

AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

STUDENTS' HILARIOUS EVENING.

It is greatly to be hoped that as the result of the appeal for funds which will be launched at a public meeting in the Town Hall tonight the University will be assisted in obtaining its Union Building, all the more that it is intended by its erection to commemorate the services in the Great War of 470 of its members. Just as a Students' Union has long been needed to foster social intercourse between the undergraduates and enable them through literary and scientific debates to acquire the art of thinking logically and expressing themselves clearly and forcibly, so a building is needed for their accommodation. It may seem to some a matter of wonder that so distinguished and popular a University in a city which Sir Foster Fraser once characterized as a stronghold of culture, has not long since introduced a building in its equipment. But no University in the world, it may safely be said, is self-sufficing and has reached the haven of contentment. It would probably soon be on the road to stagnation if it had; and the Adelaide University is far too "live" an institution to be faced with any danger of this kind. It has still many needs, and all that can be said is that some are less urgent than others. It is certain, however, that no University can discharge with efficiency its high office unless it is in a position to satisfy the more important needs which it can hardly be questioned, a Students' Union must be counted.

At all events, it has been so accounted by other universities. We need not go to the world-famed Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for examples, for we have them nearer home. They are to be found in the Universities of other Australian capitals, notably, as pointed out in our columns the other day, in that of Sydney, where the union was recognised as so valuable an adjunct to academic life that it contrived for many years to do without regular building holdings, its weekly meetings and other social functions where it could, till in the jubilee year of the University twenty-five years ago, it seems to have occurred to the authorities that it would be a good thing to provide the union with a quarters. Even then it was not done, for it took another decade for the project to assume tangible shape, and for the union to be placed in possession of its long-coveted building, with its assembly rooms, lecture and committee rooms, its refectory, and even its billiard-room. And it needed the lapse of still another decade to see the commencement of work on the erection of an additional block to provide a more adequate refectory; and now a further building is talked of "as soon as funds are available." The housing of a University Union would seem, like the kingdom of heaven, to have something to do with the sowing of the seed of mustard which, "when it is sown, groweth up and becometh a tree, than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches." It was so in Sydney, and may be so in Adelaide, where the University Union has been present to content themselves with, in the case of men, a common room built as long ago as 1866 with money raised by themselves, and, in that of women, with a small cottage in the old Police Barracks. Thanks to the generosity of Sir Josiah Symon in providing at the cost of \$10,000 a structure to be known as the Lady Symon building, for the accommodation of the women's branch of the union, there is an early prospect of the University being provided with quarters for the union as a whole more worthy of the dignity alike of the students and their Alma Mater than those to which they have too long been restricted. It is hoped by the appeal to be inaugurated to-night to raise \$20,000, which will cover the cost of a building for men, a dining-room and equipment, with extensions. As an additional incentive to the members of the

who either suffered death or injury, or fell of the risk of both, in the service of their country and Empire. Their heroism could not have a worthier memorial. The ablest champions of a University training have told us that the academic side is not the more important. It is the varied companionship, the opportunities for intercourse among students from every kind of home and with every variety of prospective life, that impelled Newman to attach the importance he did to the aspect of a University career; and though what he said applies more to a residential than to a teaching university, it has equal relevancy to that also. The author of "The Scope and Nature of University Education," indeed, went so far as to affirm that if he had to choose between a University which dispensed with residence and tutorial superintendence and gave its degrees on the strength of an examination, and a University which had merely brought a number of young men together for three or four years, he would choose the second. Such a view condemns a teaching University altogether, and cannot be endorsed. Nevertheless, it is worth quoting as emphasising the need of University life which cannot have too much prominence, viz., the opportunities such a life offers for an exchange of ideas and opinions between young persons. Open, open-hearted, sympathetic, and observant, as Newman found young persons to be, and for acquiring from one another's conversation "fresh matter for thought and distinct principles for judging and acting in the day." Such is the justification of a University Union. It is a microcosm of the outside world and a training-ground for it.

Adelaide University students had a night out on Friday, when a public meeting was held in the Adelaide Town Hall to inaugurate a movement for the erection of a Union building and a war memorial in the University grounds. They commenced proceedings with a march from the University, and were joined on the way by a number of the unemployed, the procession being headed by the student hilarious usual on such occasions. The undergrads decked themselves in all sorts of fantastic costumes, and many wore grotesque masks. The march was led by a "drum major" holding aloft a large ensow. Immediately followed by others bearing a banner inscribed, "We don't wear a union." Then came the "band" armed with many antique and battered instruments, which gave forth a noise that was anything but music. Another banner was inscribed, "St. Mark's Varsity Union. Solidarity for ever." This was surrounded by students in grotesque costume. They marched up King William street singing "Varsity Rag" and the unemployed in the procession held aloft a banner with the words "God's Edict demand freedom and justice for all." Others of their number held up a streamer of red cloth.

