

The Abyss

Issued Weekly by the Publications Board of the University of British Columbia

Volume I.

VANCOUVER, B.C., DECEMBER 5, 1918

Number 3

A Governor Speaks on The University

MRS. FARRIS DEEPLY INTERESTED IN HIGHER EDUCATION.

On the evening of the 28th a large audience listened to one of the most interesting lectures ever delivered be-



Mrs. Farris

fore the Vancouver Institute. The subject affects closely all British Columbians, the more so as a wonderful period of reconstruction is commencing which will leave its mark on all educational institutions.

Mrs. J. W. deB. Farris chose as her subject, "The University of British Columbia and its Relation to the Life of the Province." After a fitting tribute to the unselfish and ungrudging labor of the late Dr. Westbrook, the gifted speaker reviewed the progress of the University, describing the early efforts and the founding of the Victoria and Vancouver Colleges, which were to give place in 1915 to the University of British Columbia. Handicapped from the very start by the great world upheaval, nevertheless it has made a wonderful advance and in all Canada is the

College Worked for Victory

OVER \$25,000 IS COLLECTED BY STUDENTS IN THE VICTORY LOAN CAMPAIGN

Every student of the University of British Columbia is aware of the participation of our University in the recent Victory Loan campaign, but few know the full extent of the work carried out by the energetic and capable committee controlling the students' share in the great work.

In the absence of Mr. Sutcliffe, Mr. Gibson took charge of the subscriptions and spent two hours daily throughout the campaign receiving applications in his office. With the assistance of Miss Peck, a letter was sent to each student explaining the work being done and asking for co-operation. Such a splendid response was made to this appeal that Mr. Pennock, convenor of the schools committee, was able to write that "the amount of Victory Loan subscriptions obtained by your committee was \$25,250." In his letter of appreciation Mr. Pennock also states: "I wish to express to you and the other members of your committee and workers my deep appreciation of your success, and to congratulate you, one and all, on the magnificent result of your labors." Mr. Sutcliffe also received a letter from Dean Klinck, complimenting the student body on the splendid results obtained in securing subscriptions.

Special credit is due to Mr. Gibson, who gave so much of his time during the campaign to ensuring the success of the University's efforts to swell the subscriptions for the Victory Loan.

only University whose attendance has increased steadily during the war, and this in spite of the heroic sacrifice of so many of its men.

Our institution is, in Mrs. Farris' opinion, the logical completion of the educational system. A people's Univer-

(Continued on page 3)

Where There's Life There's Hope

RUGBY MEN WERE OUT LAST SATURDAY FOR A PRELIMINARY PRACTICE

Owing to the recent epidemic, athletics in the University have suffered a serious setback. In as much as basketball is concerned, no headway has been possible owing to the fact that there is no gymnasium available. It is to be regretted that in a University of this size and importance no suitable arrangements can be made to cater to the athletic spirit of the students. Even in those games which require no gymnasium, such as Rugby and grass hockey, the students find themselves handicapped owing to the fact that they cannot all turn out at the same time because no hours have been set aside for athletics.

The Rugby team held a practice last Saturday, and a team is being lined up to represent the University in the proposed city league. An effort is being made to arrange a game with a Victoria team during the Christmas holidays. Harold Gynther has been elected as captain and John Allardyce as vice-captain.

DEBATING BEGINS

SOPHS. WIN FIRST ROUND

"Resolved, that the lot of the common people of England was improved by the Industrial Revolution," was the subject of a debate held on Friday, November 29th, between Arts '21 and Arts '22. The affirmative was upheld by the Sophomores, represented by Messrs. Webster and Denham, against Messrs. Cooke and Wrinch on the negative.

In opening the debate for the affirmative, Mr. Webster contrasted the condition of the workers before the intro-

(Continued on page 2)

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duction of machinery with that of the present day. The change has brought to the common people better housing and transportation, greater security and a democratic education.

Mr. Wrinch, the first speaker on the negative, drew a pleasing picture of life during the handicraft stage, pointing out the independence of the worker, who supplied most of his own needs. Under such a system there was little labor trouble. He described the peaceful domestic life of the workers, in contrast to the conditions where industrialism has been introduced. Large cities have grown up, and child labor was instituted. The workers became "slaves dependent upon the whims of their employers."

