear, you are improving—first, a poor hostess ; now, too talkative—next ?

HE—That you are charming.

SHE (gaily)—A spoonful of jam to hide the medicine. Well—I forgive you. I love jam.

HE—You love—

SHE—Yes—jam.

HE—Would that I were—jam.

SHE (laughing)—To be devoured ?

MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB.

The regular meeting of the Modern Language Club was held in the Y.M.C.A. hall last Monday evening. The President occupied the chair. The subject of the afternoon's study was French-Canadian literature of which Louis Fréchette was taken as the best representative. The enthusiasts of the club who were the only ones present had a very interesting time.

The first number on the programme was an essay in French by Miss Jeffrey of the second year. This treated of some of the general points of Fréchette's life and was read very clearly.

Les Fleurs Boréales was to have been the subject of an essay by Mr. A. L. Lafferty, '92, but that gentleman preferred to give a talk on that subject in place of putting his ideas on paper. Mr. Lafferty's address was entirely in French and proved a very interesting part of the programme. He gave a short review of the life of Fréchette, dealing more particularly with his education, early work, profession and political views. Turning to his poetry he read several fine selections and read them with an appreciation of their meaning, to possess which one has to be born a Frenchman. The peculiar beauties of Fréchette's style, the difference between Fréchette and Lamartine in their treatment of nature were pointed out very clearly and with the sympathetic treatment of an admirer. Mr. Lafferty spoke in his native tongue with sufficient slowness and distinctness to make himself easily understood by his English audience.

Mr. J. H. Cornyn followed with an English essay on *Les Légendes d'un Peuple*. Time did not permit of the whole of his essay being read, but if what was read was an earnest of the remainder the whole must have been excellent. Branching off his main subject Mr. Cornyn made quite a lengthy reference to the question of whether there is any Canadian poetry, to which he, like both the speaker and essayist of the preceding week, gave a distinctly affirmative answer. Canadian literature has received a very fair share of attention at the hands of the club this year, and the members must have begun to recognize that Canadian poetry, if Roberts and Fréchette are considered, is not the myth some try to affirm.

Owing to the lateness of the hour there was no French conversation and the meeting adjourned. The subject of the meeting next Monday night will be "Browning."

LITERARY NOTES.

"The Art of Playwriting" (Williamson & Co., Toronto; Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston and New York), by Alfred Hennequin, Ph.D., is a practical treatise on the elements of dramatic construction, and should be of great interest to the playwright, the student and the dramatic critic. There are two classes of readers to whom a volume of this sort should specially commend itself: first, those who know much about the practical workings of the theatre, but have little constructive knowledge; second, those whose instinct for dramatic construction is strong, but who through lack of opportunity have acquired little insight into the practical details of stage representation.

"A Wave of Life," by Clyde Fitch, and a paper on Thomas Buchanan Read, by R. H. Stoddard, are the chief attractions of the February number of *Lippincott's Magazine*. There is also an article by Joaquin Miller. Altogether the number is an excellent one.

There are one hundred and nineteen elective courses open to the academic juniors and seniors of Yale.

In the early history of Harvard, students were subjected to corporal punishment. They were thrashed in the presence of all their comrades, the exercise beginning and ending with prayer.

HE—A sweet death!

SHE—What nonsense we are talking! I'm so tired of—

HE (suggestively)—Me—perhaps?

SHE—N-n-n-o—I'm tired of nonsense.

HE (reflectively)—Oh!

SHE—Men never seem to recognize that fact that one likes to be serious at times.

HE (rising and going toward her)—Were you ever in earnest—really in earnest—in your life?

SHE—Ask my dressmaker.

HE—Or your milliner, I suppose?

SHE—Yes, it's a serious matter to make a choice.

HE (looking down at her as she plays with her spoon)

—Always?

SHE (handing him her cup, which he places on the table)—Well, it depends on what I am choosing.

HE—Well, say a husband, for instance.

SHE—Well, you see that is a matter in which I am not consulted. Fate has already chosen one for me.

HE (quickly)—May I ask whom?

SHE—The first man who proposes.

HE—I—

SHE—Provided he comply with one condition.

HE—And the condition?

