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Vol. XI.

FEBRUARY, 1908.

No. 3.



THE Men's Common Room question has now been settled, at least temporarily. It has been decided to transfer the present Optical Laboratory to the "Leather" Quadrangle, and by furnishing it as comfortably as possible, to make of it a better smoke-room than we possess at present. The scheme has its disadvantages, but they are all, we think, outweighed by the great advantage of the central position which the new Common Room will occupy. The distance objection has prohibited the using of one of the houses in De Grey Road, as well as the erecting of Union Rooms near the Refectory, and the new arrangement is, perhaps, the best that could have been drawn up to meet the urgent necessity to move somewhere which the pending Library extensions have thrust upon us.

Of course, this new arrangement cannot be regarded as a permanent one, and indeed we still hope eventually to find ourselves in possession of a Union House. There are one or two sites which are sufficiently central, and upon which a permanent building could be erected, were funds available. Perhaps the site which is most central is that of the present Cloak Room, and it would be possible to build a two-storey building in this position—the second storey covering also the main corridor in front—that would provide Cloak Room, Smoke Room, and one or two other Common Rooms. Such a scheme, however, would cost more than the authorities feel justified in using for the purpose at present—and so we must wait.

Some two years ago, there appeared in our Correspondence Column a letter putting forward a plea for a mid-week half-holiday, and we were surprised that we heard nothing further on the matter. It is surely an important question. How many students are there who on coming up to Leeds have to drop both cricket and football because their work will not allow them to devote any time in the middle of the week to practice. The Intermediate courses seem to be arranged so as to absolutely forbid the conscientious worker to be either player or spectator in

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a mid-week match. Wednesday afternoon, especially, is crowded with Intermediate lectures. Thus in almost every case a would-be player or spectator has to choose between his duty to his work and his duty to his College—both of which duties the authorities are continually urging upon him. We have known many men who have failed in their various examinations mainly because they had had to miss lecture after lecture in order to play for the University teams. Men cannot be expected to 'cut' lectures to become spectators at mid-week matches, and yet we know that the lack of such moral support is one of the reasons why Leeds does not hold the position it ought to hold in the field.

Of course, we are aware that many second and third year men do not have lectures on Wednesday or Thursday afternoons. But we know equally well that, in the case of Science students especially, time-tables are so full that it is quite unsafe to take more than one or two afternoons off per term. The average Science student has 5½ days per week on his time-table. And this brings us to the root of the question of deepest import to the future of the University. If students continue having to spend so much time in the laboratories and lecture rooms as to make it so difficult for them to meet each other on the common ground of the playing field, it is hopeless to look forward to the growth of a 'University spirit.' Think of those Universities where this spirit is most powerful, and you think also of those places where students have most opportunities of meeting each other. At Leeds, for many, to spend half-an-hour in the Smoke Room means 'cutting' a lecture, or lab. work; while, to some, even the attendance at a society meeting is a dangerous loss of time.

Let us have the mid-week half-holiday, and all this is changed. It would be possible then to keep in practice, and to play in the University teams, or to support the players by our cheering encouragements, without losing time that should be devoted to work. The teams representing the University would be much stronger than at present, and we should be able to run more of them, whilst at important matches we should, doubtless, have four or five hundred spectators. Even those men who did not support the University athletics would be able to get exercise of some sort, and this would, no doubt, improve the quality of the work they do during the rest of the week. Finally, it would allow a convenient time to

do work that one is prevented from doing by attendance at social functions, in those weeks when they occur, and so many would be able to take part in these functions who simply cannot now do so on account of excess of work—because there is no mid-week half-holiday.

We draw the attention of all our readers to the Annual Conversazione which is to be held on Friday, February 28th. This is the one great students' function of the year, and all interested in the development of the social life of the University should make a point of attending. As we remarked in our last number, our social side is developing splendidly, and we hope that the coming Conversazione will mark, not a set-back in this development, but a leap forward. The matter is in the hands of the students. Will you come, and bring your friends?

We sincerely regret to have to chronicle the death of Professor Wright, who devoted his whole life to service on the staff of the Medical School, where too, he received his own early training. We are sure that all our readers join us in expressing our deepest sympathy with his sorrowing widow and family.

The Conversazione.

THE Annual Conversazione is to be held on Friday February 28th. Those who have been at Conversazioni in past years, we feel sure, will need no pressing to be present at the coming one. But to Freshers we will point out a few reasons why functions of this sort should be heartily supported. In the first place, besides being the most important function of the year, the Conversazione is perhaps the only one at which all students can be present. The Conversazione is not for Arts or Science people, or Engineers alone. Everyone comes; present students, past students, people directly connected with the University, people not connected with the University at all, all interested in the University, however.

On the night of the Conversazione, the University—by which term we include buildings and inhabitants—wears its most cheerful garb. Then is the time to show it to admiring friends. Oxford men may have their side and Cambridge has its "backs," but take visitors to see the Departmental exhibits and they must admit that the modern Universities have their own sights worth seeing.

Then there is to be no lack of entertainment. In the course of the evening the visitor can listen at a Café Chantant, can be "anthropometricised" at an Anthropometric Exhibition, can listen and watch during the Opera, and can partake of refreshments on several occasions. Need we multiply reasons for coming?

Tickets will be ready early in February. Rush for them. Make this Conversazione a record one; make it an important social function not only of the University, but of Leeds itself.

H.D.

A Dialogue on Luxury.

A. Isn't it dreadful to see that man with all his money spending it in all kinds of self-indulgence—carriages, horses, hounds, motor cars, big dinners, costly cigars; and his wife with half a dozen new dresses every month, always with some new embroideries, laces, feathers, or other fineries. And here is a poor wretch of a factory worker with a pound a week, a wife and five children, always on the edge of starvation and ruin.

B. I don't see it at all. The rich man has a right to his money. He didn't steal it. He earned it in an honest business by hard work. If he spends it on what you call luxuries, still it is giving work to dozens of people. Think of the number of men he employs, coachmen, footmen, gardeners, as well as carriage builders, butchers, grocers, and other tradesmen, and even his wife gives employment in the vineyards, and his cigars in the tobacco plantation. In fact it is easy to see that he is really directly or indirectly helping to maintain hundreds of people. Think too of the dressmakers that his wife's dressing keeps in occupation. And as for her laces, why everyone knows that they are just the thing that keeps poor old women with work enough to make a living instead of going into the workhouse. Then your poor man—he hardly circulates any money. It is impossible for him to spend more than £1 a week. He is probably poor because he is thriftless or idle, or tied down by trade unions. I daresay he spends a greater fraction of his income on drink than the rich man does. He goes to a football match and pays a shilling to get in, and in fact, in comparison with his income, he is more luxurious than the millionaire. And supposing you were to give him half of what the millionaire has, what would he do with it? He would probably go to the bad at once and lose it all. What nonsense it is all this talk about the selfishness and extravagance of the rich. Why the poor live on it, and if they were less selfish and less extravagant, the real evil would be cured.

A. Very well. Whether that is your real opinion or not, it represents very fairly the kind of feeling a great many people have, and so the world goes on with the vast bulk of mankind devoid of any clear idea as to how luxury is related to poverty. They believe vaguely that luxury is bad when carried beyond a certain point in as much as it demoralises a man, but even when that point is reached, there remains the saving grace that his riotous expenditure is putting money into circulation amongst worthier folks. Now I should like to show you how the matter really lies, according to my view.

B. Well, I shall be very glad to hear if you are only reasonable and don't want to upset the whole order of creation.

A. I will be reasonable, and yet may want to upset the order of creation. I think even you will admit that what is called the progress of civilisation has been nothing but the constant upsetting of what people at successive periods have called the order of creation, and I must say for my part that I think the final order of creation will never be reached till by a process of upsetting, whether sudden or slow, the world is a good deal different from what it is to-day.

B. That is another question, and you know I hate moralising.

A. Very well, I will stick to the one question, but first of all you must agree to certain conditions. We are going to consider luxury. We suppose a very rich man who is very luxurious—now he may also be very philanthropic and do splendid work in the world. If I show that his luxuriousness is bad, you must not reply by saying that his philanthropy is good. We must consider simply the luxury of a luxurious man, and I prefer to suppose that he is not philanthropic, for the exact point for argument is whether his expenditure on luxurious living is in itself a good thing in so far as it gives employment to a host of deserving people.

B. Well, it is rather straining things to suppose that the rich man is wholly selfish and those who receive his money only deserving.

A. I quite grant that—but still I think it is quite fair to ask you to grant that such a case might occur. If you don't, we shall get into hopeless confusion by your urging that the rich man does more good than harm and my saying that the people who get his money are as undeserving as himself.

B. Very well, I agree. I think that old villain, Midas, comes pretty near your mark. He is nearly a millionaire, and I am bound to say a shady customer, as far as I know. If he kept his money in a stocking I should say he was wholly an enemy to the race, but he spends freely enough, everyone knows, and though it is on himself, I am bound to say that as it keeps a lot of people occupied in honest work, I do not see that there is anything to complain of.

