

University Examinations
From "Breasted":—"Docecil" has raised a question about which scores of students are at present very worried. Does the examiner of the papers on education require the student to give original and thoughtful answers or will parrot-like replies suffice? That is what the students would like to know. Some of them memorise the lectures and gain full marks for repeating them at examination time; others do likewise and lose marks for their trouble. There is little consistency in the examiner's methods of marking, and really there has been little consistency for many years, but there has been, and still is, evidence of eccentricity. Students expect no favors, but they do ask for justice.

From "William Beenplucked":—"Docecil" is voicing a warning concerning University examinations that has long been in the minds of many people. We students have felt for a long time that something was amiss. I know the case of a man, 36 years of age, a keen student, with scientific ability, recognised as being very capable in other parts of the world, yet a failure in the leaving examinations. A man of that age who has travelled the world, had a double college training, a student of scientific publications of a semi-medical character, a man to whom one has only to talk to to realise the real man, is assuredly no duffer. I am not going to accept the leaving examiner's verdict on such a person as is indicated here. Many friends of mine, among whom are teachers, have often paused to consider what was or is wrong. It is cruel to pluck men who work hard all the year.

From "Aristides":—"It is an open secret that on account of the number of candidates sitting for examinations both in connection with the University and the Education Department, the authorities have set themselves out to restrict the number of those who get through. It may be of interest to the wisecracks who conduct the examinations to recollect that according to general report geniuses like Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, and Henry Drummond were never able to face an examination. No doubt the authorities will maintain an attitude of masterly silence, as they always do, until the breeze blows over. Meanwhile, gross injustice is being done.

ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

REVENUE	£12,764,050
EXPENDITURE	12,747,563
SURPLUS	£16,487

HOW GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO AVOID DEFICIT

To prevent a deficit in State accounts for 1930-1 of about £3,000,000 (including £1,625,000 from 1929-30), the Government proposes the following measures:—

Increase and adjustments in income tax	£820,000
Net revenue from motor taxation restored to general revenue	300,000
Reductions in salaries of public servants (including those in Education Department)	200,000
Reductions in Railways, Agricultural, and other departments	200,000
Reduction of grants to local governing bodies	110,000
Increased land tax	100,000
Reduction of grants to University, School of Mines, Public Library, and other bodies	30,000
Special grant from Commonwealth	1,000,000
Total	£2,760,000

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University Council reference was made to the death of Professor Sir Archibald Strong and of the librarian, Mr. R. J. M. Lucas. It was resolved to send to the relatives of both a letter of sympathy, and a copy of the council's minute, recording its sense of the great loss sustained by the University.

Reg. 27-9-30

The Chief Justice (Sir George Murray) is 67 today. He has occupied his present position since 1916, in which year he was also elected Chancellor of the Adelaide University. Sir George has been a judge of the Supreme Court for 18 years.

News 29-9-30

PASTORAL RESEARCH

£20,000 for Five Years

IMPERIAL SUBSIDY

A sum of £20,000 has been made available for pastoral research in Australia for the next five years.

The announcement was made this morning by Mr. H. R. Marston (acting chief of the animal nutrition division of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) on his return from Melbourne, where he attended a meeting of the pastoral research fund.

The fund has donated £2,000 a year for five years, and this will be subsidised pound for pound by the Imperial Government through the Empire Marketing Board.

"For some time the nutrition laboratory has been experimenting on the minimum amount of foodstuff which will keep a sheep in bodily equilibrium," said Mr. Marston. "Experiments show that it is possible to maintain sheep for indefinite periods on an extremely small sum expended in concentrated foodstuffs."

"The division will now engage in practical tests in the field and with animals under control in the laboratory and at Waite Agricultural Research Institute. Strong financial support from outside interested bodies has been forthcoming, and it will be possible to proceed with the work on a much greater scale."

News 29-9-30

LEAGUE OF NATIONS PRIZE

Won by Miss Margaret Lunn

The council of the University of Adelaide has awarded the League of Nations Prize for 1930 to Miss Margaret Anna Lunn, a student in the faculty of law. The prize is awarded annually for the best essay on a topic prescribed by the University and connected with the work of the League of Nations. The subject of the essay was "The Problem of Minorities."