SHE—That he never write original poetry. Now, you know that no man on earth would promise that—no young man, I mean. And who wants to marry a man old enough to make a goose of himself? (Walks over to the window).

HE (following her)—Do you really mean all this?

SHE (looking out of the window)—I think I see mamma coming.

HE (taking her hand)—Answer me, Marion—yes or no.

SHE—I—I—

HE—Yes or no.

SHE—Well—I— There is really no necessity for your holding my hand, Mr. Kinnear—well, yes, then.

HE—Well, then, I propose to you—

SHE—But you're not the first.

HE—Never mind, I'll see that I'm the last.

SHE—But the condition?

HE (with emphasis)—My dear girl, I vowed half an hour ago that I would never compose another line.

SHE (after an eloquent silence)—But Mr. —, I mean Jack, I shouldn't mind your sending me poetry occasionally if you always send chocolates with the verses.

HE—Verses with the chocolates, you mean.

SHE (looking again through the window)—Here comes mamma.

HER MOTHER (entering)—My dear (seeing a visitor)—Ah, how do you do, Mr. Kinnear?—not going, surely?—so sorry to have missed you—and Marion such a poor hostess, too. Really, do you know, Mr. Kinnear, she is so absent-minded.

SHE—I often say what I don't in the least mean.

HE (aside to her)—But you know you mean a great deal that you have not said. You have not half told me how much you care for me.

SHE (aside to him)—Because I care so little, Signor Benedick.

HER MOTHER (who has been rummaging in her reticule)—My dear Marion, where did you put— Ah, here it is (holding up a sheet of note-paper). I hunted everywhere when in town for my list, but could not find it—where could it have been? Why did you write it on such a large sheet? I must have thought it was a letter (looking at it closely). Why, the other side is not in your handwriting. It looks like poetry, does it not? (handing it to him).

SHE (aside)—Oh! his poem?

HE (grimly)—Very like—but it is not really poetry, my dear Mrs. Petit. One often mistakes the semblance for the reality.

SHE (aside to him)—Forgive me.

HE—Forgive me. I was speaking figuratively, you know. One often does.

SHE (with conviction)—One does. And I am so absent-minded, you know.

GRETA.

The Varsity

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FEBRUARY 17, 1891.

THE PUBLIC DEBATE.



LAST Friday evening the Literary Society held its second Public Debate for this year in the School of Science Hall. Professor Alexander was the chairman of the evening. The First Vice-President, Mr. C. A. Stuart, also took his place on the platform. The President came in late and attempted to secure an unobtrusive position in the audience, but the members caught sight of him, and circumstances compelled him to betake himself to the front as well. There was a very fair attendance of visitors. As for the students, the rival attraction in the Auditorium had led many from the paths of virtue. Those few who were present, with some notable exceptions, took up their usual position in the rear. It is due to their efforts to remark that the absence of the majority was scarcely noted by the audience. The strain upon individuals, however, told heavily upon the quality of jokes submitted, and the crowd was often noisy without being funny.

The programme opened with a song from the Glee Club. Mr. Standing followed with an excellent essay on

"The Decay of the Imagination," which, however, suffered severely from interruptions in this meeting, the usual fate of essays read before our great Society. Mr. J. W. Graham followed with a well-rendered recitation, and was obliged to respond to an encore. The Glee Club then gave the Society two more College songs. The Glee Club is going to Hamilton again this year and is to be somewhat frugal of its classical music round College. The subject of the debate was "Resolved that the prevalent belief, the moral, intellectual and social progress of the human race, is confirmed by the judgment of history." Messrs. E. E. Perrin and W. C. Clarke upheld the affirmative, and Messrs. J. A. McKellar and E. A. Henry the negative. The speakers acquitted themselves well, but manifested an alarming tendency to reduce the question to one of excessively modern Canadian politics. In summing up, Professor Alexander, while acknowledging the strong attack made by the Negative, adjudged the victory to the speakers of the Affirmative. This concluded the programme of the evening and the audience dispersed. This will be the last Public Debate for this year.

UNIVERSITY SENATE.

A meeting of the Senate of Toronto University was held in the biological department on Friday evening.

