

The Wbysssey

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

Volume I.

VANCOUVER, B.C., FEBRUARY 13, 1919

Number 11

Wireless Club Is Formed In Varsity

THIRTY RADIO ENTHUSIASTS MEET TO FORM SOCIETY

A meeting of those interested in wireless was held in the Physics building at noon on Tuesday. Thirty were enrolled as charter members, and a temporary executive was elected to draw up a constitution and decide upon a name for the club. The temporary officers are: President, W. G. Walker; vice-president, H. G. Gwythers; secretary, Green.

A lot of apparatus has already been received, and more is expected. Equipment is already sufficient to enable the members to begin practising the code at once. Notice of further meetings will be posted in the halls.

If you are interested in wireless, now is the time to join. A knowledge of the code is not necessary.

STUDENTS' SERVICE SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Principal Gandier, of Knox College, Toronto, will address the student body at a special service to be held on Sunday, the 16th, at 3 p.m. This is being held in response to the call for prayer on behalf of the Peace Conference. Professor Trumpour, of Latimer Hall, will assist at this meeting.

As it is seldom that services of this nature are held in the University, it is hoped that all will endeavor to attend.

GLEE CLUB

Owing to the examinations, there were no practices by the Musical Society last week. However, they have been resumed, as usual, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. The orchestra, whose members have been practising diligently throughout the year, has joined with the Glee Club in the ren-

Players' Club Aids Memorial Fund

PERFORMANCES ON MARCH 6th 7th AND 8th—TICKETS NOW ON SALE

At the beginning of this college year, the Students' Council decided it was now time to consider some suitable memorial for the boys of the U.B.C. who gave their lives in the great struggle of the last four years. Various suggestions regarding the nature of the tribute have been informally discussed, but, as yet, a final decision is impossible. The first essential is the raising of money, and, to inaugurate such a fund, the Players' Club have decided to give the entire proceeds of their first two performances to this most worthy object. From the staging of "The Importance of Being Earnest," on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, March 6th and 7th, they hope to clear \$700, and will do so, if every student gives the support he should. The proceeds from the third performance of the series, on the evening of Saturday, the 8th, will go to the Women's Auxiliary of the General Hospital. These ladies are in need of money to furnish a sunroom in the Military Annex, and have asked the Players' Club to assist them. As over five hundred dollars of proceeds from another year were given to this same hospital, the Club members were only too pleased to renew their efforts in aiding the institution.

Tickets for the Thursday and Friday performances are now on sale. The advantage in buying these is that the box-office is open to those holding exchange tickets ten days earlier than to other purchasers. Last year many were disappointed in not getting the sort of seats desired; so the wise person is he who buys his tickets in good time.

dering of some of the selections. The addition of a cornet and trombone to the instruments of last year gives a still greater stimulus to our promising College band.

Senior Class Party Best Ever Held

GRADUATING CLASS IS ENTERTAINED AT THE HOME OF THEIR MEMBERS

The members of the Senior year were entertained by Miss Gintzburger at the home of her parents on the evening of Saturday, February 8th. Whist was the order of the evening. The games must have been exciting, to judge from the continuous merriment at most of the tables, and between games those who had finished playing provided a little jazz and ragtime with the musical favors they had received at the beginning of the evening. The rendering of "Polly-wolly-doodle" by Margaret Cameron and Gordon Fraser was particularly pathetic and was loudly encored. Marjory Peck was forced to reprimand Gordon Scott and Ian Gibson for their childish disputes, but otherwise the evening was unusually successful. Chocolate cake, coffee and ice-cream cannot be beaten for refreshments; and all appreciated them, especially Lord Fraser and Shaw vied with each other for the honor of being the class speaker. At midnight the best party ever held by Arts '19 broke up.

Everybody expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Gintzburger their appreciation of their kindness in entertaining the class and giving them a good time.

BASKETBALL

The first game in the Inter-Class Basketball League will be played on Monday night at 5:30 in the King Edward gymnasium, when the Science men will meet the team of Arts '22. Four teams are entered in this league, the other two being from Arts '20 and Arts '21. In all, twelve games will be played, each team taking part in six contests. The second game will be on Thursday, February 20th, between Arts '20 and Arts '21.

