



## JOHN JOHNSON.

*Professor Emeritus of the More Humane Letters.*

(1835-1914).

SOMETHING very fine and keen passed from earth when John Johnson died in his own house, "Comfort Cottage", Drummondville, on December 23, 1914. His was a rare personality,—a nature known to few, a nature difficult to know, but a nature well worth knowing.

From Dalhousie's Renaissance in 1863 until his retirement in 1894, Professor Johnson was known to his students only as an enigmatic figure,—a tall thin man, without a left arm, a thin severe face, a thin hay-colored beard and keen blue eyes into which could come the spark of anger. He was known as a class-room Rhadamanthus, cold, just, exact. In his lecture, discipline of the strictest always ruled. Old Dalhousians will recall the pointing, monitory fore-finger, backing up the 'you!—you!—you!', as the questions were passed along, and the curious suspicion of a lisp. Drill in Greek and Latin grammar, strenuous gymnastics of construing were rarely relaxed by excursions into by-paths, or by flashes of professorial humor. Such digressions only tightened the reins of discipline, as when he would allow an unprepared student to read several lines from the famous interlinear "pony" dear to the idlers, and then check him with "That's enough of Mr. Collins; now let us have some of Mr. J. C. —", or when the one Latin prose exercise was passed from hand to hand along the back bench, and he inquired if it was "freehold or copyhold." A sharp tongue, a severe expression, a strict attention to the matter in hand made him respected and feared; but no one could ever complain of caprice, or prejudice, or injustice. He was strict, but perfectly fair. Every student knew that he would get credit for just what work he did and not one iota subscript more. He knew that his examination papers would be valued to a fraction of one mark, and that no power could alter the decree. It is the pride of one graduate that Johnson plucked him by half a mark; he felt that when he did pass, he had earned his step.

As professor of classics, he was an inveterate, unrelenting drill-master. Some of his students have complained that they never got beyond the Greek and Latin languages to the Greek and Latin literatures: but he was noted for the excellence of his translations into clear, precise English; and the old pupil best fitted to make comparisons, declares, that having sat at the feet of such famous men as Sellar, Butcher and Church, he "got" no more from them than he did from "Johnny". Everyone acknowledged the value of the training in accuracy which he imparted.

He and his life-long friend, the Professor of Mathematics, were recognized as the twin pillars of the college, the guardian, guiding Dioscuri of Dalhousie.

Outside the college class-room and the senate chamber, it could hardly be said that Johnson was known at all. He took no part in the life of the community. His personal friends in Halifax were few. As soon as the term was over—as a rule, on the very day after Convocation—he flitted to his place in Drummondville, for the entire summer vacation. It was a charming spot, a corner of an old estate on the banks of the beautiful St. Francis. Promptly at the opening of the following session, he was back in his place, ready for the strict performance of the duties of his chair. Such a mode of life, great natural reserve and dislike of publicity made him extremely difficult to know.



Johnson was an Irishman, that is to say, a bundle of contradictions. When he was eulogized in Convocation as having the "heart of a Greek," one inspired undergraduate was moved to add, "and the heart of an Irishman." It was a true saying. This class-room Rhadamanthus had the warmest of hearts. His affection for the college he served so long amounted almost to a passion. Old Dalhousians will remember the interest he took in football, and recall the tall thin figure in waterproof and rubber boots watching matches in the pouring rain, with almost the quivering attention of Dr. Forrest himself. When he made a brief visit to Halifax in 1907, some of his old friends gave him a little dinner at

the club. Lieutenant-Governor Fraser was in the chair. When the cloth was removed and Johnson's health had been drunk with all the honors, each Dalhousian in turn paid his brief, honest tribute of respect and gratitude. At such times Dalhousians speak well. The incontestable sincerity of each speaker had a cumulative effect in melting the reserve of the honored guest. On this one occasion, Johnson broke his life-long rule of silence in public and made his single speech. It was a fine speech, never to be forgotten by those who heard it. There was very little reference to himself, not a suggestion of self-pity, nothing of the pathos and tragedy of age. An old man, as he then was, his glance was to the future. The little college, its welfare, its aims, its prospects was his theme. Afterwards a colleague asked him how he knew so much that was going on when he had been away for thirteen years, and found that he subscribed for the *Gazette* regularly, read it carefully, as well as the Halifax papers ever since his resignation, and that he had bought three editions of the Halifax Directory in order to follow his friends' changes of residence. That evening Johnson came out of his shell: he could not resist the atmosphere of good will and respect. That dinner and the honorary degree were cherished memories with him.

It was a very great disappointment to him that his failing health prevented him attending the fiftieth Convocation of Dalhousie last spring. He was invited to lay the corner-stone of the new library built in honor of his life-long friend Macdonald. His letter at the time—he was an admirable letter-writer—was a model of fine feeling and clear, masculine expression. He accounted that invitation along with the honorary degree as the two greatest honors he had received in his life.

How genuine his interest was in Dalhousie is touchingly shown by the bequest of books from his own collection, and by his legacy of a thousand dollars to the college library. That sum will set a steady little stream of useful works flowing into the reservoir, for the benefit of generations of Dalhousians to come. Each volume will bear his name in acknowledgment of his benevolence and form one more stone in the ever-growing monument to his honored memory.

"The heart of an Irishman!" Johnson was Irish in the quality of his courage. In his younger days he was a skilful skater, excelling in the difficult art of figure skating. Once he fell and broke his leg, while skating on the Dartmouth lakes. For some time, he lay helpless on the ice, unable to move. When he was discovered and carried away on an improvised stretcher, one of his bearers testifies that not a groan, or word, or intonation betrayed the pain he must have suffered. When the bone was set, he

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THE history of Dalhousie College as an educational institution really dates from the year 1863. In that year the Provincial government in the interests of higher education, reorganized Dalhousie College, and started this university forth on its new career.

Dr. Johnson occupied the Chair of Classics at Dalhousie from 1863 to 1894 and during that time he exercised a powerful influence in directing the affairs and general policy of our University.

Within the past fifty two years, Dalhousie has made wonderful progress. When one considers the number of sectarian colleges which are tolerated in Nova Scotia, and which have been supported during that period, wonder gives way to amazement.

THE Senate of Dalhousie has made certain changes in the method of obtaining student opinion on candidates for the Rhode's scholarship. These changes are most welcome.

The first change is to increase the number of students whose opinions will be consulted. Instead of the limited number of fifteen, all the officers of all the student societies will be summoned to meet the Committee of Selection.

The results will not vary greatly from those of the past. Such a change is merely nominal, altho it is beneficial to the extent, that it will reduce considerably the chances of manipulating the student expression of opinion.

A more real benefit is that which is embodied in the second change. Henceforth, the student body will be informed of the values assigned to the student opinions.