Prof. Ashley gave notice of a motion to appoint a committee to consider the relation between the department of Board of Arts Studies and the degree of LL.D. A report of the Board of Arts Studies was adopted in favor of statute placing the department of Modern Language on equality with Classics and Mathematics, in competition for the Prince of Wales' scholarship at matriculation. The statute was read a second time and passed.

The report of the Board of Medical Studies was adopted, recommending that an examination in general pathology be held in the third year, and in special pathology in the fourth year. The statute embodying this change was read the first time.

A report for a plan for more effectual teaching of pass subjects in first and second years was received. A report was adopted providing that the number of papers in each department be settled by the head of that department in the University and University College, after conference with representatives of various subjects in affiliated colleges, and also providing that no matriculated student in any year be allowed to write in more than two courses. A report embodying a course for the degree of bachelor of music was received. The report of a committee submitting the proposal from the Canadian Institute of Homeopathy for recognition of homeopathic practice of medicine in the medical faculty was received.

A report of a committee appointed to consider what portion of land should be set aside for athletics and the question of sites for a new building was adopted, which recommended that the ground in the rear of the University be set aside temporarily for additional grounds for athletics, and that no part of University ground between College Avenue and Hoskin Avenue and Queen's Park Road be alienated.

On motion of Prof. Ashley, it was resolved:—
"That in the competition for the Blake scholarships in the second and third years in Arts (first and second years in Law) equal importance shall be assigned to each of the papers set, and that in Constitutional History there shall be two papers, one for English and one for Canadian history."

Mr. Houston gave notice of a motion for the appointment of a committee to report as to the best means of securing reasonable publicity for Senate meetings.

DEBATING SOCIETIES.

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE.

To the Editor of THE VARSITY:

DEAR SIR,—Edward Everett Hale said in a lecture before the students of an American College that the benefit of attending college was not in the knowledge gained but in the association with "the boys." "With a good encyclopedia, and a Webster's Dictionary," he said, "I can learn more in a year than I learned in all my college course."

Without criticizing too sharply his statements, let us accept the general principle involved in them, and ask ourselves to what extent it has been worked out around Varsity. To get acquainted with "the boys" is not accomplished by an introduction at a reception or a social class party, nor by meeting week after week in the same lecture room. If receptions and social evenings occurred more frequently, and the time between lectures were longer, this might be accomplished. But receptions come but once a year, social evenings but two or three times, and, in the present disturbed condition of the college, the time between lectures is spent in rapid transit from one building to another.

There are a few students, whom everybody knows. These are they who by virtue of their ability have taken a high stand in their courses, or who, officially, are necessarily prominent among their fellows, or who, being endowed with the power of speech (or at least the desire of speech) to an eminent degree, are capable of speaking, and expected to speak, in every public meeting. I need not give examples. The number of these, even, is lessened by the custom of putting in office those who have taken the highest rank in their courses, or those who are ready and fluent speakers. These few can address anyone without fear of being asked "Are you a Freshman?" or "Are you attending Varsity?"

Now, I do not deprecate this custom. But it is certainly desirable that all should have a chance to develop their latent powers. I am inclined to think that the fluent speakers among us have had that talent developed before they came here. In fact, the eager desire of the members of the Literary Society to assist in this development very often completely overwhelms the venturesome would-be orator, and if he is not of the same determined cast of mind as Disraeli, he may not have courage to "try again."

But what shall we do to remedy this state of affairs? I would propose that some sort of debating society be formed among the students, the sole object of which would be debating. The Literary Society is better adapted for an exhibition of debating than for developing it, and, besides, it occupies a great deal of time in other business. The Debating Society need not last more than half an hour, and I think everyone, even a second year Natural Science student, could spare that much time each week. As one society would be too large to give each member a chance to speak as often as desirable, let there be several such societies formed. The interest could be maintained by debating contests between the several societies.

It is possible and quite probable that the students generally would not patronize these debating clubs, but there are, doubtless, many who would gladly avail themselves of such an opportunity of cultivating their oratory and their reasoning faculties if it were offered. Even so, though the limited number participating would make the circle of acquaintance smaller, the power of ready, concise and logical expression of ideas would be cultivated, which is a very important consideration in one's education.

S. SILCOX.

Next year Lafayette College will change from the English to the Roman method of pronouncing Latin.

