

de Calais,' 'La Porte d'Enfer,' and other celebrated productions whose originals adorn provincial and foreign cities.

The inaugural ceremony was performed by M. Lafferre, Minister of Education and Fine Arts, and recently the museum was opened to the public. The price of admission has been fixed at one franc on week days, but on Sundays no charge will be made. The remainder of Rodin's collections, which will remain at the Villa des Brillants, his home at Meudon, have not yet been arranged, but it is hoped that these will be ready for public inspection during the coming months.

DURING the last two terms, Oxford has been busily engaged in picking up the stitches unraveled by the ruthless hand of war. The last four years have constituted an unprecedented break in her history, for the undergraduate population shrank to a mere handful, and those mostly invalids and Indians; colleges were invaded by cadet battalions; the porter's lodge became the guard-room; the abodes of the Dons were labeled 'Officers' Quarters'; booksellers went bankrupt, and tailors and sock-and-necktie specialists barely avoided a similar fate. Tradesmen still shake their heads gloomily at the thought of the bad days, though with the keen commercial instinct of their kind, they appear already to be well on the road to a renewed prosperity.

After the armistice, the tide of Oxford's military population began to ebb, and in January there came a great inrush of undergraduates anxious to make up for lost time, and most of them newly demobilized; the end of April found most colleges almost filled, and it is prophesied that next term Oxford will be overflowing. There are some curious anomalies to be found there nowadays; undergraduates who have been majors and colonels are a common enough feature, but at one college there is actually a brigadier; with what fascinating speculations this provides us! Can a general be 'progged'? Does this one do his 'rollers' regularly? and if not, has the dean the face to send for him and say, 'I am afraid, General Blank, that this means a fine of two-and-sixpence?' Then there is the

R.A.F. captain, who has returned to his pre-war work of 'Scout'; how does he relish his change of status?

But it is not only the British army that has contributed to the new population of the colleges; some two hundred American officers were quartered among us for a time, and only left at the end of June; it was a splendid opportunity for cementing the newly-founded friendship between the two countries, and it is satisfactory that the authorities seized it. Living the lives of ordinary undergraduates, the 'Yanks' very soon dispelled the stupid and mistaken ideas that English people have held concerning them for so long; we were agreeably surprised to find that they were not addicted to chewing and spitting, nor did they hold exaggerated notions of America's importance; on the contrary, they lavished praise on English institutions in general, and Oxford ones in particular, in a most gratifying manner; also they diverted us with baseball matches, and those strange cries and noises that seem inseparable from the game.

The usual Oxford sports flourished once more last term, but the Oxford and Cambridge boat race will not be rowed until next year. Eights Week, too, did not attract the pre-war crowd of visitors, although the ceremony of conferring degrees on the Allied commanders gave an historic lustre to this year's 'Commen.'

The new race of undergraduates started off in a most serious spirit.

UNIVERSITY circles in England are greatly interested in the outcome of a matter which at present is occupying the attention of Britain's two most famous seats of learning. The University of Cambridge has applied to the government for grants on a larger and more comprehensive scale than those which hitherto she has received. Oxford has made a limited application of the same kind, and the government's reply here, as at Cambridge, has raised an issue of extreme interest and very great importance. The government is quite willing to accede to the requests of the universities, but it imposes a condition which makes it not at all certain that its grants will be accepted. This condition consists in

the institution of a 'comprehensive inquiry into the whole resources of the university and its colleges, and into the use being made of them.' That Oxford should even consider the idea of 'a comprehensive inquiry' into the innermost recesses of her treasury is further evidence of the fact that the world spirit of revolution has not left even the universities uninspired. Some months ago Trinity College, Dublin, startled the academic world by the sudden announcement that she had done away with the old system of electing Fellows, and now there are prospects of government auditors inspecting the accounts of what, perhaps, is the most conservative university in the world. The three sister universities of the United Kingdom have always been, to a great extent, self-supporting, and have derived their wealth mainly from endowments and private sources. State assistance never has played a great part in their development. Since the war, however, the relations between the state and the universities all over the Kingdom have become closer. The scheme for the opening of courses to demobilized officers and men of His Majesty's Forces was made possible only by their intimate coöperation, and the good results which already have accrued encourage the thought that in the future

state and university may work in even closer union. Much as some of us may regret its passing, the old spirit of 'aloofness' and sequestered isolation is beginning to disappear from our great universities. Should they decide to accept the government's offer, and subject their accounts to the merciless scrutiny of official accuracy, we have no doubt that many old privileges would suffer, but the universities, as a whole, would not lose by the innovation. The wealth controlled by the great universities is large, but very unevenly distributed; and, while individual colleges may be extremely rich, the university, as such, as well as less fortunate colleges, may be badly in need of money. An official inquiry, followed by judicious grants, would do much to bring about a more even distribution, and there is little doubt that the universities and the whole nation would benefit in consequence. University education has ceased to be a privilege; it has become almost a necessity, and our universities are destined to play a greater part in the life of the state in future than ever before. For that reason it is essential that the bonds between state and university should be strengthened in order that the nation may be better fitted to cope with the huge tasks which lie ahead.

THE EDITOR'S NOTE-BOOK

Frank Dilnot, author and journalist, has long been a student of Anglo-American relations.

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Holbrook Jackson, poet and essayist, is the editor of *To-day*.

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Paul Henry is one of the younger group of Irish Nationalists.

J. H. Rosny is a French novelist of much distinction. His studies of social subjects in particular have been praised.

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Lytton Strachey is the author of *Eminent Victorians*.

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Sir Sidney Colvin, artist, critic, and author, will be remembered by many as the biographer of Keats and Stevenson.