

And now as we have the facts before us, let us reflect upon them. Let us get to work, society men first make the meetings interesting and profitable, so others will be pleased to attend. Then let us work to get new men into the societies, and make them what they once were, a credit to us and to our college, that you may in later years look back upon your college life and say with pride that you were a society man.

* * *

WHERE is the art of oratory in which the ancients and our forefathers gloried so extensively? Looking for its exponents in the fields where they formerly existed, we find that in this age of reason, becoming practically useless, they have disappeared from view. The greatest law-makers of to-day in our legislative bodies are not those who attempt to hold their hearers by blatant oratory and graceful gesture, but comprise among their number the men who will give facts to their audience, and giving facts nearly always necessitates a great amount of reading, so oratorical effort is not sought after and is in fact thought out of place. And so it is in other walks of life. The minister strives to impress his hearers not so much by his delivery as by his ideas, while the lawyer who excels in cross examination and in handling the testimony in his plea, has an immense advantage over an opponent with the most flowery of arguments.

Right in this line comes the recent move of the senior class towards the abolishment of Commencement orations. What can be more absurd than for men who have pursued technical studies for four years, to attempt to give an oration of literary merit, dealing with the vast problems of the past, present and future, and explaining to the gaping audience how the course of the earth will be turned when they enter into the arena of life? At their best these orations furnish a field for labor, please the relatives of the orators, and form a glossy crust of knowledge only, under which is

a vacuum as deep and profound as the greatest ocean. All the larger colleges and universities have abandoned them and it is about time that State was following their example. Let us have a good address to the graduating class by some noted man who knows what he is talking about, and thus avoid an entertainment which is little better than a long and tiresome oratorical contest. Our college is up to date in almost every other direction, so it is to be hoped that this change may speedily be wrought.

* * *

IT is about time that our students or the Athletic Association as a body are protecting their interests by seeing that every admission to any event on Beaver Field is paid for. It is becoming quite a common thing for groups of people to gather at a little distance from the athletic field and view the contests while refusing to pay for them; and what is far worse, for the officials to countenance such a thing and pass it over until it becomes a custom. They should run such individuals off the grounds, and if they are not able to do this themselves, they should get sufficient reinforcements until they are able to perform their duty. We have tolerated this kind of a thing too long and too often for our own good and the sooner we stop it by some summary method, the better it will be for all concerned.

* * *

EVERY few years we hear of some great innovation along the lines of education, of this or that institution discarding some feature which at one time was thought indispensable to the educational system.

Prof. Freeman, of Oxford, together with Prof. Max Muller, instituted inquiries as to whether some modification of the method of examinations was not possible.

But although they secured the signatures of hundreds of England's most prominent educators stating that they believed the examination an objectionable feature in the system of instruction, no material alterations resulted.