Johns Hopkins University has received a valuable gift in the shape of a collection of a thousand volumes and pamphlets on slavery from Gen. William Birney, of Washington, son of J. G. Birney, the great abolitionist.

The Engineering Society met in the School of Science on Tuesday, February 10th. Mr. W. A. Lea, '92, read a very interesting paper on "Surveying by Photography," going into the methods of using the camera in the field in conjunction with the compass, whereby a complete survey of a tract of country can be made in a most novel manner by securing a number of photographs of the district from different prominent points in it.

At the conclusion of the paper, discussion ensued in regard to the printing of the annual "Pamphlet" of the Engineering Society. This Pamphlet consists of the papers read before the Society during the year, and forms a volume of considerable size. Although the expense in connection with the publication of this book is a large item, and will amount this year in all probability to the neighbourhood of \$140, it was decided unanimously to proceed immediately with the work. Last year's production was a genuine credit to the Society and the engineers, and elicited praise from all quarters. It is fully expected that this year's will surpass any of the former pamphlets. Accordingly a committee, composed of Messrs. C. H. C. Wright (Convener), T. R. Roseburgh, B.A., C. J. Marani, M. Dunbar, W. Russel, C. W. Dill, R. W. Thompson, C. H. Mitchell, T. H. Dunn, was elected to act in conjunction with the General Committee of the Society in making arrangements for the publication of the Pamphlet as soon as possible. It was resolved that 1000 copies be printed as last year and be widely circulated throughout the engineering profession of Canada and the States.

At the close of the meeting of the Society it was announced by the Corresponding Secretary that Dr. P. H. Bryce, Secretary of the Ontario Board of Health, would again favor the Society with another paper, which announcement was received with applause.

The new chemical laboratory is indeed a thing of use and convenience, if not of beauty; it is only to be regretted that it was not opened sooner. However, it is now complete and is occupied daily by the different years in Medicine, Arts and Engineering. With six sets of working tables it has accommodation for a large number of men. Having all the latest improvements for the carrying on of investigations in Practical Chemistry in all branches, it is an important acquisition to the north wing.

Y. M. C. A.

The regular meeting last Thursday was devoted to hearing reports from the delegates to the Convention in Kingston. Mr. Glover spoke of the general impressions received by him from attending the Convention, referring especially to the need of an unselfish and enthusiastic Christian living. Mr. Dow dealt with the evening meetings and with the papers read there. Mr. Wheaton gave an account of the College Conference. This was held at the house of Prof. Goodwin, who entertained the college delegates to the number of about sixty. Mr. Galbraith, General Secretary of Cornell Y.M.C.A., presided. Papers were read and discussions ensued on Bible study and on the duty of members in Christian work. Mr. Perry gave a rapid and interesting sketch of the Convention as a whole, and spoke in very high terms of the entertainment given to the delegates by the people of Kingston. Mr. Fraser explained the Extension Plan of Giving which has been devised by the International Committee, and which will be put into action in our Association next year. In closing, he made a strong appeal for volunteers to assist the Rooms Committee during the remainder of the term.

Somebody has counted up thirty-four colleges that have a "rah" in their yell.

COLLEGE LIFE AT YALE.

T. C. DES BARRES, '89.



HERE are sixteen hundred and forty-five registered members of Yale University. This number includes students of the Graduate Courses of Yale College, of Sheffield Scientific School, and of the Divinity, Law, Medical and Art Schools. The students of the College, or the students in Arts, as you would call them in Toronto, number nearly eight hundred and fifty.

It is of these and their life that I will mainly speak. I shall speak of the facts and the impressions which they have made upon me under four heads, viz. : (1) Academic Life ; (2) Social Life ; (3) Athletic Life ; (4) Religious Life.