The council decided to place next in order Mr. Stanley Herbert Mayes, a student taking the course for the diploma in commerce.

In 1929 the prize was won by Mr. L. C. Wilcher, who is at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.

The subject for the 1931 prize is "M. Briand's Plan for European Federation."

START ON NEW 'UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Mrs. Barr Smith Lays Foundation Stone GIFT OF £33,000

The new Barr Smith Library, the foundation stone of which was laid by Mrs. Barr Smith at the Adelaide University yesterday, will have storage room for 150,000 books, and will be capable of expansion to hold 600,000 books. Today there are about 82,000 volumes in the University library.

The new building is to cost £33,000, and will comprise a reading room to accommodate 240 persons, and offices for the staff, as well as the book space. It is to be a memorial to Mr. Robert Barr Smith, the father of Mr. T. E. Barr Smith, who gave the money for its construction.

BEGUN IN 1877

"It has been my good fortune to take part in many ceremonies connected with the University, but none has given me greater pleasure than this," said the Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray) in asking Mrs. Barr Smith to lay the stone.

The ceremony was attended by a large gathering, which included the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven) and Lady Hore-Ruthven.

Sir George said that the University library, which had been begun in 1877, comprised 2,000 volumes (costing £1,500) by 1881.

In 1892 the welcome gift of £1,000 for books had been received from Mr. Robert Barr Smith. During the next 12 years he had given a further £8,000 for the same object. Mr. Barr Smith and Mr. Andrew Carnegie had both chosen the same method of benefiting their fellow men. They had probably been moved by that sense of the value of education that seemed to be innate in Scottish character.

After Mr. Robert Barr Smith's death in 1915, his family had made the maintenance of the library their concern, and provided an endowment fund of £11,000.

Many others had assisted the library with books, including Bishop Short, Sir Samuel Way, Sir Josiah Symon, Mr. A. Simpson, Dr. Ramsay Smith, and the Carnegie Institute.

OFFERED FULL AMOUNT

When Mr. T. E. Barr Smith had become a member of the University Council in 1924, he had quickly realised the congested state of the library, and had offered £20,000 for a new building, provided work should be started within five years, added Sir George.

Mr. Walter Bagot, the University architect, had brought home from Europe the beautiful design on which the building would be erected. When Mr. Barr Smith heard that the estimated cost was £33,000, he increased his donation to cover that amount.

Mrs. Barr Smith, who was received with prolonged applause, said she hoped the library would be a lasting memorial to her father-in-law.

"Both Mrs. Barr Smith and her husband have always shown the remarkable capacity for doing the right thing in the right way at the right time," said the Warden of the Senate (Mr. Justice Angus Parsons), in moving a vote of thanks.

Mr. T. E. Barr Smith responded for his wife.

He said it occurred to him that he could do no greater service to the community and the University than to offer the building to the University as a memorial to his father.

He paid a warm tribute to the work of the University authorities and faculty.

BARR SMITH LIBRARY

FOUNDATION-STONE LAID

Notable Additions To University

The foundation-stone of the new Barr Smith Library at the University, for the erection of which as a memorial to his father Mr. T. E. Barr Smith presented £33,000, was laid by Mrs. Barr Smith on Monday afternoon.

The Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray) presided at the ceremony, and among those present were his Excellency the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven) in his capacity of visitor to the University, and Lady Hore-Ruthven. They were received by the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor (Sir William Mitchell).

