

"News of the effort of the Dalhousie Alumni to pay for the new gymnasium, brings to my mind my old college days when a special room for athletic exercises and social entertainments was unknown. In my college days the students had to provide such quarters for themselves. There was no provision made for them by the authorities of the University. I haven't any doubt that an improvement has been effected by the change, not only from the standpoint of athletics but many standpoints. I am sorry for the privileges we missed, but I am anxious that the new conditions should be provided for.

It would, of course, be a mistake for any one to suppose that because there was a time when no gymnasium existed at Dalhousie, it is superfluous to provide one now. That would mean that the present library facilities, and many other things, should not have come into existence. There are nowadays new conceptions of the health of young people, and of its importance. Dalhousie University has never been extravagant or too ambitious in its building programme. Other universities in the Maritime Provinces have long had gymnasiums. Indeed, I hear of swimming pools and covered skating rinks. Dalhousie has been modest, preferring to put its investment into teachers, rather than into buildings. But at present her classrooms are crowded, and the new gymnasium provides an outlet there. Dalhousie has never had a Convocation Hall, nor a public hall for music, drama, nor large university gatherings. All these things are now taken care of in a single building - the new gymnasium.

I feel strongly that all of us, should do what we can to assist the Alumni effort, especially as in doing so we assist so many features of the University's life."