

# THE DALHOUSIE REVIEW

VOL. VI



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## THE DALHOUSIE REVIEW

To the Editor of The Chronicle:

Sir:—The current issue of the Dalhousie Review, the first number of volume six, contains an article by H. Irvine which will be read with pleasure alike by those interested in the theatre as by that larger number of Halifax people who remember, and are not likely to forget, his revelation to them of his interpretative powers as actor and artist. Acting suffers from its lack of permanence, as Mr. Irvine points out, but when an actor has the insight "to perceive a greater harmony, a deeper meaning, in objects around him or in thoughts that he receives, than is granted to the majority of his fellows" a permanence is given to the art akin to the sister arts of music, painting, and sculpture. Mr. Irvine writes logically, thoughtfully, and with the humor and zest that we have learned to expect from him.

Guidance or at least thoughtful comment on political questions is expected from a publication of the class of the Dalhousie Review, but the article on "The Constitutional Debate" by J. S. Ewart, K. C., to which leading place is given, is disappointing alike in subject and method of treatment. In subject it is a mere flogging of a dead horse. No Canadian imagines that either of the two great parties would be guilty of an unconstitutional act, and the interest of neither is in correct procedure but in casting discredit upon the other. Why give chief place in the Review to discussion of a debate which the writer himself says was of the school-boy character? Mr. Ewart, in spite of a show of lawyer-like reasoning is unable to forget either his personal feelings or his party prejudices. He asks "Could any system be more stupid?" and unable to forget King Charles's head adds, "It is one of the 'British Institutions' for which some of our people express unbounded admiration." In a supposedly grave discussion he stoops to criticise the grammar and questionable Latin of his opponent. Mr. Ewart is doubtless an authority on constitutional law, but the article is worthy neither of him nor of the Review. In marked contrast

L. KINGSTON, Joyce Jones, Mrs. J. G. I. Renner; Stage II. Mrs. Burns, Mrs. H. Betts, Margaret Kerrison, Agnes Reynolds, Kathleen Wall; Stage III. Mrs. J. Brown. MUMFERTY (M. Walsh):—Stage I. Mrs. A. Ashe, M. E. Burke, Annie Leitch, Edna Craig, Mrs. J. Kinloch, Mrs. E. Morrissey, Mrs. W. D. Torfan, Kathleen Saxton, Vera To-

ment for the objects of their choice.

Mr. McNutt's charming account of his visit to Thomas Hardy and Miss Macleod's article on Mapleque make light and refreshing reading after some of the more controversial discussions in the Review.

In "Real Canadian Literature" Mr. W. E. Maclellan contends that Martha Ostenso's "Wild Geese" is "Canada's foremost contribution to English Literature"; and in an appreciative sketch of the late Cardinal Mercier, Professor Phelan shows two sides of the great patriot's heart and mind, his simplicity and his great learning, and reveals his life's work to have been the revival of interest in Scholastic philosophy so much abused and so long neglected since the time of Bacon. Dr. Prince in "The King of the Skeena's Last Voyage" creates for us the very atmosphere of the grim North Western coast; and Professor Bentley, a graduate in English from Dalhousie, writes interestingly of his wanderings in Europe, avoiding on the one hand the inanities of the guide book, and on the other fatuous generalisations. His profound summary should be read by every Canadian.

To be representative of Nova Scotia, a magazine must devote considerable space to articles of a political nature, and must also contain poetry. In this issue are to be found four poems, for Dr. MacMechan's "Old Lovers" is a prose poem. We are indebted to Dr. MacMechan for drawing the veil of conventionality from our eyes, and giving us a true vision of lovers like Johnson, Swift and above all Wordsworth and Carlyle. The sonnet "At the Grave of Keats" seems to be a straining after the bizarre. The octave is beautiful in conception and workmanship, but the sestet is involved and obscure. Still it is worthwhile, which is more than can be said for the other two poems. Both are pretty, without a new thought or an old one expressed in a new way. They come under

reported with commission houses forced to cover. A large trade was the heavy short interests were turned sentiment very bullish in the reduction of the Argentine surplus, world to supply requirements and was not sufficient wheat in the Broughall's statement that there 3-8 for October. May: \$1.50 3-8 for July and \$1.32 to 2-5-8c higher at \$1.53 1-8 for siderably, the close ranging 2-8-8c resulted. Quotations gained con- today; an active trading session market out of the "featureless," but "shorts" covering, sent the wheat decided strength at Chicago and able weather in the Canadian west.