The Chancellor said it had been his good fortune to take part in many ceremonies connected with the University, but none had given him greater pleasure than the one to be performed that afternoon. The library of the University—its power house, to use the happy phrase coined by Sir Tom Bridges—had started from nothing in 1877. By 1881 2,000 volumes had been obtained at a cost of £1,500. During the next few years, although the University was growing, not much money was available for books beyond current periodicals. In 1892 the council received the welcome gift of £1,000 for the purchase of books from Mr. Robert Barr Smith, father of Mr. T. E. Barr Smith. (Applause.) Four years later Mr. Robert Barr Smith became a member of the council, and during the next 12 years he contributed a further £8,000 for the same object. Mr. Barr Smith and Mr. Andrew Carnegie had both chosen the same method of benefiting their fellowmen. They were probably both moved by that sense of the value of education that seemed to be innate in Scottish character. As the result of Mr. Barr Smith's gifts to the library the council decided that it should bear the name of the Barr Smith Library. (Applause.)

Endowment of £11,000

After Mr. Robert Barr Smith's death in 1915 his family made the maintenance of the library their concern, and provided an endowment fund of £11,000, the interest from which was to be applied for that purpose. To-day the volumes in the library exceeded 82,000. They had not all been purchased; many of them were gifts. Included among those who had assisted the University in that way were Bishop Short, Sir Samuel Way, Sir Josiah Symon, Mrs. A. Simpson, Dr. Ramsay Smith, and the Carnegie Institute. Mr. T. E. Barr Smith became a member of the council of the University in 1924. He quickly realised the congested state of the library, and offered the sum of £20,000 for the erection of a new building, stipulating only that the work should be proceeded with within five years. Mr. Walter Bagot, the University architect, was then in Europe, and he was requested to make enquiries regarding the latest designs for the purpose. On his return he produced the beautiful design from which the building was being erected. The plans provided for a reading-room to accommodate 240 persons, offices for the staff of the library, and storage room for 150,000 books, capable of expansion to accommodate 600,000 books. The estimated cost of the building was £33,000. As soon as he heard of that, Mr. Barr Smith increased his donation to cover that amount. It was truly a noble gift, as they all would agree. (Applause.)

Problem of a Site

The next problem was where should the new building be placed. As the grounds of the University were restricted, the council approached the Government with a request for a further grant of land, and was sympathetically received. It was finally decided to select the present site, which would in time be right in the heart of the University buildings, with its beautiful facade towards Frome-road.

"If anything could increase our gratitude towards Mr. Barr Smith," continued Sir George, "it was that he afforded us the opportunity of asking Mrs. Barr Smith to lay the foundation stone of the building made possible by his generosity. Mrs. Barr Smith is known to many thousands of soldiers

Adv. 26-9-30

REDUCED GRANTS

MANY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

BENEVOLENT HOMES SPARED

Severe cuts have been made in grants to the University, hospitals, local governing bodies, and institutes, according to the Estimates, but several institutions have been spared.

Among those whose grants have not been altered are Minda Home (£4,000), the Adelaide Benevolent and Strangers' Friend Society (£1,250), Children's Hospital (£3,000), Queen's Maternity Home (£1,000), Royal Institution for the Blind (£1,600), Blind, Deaf and Dumb Institution (£1,500), School for Mothers (£2,500), Home for Incurables (£1,750), and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (£100).

Grants-in-aid to country hospitals have been subjected to a general cut of 10 per cent. The grant to the Adelaide University for expenses of management has been reduced by £5,800 from £20,000, and the grant to the Public Library and Museum has been reduced from £18,286 to £15,860. The School of Mines grant has been cut by £2,719, and the Institutes' Association will receive £1,450 instead of £11,772.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Economic Society Officers.—At the annual meeting of the Economic Society last night, the following officers were elected:—President, Mr. W. J. Young; Vice-Presidents, Sir William Mitchell, Professor Hancock, Professor Richardson, Dr. L. Keith Watt, Mr. A. E. Clarke, Mr. E. W. Holden, Mr. E. H. Cornish, Mr. A. Grenfell Price, Mr. W. E. Rogers; Treasurer, Mr. W. A. K. McKee; Secretary, Mr. Y. A. Edgelo; Assistant Secretary, Miss Grimshaw; committee, Messrs. Russell Booth, C. Harding Browne, Professor Melville, Mr. J. W. Wainwright, Messrs. F. W. Ralph, S. Crawford, Oswald Gasler, and E. F. Hamilton.

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