This is a decided improvement. The student will know the candidate favored by the student committee, and further the student will know whether his choice was successful or not.

These changes are very desirable, but it is quite possible that they do not go far enough. The ideal situation would be one where there could be no possible grounds for distrust.

It must always be borne in mind that these student opinions are only suggestions to the Committee of Selection. There only effect is to aid that Committee in its choice of a candidate.

However the willingness on the part of the Senate to make these changes and to consider student opinion shows a marked advance in the right direction.

We believe that this distrust is based entirely on ignorance of the aims and efforts of both Senate and Student body. We offer as a suggestion that in future the Council meetings be opened to members of the Senate, and at the same time the Senate meetings be opened to members of the Council.

PROFESSOR H. A. KENT OPENS THE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON LECTURES AT DALHOUSIE.

An interesting course of eight lectures, inaugurated by the Dalhousie alumnae association, commenced in the Munro room Wednesday, Jan. 13th, when Professor H. A. Kent lectured on "Greece and the Persian Wars".

Professor Kent's lecture on Greece and the Persian Wars, was highly interesting. The weather was stormy, but in spite of this there was a good audience.

Our story is at an end. It should have shown us something of the weakness as well as the strength of Greece. Her success against Persia was not due as some have maintained, to the hopeless incompetence and bad generalship of the opposing forces.

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MUSINGS OF PROFESSOR KEENASACID.

THREE-CENTURIES-IN-THE-FUTURE REFLECTIONS ON THE DISCOVERY OF A COLLEGE PAPER OF TO-DAY.

Unitas, U. S. of B. and A.

The 123rd day of the 96th Year of the World Republic.

THE discussion arose some time ago among the community of students whom I have the honor to guide whether human nature has perceptibly changed in the last few centuries. There was a peculiar difference of opinion, some even holding that it had never really altered from the days of the First Man.

I was browsing among the archives of an old library where I like frequently to spend a quiet few hours and unexpectedly ran upon a volume of old papers, one of which was headed the "Fiddle-Faddle Gazette."

It was dated March 20th, in the year of Our Lord 1914. I assume, with a liberty that you will excuse, that to many of my readers this will be unintelligible, and I shall explain it as well as I am able.

A point which can only provoke endless strife without possibility of a conclusion has ceased to be argued, for all are at one in this, that Christ's spirit was divine

if his body was mortal. You will pardon this digression, it arose unconsciously.

To return. The "Gazette" then was dated nineteen hundred and fourteen years after the birth of Christ. This year 96 is twenty two hundred and twenty years from that event so the paper is more than 300 years old.

The "Fiddle-Faddle Gazette," as it appears, was published in Fiddle-Faddle College in the city of Dolcefara and province of Ultima Thule. The prospect implied by the nomenclature is belied by the words of the Gazette for the old old struggle between senate and student, which exists in a slight measure even to this day, is but too evident in its pages.

Fiddle-Faddle, it seems, was a small college but a representative one of the time, and its senate it is probable, did not differ very materially from the senates of other colleges in that day.

That it is the part of a wise teacher to learn from his students as well as to instruct them never seems to have struck the minds of the professors of Fiddle Faddle.

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the professor to hit upon the truth for which, after all, the most learned of us can at best but blindly grope. If a skeptical student of Fiddle-Faddle put forward sentiments with which the professor had no natural sympathy, the professor seems to have been inclined to dismiss him as a fool rather than to attempt to ascertain the real truth by searching with impartiality his own and the student's mind for the lie that was lurking in the one or the other of the two.

In fact the word "preceptor" aptly describes the professor of the time. There were intellectual troughs in which the student's brain was expected to move, and authoritative rules of action; and imagination was repressed with all the ardor of a fool's efficiency that an age that was proud of its practicality prescribed, yea, prayed for.

Our community system of college education, where the professor lives in the same house with the four or five students which form the community, and among whom talk can be free and discursive was perhaps impossible owing to the pecuniary exigencies under which Fiddle-Faddle in common with many of the colleges of the time was laboring, and with which the parsimonious governments of that age, established as they were under the silly system of popular election now happily abolished, considered themselves not at all concerned.

The whole body of students to the number of 400 or more were assembled together to have the professor preach to them, instead of having him live with them as the father of a small college family. But yet one might have expected that the students and professors would be close friends. Far from such being the case, there was a constant constraint between them, the students often secretly hostile to the faculty, the professors, as a rule, coldly indifferent to the students. There was an atmosphere of what the Gazette naively terms "bluff"; the student was always endeavoring (and often successfully) to conceal his ignorance from the professor, and the professor, with about equal success, was attempting to conceal his from the student. Truth was not there.

A noble exception here or there perhaps, but how sad a one! If one did not sympathize with both it would be amusing to read the little contentions over which senate and student spent many a weary wrangle. Some of the senate of the college were big men. Some weren't. As a body they often acted in the pettiest way. It is recorded in the Gazette that the application of a student for permission to study for the degree called Master of Arts, a degree which did not require attendance at the University, was refused on two grounds, the first of which was that permission could not be given to him except through a duly passed resolution of the august senate whom it would not be fair to call together for that purpose; and the second that the student would be unable in any case to achieve the degree within the time he had determined upon. The absurdity in this latter ground of refusal by examination upon which the degree depended was in reality no test at all was

presumably not apparent to the senate. For the decree was made absolute.

The instance is trifling but it is typical. Paternalism was the attitude always adopted by the senate and the laughable futility of the well meant efforts to drive the drones to work is rendered more amusing by the restraints they would have laid upon the gatherers of honey. And all with the kindest interest in the world. It is droll too to watch the revolt of the students against this restraining hand. They were the merest children. Study seems to have been not at all a *sine qua non* of student life in Fiddle-Faddle. The students were in no true way capable of ordering their lives with any degree of the restraint which is the basis of all true virtue, and they would in their blindness, like the Samson of whom we read in the history of the Jewish people, have destroyed themselves in the ruin of the institution at the pillars of which they were constantly straining with the right hand and with the left.

But yet a child must walk. It cannot remain forever in its go-cart. A modest self reliance, the ideal of moral strength, can only be induced by faith; it can never spring from a despotism, which however kindly crushes the instinct of freedom and leaves its victim even without desire to rebel.