Mr. Denham's speech was slightly sarcastic in tone, and caused much laughter and applause. He characterized the glowing picture of the happy life before the Industrial Revolution as a "myth." In contrast to this description, he showed how the miners to-day are protected by a minimum wage, old age pensions and many other beneficial laws. The struggle between Labor and Capital is caused not by poverty, but by the workers coming into their own. He concluded by offering to wager in favor of Labor's victory at the coming British elections: as far as is known, no one has taken a chance to deplete our Scottish friend's treasury.

Mr. Cooke then presented statistics showing the increased number of accidents due to the present system. Agriculture, he went on to state, is the basic industry of every nation, and agriculture in England has been lessened by the Industrial Revolution. Formerly the workers were in the open air, but now are confined in unhealthy factories.

While the judges were arriving at a decision, there was one informal discussion of the subject, and Miss Coates and Mr. Mahrer rendered piano selections. Mr. Wood announced the decision of the judges in favor of the affirmative.

After the debate, the men met to elect a secretary in place of Mr. Crickmay (overseas), and Mr. Denham was chosen by acclamation.

The next debate will be held on December 18, between Arts '19 and Arts '20.

Ode to the Physics Text Book

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MRS. FARRIS' LECTURE

(Continued from page 1)

sity, offering its advantages of culture, discipline and training in leadership, is more than ever indispensable to the Province. Men and women must be trained to take their parts in the new era into which we are entering; and when the expected tide of immigration flows West, it is only fitting that the descendants of the early settlers of B. C. should assume the leadership. The upkeep of the public schools costs the ratepayer, \$9.00 per annum; while the University, which is opening up new lines of work and helping to develop the natural resources of the country, as well as spreading culture and refinement, is supported by him to the extent of 65 cents each year. By a very slight increase in this tax, a sufficient sum would be raised to enable the University to move into more commodious buildings at Point Grey, where full attention could be given to the departments which are at present seriously handicapped by lack of proper accommodation, with beneficial results to the students who are seeking to fit themselves for more efficient service towards their country. Mrs. Farris believes that the subscription of two million dollars towards the establishment of the University at Point Grey would be an excellent investment and a splendid expression of patriotism on the part of the people of British Columbia.

In addition to the crying need for increased educational facilities, the necessity for some fitting war memorial must cause us to turn attention to the proposed buildings. The new University, planned with such a double end in view, would be a lasting token of respect for the Western soldiers who have fallen in battle. A simple inscription in each town or village would keep alive the names of the heroes, while a magnificent structure of this kind would perpetuate their memory, as well as enable future students to fit themselves fully for their life work, and would be an ever-present inspiration to duty and patriotism.

Mrs. Douglas Mackintosh presided over the lecture, which was given under the auspices of the University Women's Club. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Farris, moved by Dr. S. D. Scott and seconded by Mrs. W. F. Baird, showed the appreciation of the audience.

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THE UNIVERSITY AND THE PROVINCE

Last week many of us were privileged to listen to the lecture by Mrs. J. W. de B. Farris on "The University of British Columbia." Her subject is a timely one. Peace, founded on victory, is in sight, with all its joy and triumph, but also with its problems of reconstruction. Time must now be given to the consideration of many matters neglected during the stress of war. Among these is the question of the erection of new buildings for the University at Point Grey. The number of students attending lectures has increased steadily during the last years, with the result that the present buildings are not large enough to afford proper accommodation. The lack of a residence in connection with the College deprives the students of much of the social life and "atmosphere" which mean so much to the students of other universities. Athletics are severely handicapped by the difficulty of obtaining the use of a gymnasium and playing field.

Great as is the need for larger and better buildings, it will be yet more evident during the next years. The advantages of a college education are being more and more admitted in different spheres of work. The training in leadership and the higher education received by the student are going to play an important part in solving peace problems and in developing the resources of our Province. An increasing number of young men and women will take advantage of the boon of university education. Already many returned soldiers are attending lectures; with demobilization, many still on service will be registered as students of the University. The situation during the influenza epidemic has shown clearly that our present quarters are required by the hospital. The erection of new buildings at Point Grey

would give employment to many, would make possible better work, and would serve as the most splendid war memorial British Columbia could have to perpetuate the memories of those who sacrificed all, a beacon light of hope and strength and learning.

