

youthful spirits, characterised by more noise than damage, after the depression of examination time, wise men may well ponder. The University commemoration has, generally, been regarded as a harmless outbreak of the previously confined enthusiasm of undergraduates. Occasionally, the extent of this outburst has, it must be acknowledged, been sufficient to disturb the city—and the University Council. The public, generally speaking, do not mind the noise, because the public are not easily shaken. It requires more than students' songs to annoy them. But the University Council, which is really the conductor of the proceedings of the commemoration, has, not unnaturally, found the noise of the explosion unpleasant. The council has endeavored during recent years to control these outbursts, and, as is customary, when there is any attempt to retard an outlet of compressed spirits, there has been friction. This year negotiations have passed between the students and the authorities. Conferences have been held, and correspondence has been exchanged. There has been an attempt to pour oil upon the spots at which the friction has occurred. However, at present, it seems as if the friction was but the voice of a more serious trouble, for the oil has not had the desired effect. In fact, there has been a deadlock between the students and the authorities.

The University commemoration for 1906 will take place on Monday week. Some time ago, when the negotiations between the council and the students were opened, the authorities suggested that the graduates and undergraduates should promise to preserve quiet during the proceedings. Of this proposal the students did not approve. However, they said that they would guarantee to make no insulting references in their songs to the guests, the Governor, or the Chancellor.

This did not satisfy the council. Its members notified the students that those who were not to receive their degrees would not be admitted unless they were prepared to—

1. Submit their programme of songs, &c., which they proposed to give prior to, and during, the ceremony, to a committee appointed by the council, and abide by its decisions and suggestions concerning them.
2. Promise to behave in such a manner that the proceedings should not be interrupted by them.

If these conditions were not regarded, the authorities declared that they would not admit the students to the commemoration. There was, it is understood, some thought of challenging the council's power to exclude the students, but law graduates pointed out that the "boys" had not a leg to stand upon in any such argument.

The Students' Meeting.

On Thursday afternoon a final meeting of the students was held at the University.

Mr. C. L. Jessop presided, and announced that the meeting had been called to consider the position between the council and the students. At the last students' meeting the matter was left in the hands of a committee. That committee had met the council, and conferred with its members. But they had been unable to come to any agreement. The committee had held that the students' programme should not be submitted to the council for its consideration. The council had insisted upon this, and had said that if the students were to use the Conservatorium Hall for their evening concert they must also submit the programme to the council's committee. The council had pointed out that the students owed a duty to their guests and to the public, and reminded them that their conduct at Commemoration would no doubt be taken into consideration by the Government, who were desirous of interfering with the University. The committee had said that it did not recognise the council's right to supervise the programme for the Commemoration, much less that for the evening concert. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. S. K. McLennan moved that the

students should have nothing to do with the Commemoration. He said that the council had not considered the students at all in the matter, but had kept on sending them lists of the requirements which they demanded from the students. These had been ignored by the students, and he hoped that they would still be ignored. The council had altered the date of the Commemoration to December 17, and had not treated the students fairly. (Hear, hear.) The scholars had gone as far as they could. They had guaranteed to make no insulting remarks about the guests. But they reserved their right to criticise their fellow-students in their songs as much as they liked. (Cheers.) The only thing left was to report to the council that they wanted to have nothing to do with the Commemoration this year. He hoped that next year they would again be granted their rights. (Cheers.)

Mr. A. Akhurst seconded the motion. He said that if the Government were going to take their behavior as a handle by which to obtain their ends they had much better stay away.

Mr. W. A. V. Drew pointed out that the council was only making this concession, as it was called, for the present year. It reserved the right to forbid any programme next year. If they gave way now the council might do anything it liked next year.

Mr. F. E. MacAree strongly supported the motion. He said that if the students stayed away the hall would be practically empty. People would have no interest in the proceedings. (Cheers.)

The motion was carried unanimously amidst cheering.