One of the tea pot tempests that raged between the governing and the governed was upon the question of amusements, and particularly upon that of a favored pastime called dancing, a very ancient form of pleasurable exercise, but a somewhat crude one as it seems to us of this age. It consisted, as far as one can judge from the records that have come down to us, of a series of mechanical movements to the accompaniment of music and was wholly destitute of the imaginativeness and interpretation of play in our own times. However, the youth of both sexes of the time of the Gazette was, it appears, addicted to it and the students were impatient of the restrictions that the senate imposed in the matter. The senate was bound to a certain extent by the knowledge of a prejudice that existed in some of the religious sects that flourished at the time, on the alleged ground that this dancing was immoral. There seems to have been little foundation for this prejudice but it had persisted from the time of the prudish Victorian age and its influence was still largely felt. It might have appeared to the dullest that the essential nobleness that struggles in a man is encouraged by trust, that virtue can never thrive in an atmosphere of negation and that to categorically deny anything whatsoever to any but the most craven serves but to provoke him to resistance and to defeat the very object it would achieve.

The senate saw this. And, indeed on every question the clearer headed students of Fiddle-Faddle were ready to give their senate credit for a greater sympathy than was common in the universities about them, and for a disposition to act fairly and in a spirit of compromise on all questions that were in dispute. The students were taken seriously, perhaps too seriously, and the senate was big enough to take a criticism which bordered on the impudent, without the

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summary refusal of the freedom of speech which the Gazette insinuates would have befallen in most of the contemporary institutions of learning.

Rational to some degree, the Gazette admits the senate's self satisfaction was, but it asserts that the inevitable faults of a benevolent aristocracy had fastened themselves upon this administrative junctio. They were, of course, always judges in their own cause and they present a certain fantastic resemblance to the well known group of judges that formed the Supreme Court of the United States of Britain and America before the social upheaval that accompanied the new French Revolution and the rending and tearing of the Central European monarchy, plunged the world into the chaos which lasted to within four years of a century from the moment at which I write. The rigid constitution of the College was the "Calendar" which the college Supreme Court much like the corresponding court to which I have referred, interpreted most strictly when it so suited their ideas of justice to do so and in the loosest way possible when it did not. And always, in both cases, the fiction of an almost holy reverence for the "Constitution" was decorously observed. One laughs. The signs of the times were ever written with invisible ink.

The Gazette peeps into the future when it criticizes what it calls the "deadly mean" in the education of the day. The expression seems to import that the Fiddle-Faddle set the highest educational standard in the province of Ultima Thule there was not the slightest attempt made to give to the true scholar anything other than the intellectual pap that was spooned down the throat of the most ordinary dullard in the large classes that were taught by "lectures" in the way of our present grammar schools. The almost feverish search that we now make to discover the genius, the hunt for the one man who has it in him to think and to do, the man who has power and who must be if necessary, I can only say goaded into his proper place by the force of suggestion and by unselfish aid, him who will put us two centuries ahead in the struggle of mankind up the great World's altar stairs—the search for that man was then unknown. Where we now select and sift and winnow for this man, where we take him from the slum it may be, and send him to get the best the world knows on that in which he may soon lead all, where we have colleges in which it is the highest honor to gain a place, whose students are an aristocracy of intellect, and whose governors see to it that any man who can better this aristocracy (if it is possible to better a superlative) is given a place; where we do all this, the men of those days left such an one to shift for himself; and an economic system, yes, and an educational system that made a God of the spirit of acquisitiveness must have crushed thousands and thousands who had not the inclination to spend a lifetime in fattening the belly nor the indifferent ability that gives a man the Midas' touch and turns all at his hand into gold.

I have wandered away, I know, and I must again ask your pardon. The finding of this old college paper has sent me off on a far trail into a speculation into this

life 300 years ago. I had already prejudged the question of the change in human nature but I find I'm not so sure of it now that I have finished as I was when I began. Somehow or other I sympathize with the boys in this—well, I was going to say struggle, but it's really only a difference of attitude. I suppose it is because they need it so much more. I'm not at all sure that they're not just poking fun at their professors and are a little amused that they should be taken so seriously, and perhaps they have also pulled the wool over my blinking old eyes so that I have seen them as lambs where they might be more rightly considered a troop of fork tailed young devils. This is life. One huge "perhaps". I delve in the dust it may be but to stir up a cloud that hides the truth more deeply than before. I hardly know that I would have it settle.

F. D. GRAHAM.

The Eyrie, 123/96.

## THE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS.

THE Officers Training Corps commenced its After-Christmas course on Thursday, 7th January.

There is a slight decrease in the attendance, due probably to the nearer approach to the final examinations. The students seem to care more for passing their examinations, than qualifying for commissions. It seems rather regrettable that such should be the case.

There is absolutely no reason why both things cannot be accomplished at the same time.

Uniforms for the men have arrived and now are in the Ordnance Department. These will be delivered to the students this week.

It is hoped that the decrease in attendance will be made up by next week.

## DALHOUSIE CONTINGENT OF THE CANADIAN OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS.

DEAR SIR:—Now that the Holiday season is over, it is of the utmost importance that everybody should turn out regularly to drill. All details in connection with the establishment of this Corps have now been arranged with the Militia Department and everything is in readiness to proceed with the proper organization of the Corps, the appointment of officers, division into companies and other details. On Tuesday evening, January 19th, enrollment will commence, and you are particularly requested to be present on that evening if you intend to continue as a member of the Corps. If you cannot be present on Tuesday Evening, but desire to remain a member, please let me know by postcard, addressed to me at 45 Sackville Street.

E. C. PHINNEY,  
Lieut. and Adj.Halifax, N. S.,  
January 14, 1915.

### ODE TO LATIN.

All the people dead who wrote it;  
All the people dead who spoke it;  
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A NOVEL SUGGESTION.

THE following article has been submitted to the Gazette for publication. The proposal contained in it is rather unique, and it is published for the purpose of getting student opinion on the subject.

"A TABLET TO KELLY."

The deeds of great men ought to be respected, admired, and commemorated. The greater the tasks that they have performed, the greater our obligations to them. The great men of the past have placed the world under obligations that we often fail to appreciate. The fault is ours. With our limited visions we see only that which is near and close at hand. Our ingratitude to these giants of former ages should make us ashamed of ourselves. Occupied with trivial concerns, we fail to give any credit to those, who by their zeal and industry, have lightened the burdens imposed on the ordinary students of the present age. These burdens, such as the study of the Classics, have been heaped on the students of the present day either out of respect to the foolish customs of the Dark Ages, or else in imitation of German culture. Whether these burdens will continue or not depends entirely upon the "dunder-heads" which will be placed at the head of our Educational Departments throughout Canada.

Ah God! For a man with a heart, head, hand Like some of the simple great ones gone, forever and ever by, One still strong man in a blatant land, Whatever they call him, what care I? Aristocrat, democrat, autocrat—one Who will damn the classics and all such lies?