THE TIMETABLE

With the resumption of work after the enforced holiday, the ever-present question of the timetable rises again. Although conflicts between lectures have been removed, it is still very difficult for the whole student body to assemble in order to deal with important issues; even executive meetings at noon cannot always be fully attended owing to lectures at 12 o'clock. The athletic societies, already hampered by the lack of a campus, find it practically impossible to have a full practice of all interested, owing to the arrangement of the timetable. The literary societies are also greatly hindered by this. Concerted endeavor on the part of the students to support University activities is a vague dream until some definite time is assigned for that purpose. The obstacles to this are numerous, and we all recognize that the members of the faculty have unselfishly spent much time and trouble in their efforts to provide a perfect timetable, but we hope that in the near future some means may be found by which the University students can take advantage of the many societies for their benefit.

University students who attended the Vancouver Institute lecture last week were gratified to hear that a member of the board of governors recognized the need of the University for a gymnasium. It has always been difficult for college students here to engage in athletics owing to the lack of buildings and campus, but heretofore it has always been possible to make temporary arrangements.

This year the gymnasium of King Edward High School is otherwise occupied at all times when it could be used by college students; that of the Provincial Normal School is closed to us. No other quarters are available for the Provincial University.

Some promising artist could find a subject for his pen in the figure of College Athletics, prone upon the ground, while gleeful Timetables and forbidding Gymnasiums danced about their prostrate and helpless victim—a picture to move men to laughter or to tears.

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MUSICAL NOTES

Twilight Organ Recitals

Everybody should make an effort to attend the twilight organ recitals which are held in Christ Church every Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The very fact that Mr. Chubb is a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists ought to be an attraction; the diploma is the hardest of its kind to obtain within the Empire, and no one can hope to earn it unless he is a thorough master of both the practical and theoretical aspects of his art. Moreover, Mr. Chubb has the happy faculty of choosing well-balanced and varied programmes, with the result that, if you really do like good music, you are sure of hearing some selections which are certain to be particularly pleasing.

The organ is the greatest and noblest of all musical instruments, and the pleasure and inspiration you will derive from these recitals will more than recompense you for any small sacrifice which may be necessary to enable you to attend.

* * *

No Christmas season would seem complete without a performance of "The Messiah," because the text, dealing as it does with the coming of Christ, His crucifixion, and the subsequent redemption of the world, is particularly appropriate to the occasion. The first Christmas production of this oratorio will be given in the Chalmers Presbyterian Church on December 18th by a chorus of 120 voices, under the direction of Mr. Nanson.

* * *

Handel was not a religious man; he realized, at the age of fifty-six, that his career as an operatic writer had not been a very successful one, and accordingly turned to oratorio as a substitute. The result is, that while "The Messiah" contains beautiful lyric melodies and majestic choruses which fill you with an impressive awe by virtue of their very grandeur, one cannot but feel that the work is more the monumental creation of a man who, in the full maturity of his genius, knew how to handle his musical tools, rather than that of one who, though not so skilful in polyphonic writing, was yet Divinely inspired when he wrote. "The Messiah" is undoubtedly one of the greatest of all musical compositions, but it is not a really religious work.

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PROFESSOR O. J. TODD, Ph.D.

Those who have come under the instruction of Dr. Todd consider themselves very fortunate. Combining a very fine English style with an intimate knowledge of ancient times and literature, our new professor in Classics causes dead languages to glow with living thoughts.

Dr. Todd is an American, and brings to his work the energy characteristic of his nation. Like President Wilson and many of the ablest men of the United States, he received his early training under the shadow of the Manse. In 1906 he graduated as an A.B. from Harvard, and in 1914 obtained his Ph.D. from the same institution. He is described by one competent judge as "one of the best classical students Harvard has had, taking the highest rank as a graduate." Dr. Todd has lectured at Whitman College, Walla Walla, and Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., with great success. We are glad to welcome him to our midst, and assure him a large share of the good-will existing between ourselves and our American cousins.

Wld.—I hear Prof. Henry thought a lot of your April exams.

Frstr.—He did; he encored them.



MILITARY NOTES

The Officers' Training Corps, on the occasion of its first meeting since the reopening of the University, paid solemn tribute to the memory of its late commander, Major Westbrook. That his example of hard work and conscientious effort has had its effect, is evident from the report of Sergeant-Major Mitten, our drill instructor, who states that the work of the corps was exceptionally satisfactory on his first day in charge.