A. Now that will just do for me. That is exactly the point I want to discuss. To begin with, it is the case I think that our friend Midas drives down to his club every day at 1 o'clock in a carriage with two horses and two liveried men.

B. That is so.

A. Now as it is admitted that Midas is not bent on any errand of mercy or good work, we may suppose that the only human advantage of this transaction is that it gives employment to the two servants, to the carriage builder, horse dealer, harness maker, blacksmith, corn dealer, etc., etc., who are involved, directly or indirectly, in the maintenance of the carriage and pair. No injury, therefore, would accrue to anyone else if Midas were to walk to his club.

B. You make a large exception—otherwise, I grant your conclusion.

A. Let us suppose then, that the carriage is sold to a cab-hirer, and the two servants dismissed. We now have two men out of work. If I can get work for these two men that will be directed to the public good, to the suppression of public evil, I shall, by depriving Midas of a luxury, have done a good turn to humanity.

B. Yes, provided that you have done more good that way than evil by lessening the employment of the carriage builder, horse dealer, etc., etc.

A. Well, to give you full advantage, I will assume that the abolition of the carriage has, apart from the wages of the two servants, relieved Midas of spending £200 a year—say the wages of four workmen connected directly or indirectly with the maintenance of the carriage and pair. We then have, altogether, six people out of employment. Now this is what I am

going to do with these six people. I see that a great many of the poorer classes are so undered that they cannot have physical energy to do the work of a man. I am going to make these six unemployed produce food. I have, as you know, a profound knowledge of the fishery industry, and am already engaged in it in a small way. I shall borrow a little more capital from the bank and set up two more boats on the Irish coast, where there is any amount of fish. We want three men for each boat, so that I have two new crews.

C. Now, really, I must protest. You must draw the line somewhere. Do you expect me to acquiesce tamely in the suggestion that you can send a coachman, a footman, and a blacksmith out in a lugger to catch fish off the Irish coast?

A. Certainly not. I should propose no such thing. I should put the six men into six different boats in each of which would be two seasoned fishermen to teach them. That is what we always do. They would learn fast enough, and I should not be at all sorry to have an ex-blacksmith among my men, nor a man who knew about horses. There is a good deal of smith work connected with a fleet of fishing boats, and you know I have horses to cart my fish. Now, consider what would be the outcome. I should catch several more tons of fish per month.

B. And make several more gold sovereigns for your own pocket. In such ways is humanity benefited. Excellent!

A. Far be it from me to deny the excellence of such a consummation. No doubt I should gain some advantage. But you know as a most elementary fact in human affairs, that abundance of a commodity lowers its price. I might get somewhat richer, but it is equally true that fish would become somewhat cheaper. The artisan's penny would buy him more fish; he would be better fed; he would be a more efficient workman, and the world would be so much better off. Now consider the whole transaction. Midas has lost his carriage and pair and two servants. Four other people have lost their work. Midas is personally unimpaired. He is probably much better for his daily walk. We have occupied the six men so liberated, in producing food for hungry people, we have, in fact, diverted several hundred a year spent on gratifying the luxurious habits of Midas into the cheapening of food.

B. Very convincing indeed if it were not for two little fallacies. In the first place, what about the capital you borrow from the bank? Is it not conceivable, or even probable, that this is the money of that very Midas whose uselessness you have so laboriously established?

A. Certainly. Midas may have put his money into the bank at 3 per cent., and I am borrowing some of it at 5 per cent. It may be that it is the money of Midas which enables me to transmute him from an idler into an unconscious philanthropist. But I never undertook to prove that Midas was useless. It was his luxuries that I attacked. The investment of his money through a bank is not a luxurious action. It may result in good or evil, according to the channels in which the banker lets the money flow. In the case I have supposed, it was the Irish Channel, and

the result was good, and so I say Midas is here an unconscious benefactor, but only by the supposititious sacrifice of luxury which gave me the men to use his capital to a good purpose.

B. Well, there is still another point. If you deprive Midas of his luxuries and his luxurious habits, he will become a worker and join the fray, and where will you and your fishermen be in the face of such a competitor.

A. I am not afraid. Midas does not understand the business. If he wants to he will be glad enough to buy me and say men to set him going. I wish nothing better. A big capitalist stripped of his luxury, with this capital under the direction of a man highly skilled in the business to which it is put, we should bring down the price of herrings to a dozen and a half for three-halfpence. The British workman would grow fat on fish.

B. All very plausible. I have no doubt your argument is utterly fallacious, but I have got to go. I am dining with Midas to-night—all the county people there and something to eat, I trust, besides fish.

The Funeral of Lord Kelvin.

BEING in London when it was announced that the country was to give Lord Kelvin the national honour of a last resting place in Westminster Abbey, we instantly decided that if possible we would join the throng of admirers who would gather to pay a last tribute to the memory of this great scientist. So on December 23rd, a typical London winter's day—gloomy, wet and cold—we made our way to the Abbey. The north transept was opened to the public at eleven o'clock, as the Abbey bell commenced tolling, and by half-past eleven every available seat was occupied. The darkness without had caused an almost impenetrable gloom within, relieved only by the glimmer of the lights in the choir, so that the lofty vaulted roof seemed lost to view.

The body had been placed the previous night in the Chapel of St. Faith adjoining the Abbey. As the strains of Chopin's Funeral March died away on the organ, the distant chanting of the choir was heard as the body was carried in solemn procession through the cloisters. The music grew louder as the procession drew nearer, and ceased as the coffin was placed on the catafalque in the transept. When the lesson had been read the body was again borne in procession to the grave. Lord Kelvin's last resting place is at the north side of the nave, under the shadow of the screen of the choir. This corner will soon be looked upon as the "Scientists' Corner," as it already contained the remains of Sir Isaac Newton, Sir J. F. Herschel and Charles Darwin.

In the great company that assembled there were represented Royalty, British and Foreign, Universities and learned Societies, in fact, almost every branch of Science, Art and Literature. It was truly a gathering of the great.

E.

Me.

I wear dirty cuffs. *Dirty Cuffs.*

Moreover, I have other characteristics of an allied nature, any one of which would be amply sufficient to cast me Beyond the Pale. Allow me to mention a few.

I have a pale, bespotted, begoggled face, and ill-fitting artificial teeth. I wear inartistic ties; also a silver watch chain with medals for prize pigeons. I talk with a prolonged nasal drawl. I actually work in the Library. Despite the powerful draughts—the giggles of girls—the BANG, bang, bang-bang-bang door—the gently falling soot—the gaze of amiable visitors—the audible and prolonged perorations of privileged professors—I can work. All day long I seriously imbibe learning, and late at night am dragged to bed by a fond father, who is anxious about my health and the gas bill.

I am so full of undigested knowledge that I must dash into the Hall at the last minute before an exam., and unload some on the blotting paper. My friends and I help each other with our homework, and converse in loud whispers during lectures, always using christian names. After lectures I stay behind to wheedle yet wiser words out of the professor, and to impress him with the amount of "lookin' up" I do.

I give papers at our Sunday School such as "The Teachings of Science," "A Talk about Magnets," and so on. At the same place I advocate the greater application of reason to religion, and folks whisper that I am "eccentric, you know, but very clever."

However, I take some interest in sport, and play football with our local Anemics.

When feeling "out of sorts" I go in the Gym, and joust a bit. I wrestle in the corridors.

These then are the prime causes of my social ostracism.

Realising, as I appear to do, the heinousness of these offences, the horror of these crimes, why then, you ask, do I continue to perpetrate them? The reason is that I throb with a noble feeling of *self-sacrifice*.

You stare. Dirty cuffs and self-sacrifice! What on earth is the fellow rambling about?

Let me explain. Once upon a time, in ancient Rome, the patricians were worried because the plebeians were becoming too powerful. A conference of the two parties was held, the result being that the plebs, acquired greater privileges than before.

A glance at the haggard faces of the little thorough-breds who pace our corridors shows that the same problem confronts them to-day. The patrician sighs resignedly, "our mixed set of fellows leach, don'tchenow," while the plebs, savagely grant, "Ther's too many big pots at this spot. Ther'll be some on em gerrin cracked afore long."

The simple Roman way out of the difficulty, however, is utterly impossible. The mischief of it is that while with his latest leaveth a pleb, will revile a pat., the last motion of his hand will be to part his hair, in order to emulate him.

To-day, as everyone knows, there is an infinite gradation between pat. and pleb. M'Lord tolerates

his butler—Jeames condescends to dine with the scullery-maid—Mary Ann deals haughtily with the woman who calls for the bits on Saturdays—and so on.

This continual strain after higher things can only have one result—the upper stories of our social constitution are badly overcrowded with pots, and pseudo-pots.