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WE WONDER

If you are still "going to school" or "attending the University"?

* * *

If you ever miss a warm lunch in order to attend a noon-hour meeting?

* * *

If you don't think it is time to cease aiming, and to open fire?

* * *

If you have ever considered who would make the best president for our Alma Mater next session; or

* * *

If you are letting someone else do all of the thinking for the College?

* * *

If you always greet the ones you meet in the morning with a hearty "Good morning"?

CYNICA GAY

Unanswered Correspondents.—Necessity (not choice), kind friends, was responsible for my neglect last week; for some research was unavoidable on my part, in order that certain insistent individuals might have some foolish and untimely questions answered.

Gwen.—Oh, dear little girl, let not the green-eyed monster enter your young life. The errand one did but succumb to that which lures men even from Browning lectures—the Orpheum. That, my dear, was why you had to go home alone one afternoon last week.

Astonished.—Oh, yes; Alfred R. has become quite a follower (in one sense) of religion. Matter of policy (but that's not her real name), he declares.

Nelson.—Moth-balls leave a horrid odor on spats, don't they? At the first few dances, after the ban, use a little more "White Rose."

Marjorie.—The best cure I know for blushing is—remove the cause. Don't do those things.

Country Student.—Now, my lad, if you want to be a man of fashion, wear sox like Murphy, ties like Fraser, and purchase one of those dreamy little Trench coats all the boys are wearing. Acquire a second name, like Preston or Havelock—it looks so nice on a dance programme.

Half the College (Feminine Half).—Please send no more personal questions about Dr. S—d—k. How do I know if he passes the Chemistry building at 9:10 on Tuesday morning, and if it's the furnace fires that keep him late, and if there are any slates around the Varsity?

Inquisitive.—I am a young lady and am not in any year; am only partially taking a course.

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MUSICAL NOTES

The musical outlook for the next month is not very encouraging, but better days are coming about the end of March. Two very great pianists are announced to appear here this season. The first, who has assumed the name of Ethel Leginska, now occupies the place held until a couple of years ago by Theresa Carreno as the greatest living woman pianist; the other is Leopold Godovsky, who is one of the greatest pianists of any time, past or present. Many authorities declare that he has reached the limit of human possibilities in the realm of pianoforte technique. This, perhaps, may be doubted; but there is no doubt whatever that he is a supremely great artist, and the rare opportunity to hear him again should not be neglected.

In addition to these two pianists, Cecil Fanning, the great American tenor, is announced to appear here, as well as Pablo Cassals, who is as great a 'cellist as Godovsky is a pianist. Besides all this, it looks very much as if we are to have more grand opera, and this time by a company which is even better than the San Carlo.

A COLLEGE SONG

If someone gifted with poetic ability can work up enough enthusiasm to write the words for our College song, there is no doubt whatever that the music will be forthcoming. It is impossible, however, to write a song without the words. As Robert Franz said, "The music emanates from the words; you cannot have the music first and then fit the words to it." We want an original College song of our own, and we are going to have it; but co-operation is necessary in order to achieve this end.

MILITARY NOTES

The action of the officers of the O. T. C., in temporarily cancelling the Tuesday drills in favor of athletics, seems to meet with general approval. The officers are willing to listen to the athletic enthusiasts, and to meet them in a fair-minded manner, which should result in an agreement suitable to all concerned.

It is confidently expected that arrangements will be completed whereby the members of the O. T. C. will be allowed to begin shooting practise within the next few weeks.

