

MELITA THEOLOGICA

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EDITORIAL

STUDENT-BODIES.

THE activities of the student-bodies in our Alma Mater are increasing from year to year. Besides the cultural societies recently established, every Faculty may now boast of an association which aims at promoting interest and study in its particular science. In justice to these various student-bodies one must admit that strong efforts are being made to foster a true University spirit among the students. All this no doubt shows that the spirit of initiative is not lacking, and that a healthy atmosphere prevails among the student-body.

THE NEED OF COOPERATION

The need is still felt, however, of a greater cooperation and coordination of efforts among the various societies. Lectures, debates, study-circles and concerts are being organized under the auspices of the different student-bodies. However, the attendance at, and interest in, such activities leave much to be desired. Students, it seems, make it a point to be present at the activities of their respective association, but fail to take an interest in other student-societies. This, undoubtedly, prevents the promotion of the liberal education which every University as a seat of universal learning is intended to impart. The primary and indeed essential advantage of a university training is thus set at nought. For, in the words of Newman, this is what constitutes a university worthy of the name: "An assemblage of learned men, zealous for their own sciences, and rivals of each other, are brought by familiar intercourse and for the sake of intellectual peace, to adjust together the claims and relations of their respective subjects of investigation. They learn to respect, to consult, to aid each other. Thus is created a pure and clear atmosphere of thought, which the student also breathes, though in his own case he only pursues a few sciences out of the multitude."

We wish to make it clear that this is not an appeal dictated by a partisan spirit, so to say, to students to participate in the activities of R.U.S.T.A. But it is a sincere appeal directed to all students to take an active part in the activities of each and every student-association. It is only thus that a "pure and clear atmosphere of thought" is fostered in our Alma Mater.

A FURTHER APPEAL

We feel again the need of appealing to all those who have the study of theology at heart to cooperate with us in the realisation of the aims of our association. In a special way, we appeal to the secular and regular clergy to take a more practical interest in our activities. As far as we know, R.U.S.T.A. is the only theological association in the Island, and hence it deserves our whole-hearted cooperation and support. The attendance at our monthly lectures is still far from satisfactory. We have made it a point to organize lectures ranging over the various branches of theology of a more or less general interest so as to elicit a greater response from the intelligentsia. Surely, the lectures that are being delivered by some of our distinguished scholars should meet with greater appreciation and interest.
