

Register March 26th 06.

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UNIVERSITY SENATE.

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Adelaide was held at the University on Wednesday afternoon, under the presidency of the Warden (Mr. F. Chapple, B.A., B.Sc.).

—Tinline Scholarship.—

The council forwarded the statute of the Tinline Scholarship, founded by Mr. G. J. R. Murray, K.C. The Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow), in moving its adoption, said that Mr. Murray had been an honour to the University ever since he had been connected with it, and on this occasion he had transcended himself. Professor Stirling, C.M.G., seconded. Carried.

—Commerce Medal and Lecture.—

The council submitted an alteration of Clause B. of the statute of the Joseph Fisher Medal of Commerce and the Joseph Fisher Lecture in Commerce to allow a candidate to complete the course within five years instead of four. Mr. J. R. Fowler, in moving the adoption of the amendment, said that the lectures had been extended, and it was now difficult and rare for a man to go through in four years. Professor Bragg seconded. Carried.

—Diploma in Commerce.—

The council submitted an alteration to the first regulation of the diploma in commerce, stating in set terms that there should be a diploma, also a new regulation by virtue of which candidates who had passed the prescribed examinations should be awarded the diploma, and be designated Associates in Commerce of the University of Adelaide. Mr. J. R. Fowler, in moving their adoption, said the seventh regulation referred to the fact of there being a diploma, but there was no previous reference in the regulations to the diploma. The first regulation had been altered, therefore, to provide that there should be a diploma. It had been settled by the senate, but never provided in the regulations. The new regulation was inserted partly to meet the wishes of the students, and the language was practically a copy of that referring to the diploma of music. Dr. Barlow seconded. Carried.

—Publication of M.B. and B.S. Lists.—

The council submitted a new regulation in place of regulation ix. of the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, providing that the names of the successful candidates at each examination in the third term should be arranged in three classes, and in each class in order of merit. Professor Stirling, in moving its adoption, said that in the publication of names in the students' lists passed in each year the order of merit was preserved in the first class, but the names were arranged alphabetically in the second and third classes. There was a certain amount of injustice in that, because a student who had missed the first class by a few marks, by reason of the initial of his surname, might be at the bottom of the second class. That was one reason why the alteration was suggested. Another was that the Hospital authorities took the graduating students as house surgeons in the order of merit, and the Faculty of Medicine thought that that order should appear in the printing of all the results rather than that the Hospital authorities should have to write for private information as to the positions of the various students. Mr. J. R. Fowler seconded. Carried.

The Chancellor of the University at a meeting of the council held on Friday read a letter from Professor David, of the British Antarctic expedition. Professor David stated that Mr. Mawson was doing excellent work, and Lieutenant Shackleton had been much pleased that he was able to join the expedition. Professor David further stated that he was sure Mr. Mawson would do research work of a high order of merit.

At a meeting of the Adelaide University Council on Friday Professor Pollock reported that he had approved the thesis submitted by Mr. R. D. Kleeman, B.A., B.Sc., for the degree of Doctor of Science. Dr. Pollock reported that the work was worthy of special commendation.

The following awards have been made in connection with the examinations for Elder scholarships, tenable at the Conservatorium:—Pianoforte—Henry L. A. H. Bröse; proxime accessit, Ethel Annie Doenan; Singing—Muriel E. Cheek; proxime accessit, Clara S. H. Kleinschmidt. Tenor (special)—Walter J. Wood.

Register Mar. 31st

ELECTORAL FOOTBALL AND THE UNIVERSITY.

To the Editor.

Sir—Since the committee of delegates representing Australian football refused to-night to give even a courteous hearing to a deputation from the University, I trust you will afford space in your journal for some of the arguments which would have been advanced by us. The question is a twofold one. Firstly, is it well or not well that an eighth team should be added to the seven already existing? Secondly, is it well or not well that the University should be that eighth team? The first question requires little elaboration. The disadvantages of playing seven teams are obvious. Every week some team must stand down. Add an eighth and four teams are engaged every Saturday; a greater number of players take part; a larger body of spectators watches; and, financially, all the clubs concerned are benefited. Further, if this eighth team be the University, then at least 10 or more "emergencies," who never get a game, will be enabled to play; and not only shall we have more players on our grounds, but more first-class players every Saturday. To turn to the second question—is it well or not well that this eighth team should be the University. The only valid objection to the inclusion of the University is that such inclusion strikes at the keystone of the electoral system. Whether this be really the case I shall discuss presently. Meanwhile it suffices to point out that in South Australia the authorities of lacrosse have permitted the University to be an electorate; in Victoria the authorities of cricket have permitted the same for Melbourne University; and in New South Wales the authorities of both cricket and football have permitted the same for Sydney University. Here is a heavy weight of precedent which surely should have its influence with those who object to making the University an electorate. But, after all, what are the important arguments which lead us to consider the electoral system superior to any other? One is that the system produces a reasonable equality in the standard of the competing teams. On this ground there cannot be the slightest objection to the University team, since we have no reason to think that we shall be stronger than the average teams engaged in the A Grade competition. A second argument is that the purpose of the electoral system is to engender and increase local enthusiasm. Here, again, the inclusion of the University strikes no blow whatever against the intention of the system. The University is a locality, and it is a place where enthusiasm for sport can be increased. It is true that our students do not sleep (at least at night) within the precincts, but they live there—live in the true sense of the term, and regard the institution as their habitat and their home. To stretch a point in favour of the University is far less reprehensible than to seriously injure the cause of football in one of those institutions which, the world over, have always been regarded as the nursing mothers of true, clean, and disinterested amateur athletics.