For some peculiar reason, the Arts course at Dalhousie requires a three years' course in Latin. The result is that in order to pass in this particular subject, most of the students are obliged to rely on a "key," a "pony," a "crib," or whatever else you want to call it. To the students of Dalhousie, Mr. Kelly's Keys to the Classics are easily the best thumbed books. They are real *vade mecum*s. Where-soever a student is, there will a "key" be also. Let the student go to bed, and the "key" is the last book he parts with. Let a student go into a Latin or Greek lecture, and the key will enter with him. Maybe not all of the key, but the necessary leaves are always "on tap". Let a student forget his translation, and lo! a key appears to clear up the difficulty. It is a common experience. Everyone has thanked Providence for the existence of these printed translations. Of great value during the session, they become simply invaluable during the grind which precedes examinations.

The literary merit of the translations may not please the fastidious taste of a Professor of English Literature, but what matters that if they lead the student out of the Cimmerian darkness. Examination papers are not judged by their literary styles, but by the matter they contain. Likewise with the "keys". They may not be models of literature, but they give a literal translation of the original, which is often as absurd as it is in the original. The "keys" save time and trouble. Since the tower of Babel fell up to the present time there has never been a greater boon

to the student. To the man who made the first crib, the student and Professorial world owe a debt which is staggering in its nature.

How can we repay the debt? We cannot. But there is one thing we can do, and that is, we can put up a tablet to the memory of Mr. Kelly. "Kelly's Keys" are classical expressions. By that I mean, we always use the expression when we enter the Classic's Room. Therefore let us, students and professors alike, subscribe and erect a suitable tablet in honor of this great benefactor to humanity. Too long have we ignored his claim to our respect. The tablet ought to be a slight token of our esteem and admiration.

The tablet could be placed in the Classics Room, between the two pictures on the back wall. How beautiful it would look, flanked on the right by a picture of the Forum, and on the left by one of the Acropolis. Placed there, it would be noticed by everyone. And the Professor of Classics would be overjoyed to see this magnificent tablet attached to the wall directly opposite his desk. How often he would smile as he gazed on it? And what a world of meaning there would be in that smile? In case such a spot should not prove suitable, there are others which we will suggest on a future occasion.

Cash, hard cold cash is necessary to erect this tablet. Therefore we appeal to professors and students for the wherewithal. Every student who has used a key is invited to send the sum of twenty-five cents to the GAZETTE. The GAZETTE will acknowledge the receipt of the money in future issues, and will undertake to see that the money is devoted to the object for which it was donated. Professors are expected to remit 50 cents. All others, graduates as well as undergraduates, will send in 25 cents.

There is one thing which must be borne in mind: Every contributor must be one who has used a "key". The contributor must feel his obligation to the translators of the past. Remember this: Everyone who has used a "key" is expected to contribute.

Send in your contribution and the GAZETTE will acknowledge it in a succeeding issue.

DALHOUSIE'S FOOTBALL CAPTAIN MARRIED.

It was a great surprise to Dalhousie students last week to hear of the marriage of their football captain of this season.

Not even the most intimate friends of either party knew of the approaching event until the knot was tied. As a result it was generally discredited at first, but now it is confirmed.

The marriage of Alan M. James, B. Sc. Dalhousie '13, to Clara M. Crowe, Dalhousie '13, was solemnized by the Rev. W. P. Grant, M. A. Dal. at Truro, on Saturday, the 16th day of January 1915.

After the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. James left Truro for Fredericton, N. B., where they will reside for some time. Mr. James, more familiarly known as 'Sleep' has volunteered for active service. He is drilling with the artillery corps at Fredericton.

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The Royal Military College of Canada

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education. The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the course, and, in addition, the constant practice of gymnastics, drills and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures health and excellent physical condition.

Commissions in all branches of the Imperial service and Canadian Permanent Force are offered annually. The diploma of graduation is considered by the authorities conducting the examination for Dominion Land Surveyor to be equivalent to a university degree, and by the Regulations of the Law Society of Ontario, it obtains the same exemptions as a B.A. degree.

The length of the course is three years, in three terms of 9 1/2 months each. The total cost of the course, including board, uniform, instructional material, and all extras, is about \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College takes place in May of each year, at the headquarters of the several military districts.

For full particulars regarding this examination and for any other information, application should be made to the Secretary of the Militia Council, Ottawa, Ont., or to the Commandant, Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont.

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ARTS AND SCIENCE DEBATING SOCIETY

For a long time it has been felt by the members of Arts and Science that the upper house in the Canadian Parliament should be abolished. It therefore happened that at five o'clock on the evening of January fifteenth that a very enthusiastic meeting assembled to hear four prominent jurists discuss the various merits and demerits of this aforesaid much abused and sorely calumniated august body.

In a stirring address that would have surely brought tears of admiration to the eyes of a Crassus, A. Sparticus of a Cina, Mr. R. D. Macnutt inveighed against all senates in general and the Canadian Senate in particular. From every authority, profane and holy, he proved the justice of his cause. "The senate," he said, "is a rusty wheel, a soft plum and most of its members are peaches, but the fruit of this plum peach tree is neither plum nor peach but deadlocks and obstructions. All divorces are wrong"—Furious applause. "The senate, by being a divorce court gives encouragement to divorces. Therefore the senate is bad." From this wonderful Syllogism, Mr. Macnutt drew the conclusion that therefore the senate should be abolished.

Then Mr. Nickleson, in accents argumentative, answered the wail of MacNutt. "The burden of proof," he urged "lies with the negative. Were there no senate, the party in power would have supreme control and there would be no check to a purely partisan house. The senate is composed of the most eminent men of the day. Their judgments are clouded by no hot headed constituencies, and they are at liberty to give to their decisions that impartial element which has made their opinions something really worth while. Lastly, the people of the Maritime Provinces should not object to the Senate. According to the Canadian Constitution the number of senators from each province is fixed, while in the house of commons it is a variant. That is, though it is quite possible that we may lose members for the lower house, our representation in the senate will always be just as it is now."

Mr. Crowell next arose. In stentorian tones that would assuredly have brought the most erring sinner to the penitent form, he did attack and was even more successful than his leader in pouring burning invective upon the poor old senate. "Sir," said he, "After searching carefully through fourteen huge volumes, I have been struck with ONE thing hard on the volumes! Since confederation the Baths alone for the senate have cost the people of Canada thirteen million dollars. At least they should be clean." For elegance of expression and delicacy of touch Mr. Crowell is unsurpassed. "The senate" he said, "is an old coffin in which the last nail has been driven, or, speaking more properly, it is an old patched pair of pants from which the patches have disappeared. In other words it is a chemical solution, that is in plain facts, it is a salt, and as Dr. Mackay told us last Monday, 'If you heat a salt it will break,' so with the senate, heat should be applied." How this was to be done, Mr. Crowell did not tell us, but doubtless there is in his fertile imagination

some scheme whereby this may be accomplished. Truly, he has a wonderful mind, but unfortunately the average Dalhousian does not possess sufficient mental agility to follow him through the devious ramifications of his argument.