Academic Life : The methods of work here are entirely different from those in vogue in Toronto. The college exercises consist almost wholly of recitations, for which worked in a manner not wholly unlike that followed in the lower forms of our High Schools. Men have their *lessons* to prepare for each day's exercises ; they do not call this *reading*, but learning their lessons. In Toronto we used—and I suppose the custom is still the same—to look with pitying eyes upon any Freshman making use of such phraseology. As would be expected where so much importance is attached to each day's work, comparatively little stress is laid upon the semi-annual examinations. A man's *stand—rank* is the Toronto term—is much more dependent on the character of his recitations than upon the percentages which he makes at the examinations. This system seems to me to have both its strong and its weak points. It ensures steadier work throughout the entire college year for the average man than is secured by our system, and yet it is dangerous. It is liable to hamper a really brilliant man, or a man who, if not brilliant, has at least some love of learning for his sake. Both these classes are largely in the minority at every college. Very few of us possess sufficient powers of intellect to be styled brilliant, and fewer still while at college imbibe any real love of learning for its own sake. The system at Yale has another defect: it keeps a man so under tutors and governors that he does not breathe the same spirit of independence, as is inhaled by us in more northern latitudes. And yet this is not wholly an evil. Freedom is so often abused by college men that it is at least a question as to what extent it may safely be granted. My own opinion is that the true path is a *via media* between the extreme Conservatism of Yale and the extreme Liberalism of Toronto. The work here is not divided into *courses* and *Honor* and *Pass* subjects as in Toronto. The same entrance examination is required of all. It involves a greater facility in reading Latin and Greek than the average Toronto matriculant possesses, but does not cover the same number of subjects. The work in the first two years is the same for all. An uninitiated Canadian reading the University Catalogue might suppose it to be much more formidable than it really is. You might, for example, suppose that the required work in Mathematics and Physics was almost as much as that in the entire Honor Course in that Department in Toronto. But an examination into the actual work done in the Class-Room would convince you that characteristic vice of American College Catalogues. During the Junior year half the work required is the same for all students. For the other half a large number of options are open to the student. In the Senior Year nearly all the work is optional. Throughout the entire course each student has an average of three recitations a day.

The several libraries accessible to the students contain an aggregate of upwards of 200,000 volumes. The University Library is housed in a handsome new building costing something like \$120,000. In their library system Yale more closely resembles Toronto than Clark, according to

Mr. DeLury's account. I must confess that this conservatism in method never troubled me much in Toronto, and has caused me no sleepless nights in New Haven. Perhaps this is accounted for by my having no endowment of original research.

Social Life : The system of residence here is very different from that known in Toronto. Theoretically all students live in residence. As a matter of fact the dormitories are insufficient for the accommodation of a large number. The choice of rooms is determined by lot. Their rent per week varies all the way from fifty cents to eight dollars. Many men spend hundreds, some thousands of dollars in fitting these up. Three rooms—two bedrooms and a study—are generally allotted to two men. There is no general dining-hall as at Harvard. Men form themselves into eating-clubs, each with generally a membership of a dozen or so, and go to some student boarding-house, of which there are a great many in New Haven. Board is more expensive here than in Toronto, for two reasons: things are dearer and the standard of living higher. Accordingly table-board ranges from three to eight dollars a week. Wholesome plain board can generally be obtained for about five dollars. The system of residence adopted at Yale is, I think, preferable to one with a common refectory. It gives you a general intimacy with a large number of your fellow-students, and a particular acquaintance with those whom you may find especially congenial. It also avoids the noise which a large dining-hall—and especially a college one—necessitates.

There are at Yale a large number of fraternities, whose purpose is supposed to be mainly social. All these societies have their buildings. In most American Colleges these fraternities run cross-wise to the class divisions. But at Yale it is not so. With one exception each of the societies belongs to a particular class. Thus when a man is a Junior he may belong to one society ; when he becomes a Senior, he practically leaves that and enters a new one, if he be fortunate enough to secure such an election. There is one society which is different from all the others. Membership of the Phi Beta Kappa society indicates scholarship. This society exists in all the leading American Colleges. A dozen or so—the number varies in different colleges—of the highest stand men are elected each year. All members are entitled to wear the society pin, which is a peculiarly-shaped gold watch-key. This key is highly valued at Yale, and not merely by the possessors of it.

The leading social event of the year is the Junior Promenade. This takes the place of our *Conversazione*. It is really nothing more nor less than a large college ball. Comparatively few gentlemen who are not members of the University are present. But ladies come from all over the country to attend it. The Promenade takes place in January each year. The night previous the annual concert is given by the College Glee Club ; and for two nights following there are class germans. So for several days Yale is very gay. There is a Senior Promenade at the close of the college year in June, but it is, I believe, hardly as pretentious an affair.

