

# The Abyss

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

Volume II.

VANCOUVER, B. C., OCTOBER 9, 1919

Number 1

## Freshette Initiation Highly Successful

NEWCOMERS SPEND LIVELY  
EVENING

"The Seniors were born for great things;  
the Sophs. were born for small;  
But it never has been recorded why the  
Freshmen were born at all."

However, on Friday night the Freshettes of '23 were properly and scientifically initiated into the way in which they should go, in order that, in time to come, they may play with wisdom the weighty part of Sophomores, and, in turn, initiate the Frosh. in 1920.

The Freshettes, segregated with care from the rest of the University, were ushered first into the presence of a grave and learned judge, who heard the charges of ultra verdancy brought against them, and dismissed them, to suffer the just punishment of their sins at the hands of the outraged Sophomores.

By the time the strangers had acquired a due familiarity with the hard and stony stairs of the Arts Building, and made their way along the endless corridors (a proceeding highly reminiscent to many of the attempts to reach a definite goal during rush hours since college opened), full preparations had been made for the guests in the Auditorium. Chewing-gum and a highly-palatable compound of castor-oil and mustard were doled out to the grateful Freshies, many of whom displayed a truly praiseworthy unselfishness in their desire to take no more than their share. After a sensational trip on an improvised scenic railway, and a visit to the awful precincts of Dr. Sedgewick's empty office, the Freshettes were forced to kneel while a brief summary of what is expected from them was given. After swearing to show all love and reverence for the Seniors, respect for Juniors, and tolerance for Sophomores, the newly-initiated were formally accepted as rightful members of the U. B. C.

Miss McInnes then addressed the gathering, pointing out the advantages offered nowadays, in the way of higher education, as contrasted with the hardships of earlier times. After refreshments were served, the girls of all years mingled in a lively dance, the guests of the evening showing their excellent spirits by entering heartily into the idea of the entertainment. The general verdict was that the new students showed a splendid spirit throughout. Our new Freshettes are real good sports, notwithstanding their traditional "greenness."

## Governor-General Addresses 'Varsity

U. B. C. RECEIVES VISIT FROM  
DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE

On Monday last the University of British Columbia was especially honored by a visit from His Excellency the Duke of Devonshire. Although other engagements prevented our Governor-General from remaining long, he yet found time to inspect our buildings, and to address the members with a few inspiring words.

Amid the strains of student voices, the vice-regal party entered the Auditorium. Dr. McKechnie, the Chancellor of the University, then introduced the Duke to the audience, and explained to him the work which is now being carried on by this institution. Full courses in Arts, Science, Agriculture and Mining are now being given. The enrollment, which four years ago was under 400, now numbers about 850.

In reply, the Governor-General congratulated the University on the splendid work which it has done and is now doing. No institution, he said, could boast of a finer record than that established by college men during the last five years. In every field, and in every line of service, they have proved their true worth. Their success has been great; so should be their credit and their support.

As Chancellor of the University of Leeds, the Duke of Devonshire is intensely interested in university work and development. He is anxious that the work, so well begun here, shall continue and increase in the future.

The speaker laid particular emphasis upon the situation which now confronts our civilization. During the war great losses have been incurred, and great changes have been wrought in an incredibly short time. The process of readjustment must be taken in hand by the college man.

In conclusion, His Excellency wished the University every possible success in all its undertakings.

GYPSY SMITH  
IS  
COMING

## Pity Poor Frosh Initiated to U.B.C.

ARTS '23 MAKES AMENDS FOR  
GREENNESS

Nobody passing the Science Building on Saturday evening could remain deaf to the fact that something was happening. Need we remark that the annual initiation of the Freshman was being carried out?

The torture of uncertainty caused much trepidation in the ranks of the innocent and unoffending Freshmen waiting dire punishment for no crime but that of being green. Nor did the welcome met with at the door of the main lecture-room tend to allay their fears. Blindfolded and bandaged, with thumbs bound together, each Freshman was delivered up to torment. On rising from the floor, which had slipped from under him most unaccountably, he was dragged to the decorating-room and branded with a large "23" on the forehead. Further disfigurement followed at the hands of the barber, chosen especially for his unsteady hand. After being electrocuted in another chair, the exhausted victim was rushed for treatment to the doctor, from whose hands various remedies were received with great relish. The Freshmen seemed to realize that they can not be permitted to enjoy the privileges of the University without undergoing some test of merit. Suffice it to say that they went through this barbaric ordeal with stout hearts, and joined most lustily in the cheering and rooting later.

