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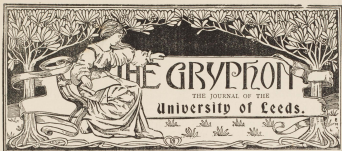
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Vol. XI.

NOVEMBER, 1907.

No. 1.



A new Session has begun, and the *Gryphon* takes her first opportunity of giving a very hearty welcome to the new members of the staff, and to a large number of freshmen. A pleasing feature about the "changes in the staff" is that a number of "additional" appointments have been made. This we think is a healthy sign of the growth of the University. We are particularly pleased to note the extension of the Biological Department, and the creation of two Chairs of Zoology and Botany respectively in place of the original Chair of Biology.

In welcoming the Freshers, we should like to say a few words to them personally. We would ask them to remember that the University of Leeds is not

a technical school—that as students of this University they have opportunities of gaining something more than text book knowledge, or even University Degrees. It is difficult to define what this "something" is, but it is always to be observed in comparing a man who has taken full advantage of the social side of University life with one who has not. This is our message to freshmen: do not forget the social side. We sincerely hope that each freshman will be an active member of at least one College Society, that he will take a keen interest in the College games, that he will attend all students' functions, especially the Conversazione, and, of course, that he will support the *Gryphon* by both his subscription and his contributions.

The work of extending the University buildings has made rapid progress since last session. The Department of Fuel and Metallurgy is now complete, and was opened for the reception of students in October. It is a fine block of buildings, with well fitted laboratories and lecture rooms of the most modern pattern. Other extensions are in progress. There is the new Engineering wing, extending from the Engineering Department towards the Leather Industries Block, which will relieve the pressure in the Engineering

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Department. Electrical Engineers are being provided for by a new block, intended to accommodate the whole of their Department, which is situated near the Dyeing Block. The Baines Wing is being extended over the old Tennis Courts, for the benefit of the Education, Arts, and Botanical Departments, the top floor being reserved for the Botanists. A new boiler-house is being erected near the present Physics Department, and new lavatories for men students are almost completed.

* * *

The social side of University life is receiving due attention in the plan of University Extension. We have lost the two old Tennis Courts, on which so many exciting games have been played, but the three new asphalt Courts just outside the Rectory have been ready for some time, and can be used in Winter as well as in Summer.

* * *

A house for the sole use of women students has been fitted up in Beech Grove Terrace, and plans are being discussed for the erection of Union Rooms for the men students. At the end of last term it was understood that the Senate were going to provide the men students with a Union House in De Grey Road, and many expressed surprise to find on coming back this session that no such house had been provided. The fact is that the Senate, after further consideration, decided that the scheme was not a suitable one, owing mainly to the distance of the proposed house from most departments. It was thought that it would be better to wait a time than to go on with an unsatisfactory scheme, and so, at present, no definite arrangements have been decided upon. While we ourselves think that the De Grey Road scheme was a poor one, and are not sorry that it has been dropped, we earnestly hope that the question of a Union House will not be "hung up" indefinitely, but that some suitable scheme will be decided on and carried out with the least possible loss of time.

* * *

Several new features have been introduced into this issue of the *Gryphon* which we hope will give the journal a popularity still greater than it at present enjoys. A Contents Table appears on the fast yellow page where it will not interfere with the binding; all the athletic news has been gathered together into one place, and the Society Reports have been treated similarly; whilst our Dramatic Critic contributes the first of his monthly articles on the Play.

The "Gryphon Deficit."

The Finance of the *Gryphon* is an important matter. Here we have an official University Journal, with a fair circulation among the students and staff, which during its run of ten years has lost close upon one hundred pounds—the loss of course having been paid by the Students' Union. It is not necessary to dwell upon what might have been done with this hundred pounds, or to consider how far it would have gone towards furnishing the new Union House. It is lost, and there is an end of it; but the question arises, was this loss necessary, and can it be avoided in the future?

Our own opinion is that at the present price the *Gryphon* should yield to the Union Funds a profit of at least £20 per annum; that is to say, that in the *Gryphon* students have a means of making a regular additional income for the University Union.

Who, then, is to blame for the loss in past years—*who's* fault will it be if there is any "*Gryphon* Deficit" in the future? The blame lies, and will lie, with the *students*.

The *Gryphon* has two sources of income, the subscriptions and the advertisements. If every student subscribed to the *Gryphon*, financial disabilities would be entirely avoided, and either a large profit could be taken annually for Union purposes, or an early reduction in price would be brought about.

And every student *should* subscribe. If we have a University Magazine, let it be what its name implies, and not a journal taken by only half the students. In the past the "*Gryphon* Deficit" has been due simply to the difficulty in getting men to subscribe, and to the consequently small subscription list. Any loss falls on the funds of the Students' Union, and therefore it behoves every member of that body—every student—to both to subscribe himself and to see that his friends do likewise.

Students can have no complaint about the literary contents of the *Gryphon*. If the magazine does not contain such articles as they would wish to see, they must remember that the Editors cannot write all the matter, and that the articles published are always the best sent in.

Advertisements may also be made a profitable source of income. During the past years the *Gryphon* advertisements have been let to contractors, etc., who have paid us a small sum—nine pounds or so—and made what they could for themselves. This year we have taken over the advertisements ourselves, and hope to make £25 to £30 out of them. We can make much money from the advertisements if it pays business firms to advertise with us—if students look at the *Gryphon* advertisements and trade with *Gryphon* advertisers. Of course we ourselves should be the last to deal with a firm which charged fancy prices, or were undesirable in any other way, but, *ceteris paribus*, the *Gryphon* advertiser should have our custom. If students will thus make the *Gryphon* a good advertising medium, it will be possible to get much higher prices for our space, and so swell the Receipts side of the *Gryphon* Account. If business firms will give us twice as much for our space as they do now—as they *will* do next year if we shew them,

this year, that *Gryphon* advertisements bring custom—it will be possible to give the *Gryphon* away to every member of the Students' Union, or at least to sell the *Gryphon* at one penny per copy.

The financial future of the *Gryphon* rests with the students. If they will show a little *esprit de corps*, with regard to both the subscriptions and the advertisements, the *Gryphon* can be made to pay, and to pay well.

North North-East.

THOUGH my subject in the abstract may bring to mind a first essay of the Autumn term at school, my holiday impressions of certain places on the coast of Northumberland may be of interest to students who pride themselves on being extremely north-countrymen.

Holy Island or Lindisfarne is an "intermittent" island. In case this term does not occur in geography text books let me explain that whereas for a few hours it may appear the "piece of land entirely surrounded by water" that its name implies, for the succeeding few hours the sea will retire and leave it connected with the mainland. Thus the traveller (having come north from Alnwick or south from Berwick) if he follow the road from Beal Station may find, as he would expect, a stretch of the sea between himself and the island. But he will also see a line of posts across the water, which if he have patience will gradually become exposed, even to their wooded foundations, by the retiring tide; and a sudden roadway marked by the faintest tracks of wheels will at length appear.

This "causeway" stretches away at an angle to the shore for nearly three miles, to the eastern end of the island, and I have heard it likened to a track across the Sahara after the flood, but the simile is an extravagant one. It looks like nothing so much as the sea shore, and if the traveller be wise he will take off his shoes and socks and follow the posts through sand and water.

Along the causeway there are two "crows' nests," small wooden habitations supported high upon four legs, and accessible by a ladder. Concerning these, or rather the lack of these, there is a tale—a tale both tragic and ridiculous after the fashion of an Irish ballad.

The gruesome manner of it was this:—

You must know that the crossing is considered safe for the passage of carts until the tide is nearly full; and upon a day a party of five in a two-wheeled carriage dashed down into the water in time—so they protested—to make the crossing. I know not how far they pushed their way, but the waves were stronger and the tide rose more rapidly than usual. Cries were heard from the land, and it was seen that they were struggling; a boat put out from the island. When it reached them the cries had died down; four of the party were found seated upon the body of the drowned horse, held loosely upright by the shafts of the cart. One man was washed away.

The point of a tragic story should be its moral. The moral of this story has been laid to heart, and on the score of it the two crows' nests have been built

where the all but overwhelmed traveller may climb above the waters, and leave his horse unembarrassed to swim to shore.

The island's Abbey of St. Cathbert's is very old and very much in ruins; it will not greatly excite the seeker of architectural masterpieces. It has a beauty of its own all the same. Yellow horn poppies and sea pinks surround the stumps of the columns, and you may see a pigeon fly to its nest in a crumbling tower. The stone itself is a soft sandstone of a delicate red, that seems to have caught and preserved through unending winter mists the colours of a forgotten sunset.

And it has its heart freezing legend; in the second canto of Scott's *Marmion* there is a description of this coast and of the abbey's legend that is more vivid than any prose.

Constance De Beverly, a nun professed, loved Marmion. So she broke her vows and followed him as a horse-boy for three years. Then she was caught, treacherously, and lodged in the dungeons of Lindisfarne for trial. The abbot and two holy mothers sat in judgment upon the girl "whom the Church numbered with the dead." The punishment for her and another victim was decreed—to be entombed in the dungeon wall.