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SUBSTITUTE FOR DRILL

There is a great deal of unrest amongst the students, due to compulsory military training. The benefits of a course in any O.T.C. are very theoretical. Presumably the objects of such an organization, in a peace-loving and anti-military country, is to keep the students physically fit. But it fails to do so. There is, moreover, a spirit of medievalism in the training that would cast men into classes and deprive them of initiative. We believe, however, most of the students recognize their duty to the State is to be efficient men and women. Since efficiency can be only maintained by proper attention to the physical side of life, the authorities are well within their rights in enforcing some kind of athletics. We would suggest that the hours devoted to drill be given over to the charge of some expert instructor who would put the students (both men and women) through gymnastic exercises. Although not generally known, the fact is that apparatus work is not essential either to the development or maintenance of a healthy body. Dumb-bell drills, massed boxing, running and mat work constitute the principal features of the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. classes to-day. The space is already provided in the Auditorium. A good instructor, dumb-bells and mats would complete the necessary equipment. (These supplies will have to be purchased some time for the gymnasium at Point Grey.) A compulsory course, modelled upon those given in the Y. M. C. A's, would be a pleasure and not a hardship; the mental tone of the University would be much improved; and the physical slackers, and those who hate militarism, could have no complaint to make.

THE LIT. SOCIETIES

Our Province is very deficient in public speakers, and it seems to us that the University is the place in which such men should be developed. We are aware that we have two Literary Societies, but both of these are systematically failing in their work. One would think that they were organized for travelling speakers, professors and missionaries; for, amongst the students, it is always the same few who are the class debaters, and take part in the oratorical contest and international debate. The success of the Economic Discussion Clubs shows how deplorably these Lits have failed, as the meetings of the former show there has been lack of outlet for many of the students to express themselves. One mistake of the present organizations is, we believe, that everybody is a member, which, in practice, means very few are interested. There should be a definite membership, each one joining upon the understanding that, during the year, he or she will have a certain place in the year's programme. There are many subjects, historical, political and literary, which should come under the scope of the Literary Societies. These can be set forth in papers, debates and general discussions; impromptu speech nights, mock trials, mock parliaments and literary evenings would vary the programme. The Women's Lit. seems to have grasped the situation; would it be too optimistic to hope that the Men's Lit. may some day do the same?

CORRESPONDENCE

(The editors accept no responsibility for statements made in this column.)

Letters must be brief. They should be written on one side of the paper only and, if typewritten, must be double spaced. The name and year of the writer must be enclosed, but the letter may be published over the initials or a pen-name if so desired. No attention will be paid to letters that do not comply with these rules.

The editors consider themselves under no obligation to publish any one letter. In the case of two letters on the same subject, if both cannot be printed, the briefer will be given the preference.)

ENDOWMENTS

Editor "Ubysey":

We sometimes hear the complaint that this University has not been privately endowed, as have some of the Eastern universities; that this University needs money; and why doesn't some benevolent millionaire donate enough money to enable the institution to move to Point Grey? May the University of British Columbia never receive the endowment of a farthing, if such is to be used to pay for anything that it is the duty of the ratepayer to support. Such an endowment would be a curse. Scholarships, by all means; but when it comes to the question of reducing the rates and taxes, the beneficiary can but hinder. The people as a whole must provide the funds to carry on our provincial institution. To

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 able collection of books in a city of 200,000
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 to replace this with a real library? Never! Some
 other millionaire, dealing in futures, may wish to
 deposit a conscience-salve here in Vancouver to
 make his account balance in heaven.

L'H. I.

PEOPLE OF ONE IDEA

Dear Editor:

Some of us have been reading an essay upon
 "People of One Idea." It seems to me, dear
 Editor, that Hazlitt might have had in mind
 some students of this University—students who
 can only think and talk in terms of Economics
 and Economical Theories. If we dealt with more
 cultural subjects, we should not become so very
 one-sided and see "red," as the tendency is at
 present. Even students must be on their guard
 against the weak-minded sensationalism of the
 soap-box orator, which is so characteristic of
 "people of one idea," or, as Ralph Waldo Trine
 calls them, "people with only one window in
 their soul." Cannot the Men's Lit. save us from
 becoming ranting puppets of Bolshevism?