The parade through town was most successful. The Vancouver Hotel was honored by a visit from the ragged and black-face crowd of noisy students; more steam was blown off at the Lodge, and a grand and glorious uproar raised at the Postoffice corner. Purdy's was commandeered till all could secure "Varsity Specials"—a favorite dish of the students, put up for their benefit by Mr. Purdy. To finish off the evening, the crowd marched to the Arena, filed in with military precision, and gently, but forcibly, reminded General Currie and the host of dancers of the existence of the U. B. C.

## WOMEN'S LIT.

The work of the Women's Lit. commenced this fall with a brief meeting for the election of officers to fill the vacancies on the executive. The results of the voting were as follows: Vice-president, Miss Annie Smith; secretary, Miss Maude Rowan.

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**A FRESHIE'S GARDEN OF VERSE**

Freshies, you are very little,  
 And your brains are very brittle;  
 If you would grow Seniors, stately,  
 You must learn to act sedately.

You will never venture, surely,  
 To give opinions immaturely;  
 Freshies never hope for glory—  
 Theirs is quite a different story.

**The Whole Duty of a Freshie**

A Freshie always says what's true,  
 And speaks when she is spoken to;  
 At least, as far as she is able,  
 She tries—that's her all over, Mabel!

**The Prof.**

The friendly Prof., so bald and grey,  
 I love with all my might;  
 He gives me lessons every day  
 That keep me up all night.

I have a little Freshie that goes in and out with me;  
 And what can be the use of it is more than I can see.  
 It is very loud and noisy from its heels up to its head,  
 And at noon it runs before me, in a hurry to be fed.

The funniest thing about it is the way it likes to go  
 Along with other Freshies, all walking very slow,  
 In large and compact masses, segregated in the hall,  
 Until there's hardly room for me, squeezed up against the wall.

**L'Envoi**

The world is so full of a number of Profs.,  
 I'm sure you will presently all become Sophs.

The death of Jack Webster during the past summer was one of those events which, occurring at intervals, serve to remind us that the events and pleasures of this life are not, after all, the most serious details of our existence.

Jack was a happy boy, friendly and affectionate; a boy of rather extraordinary ability, and with a great natural gift in the use of brush and pencil. Everyone who knew him loved him for his many qualities of worth; and his manner of meeting death proved him, above all else, to be a man.

Jack, his father, and his younger brother, David, were fishing in a lake near the head of the outlet, when David, becoming excited, fell out, and the pull of the river drew him away from the boat. Jack leaped in, as did also Mr. Webster, and, though David and his father were saved, Jack was drowned, having taken a cramp in the cold water.

Though we cannot but feel sorry for his loss, yet we can always be glad and proud that, in the supreme test, our fellow-student was not found wanting, and that he met death as a gentleman and a man.

"He that loseth his life . . . shall gain it."

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### WOW!

According to present indications, this year's Musical Society will be a howling success. The executive has planned a much more extensive programme than that of former years. In addition to the two major performances to be held in November and March, other entertainments will be provided by the society.

Mr. E. H. Russell, who has given so much time and care to the work in past seasons, will be the leader; and the Musical Society is indeed fortunate in having so able and enthusiastic an instructor. The aim of the society is to provide funds to purchase a grand piano for the University. Everyone should help! If you can sing, think you can sing, or even if someone ever said you could sing, join the Glee Club. An expert knowledge of music is not essential. Any players of violins, cellos, trombones, cornets, etc., will be very welcome for the orchestra. The Varsity needs that piano, and the Musical Society needs your help.

### RUGBY

Everything indicates that the coming year in Rugby is going to be the biggest yet known in the University. Between forty and fifty men are turning out at each practice, in this number being included many old stars that are getting back into the game. In Lord, Plummer and Rolston, U. B. C. has three of the best forwards in the city; while Heyland and Wallis, in the back division, will take a lot of stopping. There are also quite a few younger players turning out who will keep up a brisk competition for places on the Senior team.