On the first Monday evening of every month the President gives a reception in Dwight Hall, to which all members of the University are invited. Many of the professors' wives and daughters are present. A more or less pleasant time is passed according as you meet congenial people or not. Besides this the President gives Receptions at his house to each of the classes in turn.

(To be continued.)

The Freshmen at the University of California are all examined by an oculist.

Nearly thirteen thousand volumes have been offered already to the University of Toronto to replace the library recently destroyed by fire.—*Ex.* The number exceeds 27,000.—[ED. THE VARSITY.]

THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF '93.

The proceedings of this Society were made additionally interesting last Saturday by an address from Professor Baldwin, to which all the undergraduates were invited. A goodly number were present besides the members of the Society, and at the close of the lecture a hearty testimony was given by the audience of its appreciation of the lecturer's treatment of his subject.

His theme was "The Association Philosophy," and in a concise and interesting manner a broad view was given of that philosophy and its present influence, the tendencies of present day thought, and the problems that demand investigation and solution by philosophers. The distinction between the old and new Associationism was pointed out, the former being represented by such names as Hobbes, Locke and Hume; while the latter finds its exponents in the physiological associationists of England and the evolutionists in general. In opposition to this school are those who hold to a spiritual theory of mind, or as Prof. Baldwin prefers to call them "Apperceptionists."

The old methods by which Associationism was met are insufficient against its modern development. It will not do to sneer at Biology. The duty of the philosopher of to-day is to become thoroughly acquainted with facts and the knowledge of what the brain and nervous system in general do, and by a consideration of the fundamental position of the Associationist meet his arguments. Around this question clusters the great positions represented in the conflict to-day—theories of knowledge, theories of will, ethical problems. In closing, the lecturer showed how important it is that the popular view of philosophy and metaphysics should be changed and made orthodox. Philosophy is not divorced from life, and is not simply for a specialist in the university halls. It has a vital relation to all life, and any philosophy is invalid that does not give earnestness and solidity to life and that does not prepare its student for life.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

BASEBALL.

Manager Peat has received a letter from the baseball club of Cornell, offering the Varsity team a good guarantee for a game in the spring. No action has been taken, but if a team is decided upon Cornell will be visited. An offer has also been received from the Staten Island club, of which Erastus Wiman is president. It is altogether likely that home and home games will be arranged with Ottawa College, St. Michael's and Trinity.

LACROSSE MEETING.

"Small, but enthusiastic," is the set phrase which aptly describes the Lacrosse meeting held on Saturday, the 14th, at the Medical College. Mr. H. F. McConaghy was in the chair. The meeting decided, if the proposed trip to England matured, to play twenty matches, remaining in England and Ireland six weeks and starting either immediately after the supplementals or in midsummer. The greatest difficulty is to make the trip at a time suitable to both the English teams and the University team. Mr. Henry, the secretary, read two letters, one from Mr. J. Neil, Hon. Sec North of England Lacrosse Association, who was a member of the reception committee to the Torontos on their trip, in which that gentleman said that their association would probably send a team to Canada in the near future, and show the Canadians what progress in the game they had made. The other letter was from E. O. Swallow, ex-vice-president of the same association. Both these gentlemen think the idea of the University team a good one and assure them that they are almost certain to meet with success, that is financially. If the lacrosse club decides to make the trip the student body as a whole should give their hearty support to this somewhat large enterprise, and thereby lessen the work of those who have it in hand.

BEAULTS VS. U. C. C.

The paths of glory were not found passable by the Beaults on Tuesday last, when they began their career on skates, and suffered defeat at the hands of the Upper Canada College Hockey team. This was the initial match of the season and a lamentable want of practice was manifest. Considering, however, the strength of the opposing team, which is as yet unconquered, the Beaults are to be congratulated upon their good showing. The team was as follows: *Goal*: Clarke, '94; *Point*: Cameron, '94; *Cover*: Gilmour, '94; *Forwards*: Carling, '91; McQuarrie, '92; White, '92; Clayes, '94. Two goals were scored by U.C.C. in the first half. In the second Carling was injured and retired, being replaced by Jones, but no scoring was done. The team with some practice will, undoubtedly be able to play a very strong game.

