
College Chronicle

Seventy-Fifth Anniversary

Friday, January 17th of the present year, marked a milestone in the life of St. Dunstan's University, for on that date seventy-five years ago St. Dunstan's first opened her doors to those who were so privileged as to enrol under her ennobling influence, to receive a thorough physical, intellectual, and moral education.

Since the beginning, St. Dunstan's has zealously laboured in silence and in harmony, and with her motto: "Ex eodem fonte fides et scientia," has instilled into the minds of her numberless sons the guiding truths of science which, strengthened, corroborated and ennobled by the beneficent truths of faith, fulfill the requirements for the complete development of man here below.

That she has attained the success which is ever the recompense of diligent effort and sacrifice, is evidenced by the large number of her alumni who, scattered through all parts of the globe, are spreading the Gospel of Christ, or are engaged in industrial pursuits, and who, by their ennobling influence and example, by their knowledge and accomplishments, are enriching the world with the fruits of a life well spent.

Such is the record of St. Dunstan's, of which she is justly proud; such is the character of her alumni who, during the past summer, assembled from near and far, in one grand reunion, to revisit once more the scenes of their Alma Mater, and to recall the memory of the happy days spent within her walls. And, although the anniversary was appropriately celebrated during the past summer, it was fitting that the day should not be passed over without commemorating, in some measure at least, the memory of those men who gave their lives and their talents to the cause of St. Dunstan's, that she might attain the high standing which she now enjoys.

Accordingly, on the morning of the seventeenth, Solemn High Mass was celebrated in the College Chapel by the Rev. Rector, assisted by Rev. W. McGuigan as Deacon and Rev. C. Pitre as Sub-Deacon. After mass, the choir, under the direction of Rev. N. Poirier, rendered the Te Deum as a hymn of Thanksgiving for the many blessings and favours showered upon St. Dunstan's.

At noon the students received a surprise in the form of a banquet which awaited them, kindly prepared by the Sisters, and heartily enjoyed by all. The remainder of the day, which was pleasantly spent in hockey and other sports, was brought to a solemn close by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the College Chapel.

St. Thomas' Literary and Debating Society

This society has continued to hold its weekly meetings during the present term, and many discussions on topics of current interest have taken place. As the Society is this year composed entirely of Philosophers, the debates have been productive of much logical reasoning and philosophical argumentation. Lectures and extemporaneous speaking have given variety to the regular routine of weekly debates. Space permits us to give here only a brief account of the debates, as follows:

The first meeting after the Christmas holidays was held on Wednesday, January 22nd. At this meeting the committee deemed it advisable to vary the program by holding an open debate, in which members selected by lot were each required to deliver a speech, not to exceed three minutes, on any one of a variety of chosen topics. This method was productive of some very good speeches, and is of practical value as a means of training the student to marshal his thoughts and deliver them on any subject without previous warning or preparation.

On January 29th, the sixth regular debate of the year was held on the subject: "Resolved that success in life depends more on character than on intellectual ability." After the terms under discussion were thoroughly defined, the following speakers debated the question; Pro: W. Callaghan and H. Croken; Con: L. Corcoran and F. Cass. The Con side quoted many examples from history of men who were not good characters in themselves but who, through their intellectual ability, attained great success in this life. The Pro side maintained, among other things, that the will-power, which depended on character, was the main essential for success. The judges divided honours equally and declared the debate a draw. R. McKenna entertained the audience with a declamation, and this was followed by an interesting talk on "The Silver Fox Industry of Prince Edward Island," by M. Callaghan.

"Resolved that the child's character is formed more in the home than in the school" was the subject which members of the committee capably debated on February 15th. J. Connolly and P. Doyle spoke in favour of the resolution, while M. Heagan and E. McPhee argued against it. Mr. Connolly and Mr. McPhee, after theorizing on the principle points of the question, gave some practical examples from their own experience in favour of their respective sides of the question. The decision was awarded in favour of the Con side. A declamation was delivered by A. Murray and a five minute speech by J. Gillis on the subject of Education.

Lecture

One of the most pleasant features of student literary life at St. Dunstan's University is the opportunity afforded the students of hearing lectures promoted by the St. Thomas' Literary and Debating Society, and held at various times throughout the scholastic year. Especially can this be said of the lecture which took place on February 5th, when Rev. James M. Reardon of Minneapolis, Minn., a lecturer of noted distinction, addressed the student body. Rev. G. P. Monaghan presided and in a few preliminary remarks introduced the speaker of the evening.