Last Saturday, after the practice at Brockton Point, the playing officers were elected. Art Lord was chosen captain and H. Gwythers was made vice-captain. Under the leadership of these two able men, it is certain that Varsity will make a good showing against any team it encounters; and it is even thought probable that, before the season is over, three cups will decorate the University's halls.

### ELECTIONS

As is usually the case in our uncertain existence in U. B. C., many of the newly-elected student officers have been unable to continue their work. The resignation of Mr. Morrison from the presidency of the Alma Mater left open the most important office of our student societies, and an office, moreover, to which is attached a most unpleasant amount of hard work. After the opening of the session, nominations were called for, and the names of Mr. Nelson and Mr. Coates were submitted. Mr. Nelson, however, refused to allow his name to stand—the result being the election, by acclamation, of Mr. Coates.

The present incumbent is a member of Arts, and has held many official positions in student activities—offices which he has filled in a capable manner. With the support of the student body, Mr. Coates should be able to lead the Alma Mater through a banner year.

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The coming winter should be the most successful in the history of college athletics. With the greatly increased enrollment and the large number of returned athletes, there should be a superabundance of candidates for all 'Varsity teams. When the Victoria trip is made this year, we hope to take with us not only the Rugby and basketball teams, but an ice hockey team, a soccer eleven, and, possibly, still other representatives of our college athletics.

And everybody should take part. There are very few in U. B. C. who are so far physically unfit that they cannot find some branch of athletics in which to take an active interest. The individual who comes to college only to study—to become a storehouse for facts—is not getting an education. A well-stored mind in a feeble body is a pitiful sight. Nay, more—it is criminal; for in almost every case the weakness of the body can be ascribed only to the careless indifference of the sufferer himself. Pick your sport and stick to it. Don't try everything—take one branch and do it well, and thus be an honor to the college and a satisfaction to yourself.

\* \* \*

The "Uby ssey" is glad to note that at last some attempt is to be made to give our University the outward semblance, as well as the inward grace, due to an institution of higher learning. We refer to the agitation in favor of the wearing of gowns by Seniors and the proper apparel of Freshmen. At the present time a casual visitor to our spacious corridors would hardly be impressed by the dignity and air of wisdom, disseminated by knickerbockered boys and the flowing tresses of embryonic maidens.

Why the regulation regarding the age of admission to the University is not enforced has always been a source of mystery to the average undergraduate. As long as those in charge of the registration of students allow any infant to enter the first year (provided it has passed the matriculation examination), regardless alike of mental or physical development, so long shall we retain the appearance of a mediocre preparatory school.

However, much may be done by regulation (by the students themselves) of the dress of the incoming Frosh. Attired in long trousers, even the most innocent and appealing of our young friends must, perforce, take upon himself somewhat of the dignity of manhood. A properly arranged coiffure and a lengthened skirt would go far toward adding age to the most tender damsel.

That gowns should be worn by Seniors is an established precedent in nine-tenths of the colleges, even of this continent. Gowns will help to add a touch of dignity, a finish and a distinction, which is often lacking in our crude and makeshift western civilization. While we do not desire to have all originality and spontaneity strangled by Eastern convention, nevertheless dignity is not conventionality, nor is virility lost by refinement.

So, Twenty, will you live up to your traditions, and again lead the way for the other years; or shall to a later class be left the honor of instituting this needed reformation?

## GREETINGS

To former students who have returned to resume their college work, and to the Freshmen class of this session, the Alma Mater Society extends a welcome. Many men who were at one time members of classes, which have since graduated, may be found in our halls this session. Their return to academic work is a magnificent tribute to the type of student who left the University to go overseas. We shall look to them to spread among us that spirit of fellowship so characteristic of the true soldier, and to give to our ranks the solidarity which marks more mature organizations.

For the larger number of Freshmen, however, this session means the immediate passing from High School into the University. It is often difficult to step out of such an atmosphere and adjust oneself to the new conditions. It is hoped, however, that, after three weeks of college, they have learned that no longer are they "going to school" or "studying their lessons" or "staying in for teacher," but that they have passed on to an entirely new stage in their experience, where individual responsibility has become the predominant force in their lives.