"Two niches, narrow, deep, and tall,
In such a slender nest was laid
Of roots, of water, and of bread;
By such in benediction dress
Two haggard nuns stood motionless,
Hewn stones and cement were displayed,
And building tools in order laid."

A "scientific humanist" may be tempted to ask "why the slender nest?" But I can give him no answer: if the legend be true the poor nun's spirit has ceased long ago to suffer, and decay has broken open the place of her entombment to the winds of heaven.

Bamburgh Castle is south along the coast. It is a mighty pile, and must have been a coveted piece of furniture in the household of feudal England.

But enough of lore and legend.

North Sunderland is a very different place. On land there are rows, one above the other, of little smoky red-tiled houses where the women live, beating and drying clothes and mending children. In the harbour or out in the bay are clusters of sailing craft for catching or carrying fish, and here chiefly are the men, working or smoking as wind and tide directs.

All about stacks of barrels are piled, some washed, and some waiting to be washed, and all exhaling a peculiar fishy-woody smell. A smell that lingers in the nostrils and can be recalled, as a strident pantomime air can be recalled to the ear. Women with red handkerchiefs about their heads work among these barrels, cleaning and packing fish, and talking merrily during their work.

And here, too, the artist comes, in the sunny season, and sits canvas in hand among the barrels (in a relatively wholesome spot) or upon the poop of a ship.

You may see him or her at work, and holding a little court at the same time. Seamen of all ranks, a few at a time, stand around, and perhaps criticize

mildly (generally inquiring after objects that have been purposely omitted) or talk of anything they consider interesting; country dances at the castle, relations who had been known to point but who had died young, the "feast" on Banburgh Green, and other subjects that might be conceived as appealing to the artistic imagination; and the artists themselves perhaps find in the study of these solid types a relief after studio fantasies.

Dunstanburgh is a desolate grass-covered cliff that breaks away precipitately or slopes down in basal terraces to the sea. On its top rises the skeleton of a once imposing castle; but I must pass on to describe the more complete castle of Workworth, and that other place, the "most romantic spot in England." The castle overlooks the little town and a curve of the river Coquet. The outworks—like Dunstanburgh—are decayed, they support only drooping wallflowers, and rare grasses nod their tufts airily from one rampart to another. But the keep stands dignified as of old—an outward, very visible sign of feudalism; and it is nearly whole, except for the roofing of the upper stories.

When you have passed the portcullis and the oak door has closed behind you, you would stand—supposing you were carried back into the middle ages—not at all, let me assure you, upon your own merits. For beneath your feet is an *œdipal*, and, if you had gained your present position by force, or if you were a creditor, or a bore, or if you tended in any way to disturb my lord the duke's peaceful outlook upon the world in general, then too probably the stone you stood upon would move (as do certain insect traps), and you would fall beetlewise maybe sixty feet into a pit, built to harbour your remains.

If the traveller would see "that other place" let him take a boat and follow the river down stream, where it glides lazily between high and wooded banks. Presently let him put into the right bank at a point where a little stage invites him to land and to explore a mossy path that leads by the water's edge under the shades of cedar trees. If he follow the path the cliff to his right on a sudden becomes precipitous, and standing before it he will mark a stair leading to a door that must open seemingly into the solid rock, and behind the door two small arched windows. Unlock the door and enter, and uncover your head, for you stand in the porch of a tiny chapel. At the opposite end is an altar, the vaulted roof hangs scarce a foot above your head, proportions perfect and simple are revealed in the light from the little lancet windows. Two pair of slender half columns and two pointed arches proceed to support the roof, the columns do not lack capitals, not the altar tracery; the interior is indeed complete, but of a church whose exterior has no moulding or buttress except only from rain or of heaped sand on the face of the rock.

Opposite the entrance is a doorway to an inner chamber that was once a human habitation. In the rough bearn wall is a recess on which a man might lie, and from which a narrow window in the opposite wall leads the eye naturally to the altar of the chapel.

And who was the dweller in this shrine, and who fashioned it, and why?

Above the outer doorway is this inscription: "Tears have been my meat day and night," and in the embrasure of one of the windows there are two radially shaped, time worn figures, of a man prostrate and facing him a woman.

There still lingers the suggestion as of some remote forgotten tragedy, and too, a suggestion in this as in other tragedies that have followed it, that one cause at least may have been a woman.

But even if time allowed me why should I tell it? Are dried rose leaves much to look at? Without perfume, without setting, without association, the charm of pot-pourri is a mockery.

"To see ourselves as others see us."

To the Halifax.

SIR,

We have no reason to suppose that the words of Robert Burns, quoted at the head of this letter, were ever even faintly echoed in your heart; nevertheless we feel that this ought not to prevent us addressing our candid communication to you. Another difficulty of greater proportions arises in the fact that an artistic nature such as yours requires a power of descriptive composition which we all too inadequately possess, and we therefore ask your indulgence for any shortcomings of this letter. We have much to say, but few words will tell us.

We first remember you as a somewhat unassuming youth with a fair sense of humour, and fairer hair, the latter then as now being in a constant state of rebellion to law and order. Your first year up here was one of more or less social obscurity, and it was not until your name figured in the list of candidates for the Union Committee that the majority of us had any real knowledge of your existence. Although unsuccessful in the ensuing contest you were no longer unknown, and from that time forward you have contrived to keep in full glare of the footlights.

The commencement of your climb to your present dizzy height of notoriety was made at the Freshers' Smoker of last session, when you sang your well-known song (descriptive of the hydrometric properties of a sea plant), and incidentally we may remark that it is, in our opinion, a musical composition eminently suited to your vocal ability. Like many more comedians whose rise has been as sudden as unexpected, your name is destined to be for ever coupled with this taking melody, so beloved of errand boys and street organs.

To use a popular expression "it went," and you have lived on the result ever since. There can be no doubt that you had great faith in it to meet the popular taste, and we feel sure that nothing less than a threatened visit from the Inspector of Public Nuisances compelled you in the end to give the song a well-earned rest.

With regard to this year's Freshers' Smoker we say, in all sincerity, that your old song with all its staleness would have been preferable to the still greater nuisance you ultimately proved yourself to

be. Sometime when you are not really busy (say from 9.30 to 12.30 or 2 to 5) we should like to have your honest opinion as to what constitutes a "Smoker." We feel sure that from our observations on the evening in question your views and our own are diametrically opposed, and that the student life of Germany, with its ancient institution the "Kneipe," would be more congenial to you and your immediate circle. However, so long as you and your friends remain at Leeds, may we say that though we have no objection to some of you some of the time, we get, to say the least, rather bored with all of you all the time.

As to your deeds on the playing fields. You turn out at "Rugger" for the second fifteen, and if only you would push more in the "scrum" and talk a great deal less, you would have a sporting chance of obtaining your colours.

Amongst your minor accomplishments may be mentioned that of being a passable amateur in the art of acting, and of enlivening on occasions the pages of that rather too respectable publication, the *Gryphon*.

Much more might we write but we feel that 'tis better left unwritten.

Yours very respectfully,

THE CRIME.

De Profundis.

As the long vacation draws to a close, the thoughts of the Freshman become gradually centred on the College, and he begins to feel a little nervous as he thinks of entering into that life which promises to be so different from that of the school he has just left. Thus when September 30th rolls round he feels no little trepidation as he walks up to the College. With a sinking heart and perhaps a little awe he pauses at the gate, and waits until another passes in before him. Then he follows, and perceiving a most important personage in yellow braid standing in the hall, he asks in a voice a little difficult to control, what he shall do. He is directed to the large examination room, associated in his mind with all the horrors of Matriculation week. He receives his papers, interviews his professors, holds the hand of the Vice-Chancellor for a little moment, and at last, with aching back from too long standing in those dreary lines, he returns home, an enrolled student of the University.

So far, then, all has gone well, and so too, the first few lectures pass without any incident of importance occurring, though he goes to all with a feeling of some loneliness and a little dread. But gradually he becomes better acquainted with the students of his year, and also with the somewhat rambling nature of the structure. And it is now, when he begins to be familiar with the place, that a peculiar fact strikes him. For he is amazed by the complete absorption, the utter lack of curiosity of the students of the College. As he moves about he sees that new faces attract not the slightest attention from the seniors. Neither do the foreign looks of many of the students draw upon them a single passing glance. The intense

preoccupation of the citizens as they pass along the bustling thoroughfares of our great City is as nothing compared with that of the students as they pass to and fro along the corridors. And this intense preoccupation and lack of curiosity appears to be the keynote of the College. More especially does it strike the student fresh from school, because there, the passing of himself or form-mates down the room drew to them at once the attention of a host of smaller scholars. There, he was a personality; here he is a nonentity. There, in some thing or other, he was a leader—perhaps head of the examination lists, or captain of the school teams—here he feels and knows that among the students round about him are many whose talents are superior to his, and so he becomes oppressed with despondency, and he feels the utter uselessness of effort.