I am, Sir, &c.,
H. DARNLEY NAYLOR,
The University, March 30.

THE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL OF MINES.

SUBSIDIES TO INSTITUTES.

[II.—By our Special Reporter.]

The controlling bodies of the University and the School of Mines and Industries—it would be preferable to designate the latter "The Polytechnic"—have been making commendable efforts to co-ordinate their work. When the school was first established the friendly feeling which now exists was not so conspicuous a feature of the relationship between the two. The University stood on the high plane of culture—perhaps spelt with a capital C—while the younger establishment was more intent upon practical instruction. Some of the same subjects were taught in each. For several years, however, there has been a joint committee charged with the duty of preventing overlapping. Now, in the fellowship course at the school students attend at the University for certain lectures, and when studying for particular degrees at the University the lads or girls go to the school for instruction in some branches. The same interchange does not take place regarding the associate diploma of the school. For instance, in practical chemistry there is a staff at the University, and there is also one at the school. Each has a well-equipped laboratory. Those in authority say that the students are so many that the accommodation is only sufficient, and that one laboratory would not satisfy the need. The large increase in the chemistry class at the University has been caused by the attendance of pupil teachers; but, even with the present number of learners, there seems to be reason for believing that an amalgamation of the staff, with the continued maintenance of the two laboratories, would lead to more effective results. In commercial pursuits there is distinct evidence of the same subjects being taught in buildings next to one another on North terrace, both subsidized by the Government. It is freely admitted that the efforts of the joint committee have not prevented competition in some subjects, and that there is room for a more harmonious arrangement.

—Country Schools of Mines.—

The name Schools of Mines is more than ever a misnomer when applied to some of those institutions in the country, especially that at Mount Gambier, where not one mining section is taught. It is well to look at the financial figures of these schools. Mount Gambier totals are for 1907, but the others are for 1906, as last year's balance sheets have not yet been forwarded to headquarters. The receipts were:—Mount Gambier—Government grant, £200; fees, £353. Gawler—Grant, £500; fees, £122. Port Pirie—Grant, £500; fees, £62. Moonta—Grant, £700; fees, £185. Kapunda—Grant, £20; fees, £22. At Moonta, Gawler, and Mount Gambier continuation classes have been established; and, while it is not suggested that exactly the same work is being done at each, there is a duplication of some of the classes which, with a union of forces under a proper scheme of systematization, would be avoided. These local Schools of Mines receive valuable assistance from the residents of the districts through both lectures and donations, and the State is under a debt of gratitude to these public-spirited men who give their time and talents to assist the younger generation in the way indicated. Not one word in these articles is penned in derogation of any individual connected with the institutions. The purpose is purely and simply to help, if possible, to improve the system. It is fair that residents of towns where these technical schools are established should have some voice in their management. The Government appoints the councils, and therefore, to a certain extent, has some control over them; but the power can be used in a negative sense only. A desirable alteration, however, could be made. The standard of the curricula of these schools and the standard of examinations should be made the same as those of the Adelaide body, so that, to this extent at least, uniformity might be attained.

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THE TINLINE SCHOLARSHIP.

On Wednesday afternoon the senate of the University of Adelaide adopted the statute framed by the University Council for the governing of the Tinline Scholarship. The scholarship was the gift of Mr. G. J. R. Murray, K.C., a member of the council of the University, who gave £1,000 for its founding, in memory of the family of his mother. There are two £30 scholarships, tenable for two years, each one of which is to be awarded every year on the examinations in history for the ordinary degree of Bachelor of Arts. The full text of the statute was published in The Register of Friday last.

ASSOCIATES IN COMMERCE.

Candidates who pass the prescribed examinations for the diploma of commerce at the University of Adelaide will be entitled to the distinguishing affix of A.C.U.A., which, being interpreted, means Associate in Commerce of the University of Adelaide. Mr. J. R. Fowler, who moved the senate of the University successfully to agree to the altered regulation at the meeting on Wednesday afternoon, explained that the addition had been made partly to meet the wishes of the students, and had been copied from a similar provision in the diploma of music.