For many, the entering of college marks the first serious decision which they have made. If they have not registered in that spirit, then they have no excuse for being in attendance. Life is not a frivolous thing, and academic training for one who views it as such is futile. May those entering upon the work this year do so with a full appreciation of what a university course means to them, so that their efforts here may result in preparation for making a valuable contribution to society.

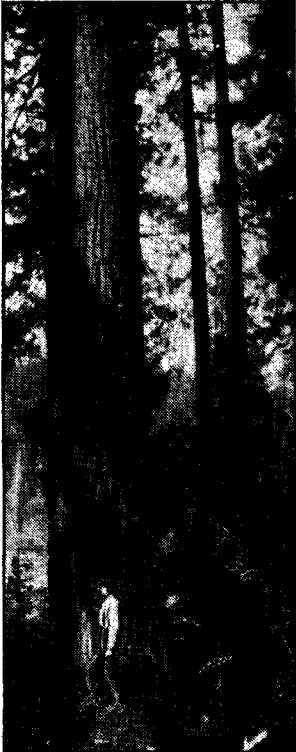
In regard to the proposed institution of the wearing of gowns, why not start with the Professors?

Recently, one of our new twelve-year-old friends was heard to make the following remark:

"When I got to school this morning the teacher wasn't there, so we didn't have any lesson; and I had all my homework done, too."

For the benefit of this type of ver-dancy, we wish to remind the culprits that they have left the kindergarten, and should endeavor to convey that impression by their language, even if their appearance is irremediably childish.

If rumor speak true, the Ubysses will soon have the pleasure of welcoming another compatriot in the field of university literature. We wish all success to the newcomer.



## OUR NEW PRESIDENT

During the vacation students in all parts of the province received with unusual pleasure the intimation of the appointment of Dean L. S. Klinck to the presidency of the University of B. C. In the classroom he had proven himself a scholar. While filling the position of acting-president he had displayed the tact and ability of a successful administrator. And as a man he had earned the esteem of all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. The students shall always feel that they have a true friend in the new president. British Columbia may regard herself fortunate in the choice of one who is so uniquely adapted to guiding the early growth of our Western University.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The latest addition to the rapidly-growing list of student organizations is the newly-formed Historical Society. Interest in historical matters is steadily increasing in U. B. C., and, with the assistance of Dr. Eastman and Mr. Sage, history enthusiasts have banded together for the discussion of current or ancient problems of humanity. At the initial meeting a committee was appointed to draft a constitution. Members will be classed as Ordinary, Associate and Honorary, the first two headings including undergraduates, members of Convocation and Alumni. The Ordinary membership is restricted to students of the third- and fourth-year Arts.

Mention must be made in this first number of the "Ubysses" of the excellent work done by the members of the advertising staff. The following men have been particularly busy securing ads.: Smith, '21; McKee, '22; McIntyre, '22; Wallace, Sc. '21; working under the advertising manager, Fournier, '21.

## MEN'S LIT.

The first meeting of the Men's Literary Society was held in the Auditorium on Thursday evening, October 2nd. After a short sing-song, the meeting came to order. The honorary president, Mr. Henry, gave a short and interesting address on the purpose of the society and the value of public speaking.

It was decided to hold the meetings of the society on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The president outlined the programme for the year.

The meeting was then turned into an impromptu discussion; Messrs. Peardon and Peebles setting an example in oratory, which the other members were not slow to follow. Nearly every one present spoke, either voluntarily or by request. Every one enjoyed himself and much new talent was uncovered, which augurs well for the success of the oratorical contest and the international debate.

## Y.W.C.A. RECEPTION

The first organization to take an active part in helping the bewildered Freshettes to forget the trials and troubles of the first days of University life was the Y. W. C. A., which held a very successful reception on the afternoon of September 24th. Mrs. Klinck and Miss Lowe were both present, and joined with Miss Leila Coates in welcoming the new students. Each Freshette received paper and pencil, and, properly chaperoned by a Senior girl, was encouraged to guess the status of the different students, a successful guess being rewarded by an autograph. Many were the compliments showered upon second- and third-year students in the question: "Are you a Senior?" Some new camp-fire songs closed the programme, and the guests departed—many wondering audibly what lapse from dignity had occasioned their being several times classed as Sophomores.