R. E. C.

THE ANNUAL

Editor "Ubyssy":

As far as can be seen from present arrange-
 ments, it is the intention of the Publications
 Board to turn out a very poor Annual this year.
 Mr. Webster cannot be blamed for this; he is
 doing his best, but his hands are tied. It seems
 that the trouble is lack of funds, necessitating
 a very small publication this year. We cannot in-
 sult the members of Arts '19—the first class to
 have passed completely through U.B.C.—by
 offering them a paltry pamphlet as a record and
 souvenir of the happy days they spent here. No
 one would object, I think, to paying fifty cents
 or a dollar, if it came out of the caution money,
 and it would enable the board to publish an
 Annual of which we would not be ashamed. The
 Annual of 1917 was excellent, that of 1918 almost
 as good; but what of 1919? Remember, too,
 that, compared with last year, the students have
 shown much greater enthusiasm in all activities
 this session. Surely we cannot allow our Annual
 to deteriorate just as rapidly as our University
 activities develop.

D. A. W.
 Science '20.

OUR SOCIAL REFORMER

Now "Facile descensus—" was the
 motto that he bore, and he came to
 chase all evil from the Science child-
 ren's door. Alas! his task is hopeless—
 boys will "suck" cigarettes, chew
 matches, and match pennies; and, by
 Heck! they sometimes bet. But, God
 bless his little heartie (very affection-
 ate); they know he's done his best; to
 his cause he is devoted, for he never
 takes a rest.

T. V. L.

He—I wonder where all the bugs go
 in the winter?

Him (absently)—Search me!

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Oh, say, can you see by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars thro' the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming;

While the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.

Chorus

Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,

As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,

In full glory reflected now shines on the stream.

Chorus

'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner. Oh, long may it wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand

Between their loved home and the war's desolation;

But with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n-rescued land

Praise the Pow'r that has made and preserved us a nation:

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

Chorus

And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

ECONOMIC LEGISLATION OF BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT

Lenine says, in a pamphlet called "The Soviet at Work": "What we have already decreed is yet far from adequate realization, and the main problem of today consists precisely in concentrating all efforts upon the actual practical realization of the reforms which have already become the law, but have not yet become a reality."

The fact that circumstances have prevented the Bolsheviki from putting their programme into practice, and that many of their followers have not fully understood it, should not blind our eyes to the real excellence in many respects of the Russian constitution and decrees.

The land, which was the basis of the old monarchic feudal system, has for long been one of the chief disturbing factors in Russian life, and it is the Bolshevists' attitude to the land which has won them such popularity among the peasants. Doubtless much of their legislation will pass away, but the country cannot go back to the old land system. A decree, published immediately after the November revolution, begins: "All private ownership of land is abolished without indemnification," and goes on to state that all land shall form a national agrarian fund which shall be divided among the people, giving to each man or woman as much land as he or she can cultivate, without hired help, though it is specially stated that the people shall co-operate so as to secure the benefits of large scale production. For anyone who is incapacitated, special provision is made: if he is incapacitated for a period less than six years, the community works his land and harvests his crops; if he becomes permanently incapacitated, his land is given to another, and he himself receives a pension from the State. The general land fund is periodically redistributed, depending on the increase in population and in the productivity of the land, but in such redistribution the kernel of the allotment must remain intact. If in any community the land proves insufficient, the surplus population, at the expense of the

community, moves to another district. First, those who wish to move go; then those who forfeited the rights of citizenship and want another chance; and, lastly, those who are chosen by lot.

How the land actually passed from hand to hand, we do not know; but we do know what machinery the Bolsheviki have provided to administer this land decree. Land committees are elected, under the control of the local soviet, in each community. These committees are responsible for the distribution of land and agricultural implements, and for the collection of taxes which the people pay for the use of the land. Special provisions apply to city real estate and buildings; but, beyond the fact that apartments worth less than eight hundred rubles per annum remain in the hands of the present tenants, and all inhabitants of apartments worth more than this must pay the difference to the State, no details are at hand.