A route march will be held as soon as the new uniforms, now indented for, are received. There will be a camp next spring between examinations and degree day, providing a sufficient number volunteer for the enterprise. Don't forget this. Start talking camp, now.

IN MEMORIAM

The members of Agriculture '22 have assembled again, only to learn with deep sorrow of the death of their president, Wilfred Moore. Although the class was just becoming acquainted, he was already a general favorite. Students and members of the faculty unite in regretting the loss of one who promised so much as a student, as a good fellow, as a friend. To his parents they extend their sincerest sympathy.

Guy B. Moore was a former member of Arts '19. He was born in Mattawa, Ontario, and came to Vancouver fifteen years ago, when eight years old. He was a splendid athlete, and one of the mainstays of the U.B.C. Rugby team.

After qualifying as an infantry officer, he enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps in the fall of 1916, obtained his wings in record time, and went to France in August of the following year with a scout squadron of "Baby Nieuports." This spring he was gazetted Flight Commander, but was killed in action on April 7th; and with the news of his death came the notification that he had secured the Military Cross, having brought down over nine enemy machines.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the friends and relatives of Captain Guy Moore, M.C.

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FACULTY NEWS**RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY
PASSED AT ITS FIRST MEET-
ING SINCE THE DEATH OF
OUR LATE PRESIDENT**

We, the members of Faculty, desire to express our sense of the great loss which we have sustained in the death of our first President.

Dr. Wesbrook came to us, with a reputation already high, from a comparatively old and firmly established University; and that reputation he has not only sustained, but enhanced. His task was to raise a University which should be worthy of our people, and the ideals and traditions of the Empire of which we form a part. To this task he brought a combination of qualities rarely found—a wide knowledge of educational systems, great gifts of speech and administration, buoyant enthusiasm, untiring energy and a single devotion to the public good. His ideal university was one which should seek first the intellectual, moral and physical well-being of the people, and this high conception he strove with all the energy of his nature to realize. In face of unforeseen difficulties, his faith did not fail, nor did his enthusiasm flag; and, looking back, we can say with truth that his efforts have not been in vain. Others will enter into his labors, but they will find the foundations truly laid and the building nobly planned, and the spirit of him who formed the plan will continue to inspire the efforts and shape the policy of his successors.

Perhaps nowhere did the true character of the President shine out more clearly than at the council-table of Faculty, and in his relations with his colleagues. Here his ripe wisdom, sound judgment, wide outlook and grasp of affairs were always apparent; but still more apparent were his simple manliness, the elevation of his moral aims, his unaffected kindness and cordiality, and his sympathy with every right and just cause. The personal interest which he took in his colleagues was an inspiration to them in their work, and their affection for him was equal to their admiration.

He has passed away while his natural force was not abated and his mental vision undimmed, and the image of what manner of man he was in his strength will remain stamped on the minds of all who knew him.

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"Yes," answered the other; "it is where the professors keep their Fords."

Such ignorance must be dispelled at once. Of course, the average person knows that those new buildings between Arts and Science are used in the vocational training of returned soldiers. The garage class is the largest, and it was the garage I first entered to gather information for the super-ignorant Freshie.

I stepped up to a man strenuously hammering at a tire on a car. "Working?" I enquired pleasantly.

No answer.

"Putting a tire on?" was my next.

"Nope; taking one off," was the reply.

Then the worker saw my notebook and at once became friendly. I explained that I represented Canada's greatest weekly, and he sent me to Mr. Parsons, the boss, who gave me the following news:

The course in automobile instruction includes theory and practical work. It is complete in every detail and lasts six months, after which the pupil should be an expert on the automobile.

At present there are 43 members, and for their instruction there is a gas engine, a marine engine and eight automobiles. A lathe is to be installed in the near future.

These men have a separate cloak-room.

Judging by the way they work, the Huns never had a chance from the beginning.

As I left the building I turned to Mr. Parsons.

"The professors don't really keep their Fords here, do they?" I said.

"Certainly not," was the emphatic answer. So there you are, dear Freshies.

Next week your education will be continued by a description of the steam engineering class.

Captain S. Anderson, better known as "Syd," who enlisted from Science '20 in 1916, has resumed studies with Science '22. This gallant officer received the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1918 for substantial service, rendered in a sea patrol battle between three British and seven Hun planes. His seaplane was shot down and he clung to the wreck, although wounded, till rescued by a British destroyer.

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