Mr. Harris was the fourth of this noble company. As the critic said, his effort was an excellent combination of a midweek prayer meeting talk and the maiden speech of a budding M. P. Mr. Harris did some excellent solo work in his vocalization. He chanted his speech in a manner that would have put to shame the most skilled druid priest of the past. After telling the audience to wait a moment while he searched for his notes, the speaker observed that he wanted to quote some one, but that he had forgotten the words, and he did not know the name of the man who wrote them, nor was his speech without argument. "No country," he said, "has ever existed without an upper house. At this point memory returned, and there followed in bright array a long line of Statesmen, Poets, and Philosophers, who all, using Mr. Harris as a mouth piece, attacked the Canadian senate. At the end of the line came David Lloyd-George. The glory of quoting from such an eminent man proved too much for the speaker, and with the assurance that Lloyd-George had said SOMETHING, he took his seat.

In the capacity of critic, Mr. MacAulay was not up to his usual high standard of loquacity, and lacked somewhat that verbiage for which he is famous. On the other hand, he took his position seriously and discharged it with his usual success. He reserved most of his bouquets for the last and thus left his audience with a very pleasing impression. It was then announced that Arts and Science had decided to abolish the Canadian senate, and that a message to that effect would shortly be forwarded by Mr. Chipman to Ottawa.

RHODES' SCHOLAR APPOINTED BY DALHOUSIE.

Dalhousie has selected her Rhodes scholar for 1915. The successful candidate is Harry Austin McCleave of Stewiacke, N. S. The selection was made at the regular monthly meeting of the Dalhousie Senate held on Tuesday afternoon, Jan'y, 12th.

Mr. McCleave is a son of J. H. McCleave of Stewiacke, and was born there in 1892. He received his early education at Fort Ellis and the Colchester Academy.

Dalhousie's new Rhodes scholar has an excellent record as a student, among other honors standing first in the Provincial Examinations for Grade 12, in 1910. His total marks 1063 constituting a record. After teaching school for three years, he began attendance at Dalhousie in 1913, where in spite of the great disadvantage of having to travel daily between Stewiacke and Halifax in order to attend the lectures, he soon made his mark in all his classes.

His athletic training is that of the average college student in Canada. He has always taken a great interest in the college societies, and has been a prominent member of the Arts and Science Society.

Mr. McCleave will complete his course at Dalhousie before leaving for Oxford in October, where no doubt he will maintain the brilliant record made at Dalhousie.

[From the Halifax Chronicle.]

## SOMETHING ABOUT PROFESSOR JOHNSON.

RECOLLECTION OF DR. JOHNSON A FORMER DALHOUSIAN

Old time Dalhousians will receive with keen regret the news of the passing of John Johnson, L.L. D., formerly of Dalhousie College. The death occurred yesterday at his residence, "Comfort Cottage," Drummondville, Quebec. He was born in Ireland, 79 years ago.

Professor Johnson, "Johnny" as his students called him behind his back, came to Dalhousie with the late Professor MacDonald, in the year 1863. It was at the time of the reorganization of Dalhousie, and these two men laid the foundation for the college of today. These two friends, so similar in many ways, yet so different, founded the Dalhousie tradition of sound, serious work. They had as colleagues such men as ex-President Forrest, Professors Lyall, DeMille, Lawson, Schurman, Alexander and Seth.

Dr. Johnson was professor of Classics at Dalhousie for thirty-one years, 1863-1894. He was famous as a disciplinarian, famous for his justice and his accuracy, and he had the characteristic Irish traits of quick wit, brilliance and repartee. He could be quick tempered, too, at times.

"Johnny" Johnson was a terror to evil doers in his classes. Very tall and straight and just as cold in his manner he decidedly upheld the professorial dignity. It is told that even when he had his back turned, he could detect, by the sound, who was "carrying on". His sarcasm was extremely keen.

Although he was strict, Prof. Johnson was always just. There was never a man more just to his students. One of his former pupils is proud today of the fact that "Johnny" "plucked" him or a fraction of a point.

His classical training made him very accurate. Professor MacMechan says that Professor Johnson read the proof of his edition of Sartor Resartus and the proof of every book he had written since, even that of Dr. MacMechan's last book, "The Life of a Little College." In all this reading he never missed a comma or a turned letter. The late Prof. MacGregor set the highest value on the training in accuracy he received under Dr. Johnson, and expressed his appreciation of his teacher more than once in public gatherings.

With all his sternness, justice and accuracy, virtues of a grander mould, Prof. Johnson was a witty man. Many stories have been told of his humor, but two will suffice. He could not tolerate conceit, and when one student asked him to prescribe some of the classics to be read during the summer, Dr. Johnson's eyes twinkled and shaking a finger at the ambitious one he said "Young man, I think you had better read over your grammar this Summer."

Again in 1907 when Prof. Johnson was in the city on a short visit, a dinner was given to him at the Halifax Club by several of his pupils. Among these was the late Lieut. Governor Fraser, "Big Duncan" as he was known in his college days. In

the course of some eulogistic remarks about the guest of the evening, Lieut. Gov. Fraser said.

"But even he could not make a classical scholar out of me."

"Couldn't work a miracle, couldn't work a miracle," replied Dr. Johnson in a flash."

He was also a great follower of foot-ball and an enthusiastic skater. Never a game of foot-ball took place in the city, but "Johnny" and his dog would be sure to be present.

One day when skating on the Dartmouth Lakes he fell and broke his leg. He never complained. And he did not give up his classes but to the consternation of his students, held his lectures in his bedroom. He always hobbled about, he would not wear crutches.

Dr. Johnson was a great worker and essentially modest. He absolutely dreaded when his turns came to address the graduates at convocation. The only time he ever made a speech in public was at the little dinner given him at the Halifax Club seven years ago. As soon as the term was completed it was his custom to hurry off to his home in Drummondville, Quebec. Dr. MacMechan visited him there last September.

It was a beautiful warm day. The old-fashioned "Comfort Cottage" where the aged professor lived was ablaze with beautiful flowers. He sat in a chair in the garden overlooking the St. Francis River. He was particularly glad to see his former colleague.

Although worn with age, every faculty of the aged professor was alert. He showed an intimate knowledge of happenings at his old college and said that he always subscribed for the GAZETTE, had the Halifax papers sent him, and purchased the City Directory so as to follow the movements of his former citizens. Dr. Johnson was a Dalhousian first, last, and always, or, rather one might say with equal truth Dalhousians were Johnson's own.

