

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the Council was held on Friday, September 25. Present—The Chancellor, Sir Samuel Davenport, Rev. Dr. Jefferis, Mr. Ayers, Professor Rennie, Dr. Lendon, Mr. G. J. R. Murray, Mr. Boothby, Rev. Dr. Farr, Dr. Stirling, Dr. Barlow, and Sir Charles Todd. The reports of the Faculties of Medicine and Arts recommending additional examiners for the M.B.B.A. Junior and Senior Public Examinations in November next were adopted. The report of the Education Committee submitting statutes for the Dr. Davies-Thomas scholarships was approved. The Council resolved to ask Professor Bensly to deliver the annual address at the Commemoration to be held in December next. It was decided to hold the commemoration on Wednesday, December 16. The Council appointed October 14 to be the day for holding a meeting of the University for the purpose of electing two members of the Board of Governors of the Public Library, &c. A highly satisfactory report, which has already been published, was received from the Royal College of Music concerning Mr. H. M. W. Kennedy, Elder scholar. The reports of the Faculties of Medicine, Arts, and Science on details of subjects for the various examinations in 1897 were adopted. The report of the Board of Examiners on the results of the recent Preliminary Examination was received. The report showed that 408 candidates presented themselves, and of these 211 passed. The Council elected Mr. G. J. R. Murray a member of the Education and Finance Committees for the remainder of the current year. The Chancellor reported that the conference between the Council and the Hospital Board took place on the 4th inst., when the Board promised to carefully consider the request made by the Council to forward their reply at an early date. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Hospital Board stating that the question of the Medical School was still under consideration, but owing to pressure of other business the Board are at present unable to forward definite reply. A warrant authorizing payment of sums amounting to £630 16s. was approved for payment.

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THE HOSPITAL, THE UNIVERSITY,
AND THE PUBLIC.

The unquestioned recognition of its diplomas by the General Council of Medical Education must be provided for by the Council of the University at all costs, unless indeed the Medical School is to be abolished entirely. The latter step would be grossly unjust to the students, no doubt, but to allow them to proceed with their courses under the instruction of so small a number of specialists that their degrees would be unrecognised even in an adjoining colony would be a still more flagrant act of unfairness. The request of the University Council that six of its lecturers should be placed in charge of at least one hundred beds at the Hospital has, however, nominally been "cheerfully" assented to by the Board, but as a matter of fact conditions have been introduced which alter the whole complexion of the proposal. Indeed, from present ap-

pearances it would seem that the Council will be placed in the painful position of being unable to assure the medical students of the full validity of the degrees for which they are now working.

The studiously neutral attitude adopted by the University authorities in regard to the interminable Hospital dispute must be recognised by every one who has perused the correspondence on the subject of the medical lecturers and their duties. Indeed, in the letter which we publish elsewhere, while they are compelled to insist upon the uncertainty and danger entailed by employing an inadequate number of specialists in the instruction of the students, their tone is most conspicuously courteous and conciliatory. The members of the sub-committee appointed some weeks ago to confer with a committee from the Hospital Board even went out of their way to suggest that Dr. Napier should act as teacher of gynaecology. The Board now speak of this suggestion as if it had been a definite arrangement, and as if not only Dr. Napier but also Dr. Smith had been accepted as a specialist instructor. As a matter of fact the idea thrown out by the sub-committee has never been approved by the University Council, and even if it had been it could not affect more than one position, seeing that only one of the new staff was mentioned. Our readers will no doubt have noted that, under his agreement with the Government, Dr. Napier has managed to secure for himself the altogether unprecedented privilege of being allowed to undertake private practice while carrying out his work at the Hospital. Virtually it would seem that he is to be allowed to combine the advantages of an honorary and of a paid practitioner, his case being thus made a conspicuous exception to the rule which forbids persons engaged in the public service from entering the lists in business against outsiders.

The evasive reply returned to the query of the Hindmarsh Corporation on the subject of the provision for the proper treatment of outpatients

possesses at least the recommendation that it complies with the condition laid down by an old Judge for the guidance of a young Magistrate, "State your decision, but never give your reasons." If a specialist imported at great expense for the work of the Hospital is to be permitted to go flying about in his carriage attending to private practice how can it be expected that he will find time to attend to out-