In the field of industry and commerce, the same principle of socialization prevails. The motto is: "He shall not eat who does not work." The right to vote and to be a candidate to a soviet is given to all those who earn their living through work useful to society. Moreover, the franchise is denied to any who live on the interest of capital, without working; to brokers, to clergy, to the insane, and to any who have forfeited the right by selfish or dishonorable offences; but it is not denied to the educated. Indeed, the boards of workmen's control, which manage private enterprises confiscated by the State, are composed of an equal number of representatives from the workers proper and the technical staff. In some cases they have been able to find only enough trained men to form one-third of the board. Just now the Bolsheviki leaders feel that the *intelligentia* cannot be trusted very much, but they realize that they must find some means of taking them up into their organization.

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ECONOMIC LEGISLATION OF BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT (Continued from Page 6)

rather than the making of profits. All competition is, of course, abolished; and it is hoped that, when this artificial restraint is removed, labor and capital will flow into more natural and more productive channels.

The Government has made the grain trade a State monopoly, hoping in this way to prevent, in some degree, the starvation which threatens. The Russian Constitution contains very definite legislation regarding the conditions of work; the eight-hour day is compulsory, and specific regulations are made governing meal hours, rest periods, holidays, overtime work, women's and children's labor, and like matters; State insurance is also provided for those in dangerous trades. Altogether these regulations seem to be consistent with humanity and efficiency at the same time. A Vladivostok factory, which turned out eighteen cars each day and employed six thousand men, was reorganized under the new system; the staff was cut down to one thousand five hundred, but the output was twelve cars a day, which meant an increase of efficiency over one hundred per cent. But, of course, things have not gone as smoothly in all factories. In one institution they adopted a system by which each two hundred workers sent a delegate to receive their wages on pay-day. Once the man, thus trusted, fell under the influence of vodka and lost all the money. His fellow-workers sat in judgment upon him and decided to expel him, but to support his family. The loss was then distributed among the whole fifteen hundred workers in the factory.

All power in Russia is vested in the Soviet, under whose control the aforementioned land committees and boards of workmen's control act. These local committees and boards are linked up through the district, regional and provincial organs to the all-Russian main committees, over which the commissaries, or, as we should call them, the ministers, preside.

As one means of emancipating the people from the exploitation of capital, the banking business is declared a State monopoly, and all existing banks are taken up (their assets and liabilities as well) into the national bank. The church is separated from the State, and the school is separated from the church. The people's committee on education is ordered to print all Russian classics in a cheap form and to provide for popular education.

(Continued on Page 8)

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ECONOMIC LEGISLATION OF BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Page 7)

All existing legal institutions, district courts, courts of appeal, etc., are abolished, and in their place a court, consisting of a permanent elected judge and two jurors selected in turn by the Soviet from a list of jurors. These courts are altogether separate, of course, from the revolutionary tribunal, which does not deal with civil matters.

Inheritance, such as we know it, is abolished; but in case a man dies, or leaves a community, his relatives are given first choice for his land when redistributed.

The story is told that, one morning, Souchanov, the young Petrograd leader, was listening to the sounds of the hammers striking in the valley below him. He turned to his friend and said: "The old revolutionists used to make a noise with bombs, but this is the noise of the new revolutionists." The Bolsheviki have certainly not used the old tools of democratic government; whether they will be able to work out the idea expressed in their constitution, or not, time alone can tell.

I. M. T.

ANNUAL, 1919

There is much activity in Annual circles this week. Plans for this year's production had only begun when the attention of the Annual staff, in common with all other students, was required in another direction. However, those days of torment have past into memory, and all have once again regained their natural poise. Haste must be made. Every one who has been given any responsibility must realize the necessity for immediate action. Advantage must be taken of every day. All material, including class and society notes, ought to be at the Publications office by February 20th. It is especially urged that those who are requested to call at Bridgman's Studio may do so not later than the time stated above. Those who know the facts can clearly appreciate the immense difficulty of producing an Annual this session. It is therefore to be hoped that all students will cheerfully co-operate with the staff in their task of making the best possible use of very limited means. But don't forget to act—now.

Gloom (in cafe)—Say, waiter, have you ever been to the zoo?

Waiter—No, sir.

Gloom—You ought to go; you'd enjoy seeing the tortoises whiz past.

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