Now if the social principles which are the foundation of our glorious realm are to be maintained, if the proper balance of power is to be preserved, it seems to me that this migration or transition of pots, must cease. If not, in the near future the labourer will cast away his hod and take up his Browning, and the work of extending the University Buildings will have to be done by professors and students. "Heng it all, ole men, how the doose did you mike this mawtaw?"

Needless to say, I am myself a pleb., full of pot-ward desires; but although it would be an unspeakable joy to know how correctly to mispronounce my words, and although exalted brown shoes would throw me into an ecstasy of delight, still, rather than assist in the overthrow of the mightiest Empire the world has ever seen by helping to bring about the extinction of its plebs, I will with joy turn my back on these and the other sweets of culture, and with set teeth don my dirty cuffs.

JOHN WILLIE.

A Warning.

Ten resolutions, just like yours or mine;

He slept next day till twelve o'clock,

And then there were nine.

Nine resolutions should have kept his straight;

A Smoker was the death of one,

And then there were eight.

Eight resolutions would have got him to heaven;

He missed the last train home at night,

And then there were seven.

Seven resolutions, all as stiff as sticks;

He walked quite past the Library door,

And then there were six.

Six resolutions, still more than half alive;

One day he called on "Uack,"

And then there were five.

Five resolutions—at one time there were more;

But he dropped that beaker—my yes,

And then there were four.

Four resolutions, still some left, you see;

He gave the Prof. the old excuse,

And then there were three.

Three resolutions, steadfast and true;

A friend said, "Have a cigarette!"

And then there were two.

Two resolutions that had so far won;

He cut Lab. and went to the "Tiv.,"

And then there was one.

One resolution now with all the rest has gone;

The 'sport' was sure it would 'come off,'

And then—well, what's the use of resolutions, anyway?

B.

The Christian Union Conference, Liverpool.

THERE is no more powerful and influential student organisation than the World's Student Christian Federation. Its affiliated movements are active in every quarter of the globe, its membership exceeds a hundred thousand. The vigour and enterprise with which its operations are conducted and the true nature of its work were impressively demonstrated at the Conference held in Liverpool at the beginning of the year in connection with the Student Volunteer Missionary Union. This is the missionary department of the British Christian Union, which in its turn is an integral part of the World's Federation. For what other purpose could 1,500 delegates from the Universities of Great Britain, Europe, Asia, and Australasia have been brought together? For the Conference was purposive. Every session, every speech had its definite end in view, and all the separate aims were deftly woven into a compact whole so that the two main objects of the Conference might be achieved—to stir up an intelligent interest in the material progress and moral need of the Far East, and to arouse in the students of Great Britain a sense of their responsibility so far as it is possible to contribute Christian help and guidance to the shaping of the moral ideals of civilizations in process of transformation.

Obviously these aims imply a profound belief in Christ as the Saviour of the world, without distinction of race, and in Christianity as essential to the solution of complex social and religious problems. The Conference did not fail to recognise the inevitable clash of religious ideals, and in no way minimised the actual strength or the theoretic defences of the great religions of the East. It stood, however, for the conviction that Christianity has done and will do more for mankind's highest interests than anything that may attempt to take its place, and following out the inevitable corollary, it sought to further the extension of Christ's kingdom, especially in the East. The more so that in the great social and economic upheaval in China and Japan, signs are not wanting of the loosening of customary moral and religious restraints, and of a fruitless resignation to agnosticism or scepticism. The missionary spirit is one of brotherhood; it has foreseen the folly of patronage. That its message is delivered in the best interests of the countries it serves and from no other motives, was strikingly shown by the grateful recognition from non-Christian statesmen of Christian student labour amongst the thousands of Chinese students in Tokyo. The presence of these men who will be the leaders of China in the future, concentrated at one spot, gives a unique opportunity to the students of the West for bringing before them the Christian ideal. The Uplift of China and the Uplift of Great Britain are parts of the same great work. Both are impossible without exemplary lives on the part of those who essay the task, and throughout the Conference no point was more insistently emphasised than the necessity of vigilance in the development of a manly Christian character.

M

"Quantum Mutata ab illa."

[Lines on the Changed Appearance of Certain People.]

O maid who caused Dan Cupid's dart
To plunge its barb within my heart;
A girl thou wert before the Vac,
But woe is me!—Thou comest back
Encased in garb of woman.
Last Term beheld thy well-groomed hair
Fall sweetly on thy shoulders fair,
Bedecked with bows of vivid hues
(Which things alone could rouse my muse)
—Attached by unseen hairpins.
Perchance in curls thy locks hung down
With ribbons tied at neck and crown,
Perchance sans curls thy modest sat
In bouncy state or solemn plait;
Much favoured by the schoolgirl.
But thou who scarce has reached as yet
The age mature of Suffragette,
Thy locks to "do" hast now begun
In hairpinned, coiled and netted bun,
Or in erection lofty.
And that neat "isthmus" which compelled
My heart to throb, my breath withheld
—Which joins thy foot thyself unto
Bewitching in a high-heeled shoe.
—That "isthmus" known as "ankle."
So that, which called forth poems of praise
In terms of yore, in former days,
Thou quite hast hidden now for good
'Neath lengthened frocks of Womanhood,
Thy Girlhood quite forsaking.
No more wilt thou the subject be
Of all my day-dreams. Callous "she!"
Henceforth to me thou merely art
A unit of the major part
Of this world's population!

PROTELE.

The Wisdom of a Congress.

THE fourth British University Students' Congress was held at Liverpool last summer, and the report of its proceedings has just appeared, bound in a vivid and stimulating red. The colour of the cover is the only thing about it which is not thoroughly depressing. When we remember that three years—a student generation—have elapsed since the first Congress, we expect to read something of the accomplishments of that and subsequent meetings.

The first Congress, with a great flourish of trumpets, launched the *University Review*. There was much hurry and little foresight in its birth. Although ably conducted, it has not been successful in interesting its public. So the fourth Congress—the new generation—shifts responsibility by telling the delegates to tell their Councils to tell their trustees for *University Review* shares, that an improvement must be effected. Perhaps they are right to decline to accept

as a heritage the white elephant of their predecessors. But with great self opinion, the fourth Congress proposes to commit the same sin in a worse form. The first Congress elected a Committee to consider the question of a Song Book for British Universities, with Mr. C. G. Dehn, LL.B., as secretary. This Committee has existed ever since, and Mr. Dehn has kindly retained office in the hope of seeing his work completed. Some work—though not much—has been accomplished in spite of the pedestal on which Scotland stands in the matter, and in spite of the apathy of all the British Universities.* But Mr. Dehn does not seem to have come up to scratch at Liverpool. He had no fulsome and windy report to present, but wrote to say that negotiations were pending.

In its fierce anger, the 1907 Congress passed the following resolution to commemorate the occasion: "That the Congress, while thanking Mr. Dehn and his colleagues for their work, expresses their dissatisfaction with his letter, and insists upon a complete report not later than 15th September next, and that a committee be appointed to consider same, and report to the Councils or Guilds concerned. And, if no report be received by 1st November to request from Mr. Dehn all the papers in his possession, and to intimate that from this date the Congress would not be responsible for any work he does."

It is hard to see how Mr. Dehn, who is a lawyer, could survive this onslaught, with its combination of extreme discourtesy and *via* English. Presumably he did not survive, for we all remember the "stand and deliver" notice which appeared last term, giving our Leeds poets about three weeks in which to write a song, which shall be for all time the Leeds portion of the English, Welsh, and Irish Students' Song Book. Thus the effect of the despair in Song Book matters, is the direct reverse of the effect of the despair for the *Reverend*. The people who act thus wisely want more official recognition in charters and on representative governing bodies, etc. Anticipating this, they seem to have decided in so many words: "That Geography be made one of the subjects of an Arts degree."

It is to be hoped that the various Senate and Councils will take this as an ultimatum, and refrain from expostulating.

Other subjects discussed were the curricula for medical degrees, volunteers, and halls of residence, all perennials except the first, which promises to be one. The moral to be drawn from it all is that we cannot be responsible for the dead, and opinions of our immediate successors, who will all too soon replace us. Nor can we expect them to be responsible for ours. Will they pay the debts we seem likely to incur, will they be, *et cetera* of geography, and, above all, will they sing our songs? They may oblige us in the first two requests, but it is improbable that they will accede to the last. If we are to have a Leeds song, it will be a matter of tradition, it will come from the corporate soul of the place, and not from any individual to the order of a Liverpool Congress. We know that our ambitions are in the direction of

building up healthy traditions for our young and helpless Universities. But they do not come from imitating older, but not necessarily wiser, institutions, nor from our own deliberate efforts to produce them. They that are young need not a tradition, and the writer, for one, hopes that this effort, this straining to form traditions, will be allowed to rest. We are young enough to live in the present and shall be for some generations, and it is therefore a great sin to impose our present on our successors. W.H.P.

Musical Notes.

