THE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

FIRST SITTING.

MR. WILLIAMS'S EVIDENCE.

The University Commission appointed at the instance of Mr. Ryan, M.P., held its first meeting on February 11th. There were present Mr. Ryan, M.P. (Chairman), Mr. Harmsworth, M.P., Sir Henry Dutton, Sir William Goschen, and John Adams, M.P. The first witness examined was the Director of Education for England, Mr. A. F. C. Dudgeon, who is a member of the Council of the University of London.

The Chairman—Has it always been considered that a Department of Education must be a separate Department on the University Commission?

Mr. Dudgeon—No, it was not taken into the consideration of the Council when I was appointed to the post of Director of Education on the University Commission. It is not a Department that the University Commission could represent.

The Chairman—None for the University?

Mr. Dudgeon—This commission was formed to inquire and advise on some system of extending education in this country, and it would only be fair that the subjects, in so far as they are in the department to enable the Department to advise, should be free to the University Commission.

The Director of Education testified that the local authorities that had tried to do more work on the University Commission would have the opportunity to consider the establishment of a separate Department of Education for England. He stated that the recommendation of the University Commission would be that the University Commission should make a report on the subject of education, but that it would not be a department of the University Commission.

Mr. Dudgeon—The Department of Education should not be considered as a separate Department, but as a part of the University Commission.

The Chairman—Would you not then consider that the University Commission should be a Department of Education?

Mr. Dudgeon—No, it would be better to have a separate Department of Education, as it would enable the University Commission to consider the subject more fully.

The Chairman—But how would you recommend the University Commission to consider the subject?

Mr. Dudgeon—The University Commission should be given the benefit of the advice of the Department of Education, and they should then make a report on the subject of education.

The Chairman—Would not this be a better way of considering the subject?

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ROYAL COMMISSION'S SITTINGS.
PRE-UNIVERSITY TRAINING.

The University Commission met in Parliament Buildings on Monday, Mr. Rys, P. B. (chairman), Hon. A. Rutledge, M.P., Mr. J. C. M. N. (Adelaide), Mr. J. L. H. (Adelaide), and Mr. M. J. P., were also present. The first business of the Education Committee (Mr. A. Williams) was to examine the evidence of four witnesses, including the President of the University Commission, who stated that the department should be represented on the council of the University. The department was also in favour of the proposal that the university should have a seat on the council. The President also suggested that the department should be represented on the council of the University. The department was also in favour of the proposal that the university should have a seat on the council.

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