Thus then the feeling of the Freshman after the first few weeks of college life is this of despondency and hopelessness. He came to college buoyed with bright day dreams; now they are scattered to the four winds of heaven.

Conishead Conference, 1907.

The name, to the outsider, suggests something very religious, probably enthusiastic in a boisterous sort of way, and yet the word that best expresses one's impression of Conishead is sane. Everything, from the most impressive meeting to the most joyous rag strikes you as being sensible in the extreme.

One is impressed with a delightful sense of real freedom—everybody wears what he likes and does what he likes. You get up when you like, unless one of your test-dewies happens to have tendencies in the early-rising direction; such a one had to be dissuaded from illustrating a lecture on my recumbent self, by a chase round the tent with a mallet on my being suddenly awaked by his proddings. One of the best ways of ensuring comfort in a morning, however, was to raise a hot discussion, theological or otherwise, the night before—the Leeds tent had a reputation for carrying such far into the morning—and go to sleep in the middle of it, so that the exhausted debaters would be about ready to rise and walk over your bed at a time when you had vacated it.

The meetings are held in marquees, those of the whole camp in a very large one. It was stirring when on the first evening the Conference sang the opening hymn. The sound swayed from back to front as the audience tried to get into tune, but very quickly we learnt to sing together. It was impressive to sit under the edge of the tent, with the sides thrown down, and watch the daylight falling as in quiet tones the speaker proclaimed his message—ac again to hear the rain pattering on the swaying roof, almost drowning the speaker's voice, while the swaying lanterns cast long shadows, all adding to the sense of loneliness that one too seldom associates with talks like these.

Among the many personalities who made their influence felt throughout the Conference was good old Tom Jeyes, a medical missionary on furlough from

Africa, and as little like the typical missionary as any man ever was. One of his greatest efforts was to solemnly announce at dinner that the noise which had awaked the whole camp last night had been made by the Scotchmen laughing in their sleep—at the jokes they had heard the day before, they having just seen the point of them. But his great success was scored when he won the "soccer" match for Oxford and Cambridge against the world by his excellent work on the touch line. His triumph came when we were all being photographed, and he was carried out on his bed, hot water bottle and all, for he had caught a chill, and placed in the foreground while a canny Scot murmured "wha's in the bottle."

Supper-time was one of the most delightful parts of the day, when, over hot cocoa and biscuits in the lamp-lit mess tent, one could talk over the day's doings with men who told strange things of the wild places of the earth, or men who talked in broad Scotch of things "ayont the Tweed."

After that some men went to bed, but seeing that in that region latches are unknown, those technically inclined might make up a party to visit the Ulverston fireworks, while some whose tastes were more romantic took moonlight walks along the shore—to return and possibly find their blankets commandeered by someone daring enough to risk detection and consequent awaking.

One is surprised at the wellhead of so large a camp; how so many men can enjoy so much freedom and yet have everything go along so well, and feel so strongly a spirit of real harmony, for Conhead has a spirit. One feels it most strongly on one's first visit. The realization of that strong feeling of deep unity strikes you then with a wonder which never comes again.

The same feeling of unity in great diversity is noticeable among the speakers; here is no note of the changeful of disagreement and dispute, we are down so often on the bed-rock of the fundamentals of experience, and though the speakers are men of the most widely differing characteristics there is heard no hint of differences.

Many other topics were dealt with besides the personal questions. An address was given on the Teaching Profession, and it was evident that the movement is turning a great deal of attention to the social question. To hear Canon Walpole give an eloquent and deeply reasoned speech on Law and the State, and then to listen to Mr. Bolton Stuart, of the Holloway Bay Labour Colony, giving practical homely advice on how to help lady, was to realise how far-reaching and many-sided this important question is.

One of the most impressive meetings was that at which all the foreign delegates spoke. From Russia, South Africa, Germany, Sweden and other countries, they told, many of them in broken English, of the Movement in their own lands.

It has been said that no one can really understand what the Christian Union stands for, and I would say further that no one can understand what Christianity means in the student world—until he has been to Conhead.

W.M.

Oh, Listen to my Tale of Woe!

My appeal is to the Freshers, both men and women, but I hope some of the old stagers will answer it too. I have taken an early opportunity to say something for the social side of college life. Enough will be said to you on the studious side.

College cannot be made up of individuals, each working entirely for himself, and in order to enter the other sides of student life a little selfishness and self-sacrifice is absolutely necessary. You can do your duty to yourself, professors, and library as well. Go in for some healthy exercise, instead of slacking about. You will be better for it both morally and physically. But this is no place for moralising, so I will desist.

What is needed here is a genuine fond of students who will work for, and keep up a social and sportsman-like spirit throughout college. There are societies dealing with a great variety of subjects and games. Surely you are interested in at least one of these, and will do something towards keeping them up to scratch.

If you decide on the team you will join, play the game, and don't belong to that class of people who in a bored way tick off for matches after first taking good care to see that it is not an "away match." That this is done one cannot help noticing and deprecating.

If the sports were a little earlier—say in the middle of the second term—we might possibly get a few more entries for the events. Then perhaps the too-well-known not-in-training answer would not be so ripe, and the clerk of the weather could not be in a more changeable mood than in May.

There must be some training of course, as there is no royal road to athletics any more than there is to a degree; but if you play footer or hockey, or pay the gym, regular visits, you will not have to give up much valuable time.

The too-much-lag answer given in the usual blasé style is the one that most annoys. These people are not the "swells." Oh no! They are the people who do not exert themselves for anything or anybody—not even themselves. But they are adepts in the art of grumbling. "Oh yes, I went to the Sports—they were rotten." "Go to the Conversaz?" "No fear; wouldn't waste my time." "Subscribe to the Gryphon?" "Not likely." are what you commonly hear from such people. Why don't they set up a show of their own at either the sports or the Conversazione? Why don't they write something for the Gryphon to raise the standard they talk about? No, they find grumbling at other people's work a much easier task.

Then there is another type to be despised—the fellow who only enters for the race in which he is certain to win, or who will not enter because he thinks he cannot win. Where is the honourable sport in such a character. Surely it is not the gain that is looked forward to, but the honour. A man who has lost but knows that he has done his best, has nothing to be sorry for or to grumble at; and a man who can take his defeat in such a spirit has gained far more for himself than any sports prize

can do for him. There's no disgrace in being an "also-ran." It is much more interesting and exciting to an outsider when one who hasn't fluttered before comes in first.

I must also mention that it is to be hoped that this time the ladies will take their part in the sports of this session.

It was a disgrace that at the last Conversazione a team of college fellows could not be formed to perform a few gymnastics, and one from town had to be brought up to do some for them. Let us hope this will not be necessary another time. We are too conscious of ourselves, and do not put all our energies into the sports in which we enter.

Various people will be bothering you for subs., &c. There is no need to join every society, but join at least one, so as to be in touch with some part of the social side of college life. "Do zummst. Do gude if you can, but do zummst." B.

Degree Day.

"The animals came in two by two . . ."—*Antient Ballad*

It came again, as it always does on the last Saturday in June.

With equal certainty friends and relatives came also, reporters crawled unobtrusively in, and a large number of undergrads, turned up to maintain the traditions of the past.

This they succeeded in doing, and we may venture the opinion that nobody had a dull time except perhaps the V.C. Numerous old melodies with new words went the rounds. They seemed to dwell chiefly on more or less everyday incidents in the lives of certain not unimportant personages. They included a full description of the circumstances connected with somebody or other missing the train, and of somebody else going to "Blackpool-by-the-Sea."

The orchestral section was rather weak this year, excepting tympani, but the chorus was strong and the solo passages fairly well given. We noticed that this year there was no paid band, and it seems that at last the Senate has come to appreciate the services volunteered so freely by an important section of the University.

When at last the procession of the learned arrived, interest grew apace. A shower of orange blossom and confetti bestowed on the revered person of our V.C. made known to the world that a recent announcement had been duly appreciated. Moreover, quite near to us some jokers let loose a black hen wearing a most becoming green hood. The fowl at once grasped the situation, and strolled along behind the V.C. with more dignity than anything which had gone before him. However, it finally resolved to stay in the body of the hall, and made for a chair, which the lady occupant quickly vacated. We were lost in wonder at the wonderfully intelligent behaviour of the bird, when just then a grey ashen face, set like a flint, flew by us—and in one fell swoop the fowl was gone.

Contrary to all expectations the Senate seems to have appreciated this innovation, and indeed they have since supplied each student with an up-to-date chicken cage in order to promote an extensive adoption of the idea.