[In anticipation of the Annual Conversations, we have been approached by a member of the community with the request that he might be permitted to announce the musical programme. He has submitted the following example of his talent.]

Sonata Op. 245 - - - Skrichowski.

JUAN TAMBOS Skrichowski was born at Keldam, a small village in Poland, in 1846. His musical talents attracted the notice of the neighbours in his earliest infancy, and a strong representation was made to his parents that he should be sent away. At the age of four, he performed a solo on the toy drum which attracted considerable attention. Eventually he found his way to Vienna, where, after an arduous struggle, he became sufficiently well known to secure the position of assistant organ-blower to the Hereditary Grand Duke of Silesia. He died penniless in extreme misery at Berlin in 1867, three months before this Sonata was composed.

The present piece was written in honour of the vaccination of the youngest daughter of the Hereditary Grand Duke, and is a masterpiece of consummate tonality, expressing in its infinite shades the vicissitudes of the unhappy child in whose honour it was written.

The first theme is given out by the trombones, and then taken up by the third violins. After eight bars, the trombones, who have got their wind again, give out the second theme which is one of the most important in the composition; it re-appears again unexpectedly at a sharp turn in the Scherzo. After some more bars comes a passage abounding in arpeggios for the double basses, followed by a contrapuntal treatment of the same theme for the glockenspiel. It will be observed how skillfully this is interwoven with a cadenza for the triangle. The extremely hard piece of ecophony which succeeds exhibits the whole orchestra doing their worst, and is a marvellous conglomeration of syncopated harmonics and major-thirds. It is supposed to represent the sufferings of the child on the seventh day when its arm was at the worst. The allegro now subsides and passes into an *andantino* because in six-seventh time for muted violoncellos—significant of infant slumber. The original air then re-appears, being given out by the bassoon and taken up by the side drums. This is worked up speedily into the finale in the last eight bars of which the brass comes in with full strength. This is supposed to be symbolic of the fee paid to the Court Physician.

* Except Liverpool.

The Reason Why.

(In the Ceiling of the Economics Room, in University House,
those are Seven Hooks.)

A simple-minded visitor once strolled up College Road,
To see all the University, great eagerness he showed;
Every bit of information with avidity he'd learn,
And volubly discuss the reason why at every turn.
He assured his patient Mentor that he saw the reason
why

The devotees of Dyeing kept a cemetery close by.
And though readily allowing his topography was
mixed, he
Felt sure he knew each turn by which to climb aloft
to "60."

One last perplexing question still was harassing his
mind—

Why with vicious-looking hooks the tiny ceiling-
space was lined

Of the room where Economics is discussed with three
or four

Enthusiasts—(the room will not allow of any more).

"In the days of the Renaissance, when the Gryphon
still was young,

Unpopular Professors by their students here were
swung;

But it only they are *short* enough in gentler days like
these,

We sling them up a hammock, and they lecture at
their ease."

At this reply, with open mouth our friend in wonder
gazed,

And the fee he gave his guide was disproportionately
raised;

"I'm glad to see his back," exclaimed the latter with
a sigh,

But certainly it paid to humour him with reasons why.
F.

From the Calendar—Academic Dress.

B.Sc. (Dyeing): A self-coloured hood, of middle
green shade.

The colouring constitutes a sort of practical ex-
amination.

Professor Grant has been lecturing on the Age of
Elizabeth. We should have thought this question
would have been settled long ago, by a reference to
the various parish records; in any case, it does not
appear to be very important how old the dear lady
was. Why not settle it by vote, and pass on?

ANIMALS AT PLAY.

The markets yesterday were depressed on bear
pressure, and heavy selling by bulls, in anticipation of
a bearish ginners' report. Bulls were demoralised,
and threw over their holdings in disgust, and bears
again hammered vigorously. In the afternoon the
market swung completely round. Bears were
caught short and rushed to cover.—*Daily Paper*.

The Diary of a Lost One.

January 19th, 1908.—10.30 a.m. Summoned to
"Knock and Walk in." Entered with trepidation.
Usual greeting and a chair offered to defendant.
Speech for the prosecution. Most unfavourable.
Very well delivered, and correct in the main, only the
salient points being wrong. Evidence for defence
taken and pulled to rags by opposing counsel, as being
plausible. So it was, also true. However, all objections
over-ruled, and prisoner left court at 10.45.
Judgment deferred. Full of dismal forebodings and
grave suspicions.

January 19th, 1908.—10.30 a.m.—Sentence pronounced.
Suspicions confirmed. 10.32 a.m.—Wandered aim-
lessly away feeling depressed. Meditations on
various forms of self-extinction. 10.35 a.m.—Sudden-
ly remember that a live dog is better than a dead lion.
Outlook brightens on recalling this philosophy.
Resolve on self-effacement as being less painful and
less permanent than other. Canada is a large and
flourishing country. Meditations on Canada.

January 19th-20th.—Passed quietly. Much time
spent in meditating on the gross conduct of the evil
professors who set difficult examination papers. Went
to theatre at night. Much struck by a comedian.
How pleasant it would be to wear a red wig with a
crimson nose, and do comic falls! Meditations on
the life of a music-hall artist.

January 21st.—Sun rose. Invisible at Greenwich
and everywhere else in the United Kingdom. New
Zealand is a fair land where one unfortunate could
remain unknown. Meditations on New Zealand.

January 22nd.—Read up the cabbage industry in
library. The customary fog fell towards eventide.
Went visiting. Felt happy.

January 24th.—China is a fair country, and very
large. I am very small. Meditations on relative
sizes. Saw many people who offered various sugges-
tions as to trades and professions, from "bus-driving
in New York to writing for the comic papers—Daily
Mail, etc." Noticed a crane near the new buildings.
Wonder if a driver is wanted. Seems a pleasant
occupation.

January 25th (Sunday).—Fourth in New Year.
Mused and conversed with many worthies upon the
agricultural industry, as practised abroad. Com-
mented on most unfavourably.

January 26th.—Read article on Atlantic rate war.
Fares very low. Seems like the finger of Providence,
aided by the foot of other people. Ought to take
advantage of this. Meditations on ploughing, hard
work, but no strain on the intellect. Thoughts on
exams. "Two men shall be in the 'Fail,' one taken
and the other left."

January 28th.—Said many farewells. Received
about 40 addresses. Meditations on the profession of
a begging letter writer. Said farewell to "Alma
Mater," wiping the mud off feet on the mat, dust
being at a premium. Departed in the evening
amidst the strains of the "Tarponin Jacket." Felt
sad thereby. Sat opposite a parson for an hour and
a half. He tried to be affable. Felt sadder.—EXIT.

Maerens solutus.

An Elegy.

We mourn thy loss, but hail thy gladder fate,
A fate that if it will not quickly smite,
Will yield to that broad beam we knew of late,
As surely as clouds loom but for a while.

Chained to our benches and our labouring pen,
Following our task of gaining a degree,
We, soberer souls and more prosaic men,
Lament thy jovial spirit's setting free.

In larger other worlds shall "Seaweed's" strain,
Thy virtuous failings shocking all the 'good,'
Stir jaded souls to laughter once again,
Making thee blest, who art misunderstood.
Thou wilt not for this labouring state repine,
Our sympathy thou need'st not—we ask thine.

W.M.

Signs and Co-sines.

Book I.

"Caesura-like, progressing woe."

PAXYOMISCUM apologises for adding yet another to the long list of Prophetic Books already before the inhabitants of Varsa.

JANUARY.

PAXYOMISCUM to his Varsatics*, Greeting!

Predictions.—Mid-term 1908 promises to be among the most stirring on record. The term opens with an eclipse of the Earth in the ruling sign of Politics. Statesmen (and Suffragettes) would do well to remember that the common press, in other words, the electorate, will probably demand a new government. The saturnine Saturn in conjunction with the martial Mars—of fiery fame—will wax sarcastic, and hurl adverse criticism from a lofty pinnacle among the Lords. Jubilation among those of Liberal turn of mind is likely to reach its "forte."

Forecastings.—Varsatics—and, alas—fortunate enough to be born on October 1st, 1905-6-7, may expect a call for a journey southerly about the end of this month. Let them be prepared to visit B-c-k-t's. Everything depends upon certain magic letters.

Centenarians will have cause for joy if they survive the 8th of this month, for senile decay is very rife at this critical period among struldbrugs.

FEBRUARY.

Predictions.—The deadly influence already mentioned will now cause baneful effects in Parliament. The House of the Lords will rise in its might. There will be talk of Free Beer (viz. "Drink Traffic"), of the Clubroom Problem, and of "palatial residences." Tramps and Old Age Pensions will be abolished. (Beware, O ye of the Sm-k-t-m!). China will be the object of some study. The usual "Uplift" will be the cause of all the trouble.