E. R. D.  
Dal. '12.

(Continued from page 2.)

freedom and passionately hating tyranny. Many centuries later Greece was to come under the heel of the Oriental, but not until that magnificent contribution of hers to art and literature had become the precious possession of a larger world. Miltiades and Leonidas saved for the world more than they knew; they saved for it the glory that was Greece. To the weakness of Greece we have also been witnesses. To sacrifice one's own interest for the public weal, to be anything but essentially selfish was something to which the Greek did not attain. His love of country led him frequently to outbursts of patriotic enthusiasm, but his more consistent world was that of entire selfishness, and the ease with which national heroes and deliverers became traitors is most lamentable.

We, of the modern world, who owe so much to Greece for the things that make life worth while, must also admit that so far as her national character is concerned, our judgment must be contained in these words: "Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel."

Ex-President Forrest expressed the cordial thanks of the audience to Professor Kent.

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## JOHN JOHNSON

(Continued from page 1)

conducted classes in his own house, disdaining crutches and hopping about on one foot when necessary, with the injured leg literally in a sling. Quiet courage was the 'note' of his speech at the dinner. It was also shown in a final interview with an old friend last September by a resolute facing of the inevitable end. Sitting outside his own door, in the pleasant autumn sunshine among thick shrubbery and flowerbeds ablaze with dahlias and asters, the old man, worn to a shadow but with every faculty of mind as keen as ever talked of the war, of the fate of friends, but, above all of Dalhousie with all the old vivacity and intellectual power. The sword was as bright and keen as ever, but the sheath was wearing very thin.

Difficult to know was Johnson, but once he became your friend, he was your friend for ever. There was none truer. The heart of an Irishman was shown in the delight he took in helping his friend. To him the present writer is deeply indebted for kind offices extending over twenty years. Most valuable were those services. They were not only freely given; they were performed as if he were receiving, not conferring the obligation.

Fine in intellect, fine in courage, fine in courtesy, proud, reserved, sincere, Johnson has passed away, leaving none like himself behind. He had no small share in founding the Dalhousie tradition and in setting the Dalhousie standard. Without child of his own, Dalhousie had a son's place in his heart. Dalhousie must remember him, if all else forget.

453 Sherbrooke St., West,  
Montreal, Can.  
March 31, 1914.

President A. S. Mackenzie,  
Dalhousie University.

My dear President:—I received here yesterday your overwhelmingly kind invitation to lay the corner stone of the Macdonald Memorial at the end of next month.

It is almost heart-breaking to have to refuse such a pressing request. Nothing certainly but physical disability as you say, would justify a refusal. Unfortunately that is just the reason why I cannot accept the invitation. I am in the doctors' hands and they have forbidden me to take any trip to a distance, and the disability is only two months old. Shortly after Christmas finding myself getting weak I resolved to take a second trip to Bermuda via New York in hopes that its mild climate would restore my strength. So six weeks ago I started but got no further than this when my strength broke down completely. Ever since I have been kept to one flat in my sister-in-law's house and though I am gradually growing stronger it will be a month at least before I shall get strong enough to return home. Then I have to avoid any unusual exertion for the rest of my days.

It is most grievous to me to miss the opportunity not only of doing honour to Macdonald's memory but of meeting old friends and old students once more. I may confess that I had hoped to be invited to the fiftieth Convocation of Dalhousie and meant to attend it, but such an honour as you have paid me never crossed my mind.

This is the third great compliment paid me by Dalhousie, first my degree in 1900

from the Senate, second the friendly dinner in 1907 by some old students, and last and greatest of all this invitation from you and all whom you represent. Believe me I value them all very highly and am deeply grateful.

All I can do now is to send my kindest remembrances to all colleagues and old students, and to wish the old college ever increasing prosperity in its new home.

Most sincerely yours,  
(signed) JOHN JOHNSON.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

H. M. S. Argonaut,  
c-o G. P. O.,  
London,  
Dec. 30-14.

Dear Roper:—Little did I think that one day I would be a Surgeon on a ship-of-war, but here I am until this business is over.

I had planned to stay in England until next Spring, when our class was to have its reunion, arrive home in time for that and then go West. It looks as if this war would last a long time, so no chance of my seeing Halifax for some time.

I was wondering what you thought about it and if you have any suggestions you would make. Am afraid it will not be a big reunion as the class is so scattered, but one can never tell. Am asking you at this early date as I have been cruising all over the South Atlantic and mails take a long time to come from home.

We were just a little North of the Falkland Islands when that engagement took place about a month ago. I can't give you any news as the Censor forbids it.

We have spent most of our time chasing and capturing ships and contrabands of war, but we delight in taking the reservists prisoners as their company breaks the monotony of our life.

We have visited a great many places, so this has been a great experience in that way. There are a splendid lot of men on board which makes our Mess a very jolly one.

Hoping you have had a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year, and that you will let me know what you think about the class reunion, I am,

Yours sincerely,  
T. M. CREIGHTON.

## TRIAL DEBATE TUESDAY EVENING.

The trial debate will take place in the assembly hall of the Halifax Ladies' College on Tuesday evening January 26th, at 8 p. m.

President Mackenzie will preside. The judges will be Stuart Jenks, K. C., Dr. J. W. Falconer and Dr. H. L. Stewart.

The trial team consists of Messrs. N. M. Rattee, C. D. Shrieve, Jack McDonald, F. H. Patterson, T. A. Campbell and Howard Dawson. From these men the Intercollegiate Debating team will be chosen.

At this debate the subject discussed will be "Resolved that the Canadian tariff should be altered by a reduction of the protective element."

Every student should attend this debate in order to encourage the debaters to do their best.

Remember it is Tuesday evening the 26th, at the Ladies' College.

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STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED THE CONSULTATION WITH THE RHODES' SCHOLAR COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

UNDER the practice which has existed at Dalhousie for the past number of years, the Rhodes scholar committee of selection, appointed by the Senate, called the leading officers of the various college societies to a special conference. These students offered suggestions as to the merits of the candidates.

The conference was held in the Arts Library on Thursday, January 7th, at 4.30 in the afternoon.

In accordance with a resolution passed December 11th, all the members of the Students Council absented themselves except J. McDonald Arts '15, Howard Dawson Arts '16; Cyril Evans Eng. '15, and J. McK. Stewart Arts '14. These students were present at the conference as members of other societies and not as members of the Students Council.

The following are the list of students who were present at the conference.

- R. F. Yeoman, B. A. Law '15
G. M. McDade. Law '16
J. N. Lyons. Med. '16
M. Nichols. Dent. '16
Howard C Dawson. Arts '16
Cyril Evans. Arts '14
K. J. Austen. Eng. '15
H. R. Theakston. Eng. '15
Jack McDonald. Arts '15
J. McK. Stewart. Arts '14
N. L. Chipman. Arts '16
D. G. MacGregor. Arts '17
C. F. MacLennan. Arts '16
N. M. Rattee. Arts '15
C. M. McInnes. Arts '15

FUTURITIES.

Friday Jan. 22nd.