Perhaps we ought to mention that about this time a number of people got B.Sc.'s and that sort of thing, but really very little credit was due to them for their part in the proceedings, for they were prompted at every turn by kind friends in the hall. They were urged to "huck up" and look cheerful; then they were marched left, right, up to the V.C., and thereupon instructed in suitably affectionate behaviour, marched back again, and a few words of advice added on having them. Finally, the procession filed slowly out again, minus the most dignified member above referred to, who, if rumour be true, was by this time well on the way towards restoring to health and happiness a certain University functionary whose name is not to be found in the Calendar.

After this, kind helping hands removed the chairs and gently put them away while people were going out. Meanwhile a certain person, who above all others ought to have known better, was to be seen mounted on a chair with a notebook, *blocking the way*. Many men were proceeding to take up the carpets also, doubtless with a view to their careful laying aside, but when they saw the irregular conduct of the presumptuous man blocking the way, and the vulgar prominence assumed by him, they blushed for shame, and many left the hall at once in disgust. This person it is said has since declared that he saw one of the chairs get scratched while being put away. We regard this as a pure fabrication, and treat such allegations with the contempt which they deserve.

TINCRUS.

To Freshmen!

The Students' Union publishes a little hand-book, partly for the convenience of Freshmen, and in it stress is laid on the importance of each student taking part in the manifold social activities at work around us. But this book, though excellent as far as it goes, cannot help the average Freshman nearly so really as can say a third year man, who knows the régime of college life.

In these few words, then, I should like to take the part of the third year man, and indicate briefly how the Fresher may most quickly and surely become a luminary in the social sky.

In the first place, the Fresher must cultivate to the highest degree possible a certain spirit, which for want of a better name we will call his Knowledge of What's What.

As time goes on, you may perceive that the social side is guided by perhaps a dozen fellows, who have made the acquiring of this knowledge their great business and pleasure. It must be your ambition to take your place in this dozen, and to assist in forming the traditions of the place.

Well then, What is What?
You must be Bored. Perpetually Bored. Talk in a Bored way. Every third word a Languid Expletive. Walk in a Bored way, with hands in pockets.

The Gryphon.

The interested, inquiring tones, and the quick firm tread of the Fresher must all go. Only on such occasions as Smokers may you manifest more interest in life than does a mushroom.

Gaze at everyone in a Bored yet Resigned Way.

Of course you must smoke a smelly briar, and spend most of your time in the smoke room; throw yourself into the most utter attitude of collapse you can manage, and stare vacantly at the ceiling.

The matter of dress calls for no little attention. You must see what is Worn, and Wear It. There are certain points of similarity in the attire of the members of the Social Twelve. Your cap must be a large flat arrangement—the larger the better, up to a certain limit, which the people at home will fix for you. Pull it well over your eyes. Try and look darkly mysterious (as if you have seen life, and know a thing or two). Your hair demands as much attention as that of a female. Of course The Thing is to have it parted down the middle, but it is possible for a man to get on fairly well in life with it parted otherwise. Julius Cesar did. Anyhow, you must have it long and glossy, not short and stubbly. Brush it, brush it, BRUSH it. To keep up student traditions, it is advisable to burn midnight oil, but you must not study at that unearthly hour. You must brush your hair. Leave your rural barber, who may be accustomed to orders of "T-machine all over," and let a Leeds Tonsorial Artist groom it à la mode. That is, it must be very short at the nape of the neck. Perhaps one reason for this convention is to do away with the characteristic family twists and curls which naturally occur there. The more tufts, like Red Indians' feathers, you can produce down the back of your head, the better.

One is allowed a good deal of latitude, or rather longitude, in the matter of collars.

If you wish to make people think you are from Eton, keep the lowest button of your waistcoat unfastened.

Above all, turn up your trowsers as high as you like, whether it is wet or fine. The upper limit occurs when an unprejudiced observer cannot tell, at first sight, whether you are wearing ordinary pants or a peculiar make of riding-breeches.

If the weather is anything but blazing hot, bring a mackintosh; the higher the collar the better.

You must carry a stick, not a bag. Fancy risking your social life for the sake of a few sweet books!

But the stick must not be a fancy cane, or a grand-father's Malacca with a staghorn head. Oh, dear no! The ideal stick is a huge gnarled ash plant—the uglier the better. Tap the pavement with it loudly.

I suppose by now the Science people will have joined the Scientific Society, the Arts people the Literary and Historical Society, and the Christians the Christian Union—perhaps. For there are Christians and Christians. If you are a Christian-but-please-don't-trouble-me-about-it there are several ways in which you can escape joining the Union, so as to have more time to devote to the Social Side. The most common way is to Have Doubts. There must be some point of doctrine, no matter how obscure, upon which you cannot see eye to eye with

your spiritual advisers, and hence "it would be unwise to identify yourself with any religious body until you see your way a little clearer." If you are sure you are not a Christian, the matter is still simpler. For instance, be able to prove that the date of some book or other in the Old Testament is different from that generally given. Then of course it follows that there can be nothing in Christianity, and that the whole moral universe is overturned.

When questioned, put on a beautiful lost look, and say you are an Atheist, or Agnostic, or something of that sort. It is not even necessary to know what the word means.

Thus, in a scrappy manner no doubt, I have tried to sketch the great principles which should govern the student's college life.

Misquoting Gilbert, you shall

"Take of these elements all that is feasible,
Mix 'em all up in a pipkin or crucible,
Set them to simmer and take off the scum,
And a Varsity man is the endgame."

EDMUND.

The Freshers' Smoker.

ON October 4th the Annual Freshers' Smoker was held, about 120 men sitting down to tea, and the guileless Fresher partook of a free meal, from which he would doubtless derive great satisfaction.

After the tea, the fragments that were picked up would not have filled a pint pot, a proof that the modern appetite is superior to that of the ancients.

Then Mr. Fort broke in the new piano in his usual firm manner, and various individuals spoke about the numerous clubs and societies so well patronised by the members of this institution. Mr. Fletcher held forth on the Rugby Club, the merits of the Gryphon were announced by Mr. Cross, and the Hockey Club was described by Mr. Hopkins.

As listening to speeches is a thirsty task, a cry went forth from the far corner for that which cheers and inebriates if taken in sufficient quantity, and while this was being procured Mr. Midgley spoke at length of the Christian Union.

Songs were given by Messrs. Crowther, Shaw, Stephens, and our old friend Mr. Armes also obliged.

The lemonade having arrived, things grew more lively, and the choruses were sung with more vigour than harmony. Those whose voices were weak retired, but a few noble spirits kept up the concert until 7.30, though memories of this portion of the evening are vague through so many events happening at the same time, and everyone trying to be in at everything. However, all went well, and everyone agreed that we had spent a very enjoyable evening.

W.

A VERY successful Tea and Smoker was held by the students of the Education Department on Thursday, October 10th. Mr. Watts presided, and songs and recitations were given by Messrs. Farnish, Priestley, Hopkins, Renard, Shaw, Dixon and many others.

Leeds University Union.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1906-7.

| RECEIPTS. | | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Union Subscriptions | | 295 | 15 | 6 |
| Honorary Members | | 27 | 16 | 6 |
| Springfield C.C., Hire of Field | | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| Girls' High School | £ | s. | d. | |
| Last — Paid to Grosvenor | 3 | 0 | 0 | |
| Last — Paid to Grosvenor | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| Bank Interest | | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Balance on Smoking Concert | | 1 | 15 | 6 |
| Balance on Conversations | | 1 | 8 | 6 |
| Balance on Conversations | | 5 | 10 | 6 |
| Deficit on year | | 349 | 9 | 6 |
| | | 21 | 9 | 8½ |
| | | 370 | 19 | 2½ |
| EXPENDITURE. | | £ | s. | d. |
| Football, Rugby | | 17 | 10 | 3 |
| " Association | | 18 | 8 | 1 |
| " Greenhead — Wages | £ | s. | d. | |
| " Washing and Sundries | 9 | 19 | 6 | |
| " | 2 | 9 | 3 | |
| Crick | | 12 | 8 | 11 |
| " | | 22 | 7 | 2½ |
| " Greenhead and Boy | | 18 | 16 | 6 |
| Lawn Tennis | | 7 | 10 | 4 |
| Hockey, Men's Club | | 8 | 18 | 3 |
| " Women's Club | | 9 | 6 | 9½ |
| Gymnasium, Instructor | £ | s. | d. | |
| Less Grant from University Council | 65 | 0 | 0 | |
| | 15 | 0 | 0 | |
| Gymnasium, Materials, Repairs, Cleaning, &c. .. | | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| " Piano | | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| " | | 3 | 15 | 0 |
| Common Rooms, Men's, College Road | | 17 | 3 | 0½ |
| " | | 12 | 19 | 11½ |
| " Medical School | | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Debating Society | | 4 | 11 | 8 |
| Printing, Postage, &c. (General) | | 3 | 18 | 4½ |
| Grant to S.R.C. (Medical School) | | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| President's Salary | | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| Deficit on Athletic Sports (including Expenses of Representatives to Manchester and Liverpool) | | 15 | 19 | 1½ |
| " | | 1 | 17 | 6 |
| " Pavilion and Field, Repairs, &c. | | 3 | 2 | 7½ |
| " Machines Repaired | | 3 | 17 | 0 |
| Grant to British Universities Congress | £ | s. | d. | |
| Expenses of Representatives | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| " | 0 | 11 | 6 | |
| " | 3 | 11 | 6 | |
| " | 5 | 12 | 1 | |
| " | 1 | 7 | 8 | |
| " | 6 | 8 | 2 | |
| " | 0 | 11 | 1 | |
| " | 25 | 11 | 4 | |
| " | 12 | 12 | 6 | |
| " | 12 | 15 | 6 | |
| " | 5 | 19 | 0 | |
| " | 8 | 20 | 0 | |
| | 370 | 19 | 2½ | |
| Balance in hand, Oct., 1906 | £ | s. | d. | |
| Deficit on year 1906-7 | 74 | 3 | 8 | |
| Balance in hand, Oct., 1907 | 21 | 9 | 8½ | |
| | 412 | 13 | 11½ | |

Examined and found correct, 14th Oct., 1907.