Forecastings.—The settled calm of the R-f-et-ry will probably be disturbed owing to cathartion falling into conjunction with gesticulation, the beaming influence of Gittysmade shining forth the while from his two "refulgent" satellites. Smokers will do well to ponder this momentous dictum.

* Forse, an inscription?—*salic*, inhabitants of.

PAXYOMISCUM fears that all under the age of twenty will experience financial loss, and advises them to insure under the new Compensation Act.

MARCH.

Predictions.—A sad, uneventful month. There seems likely to be a renewed attempt on the part of Lunatics to prove the theory about a certain historic cheese; but though this is a problem which nearly concerns all good citizens, more attention should be paid by a particular section of the community to the fact that First Term flutters will now come home to roost. A general feeling of unrest will be manifest; the day of reckoning draws nearer.

Forecastings.—The 10th of June now tends to engender dangerous mental impulses, and to fill our asylums—chiefly the one with the double swing doors. Those who are inclined to the disorder are advised to patrol the corridors at fixed intervals—being careful not to block the traffic—and if this remedy fails, to seek that abode of peace, perfect peace, known as the Sm-k-t-m.

[End of Book I.]

R.

Musical Evening.

A most successful Musical Evening was held on December 10th, 1907.

The attendance was most satisfactory, and the Programme was excellent in every way. Mr. H. Johnson, who has so kindly helped us on previous occasions, was again present, and favoured us with an excellent rendering of some Chopin Etudes. Mrs. Schildekopf was good enough to sing two very pretty songs for us, which were greatly appreciated.

Three violin solos by Mr. A. Cohen were very well received, Mr. Cohen showing as usual, his great mastery over his instrument. Mr. Curtis was down to give some humorous songs, which he duly sang; they were very humorous.

One of the most successful items was a duet, by Messrs. Hopkins and Shaw, while the song "The Drum Major," by Mr. Hopkins, was also deserving of special mention.

Miss Bailey sang two pretty songs, the first "Land of the Sunset Glow" being accompanied by a violin obligato. The recitations by Miss Croft were well rendered, and one of them was very amusing. Mr. Foot gave a piano-forte solo by Grieg in his usual dashing style. Songs were also given by Miss Charlesworth and Miss Bloomer. Miss Horstall favoured us with two piano-forte solos by Grieg, which were very pretty, and very well received. Mr. Sutcliffe and Mr. Shaw also sang for us, while Mr. Maddison gave "The Admiral's Broom" in so vigorous a manner that we nearly broke out into a chorus.

The Refectory's part of the entertainment, the refreshments, were up to the usual high standard, and indeed, taking it altogether, the Musical Evening was a great success. We hope that we may have many more such functions, and more frequently. Why there should not be two Musical Evenings a term as a regular thing is not clear to us. The University is ready for such a great step in our social progress, and we hope the powers that be will recognise this and act accordingly.

University Notes.

On Thursday, February 6th, at 8 p.m., Professor Rhys Roberts will be lecturing, at the request of the Leeds Playgoers' Society, on "Greek Dramatic Poetry." The lecture will have special reference to the "Frogs" of Aristophanes, which it is hoped may be performed by students of the University about two years from now. By means of lantern-slides, illustrating scenes and characters in the play, Professor Roberts will endeavour to show that the "Frogs" would, in some respects, prove even more effective on the stage than the "Clouds." The lecture will be given at the University, and will be open, free of charge, to all who wish to attend.

* * *

The Court Dinner was held on Friday, January 24th, the principal guest being Mr. Victor Cavendish. Last year the Court Dinner was followed by a torch-light procession of students, which was a great success; so much so that it was decided to make the procession an annual affair. This year, however, mainly through lack of any attempt at organisation, there was no procession. It seems to us that a torch-light procession is a perfectly legitimate function, and that it should be organised by the Students' Union Committee, who, it may be mentioned, are supposed to be the representatives of the students of the University. We say supposed to be, for when we remember a certain notice—namely "suffragettes"—posted in the Smoke Room by one of the Union officials, we begin to doubt whether the members of the Committee themselves have any idea whom they do represent.

* * *

We are glad to announce that Mr. H. Johnson, who has so kindly assisted us at our musical functions this season, is giving a Pianoforte Recital at the Church Institute, Bradford, on February 5th. The programme is an attractive one, comprising a Sonata, a Prelude, and two Etudes by Chopin, a Concert Etude and a Rhapsodie Hongroise by Liszt, and other items.

* * *

One of the most successful students' functions which we have had for many years took place on Monday, February 3rd, and took the form of an Inter-Varsity Debate. The debate was on the eternal Home Rule question, and though one had heard all the arguments before, the standard of speaking was distinctly a high one. The motion was carried by 81 votes to 40. After the debate was a supper in the Refectory; after supper, toasts and music. We were invited to drink to the health of the King, the Guests, the Vice-Chancellor, and the President, and we responded right readily. The speeches were both good and interesting, and instead of being more or less bored, as one usually is by after-dinner speeches, one felt that one longed for more. Mr. Monahan's speech was specially amusing—also somewhat puzzling. The music was provided by Mr. A. Cohen and Mr. Fort, the latter introducing himself in a pretty little speech. "Auld Lang Syne" was then sung in the accustomed manner, and then we took our guests to the train, where we whiled away the time till the train came, in true student fashion. As we of Leeds wended our way back to our homes, we felt that never in the University history had there been a more successful students' function.

Some Officials in the Limelight.

The Union Chairman.—A man of few words, but dauntless deeds. Dignity personified, as befits his exalted position. At Union and other committee meetings, "puts" motions with the precision of a hangman's "drop." Has the heavy to do—and does it in style.

The Union Secretary is, indeed, a worthy officer with a great mind. Attributes his few grey hairs to the dangerous position in which he works in the Organic Lab. Has not been the same man since he shaved off his moustache. May retire to the House of Lords as Baron Callicene.

The Secretary of the Scientific Society has a bright, open, boyish countenance with a perfectly seraphic smile, which beguiles the unwary into trusting him with four shillings. We, however, know him better, he was not born yesterday, so gets our four shillings later on in the season. Objects, almost violently, to choose the origin of names.

The Christian Union Secretary.—A very Samson, with all the necessary equipment as regards hair. Looks best from a back view, and boasts that once while in this position, at dusk, was addressed as Padecrewski. Has ambitions as a raconteur. Works occasionally. Has a smile that is "childlike and bland." Wears a hat.

The Secretary of the Soccer Club carries a weight of care on his manly young shoulders, and wears the gloomy look of one who has seen life. Invariably looks at infinity. Dabbles in soccer and politics.

The Secretary of the Hockey Club.—A cheery, little chap, who is always bright and happy, with a grin like the rising of the sun. One of our University beaux, and is always first ours with the ladies. The worried look, which has lately settled on his well-known, noble and classical features, is, we are told, due to high finance in the Hockey Club. We cannot state definitely if he works. It is possible.

The Secretary of the Rugby Club.—A leader of our Smart Set and one of the new nobility. Has an engaging manner towards prospective Rugby players. Wears a look of stern resolve of "Conquest of the Engineering Lab."

KRYPTON.

The "Aeroflight Manufacturing Co." have been holding a Limerick Competition, open to all who purchased one of their shilling ties. Here is the uncompleted Limerick:—

If you invest in an Aeroflight tie,
Something abominably cheap you will buy;
It has features combined
With smartness, you'll find.

Prizes were awarded for the following last lines:—
L100—Adam Canad Abel and Eve heaved a sigh.
L200—Said Bruce "On my birthday NOW don't rely."

This is absolutely true! See advert. in the Evening Papers of January 13th.

Limerickettes.

Said a lady at Crowe,
 "Please tell me what to do—
 They insist
 That I've missed
 The last train that goes through."

A fellow from York
 Has by far too much talk;
 Friends and foes
 Want to close
 His mouth with a cork.

A young man of Kent
 Danced wherever he went;
 It was said
 That he fed
 On hops, hence his bent.

Favourite Songs.

The V.-C.: "Our hands have met."
 Prof. G.—d—: "Egypt."
 Prof. St—: "The Anchor's Weighed."
 Prof. R—: "Sing me to Sleep."
 Prof. S—: "My word, where did I leave off?"
 (a parody).

Prof. W—: "I want to be a Soldier."
 Mr. H—g—: "Blue Bell."
 Mr. B—m—: "Drinking."
 Mr. Wh—t—y: "Vicar of Bray."
 Dr. Dw— (Curator): "O Star of Eve."
 "The moon ain't shining."

Mr. Al—m: "Olm, Sweet Olm."
 Mr. G—t—m: "I'd me discourse."
 The H—B—t: "Shall I be an Angel, daddy?"
 Dr. D—: "Yes, let me like a Soldier fall."
 Mr. A. H. F— and Mr. J. R. Bl—y: "My mother
 bids me bind my hair."