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**PROFS. ON VACATION**

As reporter of that lively and up-to-date weekly, the "Ubyssy," it has been our pleasant duty, during the past week, to interview certain members of the Faculty concerning several manners whereby they were enabled to endure the monotony of the past vacation.

We first approached Prof. F. G. C. Wood, and, after promising faithfully to publish everything he said, we prevailed upon him to give us the only true and authentic account of his life during the past five months.

It seems that, last spring, Mr. Wood undertook to chaperone the class of Arts '20 upon an excursion up Grouse Mountain. The Professor was so struck with the scenic beauties and dramatic and, incidentally, romantic possibilities of the surrounding country that he determined to pass the entire vacation upon the mountain top. Accordingly, early in May, Mr. Wood made the arduous ascent entirely by himself, accompanied only by the necessary accessories of camping life—a tent and a sewing-machine. For some time, it appears, Mr. Wood has cherished the dream that the day would come when every individual within our University would wear the college gown. His mind's eye caught the vision of many black-robed figures stealing silently and mysteriously through our spacious corridors. He saw, in imagination, Mr. Tansley sweeping majestically through the library, garbed in flowing black. After five months' hard labor, assisted only by the sewing-machine, Mr. Wood completed the manufacture of a single gown. He was pleased to show us this remarkable production, and has promised to appear in it at an early date.

We next raided Dr. Sedgewick's office, demanding admittance in the name of the Press, with threatening references to last year's still-uncorrected essays. We were admitted. Dr. Sedgewick, however, was very reticent; he desired his past to remain a blank; but, after many hints and leading questions, we succeeded in drawing forth the following account: Dr. Sedgewick's intention had been to join the Geological Survey going North for the summer. On the day of departure the Doctor mislaid his pipe, and the journey had to be given up, as he was totally unable to cope with the situation.

This last account gave us the idea of our young life. We went to Dr. Hodge.

"Look here," we said, "we have to write a genuine, all-round, ripping story, full of pep, entitled, 'The Profs. Summer Vacation.' Can't you give us a tip?"

The learned man fixed upon us a benevolent gaze of mild surprise.

"During the vacation," he began, with his usual eloquent deliberation, "I have been much interested in the intimate and extraordinary relationships existing between Literature and Geology. I have made a carefully-detailed study and memorization of the 'Rubaiyat of Omar Khayam.' That section dealing with the jug in the wilderness is especially of interest. I have no doubt this same jug is to be found in the Ordovician limestones underlying the Desert of Sahara. If not there, it is probably among the Highlands of Scotland."

After this interview, we got a headache; and the editor-in-chief, being a humane gentleman, let us go home early.

(To be continued next week.)

The new system of compulsory athletics for Freshmen is on the verge of its first year. Rigid examinations are being arranged with a view to ascertaining for what form of sport the men are fitted.

In making this new step, the University is carrying farther its task of preparing men for the world. Hitherto, it has merely provided opportunities for physical as well as mental training, and left to the student the choice of taking them or leaving them.

Colleges which have tried compulsory physical training have found that a far greater number of their students have turned out during their last three years, with compulsion during their first year, than under a strictly laissez-faire system.—Harvard "Crimson," Sept. 23, 1919.



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## LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of a new volume of verse by the already renowned poet, Mr. R. F. Had'em. Readers of the "Ubyssy" are already familiar with some of the earlier efforts of our friend, and it is only necessary to quote a few choice selections to win universal commendation for the poet:

## Ideal of Feminine Beauty:

Here came a sun-browned maiden  
into view,  
Her face and form and raven-shin-  
ing hair,  
And I was madly conscious of her  
fair  
And passionate beauty. She would  
often stay  
And gaze at me from dawn to  
hushed noon-day.  
I wonder why?

## The Most Fitting Death:

"We died on young green wheat."

## The Queen:

"And thou in thy blue-domed halls  
does queenly move."

## Famous Chorus:

Lonely she,  
From the sea,  
Think of me,  
Oh, gee!

## Pertinent Query: "Why are we living here?"

Poet's Answer: To "Kiss and be friends."

## Ode on Himself:

"Thy croaking tongue ne'er seems  
to rest  
In thine o'er-flowing glee."