(Signed) J. H. CLAPHAM.

Our Contemporaries.

The *Manchester University Magazine* contains a humorous sketch of a proposed marble group for the Quadrangle, intended to "symbolise the intellectual strivings" of the student community. There are also some interesting articles, among which may be mentioned "De Profundis Clamito." This draws attention to the inadequacy of the ordinary University training in Engineering to produce a capable, practical engineer. It pleads for more co-operation between the Universities and Engineering Firms, by which students could spend their long vacations engaged in practical work, and University authorities are urged to do their utmost to bring about this co-operation.

Alms Meter (Aberdeen) contains the first of a new series of articles entitled "After Graduation—What?" The writer of each article will be a distinguished man who has intimate knowledge of the profession he deals with, and thus the series should be of great help to those who have not yet found an answer to this important question.

The article before us deals with the Chinese Consular Service, and is written by Dr. H. A. Giles.

In the correspondence Column there is an interesting letter on Monday Examinations and their relation to Sabbath observance.

From the *Sphinx* we learn that Liverpool students are not to wear gowns after all, their "Academic Dress" resolution "having died a natural death."

Thoughts Refectorial.

Unaltered still—a thin grey line

[For "Smokers" auditorium]

Which guileless Freshers oft incline

To think a Sanatorium.

The same old building, same inside

Where songsters, diners, loafers lurk;

And "Doctors" jokingly deride

The lanterns which they cannot work.

The same old dishes—veal and lamb—

(Once Lamb, no doubt, but heaven knows when!)

The same old Soups, boiled Rolls of Jam,

And same old charge of Six Pounds Ten.

The same old portrait one espies

Of Johnson, whose painted looks request

The diner "Stay!" before he tries

A ginger pudding to digest.

But gone—Alas!—the smoke-room wall,

No more can one escape the strains

And cheers and runs crashed loudly all

By F**t, 'midst "encores" and "again."

And gone's the grass of former days:

Now in its place red asphalt grows,

Where rowdy men a racquet raise

And timid maids diabolo.

No longer do the Scientists

In awful chaos wildly stand,

And fight with bright discoloured fists

Or spill their tea upon your hand.

For rules and epochs of reform

Compel them now to sit sedate;

To feed politely, not to storm,

But Christianlike to use a plate.

PROBYLE.

Answers to Correspondents.

Young Freshers says he is very small, and as a consequence he is constantly being mistaken for a "microbe," or one of the Porter's children. He is desirous of learning of some way by which he can make himself taller, or at any rate give himself an appearance more like that of his fellow-students. He says he dare not smoke, as when he does so people threaten to expose his bad habits to his parents, or tell him to "wait until the new 'Child-Smoking Bill' is passed." No signs of a moultache have yet appeared, and many experiments with vaseline, tatcho, etc., have proved abortive. Our correspondent does not state whether he is any older than the average "microbe"; if he is of the same age as his fellow-students he has our deepest sympathy.

Chemists wants to know why the Chemists, "the *élite* of our community," do not have an annual Dinner, like the Dyers, Textiles, Leathermen, etc. He says the Refectory provide a really good Dinner for half-a-crown per head, and that surely, therefore, nothing is wanting but that someone should take the initiative and organise the affair. He thinks that if none but Pure-Chemists were invited they would exclude all but one or two of that small circle of men who spoiled the Freshers' Smoker, and whose presence at any function of this nature is usually fatal to the success thereof. . . . We hope our correspondent's suggestion will commend itself to the Pure-Chemists.

Cage.—As far as we know the lockers you speak of were imported direct from Ger.—er, that is, —er, they have recently been purchased. They have never been used for storing Refectory meat, though your idea of defraying their cost by lending them to restaurants, etc., during the vacations is worth considering.

Women Students Freshers' Tea.

FRIDAY, October 4th, was distinguished by our Freshers' Tea and House-Warming. Our new rooms served the double purpose of making us understand our real importance, and of giving us the additional room which our increased numbers needed. Most of the students were present, about equal numbers of old stagers and Freshers. After tea in the tea-room, we adjourned to the common room. Mrs. Hellier, who presided, welcomed the Freshers, and introduced Miss Foggitt to those of us who did not already know her. Miss Foggitt was sailing for China at the end of the month, and she spoke a few words about her future life in Shanghai. Miss Lenwood, of Somerville, Sheffield, then gave an address, showing us the necessity of developing our lives in the proper way, taking the simile of the bulls. Miss B. Murphy and Miss Burras summed up the fascinations of the various College Societies. After Miss Robertson had spoken the rest of the evening was devoted to entertainment—a song from Miss Murphy, recitations from Miss Croft and Miss Golding, and to combine instruction with amusement some nursery rhymes were realistically acted, to the great enlightenment of all present. We dispersed about 7.30 p.m. N. S.

The Scientorical Society.

[The Secretary of this Society writes to explain that he has not experience in Gryphon reporting, and can only follow the custom of his contemporaries.]

THE 25th meeting of the Session was held on Thursday, 31st Oct., 1909, in the Refectory, at 5.33½ p.m. The delay was due to loss of time at tea. There was a large attendance, not so large as last time, but a little larger than the time before. The Chair was taken as usual by the President, who said we were all glad to see Mr. Winhead, and he would ask him to read the minutes of the last meeting. This Mr. Winhead did with great ability. The Chairman then called on Mr. Stravies to read his paper on "The Ductility of Sophism." Mr Stravies began by giving a short account of the history of Ductility and of the rise of Sophism. He then proceeded to interweave these two themes in a consummate manner. The rise of Ductile Sophism was very modern.

[Here follow nineteen pages of closely written matter which we regret to have to omit owing to lack of space.—ED.]

Generally considered "Ductile Sophism" was undoubtedly the position, the state of mind, which was most calculated to stay the mischievous ravages and inroads of poisonous Socialism.

As will be seen the paper was a most interesting one, and dealt with an important question in an important manner, and Mr. Stravies is to be congratulated on his Socratic stoicism in giving us the benefit of his illuminated ideas. There was a vigorous discussion, principally concerning the question of the tautness of the string and the position of the bobbin when the sticks are separated. The principal speakers were Dr. Coman, Messrs. Buddiborowski, Greenkins, Gallowson and Monseboom.

After the thanks of the meeting had "been conveyed" to Mr. Stravies the meeting was closed at 6.45½, everyone present having spent a most enjoyable evening.

Limericks.

[A suggestion that a Limerick competition should appear in the Gryphon has been promptly rejected.]

The Gryphon's beak was open wide,
For food was scarce, and his inside
Was craving sore for matter.
Jokes, articles, did he invite,
And wondrous was his appetite
For art and random chatter.

But, some misguided creature said,
"If Limericks were tried, instead—"
But he could get no farther.
He was cut off with angry hiss:
"Must even I descend to this?
No, No, I'd rather rather."

B.

Personalia.

(From the Times.)

BODINGTON—BARRAN.—On the 8th instant, at Holy Trinity, Kensington, by the Rev. L. E. W. Footie, Vicar of St. Peter's Harrigate (brother-in-law of the bride), assisted by the Rev. W. H. Draper, M.A., Rector of Adel (cousin of the bridegroom), Nathan Bodington, Litt.D., LL.D., Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds, to Eliza, daughter of the late Sir John Barran, Bart., of Chapel-Allerton Hall, Leeds, and 24, Queen's Gate, London.

DAWSON—BARR.—August 15th, at St. Leonard's, Beeford, by the Rev. G. Trevor, Harry Medforth Dawson, D.Sc., Ph.D., eldest son of S. Dawson, of Bramley, Leeds, to Phyllis Mary Barr, eldest daughter of R. T. Barr, of Beeford, E.R.

Changes in the Staff.