Dyeing Dept.: "Rainbow."
 Fuel Dept.: "I've brought the Coal."
 Medical Dept.: "I'll saw your leg off."
 Geological Dept.: "The Flight of Ages."
 Dentistry Dept.: "Down the Vale."
 Mr. M—g—y: "I see you've got your old brown
 hat on."

Botanical Dept.: "Consider the Lilies."
 Classical Dept.: "The world went very well then."
 Mr. C—s—: "How dare you?" (Classic Bellas).

[?] "What do you want to talk about it for?"
 (Hand?)
 Salt, Emuley, and Baines Scholars: "One-and-a-
 penny a day."

One of the new locks: "I am the Catch of the
 Season."

The Sentimental Freshener: "We're all getting older,
 older every day."

Within a few yards of Sheffield University is a
 shop which has the following legend painted on the
 window: "University Tripe and Cowheel Saloon."
 How awfully convenient!

Personalia.

Dr. J. B. HELLIER has been appointed to the Chair
 of Obstetrics, vacated by the late Mr. C. J.
 Wright.

The status of Emeritus Professor has been conferred
 upon Dr. MIALI, who, until recently, occupied the
 Chair of Zoology in the University.

We are sure that everyone will regret to hear that
 Professor CLAPHAM is leaving us shortly. He is to
 take up an important appointment as Lecturer in
 History and Economics at King's College, Cam-
 bridge. Professor Clapham came to Leeds in
 1902, and when the University was established in
 1904, he was appointed to the Chair of Economics.
 As a lecturer on railway economics, banking, and
 local, commercial, and industrial conditions, he has
 become a well-known figure throughout the West
 Riding. He has always taken a keen interest in
 the various University Societies, and has thrown
 great energy into his work as President of both
 the Debating and the Social Study Societies. At
 Cambridge, he is to succeed Mr. Oscar Browning.

We are sorry to announce that Mr. J. R. BLYTH has
 resigned his position as Demonstrator in the
 Leather Department.

Charivaria.

MANCHESTER ARITHMETIC.

"There are fourteen hundred members of the
 Manchester University possessing on an average two
 friends each, so that there ought to have been forty-
 two thousand people at the Firs to watch the Uni-
 versity team do battle for the English Amateur Cup."
 —Manchester University Magazine, December, 1907.

Grecco's and Baker's Shop for Sale; good oven, lived
 in it six years. Good reasons for leaving.—Daily Paper.

Very good reasons.

Wanted, General Servant, capable of all house duties;
 good holidays, nights and days off; good wages.—Evening
 Post, Jan. 13th.

This is interesting evidence of the acute stage which
 the "Servant Problem" has reached. Two or three
 years ago, only, a "General" was satisfied with a
 promise of "three evenings per week and Sundays
 off"; now she seems to be demanding much more,
 and indeed it would appear that the limit has been
 reached. One wonders why 'capable of all house
 duties.'

Wanted, to buy, any quantity of OLD HENS; good
 price given.—Evening News, Jan. 13th.

The restaurants' usual supply has evidently run
 short. Or, perhaps, the popularity of "chicken" is
 increasing.

OUR SOCIETIES.

Scientific Society.

THE fifth meeting of the present session was held on December 11th, when Mr. J. Baddley gave a paper on "Artificial Silk and Cellulose Derivatives."

Before entering into the technology of the subject, an account of the chemical nature and properties of cellulose was given, and the methods of obtaining the crude material were described. The two sources from which it is prepared are lignified and non-lignified fibre, typified by wood and cotton, flax, etc., respectively.

A short outline of the history of the artificial silk industry was given, and the several methods of manufacture of this fibre were then described in detail.

The Chardonnet process was the first to be commercially worked with success. It depends on the solution of cellulose dinitrate in a mixture of alcohol and ether; this solution then being forced, under pressure, through fine orifices, termed "spinnerets." On emerging, the solvent evaporates, leaving a fine thread of the cellulose dinitrate, which is reeled off. It is denitrated by treatment with ammonium sulphide—by which process it loses its high degree of inflammability—and is then ready to be put on the market.

Viscose silk, which is prepared from cellulose xanthate, was next taken. The xanthate is obtained by treating cellulose with carbon disulphide in presence of caustic alkali. The viscose solution, when obtained, is ejected through spinnerets, into a bottle of ammonium chloride, which causes the thread to set.

The cuprammonium and zinc chloride processes were also described, together with certain other less important methods of manufacture.

The sixth meeting was held on January 22nd, when Mr. W. P. Bloxam, B.Sc., read a paper on "Indigo."

Prefacing his paper by a short account of the manufacture of plant indigo, Mr. Bloxam, who has done a large amount of original work on this subject, both in India and in the University laboratories, gave a critical review of the methods of analysis which have been tried—and found wanting. An account of the "tetrasulphonate" method, brought out by Bloxam, Orchardson, and Wood, followed. In this, the indigo is first converted into its tetrasulphonic acid by treatment with fuming sulphuric acid under certain regulated conditions. It is precipitated as the potassium salt, and is filtered off, the impurities passing away in the filtrate. The pure tetrasulphonate is then dissolved up, and is estimated by titration.

The method of estimating the amount of indican (the glucoside present in the leaves of the indigo plant, and from which indigo is obtained) was then given. Several previous methods having been found to give too low results, a research was carried out with the view of finding an accurate method of analysis. A successful end has been achieved, and the "indirubin" method is the result. Here a weighed quantity of indican, in presence of excess of isatin, is hydrolysed by the addition of hydrochloric acid. Indirubin is formed quantitatively and from the amount produced, the percentage purity of the sample under examination may be calculated.

A. E. W.

Literary and Historical Society.

THE fourth meeting of the Society was held on November 25th, when Miss Jessie Jowett read a most interesting paper on "Lord Houghton." Miss Jowett dealt with her subject in a charming and delightful style, describing how Lord Houghton came to form very close and intimate friendship with nearly all the great literary men of his day. In fact, he came to be one of the chief figures in literary and social circles. His activities, however, were not confined solely to this sphere, but he also took an important share in current politics. Beginning his career as a Conservative, he afterwards came to ally himself to the Liberal party, though he never at any time confined himself to party politics, being more concerned with somewhat more philanthropic and humanitarian schemes for the betterment of the social classes.

On December 9th, Professor Grant gave a paper on the "Battle of Lepanto." Owing to the near approach of Terminals, some of the Society's members had got examination fever, and the attendance suffered accordingly, which was the more to be regretted on account of the very interesting and graphic manner in which Professor Grant dealt with his subject. Beginning by drawing a very brief, though instructive picture of the conditions of Spain and Turkey at this period (about the middle of the 16th century), Professor Grant went on to deal with the causes which lead to this great and momentous struggle between the Mediterranean Powers and the Turk. Then came a description of the forces on either side, and the mention of the word "galleys" lead to a vivid account of the life of a galley-slave. The essayist concluded by describing the actual fight itself, showing how the Turks were entrapped in the Gulf of Corinth and totally defeated after a severe and prolonged struggle. The results of the battle were not nearly as great as they should have been, owing to the failure of the allied powers to follow up their victory.

The first meeting of this term began with a paper by Mr. Klumberowksi, entitled "Mary, Queen of Scots." Almost from the beginning it was clearly evident that his sympathies lay entirely on the side of Mary, though he did not fail to put the other side of the case as opportunity permitted. Moreover, the paper was a thorough one and very graphic in its descriptive details. Special stress was laid upon Mary's claim to the English throne, the murder of Darnley, and marriage with Bothwell, Mary's forced detention by Elizabeth, and the authenticity of the Casket Letters. In the discussion which followed, the other side of the question was put by Messrs. Dean and Wortz.

J. E. W.

Debating Society.

ABOUT forty members were present at the debate held on Monday, January 20th, 1908.

The chair was taken by the lady Vice-President, Miss K. Scholes, B.A. The motion under discussion was "That Journalism is the ruin of English Literature." It was proposed by Miss K. Hogan and seconded by Mr. J. E. Winter.

Miss Hogan made an attack upon the daily press, and weekly journals, and endeavoured to prove that the supply of cheap literature was due to a depraved

public taste. The fact of there being no great modern English author being the greatest proof of the ruined condition of English literature.

Mr. Hand, in opposing the motion, said he considered it unfair to say such journals as Chambers' and the Hibbert Journal were raising literature, and endeavoured to trace the history of journalism from its earliest stages. He contended that the public taste could only be improved by education, and that the abolition of the half-penny newspaper would not create a demand for high-class literature.

Mr. Winter seconded the motion. He agreed with the proposer that cheap literature was creating in the public mind a taste for sensationalism, and endeavoured to prove that a paper which found it necessary to offer prizes in order to obtain a sale must be of a poor quality. He argued that the bad aspect of modern journalism far outweighs the good, and that education would limit the desire on the part of the public for cheap journalism.

Mr. Monahan seconded the opposition, and, in what was by far the best speech of the evening, he severely criticised the speech of the opener, and showed that there is no reason to complain that modern literature is below the standard of past ages.