REG. 13-8-27

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

From "SUB CRUCE LUMEN." During the formal celebration of the University jubilee last year, in his speech the Chancellor of the Sydney University, Sir William Cullen, with most arresting eloquence that sent a thrill through many a paused and asked, "Who can say what Australia will be in a hundred years?" This is the justification of a University Union. It is a microcosm of the outside world and a training-ground for it. There was a terrific din as the students climbed the stairway and entered the Town Hall. They took up positions on the body of the hall on the left-hand side, and the unemployed located themselves on the right-hand side. The students continued their programme, and as the town clock struck 8 Mr. K. H. Boycott (President of the University Students' Association) suggested that the students should cease their noisy. He only had got thus far when his voice was drowned in a chorus of whistles, rattles, drums, and whistles. With the aid of a piano played by the body of the hall, the undergrads sang the "Varsity Song" to the tune of "Marching to Georgia." The more we sing the happier we will be." One of the unemployed at this juncture mounted a chair and attempted to address the meeting. He was promptly howled down by student whistles and whistles, and was counted out, one of the students beating time for the counting by the police officers conductor two unruly members of the unemployed out of the building amid cheers from the undergrads.

Generosity of Donors. The Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray), as he stepped on the stage, was greeted with cheers and a salute by the Vice-Chancellor (Mr. L. Mitchell), the Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler), Mr. Justice Angas Parsons, the Hon. G. L. Hill, Mr. Duncan Hughes, M.H.R., members of the University Council, and professors. Several inspiring addresses were delivered, which were punctuated with vociferous applause and wined noises from the exuberant student section. Sir George Murray read a number of apologies. After announcing the purpose of the meeting he said that it was inspiring to see such an enthusiastic audience. A Voice—Unemployed included. Sir George said that the presence of the Premier, the ex-Premier, and so many prominent citizens showed what a tremendous hold the University had on the community. He said to speak of a few of the milestones in the history of the Adelaide University which he had founded in 1874. When the institution was first opened to eight undergraduate graduates. When he entered as a student five years later, there were 15. In 1884, when he became a member of the council, the number of undergraduates had increased to 102, and to-day there were 527. But he said that besides 839 non-graduating students, and about 900 attending at the Conservatorium—a grand total for "Optimism"—the University had broken out 470 graduates and students awarded the call of their country and 63 had laid down their lives. He had long had in mind to erect a monument which would be worthily commemorated in the University, but action had had to be deferred because they had no site where an edifice could be erected. That obstacle had been removed, thanks to previous and present Governments, and the University now asked for public assistance.

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was not one which served the function of a union. The building it was proposed to erect had been designed by one of the graduates, Mr. L. Laybourn Smith, and when completed it would be a beautiful structure. Within the building which will comprise it, there would be the necessary offices for the students, and a central lawn. The form of the war memorial had been designed by the architect of £12,254, but £20,000 still remained to be collected. Of the £20,000 £12,000 had been given by the sum of the Jubilee of the University, for the erection of a union building. That building would bear the name of the University Union. They extended their respect gratitude for his munificent bequest, and hoped that he and Lady Symon would live long to see the benefits of his kindness. Most of the £12,000 had been subscribed by members of the council, the professorial staff, and a few generous friends, including a promise of a few thousand from the late Mr. John Berker, which had been fulfilled by his daughter. The liberality of the Premier had been one of the most impressive features of the appeal, and they could not forget the splendid efforts of Professor Henderson, (Applause.) During the war, and during special visits to the country, and in other ways, the professor had gathered together about a donation of £100 out of his pocket. It was his wish that the remaining £20,000 should be given, not by a few, but by a great number. It seemed to him it would be a fine thing if it was regarded as a thank-offering from the boys of the University to their past benefactors, to the ones who had been generous, and those who gave their lives in their behalf during the Great War. (Prolonged applause.)

Sympathy of the Government.

The Premier said it gave him pleasure to represent the Government at that gathering. Unfortunately it was easy to be generous with other people's money. The Government was not in a position to contribute to the project before them, except by a grant-in-aid, which would amount to his paying out with one hand and their paying in with the other. But he hoped that the appeal would receive every support. He had received a message from the Commonwealth Prime Minister expressing a similar wish. The proposed scheme was a fitting manner in which to commemorate the services of those who had been lost to the University by the Great War, particularly as it would be a means of social enjoyment to the students, and an important factor in their education. The University had been generously endowed, and the bequests aggregated £240,000 a position that compared very favourably with similar institutions throughout the world. The Government granted an annual contribution of £50,000.

Continuing, the Premier said it was the intention of the Government to donate to the Waite Research Institute £50,000, increasing to £15,000 in five years, for further agricultural research. If their industries were to progress it must be the application of science. The Government of South Australia did a great deal for education than any other country in the world. Out of £22,000,000 collected in revenue, more than 45 per cent was used for educational purposes.

A Voice—What about the unemployed?

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Building Described.

Panning on to the scheme of the University Union, Sir George said there were a large number of societies and associations within the University—literary, scientific, social, and athletic; but there