- 11 a. m. Meeting of Arts and Science Executive.
1 p. m. Meeting of first foot-ball team.
2 p. m. Law Drill South End Rink.
3.50 p. m. Arts and Science Drill South End Rink.
4 p. m. Moot Court.
5 p. m. Arts and Science Debate.
8 p. m. Junior Dance University Bldg.
8.15 p. m. Dalhousie vs. Technical at College Arena Rink.

Saturday

- 3 p. m. Class for Officers of the C. O. T. C.
5 p. m. Y. W. C. A. Tea Munroe Room.
6.30 p. m. Normal group Bible Study classes Y. M. C. A.
8 p. m. Meeting of Delta Gamma.

Sunday Lecture at 4.15 City Y. M. C. A.

Monday:

- 2 p. m. Law Drill.
4 p. m. Powns and pieces.
5 p. m. Arts and Science Drill.
5 p. m. Pine Hill Drill.
7.30 Normal Group Bible Study classes. Y. M. C. A.

Tuesday:

- 6.30 Normal Group Bible Study classes, Y. M. C. A.
8 p. m. Trial Debate in H. L. C. Hall.
8 p. m. Alumni Drill.

Wednesday:

- 12 a. m. First Team Hockey practice Arena.
2 p. m. Law Drill.
4.30 p. m. Lecture on Greek Art by Dr. E. Ritchie.
7 p. m. Technical College vs. Dalhousie at Arena.
8 p. m. Dalhousie Private Skating at Arena.

Thursday;

- 5 p. m. Arts and Science Drill.
5 p. m. Pine Hill Drill.
5 p.m. Freshmen vs. Juniors, Arena Rink.
8 p. m. Alumni Drill.

Friday;

- 2 p. m. Law Drill.
3.50 p. m. Arts and Science Drill.
5 p. m. Arts and Science Debate.
8 p. m. Law Dance University Building.
8.15 p. m. Crescents vs. Tech, Arena Rink.

Saturday;

- 12-1. Inter-faculty league at Arena.
3 p. m. Class for Officers of the C. O. T. C.

To- NIGHT.

Dalhousie vs. Technical College in Junior league, Arena Rink 8.15 Sharp.

We know that there are a great many other meetings and social functions being held which we do not record here, and we would greatly appreciate it if those in charge of the same would report them to the editors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LIEUT. COL. THOMPSON.

ON January 4th, 1915, the Gazette, Ottawa, announced the appointment of Major Thompson to the rank of brevet Lieutenant Colonel.

Lieut.-Col. Thompson has had charge of the Officers Training Corps at Dalhousie since its inception in October of last year. He has taken the keenest interest in the Corps and it is through his efforts largely that the South End Rink was obtained as a place of drill.

Lieut.-Col. Thompson has always taken a keen interest in military affairs, and his promotion is not only popular, but it is a well earned one.

For several years past Lieut.-Col. Thompson has been Secty. to the Board of Governors of Dalhousie, and has aided our college in many ways. Because of this, as well as his being an old Dalhousian the appointment is a very popular one at Dalhousie.

The call to the colors is strong and insistent. The answer from Dalhousie is significant.

Scarcely a week passes but some student slips away from college without a word to anyone. The next thing we hear is that he has enlisted. Since our last issue, eight more Dalhousians have volunteered.

- Lieut. R. St. C. Jones. Law '16
Private F. B. Fox. Arts '15
Private J. K. Murchison. Arts '12
Private D. Morrison. Arts '13
Private Neil McLean. Med. '17
Sapper A. M. James. Arts '13
Lieut. John R. Harley. Law '16
Sapper A. B. Campbell. Med '18



Royal Naval College of Canada

THE next examination for the entry of Naval Cadets, will be held at the examination centres of the Civil Service Commission in May, 1915, successful candidates joining the Collage on or about 1st August. Applications for entry will be received up to 15th April by the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Ottawa, from whom blank entry forms can now be obtained.

Candidates for the examination in May next must be between the ages of fourteen and sixteen on the 1st of July, 1915.

Further details can be obtained on application to the undersigned.

G. J. DESBARATS, Deputy Minister of the Naval Service.

Ottawa, January 8th, 1915.

Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—72858.

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HOCKEY.

Hockey now holds sway and attracts the attention of the followers of the ice game at the university.

The game is very well patronized when viewed in the aspect of the number of players that turn out for the practises. The first team work outs have been very creditable to date. Each session has seen a very respectable number of candidates present at the Arena. This condition of affairs argues well for the team, and hockey, as a whole, at the University.

Class hockey has not commenced as yet, however, the schedule committee is at work and soon will favour us by posting on the bulletin boards the result of their thought and skill in the shape of dates and hours on which the games are to be played.

The Senior division of the squad this year is represented in two "Leagues", the intercollegiate and the city Amateur. Our hopes run very high in relation to the outcome of both leagues. Should we fail to capture first place in either competition we shall be much disappointed.

Another remark or two and these in connection with the support given the hockey team by the students, and the article will close.

We have your moral support, that is admitted on all sides. The casual observer who attends a match in which we are interested becomes quite cognizant of it. So have we the moral support of our graduates. That is all the graduates can give us in athletics, and that is all we ask of a graduate usually. But a student in attendance at the University should give us more than a kind thought and a good wish. They should if we have the proper conception of the spirit of support, be present at the rink on the nights that we are to play our games, and cheer lustily for their team, that they may in this way achieve deeds in this sphere of playful college activity, in keeping with the reputation of our University in other directions.

This suggestion is worthy of more than a passing thought, it should suggest itself to a degree, to those who are actively engaged at Dalhousie and whose sphere of action is that of moulding the students character intellectually, morally and physically. Hockey brings out these parts in a man as but few other things do. Interest your students in the game, Professors, by attending some of them, and by your attendance show the boys that they have something to play for that is worth the trouble of engaging in the game.

Heretofore, the students have been regretably lax in their support and attendance. We look forward with thorough pleasure to a great and much needed improvement in this respect during the season. The team gives promise of being strong; it is capably managed; the players will train; so that in every respect the team is worthy of your support and confidence.

CRESCENT 4, DAL. 5.

The Dal. team played their first game in the city league on Jan. 15. The reorganized and rejuvenated Crescents were their opponents, and the idea of force and efficiency conveyed to the mind of the two adjectives qualifying Crescents. Dal succeeded in defeating them by the score of 5-4 in over-time play of only 19 minutes.

The game was easily one of the best amateur contests seen at the Arena in a number of years. The excitement at times was unusually intense. Throughout, the players maintained great pace. They bodied hard and with certainty. Their combination was at times a revelation to those present.

The first period ended with the score 3-1 in favour of Dalhousie.

The second period saw Dal. leave the ice with a lead of three goals.