DR. WALTER GARSTANG, M.A., D.Sc. (Oxon.), F.Z.S. is the new Professor of Zoology. Professor Garstang has held Research Fellowships in Zoology at Owens College, Manchester, and subsequently at Lincoln College, Oxford. For four years and a half he was officially connected with the Marine Biological Laboratory, Plymouth, and in coming to Leeds he resigned the position of Chief Naturalist to the Marine Biological Association, in charge of the Lowestoft Laboratory.

PROFESSOR VERNON H. BLACKMAN, M.A., a graduate of Cambridge and some-time Fellow of St. John's College, now occupies the Chair of Botany. He has held an Assistantship in the Botanical Department of the British Museum, having charge of the collection of fungi. Last year Mr. Blackman resigned this post with a view to engaging in Botanical Teaching, and he has been a recognised teacher of the subject in the University of London. He is the author of many papers on fungi, cytology, and algae.

MISS A. M. COOKE, M.A., Vict., is the newly-appointed Lecturer in History.

MR. S. A. EDMONDS, F.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Demonstrator in the Physics Department, in place of Mr. Carlton, who has obtained a valuable appointment at the Patents Office. Mr. Edmonds was trained at Dublin, and has worked with Professor J. J. Thomson at Cambridge, whilst immediately before coming to Leeds he held an Oliver Lodge Research Fellowship at Liverpool University.

We have also another new Physics Demonstrator in **MR. KEENE, B.Sc.**, who comes from Birmingham University, where he has been engaged in research under Professor Poynting.

MR. J. MARSHALL, B.Sc., late Fellow of Leeds University, has been appointed to the post of Demonstrator in Organic Chemistry. Mr. Marshall was a student at Leeds during the years 1901-5, and took his degree with First Class Honours in Chemistry. During the last two years he has been at the University of Munich, engaged in research under Professor Bayer.

MR. WHITELEY, M.Sc., who has been a Demonstrator in Chemistry for the past five years, has left us to take up the position of Chemist to Messrs. Geo. Bray and Sons, Gas Lighting Engineers. The new Demonstrator, **MR. A. T. KING, B.Sc., A.I.C.**, comes from University College, London, where he has worked under Sir William Ramsay.

MR. H. CALAM, M.Sc., A.I.C., has been appointed additional Demonstrator in Chemistry. Mr. Calam received his training at Leeds, graduating in 1904, in which year also he became an Associate of the Institute of Chemistry. On coming to Leeds he resigned an appointment as Chemist to the West Riding Rivers Board.

MR. J. R. BLYTH, who received his training at Leeds, is the new Demonstrator in the Leather Laboratory.

MR. A. GILLIGAN, B.Sc., from Cardiff, is the new Demonstrator in Geology.

MR. F. J. KEAN, B.Sc., has joined the staff of the Engineering Department.

MR. D. R. MACLACHLAN, B.Sc., has gone to an appointment as head of the Engineering Department of the Woolwich Polytechnic.

PROFESSOR C. J. WRIGHT has resigned his position as Professor of Midwifery at the School of Medicine.

Distinctions and Appointments.

O. Waterhouse, M.A., Lecturer in English Language and Literature, University College, Exeter.

B. Fairley, B.A., Lektor in English, University of Jena.

MISS ALICE DODGSON, B.A., Modern Language Mistress, Keighley Girls' School.

MISS MILLENT AIREY, B.A., Modern Language Mistress, Salt Schools, Shipley.

B. Prince, Assistant Chemist, Messrs. Geo. Bray and Co., Ltd.

MISS M. F. G. LISTER, Science Mistress, Herten Road Secondary School, Bradford.

MISS N. DUDLEY, Science Mistress, Belle Vue Road Secondary School, Bradford.

MISS C. PORRITT, Science Mistress, Hanson Lane Secondary School, Bradford.

MISS P. WHITEHEAD, Mistress of Method, East Riding P.T. Centre, Driffield.

MISS L. TOWNSEND, Science Mistress, Bedale School.

C. M. WENYON, B.Sc., Protozoologist, London School of Tropical Medicine.

R. ELMHURST, Assistant Naturalist, Marine Biological Station, Newport, N.B.

J. A. DOLL, B.Sc., Science Master, Sexey's School, Bruton, Somerset.

G. WEST, Lecturer in Geography, Secondary School, Amley.

W. E. CURRIE, Resident Engineer, Shire Highland Railway, British Central Africa.

F. ADDISON, Assistant, Engineering Department, Gordon College, Khartoum.

E. R. BRANSTON, Assistant, Engineering Department, Kassala College, Sudan.

J. W. JUKES, Manager, Engineering Department, Messrs. Geo. Bray and Co., Ltd.

OUR SOCIETIES.

Literary and Historical.

THE first General Meeting of the session was held in the Refectory on October 14th. After some discussion it was agreed that the Society should undertake the production of a play at least every two years. Miss J. Jowett and Mr. H. Strange were also elected as members of Committee in place of Miss Findlay and Mr. J. Tunncliffe, who had resigned.

Mr. Strange then read a paper on "The Sophists." He began by drawing a brief picture of the growth of philosophical enquiry up to the time of the Sophists, showing how the early Ionians were interested in scientific enquiries, whilst the late Eleatic schools branched off into the regions of metaphysical speculation. Then came the influence of the Dramatists, dealing with questions of deep human interest. It was at about this time that the Sophists arose. They came to meet a new demand. The old education, consisting of poetry, music, and gymnastics, was proving insufficient for the Athenian youth of that day, and the Sophists supplied a want that was becoming increasingly felt. They corresponded very much to the University Professors of to-day, and went from town to town giving lectures in the higher branches of education, such as Rhetoric, Grammar, the interpretation of the Poets, &c.

Mr. Strange then went on to deal more particularly with some of the leaders among the Sophists. Foremost of these was Protagoras of Abdera, and others dealt with at length were Hippasus of Elis and Prodicus of Cios.

Taking the Sophists as a whole, it is impossible to assert any one doctrine common to them all. They were not a philosophical school but a profession. This led the reader of the paper to deal at some length with the attitude of Plato towards the Sophistic movement, the general result of which was the breaking up of much new ground, and the introduction of a new spirit of inquiry and scepticism towards many of the old traditions on which former generations had rested. Though often at fault in their arguments and theories, the Sophists were the necessary precursors of a great intellectual revival which found its culmination in Plato and Aristotle. Their destructive speculations were a necessary prelude to the construction of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. Moreover, they were typically Greek, reflecting "their light-hearted iconoclasm, their intellectual frivolity, their love of subtleties, and their lack of moral earnestness."

The paper was a most excellent one, covering a very wide field and dealing with a most interesting though intricate subject in a clear straightforward manner. It also produced quite a lively discussion, in which Messrs. Greenwood, Monahan, Hand, Klambrowski, Dortz, and Ellis took part.

J. E. W.

Scientific Society.

THE Presidential Address was delivered by Dr. Cohen in the Refectory on Wednesday, October 16th, the subject being "Organic Synthesis."

A short history of the synthetic production of vital products was first given. Contrary to text-book authority, Wöhler's synthetic method of preparing urea (in 1828) was not the first instance of the preparation of a vital product in the laboratory, for so far back as 1776 Scheele had obtained oxalic acid by the oxidation of sugar.

Following on the general historical outline, four groups of organic compounds—the sugars, the proteins, the essential oils, and the alkaloids—were then treated in greater detail.

The first synthetic sugar was obtained in 1887 by Emil Fischer, and since that date he has succeeded in synthesising twelve out of the possible sixteen isomers of glucose. It is a remarkable fact in this connection that out of these twelve only four, all of which occur naturally, are fermentable by yeast. Fischer has also attempted the very much more difficult task of protein synthesis, and has met with considerable success, without having, as yet, actually achieved the synthetic production of proteid matter. His method consists in the breaking down of the complex molecule and identification of the resulting substances, after which, by condensing these simpler bodies together, he attempts to rebuild the original complex molecule.

A history of the essential oils followed, and included a description of the process of distillation as practised from the earliest date up to our own times. The growth of the artificial perfume industry, and the probability of its shortly becoming an important branch of technical organic chemistry were discussed.

Out of the two hundred known alkaloids only some ten have actually been produced synthetically, but the knowledge obtained in the synthesis of this comparatively small number has been turned to good account, as by its aid artificial compounds of simpler constitution have been prepared, which yet possess the valuable physiological properties of the natural alkaloids.

The origin of optically active naturally occurring compounds, and the conditions predisposing to asymmetry were then considered. It is probable that this predisposing influence in the case of naturally occurring bodies is the living protoplasm itself, of which the albuminoid constituents are levo-rotatory. In conclusion the extreme difficulty of treating the subject of organic synthesis dynamically, as compared with the simplicity of a statical treatment, was pointed out.

After the reading of the paper Dr. Dawson, in a short speech, expressed his regret that owing to an accident immediately before the meeting, the lanterns had not been available for use. A vote of thanks to Dr. Cohen was received with applause, after which the meeting terminated.

A. E. W.

Debating Society.