Unfortunately the motion was not discussed by many members present, and after replies by the opener and opposer, the vote was taken—resulting in the motion being lost by a large majority. W.

Society for Social Study.

An interesting meeting of this Society was held on the 13th, when Mr. T. C. Harvey, Warden of Toyahbee Hall, Whitechapel, formerly a student of this University, gave an excellent lecture on "Work in an East London Settlement." Mr. Harvey gave a splendid account of the way in which the need for a settlement of "Varsity men to work in the slums was felt by Canon Barnett, then Vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel.

To foster interest and keenness in slum life, Mr. Barnett used to get a number of undergraduates from Oxford and Cambridge to spend part of their vacations in his Whitechapel Parish. The bitter winter and consequent privation of 1884 brought the news of the poor more prominently before the world. This winter Toyahbee Hall was opened.

To explain its work fully would need several columns. Briefly its purpose is to provide education and recreation for the coster and slum-dweller; this it effects in a number of ways. Each night there is a meeting of some sort, debate, smoking concert, or address, besides several classes for educational purposes. On Sundays there is a lecture on some religious or moral topic, followed by a free discussion.

The paper was followed by a number of questions which Mr. Harvey answered.

The attendance at the meeting was not large, as I am sure there must be many more interested in Social Study. I should like to point out what an excellent opportunity this Society provides for the scientific study of Social Problems. The men who lecture are all first-class authorities on their subject. Amongst its many other advantages, this Society has a signal one, viz. There is no subscription—or rather, subscription is voluntary.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15th, when Mr. Russell will lecture on "Juvenile Criminality, its cause and cure." K.

Men's Christian Union.

TWO delegates to Liverpool met with the Committee on January 22nd to talk over their impressions of the Missionary Conference, and especially its bearing upon the work of the Union.

Listening to the claims of the wider mission field had served to make them more keen in the general interests of our own Christian Union, and under the stimulus of their presence an interesting talk as to plans for the term's work went on.

On Friday, the 24th, the Women's Christian Union opened its week-end Conference, which was to be continued on Saturday and Sunday, by a general meeting.

Mr. N. M. Hyde, an old member of the Christian Union, who since leaving Leeds has been at Mansfield College and later at the College Settlement in London, took the chair. Mr. Ellis and Miss Scholes opened the meeting, and the Rev. D. S. Murray, on furlough from North China, spoke on the call of the East to the student world.

The East was taking much from us and looking to us for the lines on which it should develop. What we were to give was of supreme importance in the world's history for "East of Suez," as in other places, the best was not "like the worst," and great issues were at stake there among so much of reconstruction and advance.

Much work was being done, however, in Japan, Korea, and China. A remarkable movement had taken place among the students of Japan, and the Y.W.C.A. was doing an extremely valuable work among the men who were gathering there from every part of the East.

The work in which Mr. Murray felt, perhaps, most interested, was the training of native teachers. A remarkable thing was that small Christian communities had been found in unexpected places, having grown up through the influence of perhaps one man who had received Christian teaching elsewhere and carried it home to his native place.

The call of the East came to us now at a crisis, and was for more men, especially trained men, to go out and do the work ready to be done.

Mrs. McCowan, former Travelling Secretary of the American Student Movement, an American lady, gave a racy speech on the watchword of the Student Movement. She gave a short account of how the Missionary Movement had begun, in England, with the volunteering of seven Oxford men who addressed meetings in England before they left, and in America with the response to an appeal, at a Convention, for one hundred men, which had been answered by some of the most brilliant students of the Universities.

"The evangelisation of the world in this generation" did not mean, she said, its conversion, but that everywhere the Gospel should be carried.

Mohammedanism was making great progress, especially in Africa, where it was the dominating influence in all but the southern extremity of the continent. It behaved us to at least be as earnest as they, and exert our greatest influences at a time of such opportunity and when others were doing so much to put back the final triumph of the Christian religion.

Mr. Hyde read a list of old Leeds students who are now working abroad, and, after a few remarks, the meeting terminated.

The Play.

Ibsen and Pantomime.

LEEDS and Ibsen do not mix at all well. Previous performances of the social dramas at the Grand Theatre having been feebly attended, Mr. Neilson tried the tiny Bijou Theatre in Cookridge Street for his December performance of "The Doll's House." I went round advising my acquaintances to see it. The first man I spoke to asked "Who wrote it?" The second said Ibsen was wicked and immoral, and the third that he was too unpleasant and dull. These individuals must be types, for even the Bijou Theatre was never filled. Some of us went, however, and most of us were thoroughly satisfied in spite of several things. It was considered necessary to have a wheezy band which played popular music. The fall of the curtain was not artistic, and one was never quite certain that it was not about to overturn a chair or upset the lamp. The minor parts were performed in a somewhat amateurish manner, Krogstad, in particular, being presented and dressed like the traditional stage villain of less literary productions. None of these things mattered very much however, for Miss Amy Sangster was nearly always on the stage, and she played her heavy part to such perfection that one forgot the other little things.

Nora Helmer is surely one of the most remarkable female characters in the world's drama, though it is not till the last act that we begin to realise this. Previously she is an ordinary young wife, rather nice, perhaps, than the average woman, but (we hope) rather less moral. She has innocent imperfections, and in particular, she tells a white lie with considerable skill. The earlier portion of the play with its conflicts with minor characters seems designed to expose this. Her ordeals are less morbid and gruesome than those of Ibsen's other women, and she shews no remarkable fortitude in her trials. Her husband, Torvald Helmer, seems to think, however, that all women should be heroines when occasion requires, and quiet, uncomplaining, unintelligent wives at other times. Naturally enough, she disappoints him in her behaviour under slightly trying circumstances. This gives him cause for lordly wrath, which is changed to equally lordly and condescending forgiveness when the pressure is removed.

The curtain might now fall on a commonplace domestic drama, quite proper, but from the point of view of a woman, highly immoral. The curtain does not fall, however, for Nora has seen the absurdity of her husband's ideas with regard to her duty to him. He is merely romantic and she is his doll. In making this discovery she immediately becomes wise and great. She has a new point of view so reasonable and so unique that it bewilders her husband and at the same time most of the audience. It is obviously right, but it is directly opposed to traditional teaching. Having become a human being, she leaves him in his bewilderment to think it over, while she goes out, an independent woman, to see what the world is really like. It does not follow from this, as so many insist, that all imperfections have been lost and that Nora Helmer is now a paragon. We have simply had an illustration of the marvellous change

which takes place in a woman when she begins to think. There is no evidence that the little vices are lost, though, in leaving her husband, she has lost much of the need for deception. Nora is great because her one principle is great, and in this case, Ibsen has made them both. These points do not satisfy everybody, however, for we still find that earnest and critical bodies like the Playgoers' Society sit in cold blooded judgment to decide whether Nora shall leave her husband or remain to convert him. I have heard an excellent legal case made out by one who would have been an excellent counsel for the petitioners in the case *Helmer v. Helmer*. It is very fortunate that Nora Helmer is beyond the reach of such persons, and that it is as impossible to prove her wrong as it is to know if she ever returned.

While "The Doll's House" was appearing, the principal Leeds Theatres were preparing their gorgeous pantomimes which duly appeared the following week, and which have not ceased to appear since. I took the opportunity of visiting both to see if there is any real artistic reason for the monopoly of the stage which these productions have in the winter months. I have been more thoroughly bored, but not often. The novelty of gorgeous staging, dresses and scenery has been destroyed by such managers as Mr. Tree. Pantomime is supposed to be funny, splendid, musical, pretty and romantic. Financially, it is a success in all these directions. The pay-box verdict seems to be that it represents the best of our English stage. It is very certain that more trouble is taken to produce good stage effects in the miserable conception we call pantomime, than in the best of grand opera. Those who have seen Carl Rosa lightning and storm scenes will realize the truth of this. It is more important in England to provide a pleasant setting for "Swing me higher, Obediah," than for any of the Tannhäuser music. The inference has obviously some connection with our own intelligence as units of the audience. Notwithstanding this, there are many prominent persons who are always taking the critics to task because their encomiums do not coincide with high receipts. There seems to be very little doubt that from the point of view of music, humour or romance, we are as a city quite degenerate, and until we realize it, we shall be more and more soiled in our other interests.

PENTADECYLPARATOLYLKELTON.

This is indeed a fearful and wonderful word, a word involving a considerable mental effort to commit to memory: a word, indeed, which evokes a feeling of congratulation that the composition of the English language was not left to scientists and to deliver in chemical research, who so delight in coining impossible words, when plain English would suffice equally well, and spare a needless expenditure of brain-tissue. In ordinary English, however, this stupendously bewildering word represents one of those salts of the mysterious metal, barium (the platino cyanide), which when placed in the neighbourhood of a minute grain of the still more wonderful substance, radium, immediately become beautifully fluorescent and luminous like uranium and several other natural products, glowing with a lambent, glittering luminescence in most lovely hues.—*Daily Paper*.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the "Gryphon."