In the fourth period the Crescents evened matters up by hard and consistent play.

The overtime saw Dal. score the winning goal after 19 minutes play.

The team as a whole played effectively. In the forward line, Fraser, Harley and Roome appeared. Roome and Fraser have played with the team in past seasons, but never as well as they did against the Crescents. Harley is a new man, who comes to us from King's. He is an even skater, fast, heady and an accurate shot, also he stick handles uncommonly well. These three men play a pretty game together and will be a difficult proposition for any team to overcome.

The defence was made up of Weldon Fraser, G. Campbell and our goaler, Moore. All three could not be very well improved upon. Moor's work was the surprise of the evening. He stopped shots from every angle and cleared cautiously. The man that gets one by him will deserve his score.

Campbell and Fraser played together after the manner of Ross and Stuart. The enemy could not pierce them by frontal attacks or flanking movements. When the Crescents scored, the defence was more open than it should be.

That is the way. Now boys, keep it up. We can win the two leagues if we keep at it.

DAL. 2, ST. F. X. 1.

The above was the way the score board read at the sounding of the final gong on Wednesday night, when the hockey teams of Dalhousie and St. Francis Xavier crossed sticks at the Arena in the opening game of the intercollegiate league.

That the ice was poor is putting it mild, but what could be expected after two days of steady rain. The game was very fast considering the ice which prevented team play of any kind and made the play lack the brilliant rushes which enlivened the Dal-Crescent game of the previous week.

St. Francis Xavier scored first shortly after the start of the game, Dal evened it in the 2nd. period and the teams strove

(Continued on page 12)

HOCKEY GEAR

With the Dalhousie Team going strong in the City League, the class games being played and the outside skating "tip-top" we feel that it is time to tell you about our HOCKEY and SKATING equipment. Here are some of our specials.

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(Continued from page 11)

hard throughout the remainder of the second and greater part of the 3rd period to score, but without success. But the game was not to end a tie and with one minute to play Weldon Fraser carried the puck up but shot wide, then Harley securing the rubber on the rebound bagged the winning tally, and the game ended Dal. 2 St. F. X. 1.

Over 200 saw the game.

St. F. X. played good fast hockey and showed much better form than their opponents. All their players playing thier positions well. All look forward with interest to the return game in Antigonish on the 17th of February. The second game in the intercollegiate league is next Wednesday, Technical College vs. Dalhousie. Let all the students be there to support their team.

**JUNIOR DANCE.**

The Junior Dance which is being held this evening promises to be one of the jolliest functions given in the University for some time, the chaperones are Mrs. M. Macneil and Mrs. H. L. Stewart. The invitation list, although not very large, is sufficient to ensure a right jolly time, and it is only necessary to add that the Barker Orchestra will play to make all those who were fortunate enough to secure invitations certain that they will have a good time.

**LAW DANCE.**

For some time past the question of giving a dance has been considered by the legal lights of Dalhousie. At last they have decided to make the plunge and on next Friday evening the law boys will be at home to their friends. That the function will eclipse all former ones held in the building goes without saying, for you have only to attend one of their dinners to be sure that what the Law boys do, they do well.

The committee in charge are Messrs. Barry, Potter and Sifton. Before going to press we were unable to secure any details of the affair but the reputation of the Law School as entertainers and the personal of the committee are sufficient assurance as to the success of the Dance.

**DALHOUSIE versus TECH.  
ARENA TO-NIGHT !**

**NOTICE.**

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Dalhousie University Contingent.

C. O. T. C.

The above notice has been sent to the Alumni Companies. The same applies to all Companies except that the date for enrollment of each Company will be the date of the first parade of the Company beginning Monday the 18th inst.

E. C. PHINNEY,  
Lieut. and Adj.

January 15, 1915.

**THE LIFE OF A LITTLE COLLEGE.**

A NEW book that is being praised wherever read is "The Life of a Little College and Other Papers", by Dr. Archibald MacMechan, of Dalhousie University, Halifax.

"It is a most delightful collection and makes a volume of fascinating interest. It deals with eleven distinct topics. 'The Life of a Little College', 'Little College Girls', 'The Vanity of Travel,' 'Tennyson as Artist,' 'Browning's Women,' 'This is our Master,' 'Child of the Ballads,' 'The Best Sea Story Ever Written,' 'Evangeline and the Real Acadians,' 'Everybody's Alice' and 'Virgil.' In form, these are essays. In contents they are prose poems. In purity of style and exactness of diction nothing more perfect has ever come from the pen of a native Canadian writer. Indeed, it would not be going too far to say that Professor MacMechan, in this volume, has fully established his right to rank with the foremost masters of our language, ancient or modern. He displays a wealth of knowledge, a capacity for telling illusion, a clearness of thought, an insight into human things that really matter, which stamp several of these essays with the hallmark of enduring literature. Each of them, as the author himself justly says of Virgil, 'gives you the sense of finished workmanship.'

The first essay, 'The Life of a Little College,' is a poetic summary of the history and growth of Dalhousie which is evidently very dear to Professor MacMechan's heart. There are embodied in it touching appreciations of the 'Old Professor' (Macdonald) and the New Professor (MacGregor.) There is a telling estimation of the worth of the 'little college', in which professors and students come into direct personal contact, as compared with the great educational institutions in which they only see one another as trees walking. There is a splendid tribute to the men and women whom Dalhousie educates, and the homes from which they come. In this essay as in nearly every succeeding one, Professor MacMechan makes it clear that he possesses the spirit of the true teacher. He writes:

"A few years of such experience will lead the most superior and lightminded young professor to see sound reason for the practice of Comenius; and he will uncover mentally whenever he enters into the presence of his freshmen. He will become impressed with the magnitude of his task; he may even realize that his office is essentially a religious one, and, remembering the custom of the old professor, he will feel like beginning each lecture by signing himself in nomine Domini."

Professor MacMechan dwells lovingly on the achievements, the activities, the heroisms, the fraternities the daily life of his Little College." He regards its future with joyful hope.

Professor MacMechan's volume, so pleasing in itself and of such special interest to Nova Scotians in general and Dalhousians

in particular, is dedicated 'without his knowledge or consent' to Doctor 'Eben' Mackay, of whom the author writes: "Had Bunyan known you he could have added some finer touches to his portrait of Faithful." *Montreal Standard.*

**THE GIRL IN THE TAXI.**

The Academy players will present all next week with usual matinees the farce the "Girl in the Taxi."

This will be one of the best produced by the company. The Gazette wish to express regret at the departure of Miss Doherty, who has been with the company for almost four seasons, and can only say that she will be greatly missed by the Dal patrons of the Academy.

To Miss West who will make her first appearance in the company this week we extend our best wishes for success, and judging from accounts of her past success, she will more than make good.

— THE —

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