THE opening meeting was held on Monday, October 21st, 1907, in the Refectory. This was the first meeting held since the amalgamation of the Men's Debating Society and the Women's Debating Society, which was brought about at the end of last session.

The attendance was considerably greater than usual at ordinary debates, so that we may reasonably suppose that the new arrangement will, in the future, greatly benefit the Society.

The motion under discussion was "That the proposals for the immediate disarmament of the naval and military forces of the world, as advocated to-day, are undesirable, and highly impracticable."

The President, Professor Clapham, took the Chair.

Mr. A. Seymour Jones proposed and Mr. W. S. Klamborowski opposed the motion.

The proposer was seconded by Mr. A. E. Dean, and the opposer by Mr. H. Ellis.

A brisk discussion took place after the opening speeches, and the result of the voting showed the proposition to be negatived by a narrow majority of 4 votes.

Men's Christian Union.

THE opening meeting was held on Tuesday, October 8th. Tea was taken in the Refectory; the meeting was held in the Chemical Lecture Theatre.

Mr. W. H. S. Talbot, President of the Oxford Church Union, opened the meeting, and the Chairman, Mr. Bennett, then called upon Mr. W. H. Horwill, M.A., to speak on "The Freshman's Conscience." The audience were at once put in a good humour by a quotation from the *Nation* to the effect that it was our young men who were becoming serious while our old men were gay, that it was our young men who in their crabbed youth were being looked to for the settlement of our difficulties and the solution of our problems.

Mr. Horwill then went on to speak more seriously of the importance of our national youth, especially in academic circles, and of the fact of its rising conscientiousness. He said we found ourselves with not only one conscience to deal with but many, and it was in their conflict that our greatest difficulty lay. He spoke of the social conscience, moved by so much that was evidently wrong, and of the academic conscience, whose claims were kept vivid by so many things around us.

Talking so much of conscience, the speaker continued, made many people think of it as an uncomfortable thing which they would gladly get rid of. Yet it seemed to him that we ought not to have to be continually consulting one's conscience but to be able to obey it instinctively—as the violinist's bow and fingers responded to his mind.

There was, however, a conscience which could never be disregarded, the voice which called us always to the deeper spiritual side of life,—and obedience to that could only be found in personal communion with the source of all spiritual life, Christ Himself.

Mr. J. W. Woodhouse, B.A., of Oxford, followed, and spoke on Bible Study, suggesting its value, speaking of some of the ways in which it might be made very profitable, and emphasising the general success of the Student Movement's system of Bible Circles, which provided both for private study and also discussion of the reading.

Mr. Sutton, a Rhodes Scholar from Melbourne, made a breezy speech on the work in his own college. At first when he entered, the membership was very low, and it was thought impossible to be a sportsman and belong to the Christian Union. After the visit of Mr. Mott, the Secretary of the World's Christian Student Federation, things were greatly altered, and in a few years out of five hundred students more than half had joined the Union—which then represented all sides of college life.

On this note of large promise Mr. Bennett closed the meeting. §

Social Study.

THE first meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, October 23rd, when Professor Clapham, the Society's President, gave a most interesting lecture on "Tramps." About fifty members of the Society were present. Professor Connal took the Chair. Professor Clapham confessed to being in great sympathy with the "ideal" tramp, who, finding ordinary life too monotonous and drab betakes himself to the roads, and to a more varied and leisurely life. Tramps were so numerous in Elizabeth's time as to necessitate legislation. Though violence was resorted to in the endeavour to suppress tramps, this section of society gradually grew until now in the United Kingdom it numbers about thirty-five thousand.

The Lecturer divided the tramp class into three divisions—the workman temporarily down on his luck, the professional tramp, and the leafer. Of these, the two last classes are the ones which make suitable legislation impossible, and which form the greatest obstacle to urgently needed reform. The professional tramp is a well nourished individual, and has a great contempt for paupers. His existence is due to three causes:

- i. His own inclination;
- ii. The casual wards and their methods;
- iii. Indiscriminate charity.

Offering a solution to the tramp problem, Professor Clapham advocated Labour Colonies on the Salvation Army Hallegh principle, with State aid, with powers of detaining tramps for at least six months.

Questions were asked, and a good discussion followed the lecture, in which Mrs. Clapham, Miss Robertson, Professor Connal, Messrs. Perkins, Seymour-Jones, Klamborowski, Winter, Dearnley, and Hand took part.

§ Since the opening meeting the work of the C. U. has gone on apace. A large number of men have joined Bible Circles, of which we now have eight; a number of general meetings are being arranged, and the Missionary Secretary has succeeded in getting together a very fine nucleus of a Missionary Library. Altogether, the Union gives promise of a very successful year.

A Few Plays.

"The Importance of being Earnest."

"Caesar and Cleopatra."

"Hamlet."

THERE is no need for *Gryphon* dramatic criticism. The district of "Don't block the way," the common room, the laboratories and some lecture rooms are superior to the theatre as places to gratify one's desire for up-to-date diction and modern moral philosophy. And so what follows is no criticism. Transcribed impressions from no point of view, with no object and of no new merit cannot be so called. However, since the *Gryphon's* last belated wing-spread, I have visited the three plays mentioned above, and also "The Maid and the Mockman." This last is a bad musical comedy, and worth nothing more than oblivion. The others are the very modern and the great mediæval, the orthodox tragedy with smothered romance and comedy.

"The Importance of being Earnest" made one quite ready to spend a dull vacation away from all smart and witty people. Oscar Wilde was a somewhat frivolous artist, whose wit disdained to be vulgar, and being omnipresent was never forced. Hence this play, and hence, although the wit was true wit, one's desire for its cessation. A play which is founded on a pun and which consists of wit, sparkle, satire, epigram, myth, and didacticism in the form of a farce can only amuse and tire. With bad too much plot and no character save one, there is too much and too little variety. The automata and *enfants terribles* who are the so-called characters, roll off Wilde's epigram and sharp satire from their lips just as professors say "I gather," or "I take it." In fact the object of the whole business is to show that the author was the cleverest artist of his day in the matter of shafty wit. And in that it was juster than "The Maid and the Mockman," whose object was the reverse.

Bernard Shaw, the author of "Caesar and Cleopatra," is apt to give the same impression. The main feature of his plays seems to be not the incident or the dialogue but the author. With every character, a male or female, G. B. S. in disguise, without respect to age or position, there is a little more variety than in Oscar Wilde's play. For Shaw has more moods and better than his witty ones. He also has many objects. He propounds social, philosophic and artistic doctrines. To do this he scoffs at his possible opponent, then he reviles him and tries to prove him utterly wrong, and finally states his own case. He is humorous, vituperative, logical (at times) and dogmatic in his processes. The errors of the romantic method of producing historical drama are shown in the case of "Caesar and Cleopatra" by reference to dozens of authorities. They are further asserted by a dogmatic exposition of his own method. He achieves many tilts at the opinion the audience have of themselves, principally by means of a ridiculous anachronism in a flowing robe, who is called "Britannicus—a Brion," a compact of false respectability, absurd courage in battle, bad language to

enemies, and pomposity when well prepared. This gentleman pretends to diplomacy as Caesar's Secretary. Truth will out; and here is a lesson in evolution—or the lack of it. For the rest, I had primed myself for the performance by reading several of the author's other works, tracts, sermons, humanitarian pamphlets and diatribes—all calling themselves plays—with the descriptions "pleasant," "undecorous," "for Puritans," indiscriminately fixed. Shaw is the new fashion in the drama, and to advertise him would be no service, so he may be left to his strange uniqueness. The balance in value between the ideas he shatters and the ones he creates is about the shilling which a pit seat costs, and so there is no danger in my encouragement.

Of "Hamlet" I ought to say little, being English, and no German. Here any originalities I can give must be bestowed on Mr. Forbes Robertson. His deeds of words (not his words of opinion) would show Hamlet as sane as Solomon, and put a quiet end to the "Hamlet-mad" controversies. The effective incidents such as the death of Polonius, are returned to their real positions as parts of the play action, and are not considered pieces of ornamental melodrama. Justice (not revenge), with its power over even human love is returned to its mighty place in the sphere of man's life, and one cannot feel that Shakespeare's idea and purposes have ever been in doubt.

Hamlet no longer needs interpretation. His "question" is dead, and various literary and learned societies are confronted with the question of understanding the results and not the cause of his many noble deeds. One's last thought is that the singleness of purpose and action in "Hamlet" put the play out of the field of comparison with modern dramatic tractarian productions.

THE LAR-BOY.

Do You Know—

That a Fresher called the Editor "Sir"?

That he has since discovered his mistake?

That the Sc. Soc. sit down to tea now?

That all the members prefer it?

Except a few?

Why they don't?

That the lantern wouldn't work?

Why?

That it was broken?

Who broke it?

That he blushed?

That the Winter Term is the Autumn Term?

Who says so?

That R—D—L is back again?

The way to the Biological Department?

Who does?

How long it takes to get there?

H—ind—th H—ry?

Anything that he does not?