Mr. L. W. Gill said that he thought there was nothing wrong in the suggestion that the programme for the Conservatorium concert should be submitted, as others were, for approval.

Voices—Hello, here's some opposition. Mr. MacAree said that it would be inconsistent with their previous actions if they did so. (Hear, hear.)

The chairman pointed out that the council insisted upon revising the programme in case the hall was offered to the students for their use.

Voices—We don't want their hall. It was decided, by a unanimous vote, to inform the council that the students did not want the hall, and would not use it if offered to them on such conditions.

Mr. F. Coombs, who is arranging the procession for the students, suggested that advertisements should be included in the procession, in order to assist in defraying the expenses. He said that a medical man had told him, after last year's procession, that it was the most orderly students' procession he had seen in any part of the world.

Mr. Drew—Oh, that was a horrible mistake. We didn't mean that. (Laughter.)

Mr. Gill suggested that the advertisements would make the procession a rather cheap affair.

A voice—That's just what we want. (Laughter.)

It was decided to leave the question of the advertisements in the hands of the committee, which was directed to supervise them before permitting their use.

The meeting decided to hold the procession on the morning of Monday, December 17, through the streets of Adelaide, starting at 11 o'clock. It was also decided to hold a students' concert on that evening in some large city hall.

UNIVERSITY EXAMINERS' ERRORS.

In the Assembly on Thursday afternoon Mr. Roberts called attention to the report of an interview with Professor Rennie published in The Register of November 23, wherein the professor admitted that certain questions in the recent junior public examination at the Adelaide University were wrongly set, and that other questions were impossible of solution. In reply to questions from the member, the Premier said the Government had no power to prevent a repetition of what was referred to as an absurdity, and had no power to make reparation to any scholars who might have suffered injustice thereby. The Government, however, would call the attention of the University authorities to the advantages of improved methods.

THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

Attention was drawn in the Assembly to statements made by students at a meeting held on Thursday evening, when it was decided that, in consequence of the attitude of the council to them, they would not attend the next commemoration. The Premier, in reply to Mr. Denny, said the statement was made at that gathering that the Government was seeking to interfere with the working of the University. The Government had no intention and no right, he thought, to interfere. Personally when attending the commemoration he had been treated with consideration. (Mr. Denny—"Oh, the statement is not confined to the commemoration proceedings.") The Council of the University will consider the matter among others at a meeting on Friday next. The registrar of the University preferred to say nothing on the matter at this stage; but Mr. C. L. Jessop, in behalf of the students, summarized the position as follows:—"After last commemoration the council of the University passed a resolution that the students were not to be admitted to the function this year. We interviewed the council, and enquired under what conditions, if any, we would be admitted, and as a result of proposals made by the council we offered a guarantee that there would be no written references in our programme to His Excellency the Governor, the Chancellor, or to any one in authority at the University; that good behaviour would be observed; and that none of the guests would be subjected to insult. The council declined to accept that guarantee; but requested that the whole of the written programme of the students should be submitted to them. We promised to meet them so far as to show that portion of the programme which referred to the Governor, the Chancellor, and the authorities, but added that we did not recognise their right to supervise the students' programme, as it affected those who were taking their degrees. The council insisted upon seeing the whole of the programme, and at a meeting of between 50 and 60 students it was unanimously decided not to attend the commemoration. There was also a disagreement about the evening entertainment. The council considered that if they permitted us to hold our entertainment in the Conservatorium they should supervise that programme as well. Consequently we decided that we would do without the Conservatorium. We shall hold our procession through the streets on the morning of December 17, and we have engaged the Tivoli Theatre for the entertainment in the evening."

Register 7th Dec. 1906.

Advertiser 10th Dec. 1906.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

Examination for the Diploma in Applied Science—November.
Applied Science—Mining I: First class—None. Second class—Neil Campbell.
For Associateship at School of Mines—Second class—Francis Grey Wilson.
Mining II—First class—None. Second class—Harold Greenway. Third class—Vivian Charles Stuckey.