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# College Chronicle

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## St. Thomas Literary and Debating Society

On May 1 the Senior Society held its final debate for the year. It was somewhat more formal than usual as the members of the Faculty and of the Junior Society were present. I think we may say that it was without doubt the best debate of the term. The subject was "Resolved that labor organizations promote the best interests of the laboring man."

The following spoke, Pro. J. Farrell, C. Morrison and G. McDonald. Con. J. McMillan, R. Ellsworth, and C. Tingley.

The supporters of the affirmative began by reviewing the growth of industry from mediaeval times to the present day. They showed that with the Industrial Revolution two new classes made their appearance, the Capitalist and the Laborers. From this onward they said a gradual breach began to widen between the two, until it became necessary for the laborer to organize in order to maintain his rights against the capitalist. These organizations did a great deal, they said, to raise the status of the workman and to better his social position. They said that these unions are neither Communistic nor Socialistic in their tendencies, although societies of the latter persuasion often masquerade under the guise of labor organizations. Contrary to those that advocate legislation to benefit the workman they contended that legislation is a slow and often cumbersome method of procedure, and, at its best is but an indirect treatment; but on the other hand, trade unions negotiate directly with the capitalist, and are in a more favorable position to present the laborer's point of view to the employer.

In regard to strikes they said that these raised the wages and that when the wages were raised the laborer's standard of living was raised. Again, in regard to wages, the Pro. contended that the individual seeking higher wages is weak and lacks the support of numbers, in other words, the strength a union would have. As for the good they do, they maintained that these organizations are wholly altruistic in their aim, and the only object of their endeavours was the betterment of the conditions of their

members, the workmen To give force to this argument they cited numerous examples such as compulsory education to a certain age. An epitome of their arguments might be: Men of unions are not bothered by wage troubles, that is, as individuals, and in this way are benefited; they do better work free from worry, and as a result the employer is benefited as well.

The advocates of the Con. side began by saying that the Labor Union does not now produce its end, the betterment of the workman's condition. They did not so much stress the point that the labor organization may not have benefited its members, as that it does not now benefit them. They said that the end of the society was good and if attained by moral means was conducive to the welfare of its members; but a society which produces its desired effect by unlawful methods and without regarding the moral code is not good, and furthermore is unjust. The negative's next point of attack was the leaders of these unions, who they said were adventurers, and demagogues, seeking only their own selfish ends and using the Labor Organization as a means to these ends. Again, with regard to the object sought after, unjust means were often used to attain it. To strengthen this argument one of the Con. speakers cited the policeman's strike in Boston in 1919, during which the general public suffered great inconvenience; and the inhabitants of the underworld, for a while had an unusual freedom and became such a serious menace to the better classes, that, as a result, the calling out of the Home Guard was necessitated. Again, they attacked the leaders of the unions on the plea that very often, in negotiating with the employers and the government, they became involved in politics, and, fired by ambition, used the Labor Organization as a weapon in the political field. It was mentioned that the most important laborer in many countries, namely the farmer, was unconnected with any labor union. In conclusion they affirmed that the greatest demand of the workman was higher wages; but even should his employer grant them he will at the same time, in many cases, raise the price of his commodity, the working man will have a larger outlay for his needs and so ultimately he will not be benefited.

The judges, Rev. D. P. Croken, Rev. T. Curran, and Rev. L. Smith, awarded the decision in favor of the negative.



### Faculty

Rev. D. P. Croken, B.A., our present Rector, has received notice of his appointment to the pastorate of Fort Augustus, the parish of the late Father Allan MacDonald. Rev. L. A. Murphy, B.A., of the present staff is to succeed him at the beginning of the next scholastic year.

### Cadet Corps

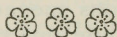
Mr. A. A. Francis has charge of the Cadet Corps this year. Although greatly handicapped by the extremely late spring, we feel sure that under his capable and efficient leadership St. Dunstan's Corps will make a creditable appearance on inspection day.

This year His Honor the Lieutenant Governor invited the Senior members of the Corps to take part in the Guard at the opening of the House. The Guard was highly complimented on their excellent showing.

Red and White extends its best wishes to the Cadet Corps that they may have success on their inspection day.

### Necrology

To George McKinnon on the death of his sister, and to John McGuigan on the death of his brother, Red and White extends its sincere sympathy.



The lust of gold succeeds the lust of conquest;  
The lust of gold unfeeling and remorseless!  
The last corruption of degenerate man.

—*Dr. Johnson.*

Poor is the friendless master of the world:  
A world in purchase of a friend is gain.

—*Young.*

Patience is sorrow's salve.

—*Churchill.*