That the new lockers are not yet provided with keys?

That this column does not fill itself?

That contributions are invited?

On Ambition.

I thought to be a bard or sage;
Perchance a poet laureate;
When I was seven years of age,
Or eight.

And I prized the Roman hat
Incarnadine; again would talk
Of Canterbury's see, or that
Of York.

The plumed marshal riding by
Aroused my envy from afar,
At times I thought that I might try
The bar;

And slowly climb a toilsome track,
On stepping-stones of each dead brief,
To find upon the fleecy sack
Relief.

In sheet, all callings were alive
And flourished in my infant brain;
I even thought that I might drive
A train.

But now these young imaginings,
These youthful hopes, are vanished quite—
I am too busy finding things
To write.

Hom, like all mortals, to be great,
I now am nought: I feed, in fine,
The journals, at a modest rate
Per line.

The trivial tasks, the common rounds,
Confine me to a humble sphere.
They bring me in a hundred pounds
A year.

The ships and 'buses that collide,
The burglar, blizzard and bazaar—
I love them all, for they provide
A part.

G.

Gymnasium.

THE Gymnasium, after undergoing alterations and removal, is now in working order. Several important changes have been made in the equipment which are a decided improvement.

The classes are now being well-attended, the football section are taking advantage of the exercises, and with their captain are constantly in attendance.

A competition for the "Champion Eight" of the gymnasium will take place at the end of the session. Mr. Wigglesworth, who secured the Championship last year, is available again, and, as there are several good Freshmen, a keen contest is anticipated.

Students should turn up at the classes in good numbers; it is excellent training for football and hockey.

C.

ATHLETICS.

Rugby.

First XV.

TRIAL MATCH.

The Trial Match was played on Saturday, October 5th. Though not such large numbers as last year turned out, yet the talent among the Freshers was good, and it was soon seen that there were prospects of two excellent threequarter lines.

We were glad to have back again Cameron, Wilmer, McLaren, Richardson and others of last year's team. Prominent among the Freshers were G. Walter, a forward from Sherborne, W. H. Max Rennie, H. C. Brown, M. E. Lacy and W. H. Marriot, three-quarters. We should have been glad to have seen more Freshers who were forwards and halves, and also to have discovered a good full back.

BRADFORD.

On October 12th we met Bradford on our own ground. The 'Varsity commenced up-hill, and in their usual inert style allowed their opponents to score at the very beginning, Bradford converting. From the kick-off Bradford were pressed, and Rennie scored a nice try which he failed to convert. The visitors were then penalised twice in quick succession, McLaren kicking two excellent goals. From a good forward rush from our "23" the 'Varsity scored, McLaren crossing over. Carter soon after scored far out, McLaren converting. Brown, Rennie and Hoyle added further tries. Result—'Varsity 2 goals, 2 penalty goals, 5 tries (31 points); Bradford 1 goal (5 points).

The game was noticeable for the good packing, heeling and following up in the first half of the forwards; later they tired and play suffered in consequence.

TEAM:—Full Back, A. E. Livock; Three-quarters, W. H. Max Rennie, C. F. Hoyle, H. C. Brown, F. E. Carter; Half-backs, J. N. Cameron, D. F. Dobson; Forwards, H. McLaren, D. H. Wilmer, D. S. Kennedy, W. H. Roberts, J. M. Foard, A. W. Purchas, G. Walter, A. E. Fletcher (Captain).

ILKLEY, on October 19th.

Result—Ilkley 2 goals (one dropped), 2 tries; Varsity nil.

Considering the weak team we had the 'Varsity played well. Garnett at full back was steady, Rennie brilliant at times, and his run in the first half was the event of the match. Abell at half was good considering his size, and Wilmer and Walter were easily the pick of the forwards. The 'Varsity backs would do well to take a lesson in kicking from the Ilkley men, who saved their forwards tremendously.

TEAM:—Full Back, H. J. Garnett; Three-quarters, W. H. Max Rennie, C. F. Hoyle, H. C. Brown, D. S. Kennedy; Half-backs, C. F. Abell, F. E. Carter; Forwards, D. H. Wilmer, J. M. Foard, A. W. Purchas, P. C. Johnstone, G. Walter, C. A. Town, A. E. Fletcher.

On October 26th, at Giggleswick, a weak fifteen consisting of only two 'first' men beat the School by 29 points to 4.

A. E. F.

Second XV.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| On October 16th, at Apperley Bridge. | |
| University "A" | 19 points |
| Woodhouse Grove School | 3 points |
| On October 19th, 1907, at Wakefield. | |
| Wakefield St. Mark's | 31 points |
| University "A" | 8 points |
| | C. W. |

Association.

The season opened promisingly. The first match was against New Leeds.

Only three of last year's team turned out, the rest being Freshers or old Second Team men. The ground was a cross between a braside and an uncut meadow, but in spite of this we had quite a moderate game. The final score was 5-4 in our favour, Douglas, our new centre forward, being responsible for three goals, and Martin—also a Freshie—for two.

On October 19th we played Bootham at York. The team was altered slightly, Elliott coming in at full back and Duchesne going half instead of Carmouche.

The change was for the better, and the University forwards got going in a way they have not done for at least four years. We won, 7-0. This, however, was not such a walk-over as the score would seem to represent. Bootham played till the end, and were always dangerous.

October 30th, v. Manchester University.

To begin at the end, the score was 11-1 against us. The Manchester forwards were superb, and our half-back line was quite unable to hold them. Elliott and Reinhardt both played well, the latter not being to blame for being beaten eleven times. We venture to state that Manchester would with their present team beat either Oxford or Cambridge.

Second XI.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| October 12th, v. Old Saltians, Bradford (home). | Lost, 6-nil. |
| October 19th, v. Headingley A.F.C. (home). | Won, 2-1. |
| October 26th, v. Dewsbury Arroyd (away). | Lost, 4-2. |

Third XI.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| October 12th, v. Headingley College (away). | Lost, 8-1. |
| October 26th, v. College of the Resurrection 2nd XI. (away). | Drawn, 2-2. |

A General Meeting was held on October 17th for the purpose of electing a member of Committee for the 1st XI, and a Captain and Vice-Captain for the 2nd XI. Mr. J. B. Fisher was elected on Committee, and Messrs. R. E. Smith and J. E. Winter Captain and Vice-Captain respectively of the 2nd.

Hockey.

The University Hockey Club which was formed last year by the efforts of Mr. N. Rhodes and his colleagues had far to have a successful 1907-8 season.

A good list of 1st XI fixtures has been arranged, including home and away matches with Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield Universities, and also

matches with some strong local teams. The number of players who turned out in the practices was so satisfactory that we shall be able to run a good second eleven.

Mr. W. S. Hart is an enthusiast, and in him as Captain and Mr. W. F. Clayton as Vice we have two very capable leaders. Mr. Clayton in the forward line will be well supported by Messrs. Keswick, Stockdale, Taylor and Little, while Mr. Ingham with J. D. L. Keswick give strength to the half line. Although we shall miss Mr. R. H. Tolerton's brilliant play as full back we have several men who are playing a good game in this position, and in Mr. A. Seymour-Jones we have discovered a smart goalkeeper.

Forwards for the second team are in demand, and if any Freshie who has not yet turned out desires to do so, he should speak to some member of the Committee.

UNIVERSITY v. LIGHTCLIFFE.

A weak team was sent against Lightcliffe on October 19th, and had the misfortune to be beaten, the score being Lightcliffe 4 goals, University 2 goals.

V. SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY.

We played Sheffield on our ground on October 24th, and secured a runaway victory by 9 goals to 2. Our forwards combined splendidly, whilst our backs, conspicuous amongst whom was J. D. L. Keswick, were far too good for the opposing forwards.

The scorers for Leeds were W. F. Clayton (6), C. J. H. Little, H. Taylor and J. D. L. Keswick.

V. WEST LEEDS.

The University team played West Leeds away on October 26th, and gained a 6-0 victory. The team was:—Goal, A. Seymour-Jones; backs, H. L. Flint, L. E. K. Ellis; halves, J. Barradough, W. S. Hart (Captain), F. Walker; forwards, H. C. Moller, C. J. H. Little, Stockdale, B. R. Vickers and Lamb. The scorers were: Stockdale (3), Little, and Muller.

Ladies' Hockey.

V. TARTAN LADIES. Won, 6-nil.

Swimming.

A Meeting of Students was held in Room 106 on Monday, October 21st, to attempt to reorganise the Swimming Club. About thirty gentlemen were present, and apologies for absence from about ten more were read, which proved the existence of a strong aquatic spirit in the University.

Mr. Woodmansey was voted to the chair, and the following officers were elected:—

Captain and Secretary—Mr. A. Seymour-Jones.
Committee—Messrs. Merton, Walker, Wilbourn, and Woodmansey.

The meeting then terminated, all arrangements being left in the hands of the Committee.

An attempt is being made to have a Winter Session of this Club.

A. S. J.

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