Choosing as his topic: "My Trip to the Holy Land," Father Reardon related, in his own eloquent and forceful manner, a vivid account of his journey and the many scenes and places of interest visited during his three months' sojourn in the Holy Land.

Many of the scenes depicted in and about Nazareth were associated with our Lord's birth and had a special significance for us. But particularly interesting were such places as The Garden of Gethsemane, Mount Calvary, The Holy Sepulchre, Mount Olivet and other scenes which were intimately connected with our Lord's passion and death. The speaker also gave a description of The Wailing Wall, The Temple, and other places of historic interest with which the audience were acquainted through the reading of Scripture and History. The relation of humorous anecdotes, interspersed with the more serious accounts, held the undiminished attention of the audience throughout the entire lecture.

In conclusion, the lecturer spoke of the disreputable condition in which many of the Holy Places were at the present time, because of the fact that, although each sect and denomination enjoyed its own rights and privileges, nevertheless, owing to the very nature of the people, discord and disaffection were rife among them, and as a result, each faction was attempting to enlarge on its own privileges by encroaching on the rights of the others in turn.

A unanimous vote of thanks was moved by J. Gillis, seconded by C. McDonald, and tendered the reverend speaker by the chairman, Rev. G. P. Monaghan. A. Doucette appropriately rendered the solo: "The Holy City," and piano selections by E. Gaudet added to the evening's entertainment, which was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

St. John's Literary and Debating Society

Not all the debating, however, has been done in the Senior Society. Indeed, we would be scarcely justified in classing this as a junior society, considering the standard of the speeches delivered. The students of 1st and 2nd University years have given time and careful preparation to their speeches and displayed great interest in the debates in general, the majority of which have proved very successful. This is due largely to the efforts of the Moderator, Rev. W. McGuigan, under whose direction the society is carrying on its work. It is thought to hold a debate at some time throughout the year between a team from this society and one from the Senior Society. Should this idea materialize, the senior boys would, no doubt, have "to look to their laurels" in order to uphold their prestige against the wit and oratorical ability of this society. Debates were held as follow:

A debate was held on January 22nd on the subject: "Resolved that bachelors and spinsters over thirty-five should be taxed by the Provincial Government," and resulted in a victory for the Pro side.

On January 29th, the subject for discussion was: "Resolved that Canada should unite politically with the United States." This time the decision was also given in favour of the resolution.

On February 12th it was argued that Alexander the Great was a greater general and statesman than Hannibal.

Special mention might be made of the meeting held on February 19th, when speakers from 2nd University year upheld the Pro side of various resolutions against the 1st University students. The debate proved very interesting and resulted in a victory for the more advanced students.

St. Augustine's Literary and Debating Society

It is in this society that many of the French-speaking students of the University make their first speeches in English. These are to be congratulated on their efforts. It is here also that many of the younger students first learn to express themselves in public, a qualification which is so necessary for success in after life. The students, however, do not always realize this fact, and it is therefore left to the moderator to maintain interest in the Society, and impress upon the members the necessity and importance of learning something of the art of public speaking. Father Pitre is to be commended in this regard on the interest which he has taken in the Society. A considerable number of successful debates have taken place, of which, however, we are not able to give a detailed account.

Rink Committee

The members of the Rink Committee, of whom Mr. Hazelton Gillis is chairman, have performed their duties very efficiently during the past season. Owing to an early commencement of the work, they were successful in procuring a good ice surface for the students on their return after the Christmas holidays. By careful attention and management the ice was kept in the proper condition throughout the hockey season for first team practice, for the playing of intermural games, and for skating, which was enthusiastically indulged in. The committee was instrumental also in securing a new hose and wire-netting, and in making other improvements which contributed greatly to the success experienced in hockey activities this year.

Necrology

To the relatives of Rev. L. Smith, to Austin Murphy, on the death of his brother; and to H. Dussault, on the death of his father, *Red and White* extends its sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

He is a fool who thinks by force of skill
To turn the current of a woman's will.

—Tuke

If everyone does his own job, everything will go well.
If everyone wants to do his neighbor's work, there will be
a muddle.—*Marshall Foch.*

Careless men let their end steal upon them unawares
and unprovided.

Our doubts are traitors,
And make us lose the good we oft might will,
By fearing to attempt.

—Shakespeare