NOTES.

The Beaults are contemplating several games of hockey this week, but none are as yet definitely arranged. A communication has been received from Trinity, asking for a game which will, in all probability, be played this afternoon on the Alexandra Rink, King Street West.

The Second Granites have also expressed a desire to play a game with the representatives from Residence, and will probably be met on Wednesday afternoon on the Granite Rink.

THE SPORTING SPIRIT OF RESIDENCE.

As the season for the annual meetings of the various athletic organizations of the college once more approaches, it is interesting to note the spirit which prevails in Residence. The true sporting coterie of the college is evidently located there, and it is certain that if it were not for their spirit and enthusiasm the athletic life of the college would suffer a very serious decline, and, in many departments, even decay and death might ensue. And further, it is certain that if this same spirit pervaded and characterized every class and division of the students of the University, a much better condition of things would be found, and college life in consequence would be much more beneficial and healthful for the student.

This characteristic of Residence has been as noticeable in the past as it is at present, and the cause of it is simply the result of its being a college residence, the result of the bond existing between a crowd of students who are in a measure isolated from the rest of the world and thrown upon their own resources. It is easily seen by a reference to the class lists that the effect is not harmful or to the discredit of Residence. And it is certain that as it is in a small, so it will be in a larger institution of the same kind. Even if there were no other reason for the extension of Residence, this one, taken from a purely sporting standpoint, is sufficient. For there is no doubt that the sporting department, if properly attended to, is the source of as much benefit to the student and to the college as to any other department of the University.

THE COLLEGE WORLD.

Dartmouth is to admit women as special students.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller has built a skating rink for the use of the Vassar girls.

The aggregate of contributions to American colleges during the year 1889 was \$40,000,000.

Seventy-one American colleges were represented by 185 students at the University of Berlin the past season.

Canada has forty colleges, Brazil has forty-five colleges and scientific schools, and India eighty colleges.—*Ex.*

Twenty thousand dollars have been subscribed by a Detroit man towards building a gym. for Michigan University.

'MIDST THE MORTAR BOARDS.

The Classical Association of '93 and '94 hold a regular meeting this afternoon.

The Dominion Government has sent the Library five cases of Parliamentary papers.

The postponed meeting of the Y.W.C.A. will be addressed to-morrow evening by Mrs. Harvey.

The Executive Committee of the Modern Language Club sat for a photo at Farmer Bros. on Saturday morning.

The first of the authorized orders of books for the library has arrived, and will be placed on the shelves early this week.

After the evening service at Dr. Wild's church last Sunday, Dr. Ferguson gave a talk under the auspices of the Social Purity Society.

The Wycliffe College Glee Club gave a concert at Scarboro last Thursday night. They were very hospitably entertained by the members of the church and altogether spent a thoroughly pleasant time.

A large attendance is requested at the meeting of the City Mission Committee in the Y.M.C.A. this afternoon. Important business in connection with the work among the newsboys is to be discussed.

Three or four cases of books, the gift of the University of Upsala, are expected to arrive at the Library shortly. This handsome donation was secured through the good offices of Mr. Chas. Annerstadt, librarian of that University.

The Medical Society met on Friday evening, the President, Dr. Ferguson, occupying the chair. Dr. Strange read a very interesting paper. Dr. Peters was elected President by acclamation and nominations were received for the other offices.

Dr. Hardie, the missionary sent to Korea by the Medical Y.M.C.A., is in distress and has cabled for funds. The Mission Board is now putting forth special efforts to send him a substantial amount. Subscriptions should be sent to Dr. Harley Smith, 256 Spadina Avenue.

Wm. P. McKenzie, B.A. (Toronto), author of "A Song of Trust and Other Poems," "Voices and Undertones," etc., announces a new volume of poems entitled "Songs of the Human," which is now in press. From the advance sheets, we anticipate an even greater treat than was Mr. McKenzie's last work.

There will an open meeting of the Mathematical and Physical Society in Room No. 8, on Friday, 20th inst., at 3 p.m. Prof. A. C. McKay (Mc-

Master) will deliver a lecture on color, illustrated by experiments in optics and acoustics by M. Currie and W. E. Rand, '91. A cordial invitation is extended to all students.

