


EXCHANGES



On looking over the list of Exchanges received since our last publication, we find that most of our old friends are with us again,—together with a few new ones. To one and all we extend a hearty welcome. In our last issue we asked for criticisms of “Red and White,” and here take the opportunity of thanking all who replied to our request. Our Exchange list, though not large, is fairly representative of the various types. In our comments we have endeavoured to keep in mind the size and grade of college or university whose literary productions we were criticising, and other such factors as must be considered, in order that no injustice might be done.

There have been so many controversies lately regarding the merits of the weekly as compared with the old established form of magazine, that we feel constrained to present our own views on the subject. While we still prefer the magazine type for the smaller institutions, the weekly has its advocates, especially in the larger universities. It has its merits too, as well as its defects. While at times there is a want of purely literary material, we feel safe in saying that the weekly is successfully passing through the experimental stage, and has come to stay. One must remember that the measure of success of every departure from convention depends largely on its weathering the storm of criticism to which it is invariably subjected. The weeklies that we have been privileged to review are coming through admirably. Give them time; their success will be all the surer for having been a bit slow.

FORDHAM MONTHLY

The December and January numbers compare favourably with their predecessors, which is but saying that Fordham Monthly continues to hold the place of honour among our Exchanges. The poem “Atlantis” is a splendid effort, not because of its unusual length, but because it has, among other good features, the one quality absolutely necessary for poetry,—it pleases the ear. The beautiful rhyme and meter (in different verse) of Tennyson’s “In Memoriam” is well maintained, while the verses flow smoothly without a harsh or discordant note. “Three Portraits” is a masterpiece with a strong human

interest appeal. "Threads," a story of dreams unrealized, is a well executed portrait of one of life's little tragedies. Your "Antidote," with its typically American brand of humor, deserves its name.

THE MEMORARE

The Memorare, a quarterly published by the students of Mount St. Bernard College, Antigonish, N. S., is typically feminine in spirit, and, if we may be permitted to say so, made especially delightful reading. The article, "The Famous Women of Bologna," is a powerful vindication of women's important role in the world of art and letters. The poems, all of them, are not mere rhymes, as are many of the so called poems which, in our official capacity as critic, we encounter from time to time, but serious attempts, and well worth reading. In "Autumn's Farewell," the exaggerated alliteration necessarily usurps attention to itself, consequently obscuring other good qualities, but the poem is a good word-picture of the "melancholy days." The keynote of the magazine is an appreciation of the really worth while things of life. We congratulate the students of Mount St. Bernard on this happy faculty of seeing things in their right perspective.

ST. JOSEPH'S PREP. CHRONICLE

Brevity is the most distinctive feature of this magazine. In the Christmas number the spirit of the season is on every page. The poem, "My Mother," in the February number, is a beautiful tribute to that best of friends. In our previous issue we conveyed our appreciation of your "Gleanings" department, which adequately fulfills the purpose for which it is evidently intended—the encouragement of the younger students. We suggest however, that the literary matter outside this department be more fully developed. There is too much similarity in theme in the Christmas number; this becomes a bit tiresome. Fewer stories and longer, with more variety would improve the *ensemble* considerably.

THE ABBEY STUDENT

A conservative magazine, replete with good, solid literary matter. After reading it through we set it aside with expectations undisappointed. The stories have

plot, combined with a pleasing, unlaboured style; the articles are serious, timely and well handled; the poetry—well, we hesitate to criticise poetry, but it appears to us that the editors of the Abbey Student consider their poetry a mere incidental, something to fill up the space of an incomplete page, as it were. We have no argument with the quality of your poetry, but, judging from the few very short poems in the Winter number, we believe you are capable of extending your efforts and of producing something more in that line.

THE TECH FLASH

The initial number of the Tech Flash under student management is a credit to the initiative of its publishers. Although mimeographed, it is neatly done, with an attractive cover design. We wish the "Flash" the best of luck, and look forward to the day when, unhampered by pecuniary embarrassments, the students of Nova Scotia Technical College will be in a position to publish their paper in the regular form. Well begun is half won, so keep it up.

THE DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

The Gazette is a regular weekly visitor, coming to us replete with the news of a busy University, written so as to be entertaining. Sport news invariably monopolizes a page, but we liked best the straight-from-the-shoulder editorials. "Luck" and "A Splendid Dalhousian," in the number of February 18, added considerable to the literary tone.

THE XAVERIAN WEEKLY

Since Christmas we have received but four numbers of your paper. As a newspaper it carries out its purpose admirably. St. F. X. students are deserving of much credit for undertaking the publication of a weekly with such a small student body. Much attention is given to sports and to other college activities, to the detriment, we regret to say, of articles of real literary merit, which we know the students of St. F. X. are capable of producing.

THE ARGOSY WEEKLY

The best balanced combination of news, humour, and literary effort of the weeklies on our desk. We believe

the Argosy has successfully passed through the transition from monthly to weekly, and is on a fair way to growth and improvement. Congratulations

THE LABARUM

We note with pleasure a decided improvement in the latest issue over its immediate predecessor. The writer of the article, "Poetry, Old and New," is evidently well acquainted with her subject matter. Poetry is the predominating feature; "A Sheaf of Sonnets," well repaid the reading of them. If the germ plots contained in a few of the many fine descriptive passages were developed into stories, the magazine would make a stronger appeal to readers outside the immediate circle of Mount St. Joseph.

CHINA

We are pleased to report a great improvement in this modest little messenger from China Mission Seminary. We welcome it for what it contains, and still more for what it represents. May it continue to grow and prosper, and to stimulate an ever increasing zeal for the salvation of souls.

"Red and White" gratefully acknowledges: The Tech Flash, The Memorare, The Fordham Monthly, The Xaverian, St. Joseph's Prep. Chronicle, China, The Labarum, The Argosy Weekly, Acadia Athenaeum, King's College Record, Dalhousie Gazette, Le Petit Lavallois, The Brunswickan, Green and White, The Canadian, Our Missions, The Abbey Students, Western U Gazette, Del Monte Bugler.