DEAR SIR,

May I, through the correspondence column of your magazine be allowed to advocate the claims of the "Society for Social Study." I do this entirely on my own authority and without the knowledge or the sanction of those connected with the Society, but I do so because I feel how very important is the work of the Society and how necessary it is for everyone, especially students, to get into touch with the social conditions of their country. Since the inception of the Society some two years ago, I have attended most of its meetings, and have been struck with the great interest and instructiveness of the lectures and discussions, as well as by their non-partisan character. Here it may be well to say that the Society does not exist for the purpose of issuing Socialistic propaganda, but solely for the discussion of social problems; thus it is a Society which students of all shades of opinion and political thought may attend. Dealing as it does with problems so closely affecting our national welfare, it is hoped by the writer that an increased interest may be taken in its work, and that its meetings may be well supported by students of all political parties.

Believe me to be,

NON-PARTISAN.

To the Editor of the "Gryphon."

SIR,

I wish to make a strong complaint to you about the present condition of the Men's Smoke Room. A stranger would imagine the place was a nursery. The room is fitted with a stagnant rack, and covers are also provided for the journals, etc.; but while these covers are always in their places on the rack, the journals are never in their places in the covers. Indeed, if you take down such a cover, you find it either empty or containing a journal dated 1906 or so. There is no difficulty in finding the journals, however. They are everywhere—on the floor, on the table, on the seats. Moreover, they are usually in a torn and often dirty condition, through being carelessly treated. I have seen men throwing them at each other, and even walking over them as they lay on the floor, and this too, in spite of the fact that most journals were purchased at the annual auction sale—though we have yet to meet a purchaser who has succeeded in rescuing two journals in a readable condition.

This state of things is deplorable. As a remedy, I would suggest that the covers and the rack should be used for their proper purposes, and that non-students should discourage, and not encourage, their friends' rough handling of what are, really, other people's property.

Hoping some improvement will speedily be effected.

I am,

Yours, etc.,

LOOM.

ATHLETICS.

Rugby.

v. LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY.

At Home, December 4th. Cancelled by Liverpool, who were unable to raise a team.

v. ST. PETER'S SCHOOL, YORK.

At York, December 7th. Cancelled by York.

v. OLD LEICESTERSHIRE.

At Far Headingley, December 14th. For this match, C. Ward came in at full back, and J. K. Partridge and J. M. Foord instead of G. Walter and H. McLaren in the forwards.

The College won easily by 2 goals 6 tries (28 pts.) to 1 goal (5 pts.). The score quite represents the run of the game, as the 'Varsity always held the upper hand, though the play of the forwards was far below its standard, Wilmer and Roberts being the only ones at all prominent.

Tries were scored by Richardson, Rennie, Hoyle, Brown, Dobson, Hedford, and Richardson kicked the goals.

v. HARRGATE O.B.

At Home, January 11th. Ground unfit for play, owing to frost.

v. WAKEFIELD.

At Wakefield, January 18th. The 'Varsity were weakly represented. Kennedy, Hedford, Cameron, Walter and Fletcher were off in the forwards, Richardson at half, and Hoyle at three-quarter. Wakefield were strong at half, and no doubt the result, 27-0 was nearly entirely due to that. Though throughout the game the 'Varsity were masters of the scrums, they were beaten in the loose and often for possession, they also broke up very slowly.

Half-time: Wakefield 1 goal 3 tries (14 pts.); College 2 penalty goal (3 pts.).

In the second half the 'Varsity played well, and were unfortunate in having 2 more goals and a try registered against them. For the 'Varsity, Dobson scored after a clever piece of work by himself and Wilmer, and also Rennie contributed a try after a very characteristic effort. He, however, should get out of his fault of hanging too far back waiting for opportunities. They would come much more frequently if he stayed with the other three. Wilmer acted as captain in the regular captain's absence.

v. HEADINGLEY.

At Kirkstall, January 28th. This return fixture had been eagerly looked forward to, but, unfortunately, we were again weakly represented, Wilmer, Foord and Fletcher, forwards, Richardson at half, and Carter and Rennie at three-quarter. Headingley won easily by 4 goals and 2 tries (26 pts.) to nil. We were let down by the failure of Dobson and Abell at half to mark their men close enough, and finally by the terrible weakness of the full back. We wish we could strike a good full back. Will no

volunteers come forward? Roberts, Hoyle, and Brown were instrumental at three-quarters in saving many a try, but the fourth man, Livesick, was somewhat weak, and unfortunately he had little chance of using his speed. Abell and Dobson played very pluckily at half, though they have been censured, but the forwards were again below their standard, perhaps owing to weakness and lack of training. Stoddard, together with Hefford, who, unfortunately has now left Leeds, however, were always prominent. No doubt Headingley fully deserved to win by reason of their better play, and they were always too strong for us.

Our congratulations are due to—

- J. N. Cameron, on playing for Yorkshire against Northumberland, November 9th, but, unluckily, he broke his ankle, which is not well yet; on being picked to play against Lancashire, November 15th, and Cheshire, January 18th.
 - W. H. M. Rennie, on playing for Yorkshire against Northumberland, November 9th, and Lancashire, November 15th.
 - D. H. Wilmer, for being first reserve for Yorkshire against Northumberland, November 9th, and Cumberland, January 25th.
 - H. E. Hefford, for being first reserve for Yorkshire against Cheshire, January 18th.
- Also to—
- J. M. Foord, for playing for Yorkshire Wanderers, January 25th.
 - F. E. Carter, for playing for Yorkshire Wanderers, January 25th, and scoring a try.

A. E. F.

Association.

On December 7th we played St. Martin's, Potternewton. With a somewhat weakened team, T. Elliott and J. R. Bibby being absent, the 'Varsity managed to draw, the score being 2-2.

The match for the following week against Birmingham University had to be cancelled, owing to the latter having affiliated themselves to the A.F.A. This, whilst it was to be regretted, was nevertheless unavoidable.

The Trial Match arranged for on January 11th, was cancelled on account of the frost.

Second XI.

December 7th, v. St. Martin's, Potternewton (home), Won, 4-2.

December 14th, v. Harrogate Y.M.C.A. (away), Won, 5-nil.

J.E.W.

Hockey.

The Hockey Club has completed the first half of the season, and has a good record to show. The first team has had two games with Sheffield and one with Manchester, and in each of these contests has come off victorious.

Seymour-Jones continues to show good form in goal, while Ellis and Flint are proving themselves to be a pair of backs who take a lot of beating.

W. S. Hart is a good captain, and, while playing a consistent game as half, he captains his team in a judicious manner. When Ingham and J. D. L. Keswick turn out, our half line is one of the best in Yorkshire. Barracough also is a useful half, and F. Walker is good either at half or full back.

In the forward line, Pinder and Little make a good right wing, while Stockdale is a brilliant centre. Vickers and Lamb make a sound left wing.

W. F. Clayton has played in all the mid-week matches, and always manages to get a share in the scoring, and when J. B. T. Keswick is able to turn out, he strengthens the team considerably.

Most of the players mentioned above are likely to be with us next year, and so Hockey prospects are distinctly good.

In the Second XI. we have some good men, and, had we been able to get a full list of fixtures for them, they would have been better still. However, now that we are firmly established and know our strength, the next season will be easily provided for.

First Team.—Matches played, 11, won 9, lost 2; goals for, 69, against, 18.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY v. MORLEY.

Played on the University ground, January 18th, and a well-contested match ended in a victory for the home team. The game was very even during the first quarter of an hour, both defenses being alternately hard pressed. Seymour-Jones, in goal, saved many good shots from Morley's left wing forwards, who looked especially dangerous. But, after the first goal was scored for the University by Ingham, the home team forced play into Morley's half, and two more goals were soon scored through Bagenal and Little, Leeds leading at half-time by 3 goals to nil. Upon resuming, the University continued to have the better of the play. Result: Leeds University 6 goals, Morley nil. The game was an enjoyable one and free from foul play, in spite of the keenness that prevailed throughout.

HUDDESFIELD v. LEEDS UNIVERSITY.

On January 25th. Leeds University lost their third match this season to Huddersfield, at the latter's ground. Result: Huddersfield 4 goals, Leeds University 2 goals.

Play was very good and enjoyable in spite of the ground being in bad condition. Although the University lost, it may be said that they had the best of the game, and more so in the second half. The result of the game may be principally attributed to the soundness of the Huddersfield defence, and particularly to the brilliant play of R. Brierley, the goalkeeper.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY v. HUDDESFIELD. Second XI.

Leeds University were at home to Huddersfield, and lost by one goal. The University were one man short, which greatly handicapped the team. Result: Huddersfield 4 goals, Leeds University 3 goals.

We are glad to be able to congratulate J. B. T. Keswick on having gained his cap for the North of England.

H.

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