On Saturday afternoon Mrs. Ashley was "At Home" to the members of the fourth year Political Science department, and the fourth year lady undergraduates. Last night the members of THE VARSITY editorial staff and directorate, the officers of the cricket club and of the Association Football club of 1889-90, were Mrs. Ashley's guests.

A fire broke out about 5 o'clock on Wednesday morning in one of the student's rooms in Residence. The flames were quickly suppressed, and did no damage beyond the room in which they started. The origin of the fire is unknown. The occupant of the room was away, staying with friends, it being the evening before Ash Wednesday—a holiday.

One thousand volumes have been presented to the Library by the University of Strasburg. The library of Strasburg was once destroyed by fire, and its present one is composed to a great extent of books donated by sister institutions. Having had almost the same experience as Toronto, Strasburg knows how to sympathize with our University, and has shown that sympathy in this very tangible form.

The office of THE VARSITY has been removed to a lower flat of the building wherein it is situated, and now the editors boast of two large front rooms. This action was not entirely unexpected, as the Business Manager has often been heard to complain that the journey up two flights of stairs would be the death of him some day, and that as far as he was concerned he didn't propose to immolate himself *pro bono publico*. The editors owe the B.M. a debt of gratitude for his and their own health.

The following regulations have been made, according to which the below-mentioned scholarships will be granted: For the George Brown Scholarship, in 2nd year the marks obtained in History will not be counted, History no longer being an Honor subject in the department of Modern Languages. The Julius Rossin Scholarship in German will be awarded to the candidate who, having obtained 1st class honors in each of Modern Languages of the 3rd year, shall rank highest in German.

The Wycliffe College Literary Society held an ordinary meeting Friday evening in the Library. Messrs. R. F. and J. A. Nie, T. B. Smith, Lea and the Glee Club, furnished music both vocal and instrumental and Mr. Dryer gave an excellent reading from

Lytton's translation of "The Diver." The President, Mr. Sinclair, then called upon the speakers of the evening, Rev. G. M. Wrong and Dean Hamilton, who gave two very pleasant addresses upon German life as seen by the student and by the tourist. Many of their remarks evoked loud applause.

The sixty-seventh public debate in connection with the Knox College Metaphysical and Literary Society was held Friday night in the large hall of the college. Prof. J. Mark Baldwin, University College, presided. Several musical selections were rendered by the Glee Club. Mr. W. H. Grant, B.A., read an essay on "The Place of Classics in Higher Education, and Mr. W. Gauld, B.A., read the selection entitled "By Alma After the Battle." The subject of debate was as follows: *Resolved*, That all graduates and ministers coming from other churches be required to spend one year in a mission field before being inducted into a regular charge. Messrs. J. S. Davidson, B.A., and W. G. W. Fortune, B.A., spoke for the affirmative, and Messrs. J. McNair, B.A., and W. H. Johnston, B.A., for the negative. The chairman, upon the arguments adduced, decided the debate in favor of the negative.

The Residence students have organized a six-piece orchestra, which helps to enliven the abodes of the Forty. To celebrate the anniversary of the great fire it was determined to serenade the Dean after the Senate meeting last Friday night. When several selections had been played in the orchestra's best style, Mr. Baker appeared, surrounded by a bevy of Senators, whom he was entertaining at supper. After appropriate remarks by the members of the august assembly, game pies and other choice viands were presented to the students, who marched triumphantly to the Dining Hall, laden with spoils and preceded by inspiring music. In memory of the dance which did *not* come off last St. Valentine's Day, a stag-dance was organized. For about an hour the old Hall rang to the strains of "Love's Golden Dream," "See Me Dance," and other popular airs, while a gay and varied effect was produced by the ladies dancing without their coats and adopting a number of novel headdresses. The Residence Orchestra is billed for the 20th, at the meeting of the Literary Society.



STUDENTS ATTENTION!

This is a fac-simile of our pink made from the metal from the College bell, which we are selling at a moderate price. Every student should have one, as they are interesting souvenir of the fire.

J. E. ELLIS,
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