## TENNIS RESULTS

Friday, October 3rd, saw the completion of the first tennis tournament held in U. B. C. Dr. and Mrs. Clarke had offered cups, respectively, for the men's and women's singles championships, and the club executive was not slow in arranging the competitions.

The men's finals were played between George Dixon and "Mickey" MacDougall, and some good games featured the play, though MacDougall's superiority was evidenced from the start. The final score was 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, in Mickey's favor. For this victory, coming, as it did, as the climax of a succession of hard matches, MacDougall is to be congratulated; and Dixon also should not be forgotten for his game display.

Miss Muriel Munroe won the ladies' singles in rather an easy fashion from Miss I. Mounce, the results being 6-2, 6-2. Miss Munroe's placements were particularly exact, and in her use of the back-hand displayed an ability very unusual in the fairer sex.

The cups which were won at this tournament are to be presented Friday night at the reception.

From a purely masculine viewpoint, the chief assets of the young lady contestants in the recent tennis tourney were their dazzling sweaters. At least one garment that we saw could be guaranteed to frighten the opponent into a nervous state of terror for quite six games.

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## MORE NOTES

We welcome the appearance on the stairs of the Arts building of a striking notice, "Keep to the Right." Some means of policing the traffic on the stairs has been vitally necessary, and it is to be hoped that this comparatively gentle hint will prove effective.

A business meeting of the recently organized Historical Society was held on Wednesday, and a constitution adopted. The officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

Hon. President, Dr. Eastman.  
Hon. Vice-Pres., Mr. W. N. Sage.  
President, H. Ll. Keenleyside.  
Vice-President, Patricia H. Smith.  
Secretary, F. H. Buck.  
Treasurer, Edna Marwick.  
Corresponding Secretary, Jessie A. McBeth.

## W. U. S.

The first general meeting of the Women's Undergraduate Society was held on Tuesday. For the benefit of the newcomers in Arts '23, Miss Pillsbury outlined briefly the objects of the society. After the meeting the Freshette elections were held, the following officers being appointed: Honorary president, Miss Simpson; president, Miss E. Eveleigh; vice-president, Miss C. Allardyce; secretary, Miss P. McKay; treasurer, Miss M. Gordon; Lit. representative, Miss N. Cordingly; Athletic representative, Miss J. Buckerfield; class reporter, Miss K. Stuart.

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**ALUMNI**

The Alumni Association has commenced activities again after a summer of comparative rest. At a general meeting held on September 26th, several new organizations were formed, including the Athletic Association, with Mr. John Allardyce as president. The final arrangements for the commencement of a Dramatic Society were completed on October 4th. This society, as yet without a name, has as its first president Miss K. Peck, '17. Dr. Sedgewick, although he claims he does not know a "darn thing" about coaching, has kindly consented to assist and advise when needed.

On October 4th the Alumni entertained at the first of a series of monthly luncheons at the Hotel Vancouver. The address was given by Mr. A. Lee Struthers and was an interesting demonstration, with Dr. Ashton and Mr. Pat Fraser as subjects, on that new commercial study, "Character Analysis."

The association is making plans for the holding of a memorial service for our University comrades who have fallen.

Steps are being taken to help the busy student by the establishment of a student vocational employment bureau, and a committee is considering the matter at present.

**AGRICULTURE NOTES**

The rally has been sounded, and many have responded; so many, in fact, that we hear the Faculty of Agriculture are having visions of becoming a greater factor in the life of the University than in the past.

We take this opportunity to welcome the new members of the staff, and hope that their connection with their branch of agriculture will be a pleasure. The Freshmen we wish to congratulate on their recovery from the ordeal of Saturday evening.

The Agricultural Discussion Club held its first meeting in the Auditorium on October 1st. The interest shown seems to assure a successful year.

On Saturday afternoon the Junior and Sophomore years held a theatre party at the Orpheum.

**SCIENCE**

The first meeting of the Applied Science Men's Undergraduate Society was held in the Physics lecture-room on Friday, October 3rd. The noble office of president was ably filled by our recently-elected dignitary, Mr. J. Kingham, of Science '21. Mr. Banfield, of Science '22, was assigned to the office of secretary; while Mr. Wallace, of Science '21, was appointed literary representative.

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