

## THE UNIVERSITY

### COMMEMORATION DAY

#### CONFERRING OF DEGREES.

Truly the old order changeth. Not so very many years ago University commemorations were periods of riotous gaiety. The undergrads, looked forward to them with eager anticipation. "Commem." never failed to be a scene of youthful exuberance manifested in the most hilarious form ingenious minds could devise. Then an unsympathetic Senate decided to cut the nonsense out. The result is that commemorations today are decorous even to dullness. People patronise them because it is a society custom. But the undergraduates stay away in large numbers.

Yesterday the University of Adelaide held its commemoration in the Elder Hall, North terrace. The building was crowded, ladies predominating, and on the platform were the students on whom were to be conferred degrees, wearing gowns and mortar-boards with the colors of their respective faculties inset. In one respect the ceremony was picturesque. The procession to the stage of members of the Senate, the lecturers and professors of the University, the council and members of boards, and the vice-chancellor and chancellor, provided a note of color created by the scarlet gowns of the professors of law, the chancellor and vice-chancellor, and the ermine-edged gowns of those belonging to the faculty of arts. Apart from this the assemblage was of such a sombre aspect that the scarlet cloaks aforementioned looked almost frivolous by contrast. On the whole the proceedings were quiet and uninteresting. There was an entire absence of the enthusiasm which one might be pardoned for believing should characterise the honoring of those young men and women who have achieved the highest educational honors the State can provide.

Punctually at 3 p.m. the Governor (Sir Day H. Bosanquet) arrived, and took his seat between the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) and the Premier (Hon. A. H. Peake). He was welcomed by the chancellor, who said his first duty that afternoon was a very pleasant one. It was to give a right hearty welcome to His Excellency the Governor. They welcomed His Excellency as a faithful friend of the University. He (the chancellor) was not going into details as to his services, but would name one which was probably unknown to most of those present. It was the despatch forwarded by His Excellency to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that was responsible for the issue of Letters Patent to the University to grant degrees in engineering. (Hear, hear.) Legislative sanction had been given for this long before the charter was received, but the Senate declined to act on legislative sanction alone, because Letters Patent gave a greater value to the degrees than attached to those of any other University in the Commonwealth. To such degrees the letters patent gave the same precedent the same academic value, as to those of any university in Great Britain, including Cambridge, Oxford, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and the universities of Ireland. There was one thing he had to refer to with regret, and that was his Excellency would shortly take his departure from the State, and that it was the last occasion on which he would address a gathering at the University in his capacity as visitor. They were assured, however, that on the other side of the world his Excellency would be the staunchest supporter of the University of Adelaide, while they would always remember with pride his connection with the University, and that his tenure of office as Governor had been one of the brightest chapters in the history of the State. (Applause.) They were honored with the presence of the Premier, whose interest in the welfare and progress, together with the whole-hearted interest of all other members of Parliament, had been responsible for the placing on the estimates of a line which had been recommended by the Education Commission, and by which £12,000 would be voted to enable the University authorities to complete the second storey of the north wing of the old University build-

ing, thus providing much-needed accommodation for the largely-increased library, as well as accommodation and laboratory for the newly-appointed chair of economic botany. The sum of £4000 had also been added to the yearly subsidy, which enabled them to do what was just and place the salaries of the professors, who were not second to those of any other university, on a more adequate scale. The presence of the president of the School of Mines (Sir Longdon Bonython) gave him an opportunity of referring to the kindred institution, and to the fact that the system of co-operation between the University and the School of Mines prevented anything in the way of duplication of academic work. Proof of this lay in the fact that one of the qualifications for the degree of Bachelor of Engineering was that the student must obtain the fellowship of the School of Mines, as well as the diploma of the University in applied science and engineering. He expressed his sorrow at the death of Sir John Duncan, who had always taken the very deepest interest in the University, and at the death of the late Director of Education (Mr. Alfred Williams). It was pleasing, however, to find that in selecting a man to fill Mr. Williams' place the Government had found that it could not do better than appoint a man who had graduated from the University of Adelaide, Mr. Milton Maughan. (Hear, hear.) He would have liked to have seen the chairman of the Education Commission (Mr. T. Ryan) present, and hoped to have the opportunity of welcoming him on another occasion. There would be one thing to which he must refer, or else be lacking in his duty and gratitude. This was the magnificent endowment for agricultural science by Mr. Peter Waite. (Cheers.) Two estates had been given, on either side of the road to Mitcham. The Education Department had already entered into possession of one of these for an agricultural high school, but it had not yet, nor would it, he hoped, be able for a long time to enter into possession of "Urrbrae." He visited the estate only last spring to pay his respects to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Waite, and the beautiful domain seemed to him to be a veritable paradise. He was sure that all would join with him in congratulating future students upon having such a site for a college, and also in the hope that Mr. and Mrs. Waite would enjoy happy and lengthy old age in the beautiful spot. (Hear, hear.)

#### THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency, after expressing thanks for the welcome, said:—"For many reasons I greatly regret that this is the last occasion on which I shall be present here in the capacity of visitor, but when I leave these shores I shall carry away with me a pleasant memory of the University of Adelaide and of all its members. Your Chancellor has been to me a close friend and a strong tower of support during all the time I have resided in this State, and from your professors I have derived much pleasure and information from the many clear and vivid lights they have thrown on the problems selected by them for their public lectures and speeches. My first glimpse of the principles underlying modern legislation have been derived from the stores of knowledge and literary ability of your Professor of Law.

#### AN ESSENTIAL POINT.

Whatever advantages may be derived from a University education, and they are many and great, the essential point is that you should make the best possible use of them in your future career. In order to accomplish that object, I will call your attention to the importance of the qualities of earnestness and sincerity. What is the great secret of success in public life, is it not found in the earnestness which a man devotes to his subject, and with which he decorates his oratory. To be sincere a man must be truthful; and if you add to these the quality of perseverance you have a character which, guided by the principles of earnestness, sincerity, truth, and perseverance, will carry you far in the direction of sympathy and interest in those objects which aims at social progress and elevation.

#### THE UNIVERSITY INFLUENCE.

You who have been educated in this University now well that every action of your life should be influenced by higher motives, by greater principles; the path of duty ever lies before you, which leads to thoughts and actions tending to enoble human nature, and to dignity human life; by teaching us what we should follow in the footsteps of the great men who have preceded us, and

putting aside all thought of personal aggrandisement or selfish sordid gain, use always our best endeavor to do that which is right and that which is your duty, that which is for the benefit of our fellow-men. In conclusion, I beg to offer my most cordial and sincere congratulations to those who are about to receive in the honors to be bestowed upon them by the Chancellor the just rewards of their diligence, zeal, and industry.

#### FAREWELL.

It is upon education that we must mainly depend for the cultivation of those mental and moral qualities which are essential to the greatness and happiness of the people, and it is because I believe that this great institution is well calculated to contribute to such an end, that with all my heart I express the wish that the Adelaide University may ever flourish, and all who are brought within the circle of its influence may become good and honorable men and women, upright and true, in thought, word, and deed, which is the end and aim of all instruction deserving the name, the epitome of all purposes for which education exists. I now bid you farewell, and wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

The conferring of degrees was then proceeded with, and in turn the deans came forward and testified that the fortunate undergraduates were "fit and proper persons to be admitted." The following candidates for degrees in law were first presented by Professor Jethro Brown:—

For the Degree of Bachelor of Laws:—  
Badger, Robert; Blackburn, Arthur Seaforth; Griffiths, Thomas Lester (David Murray Scholar in Roman Law and Stow Prizeman); Joyner, Max Frederick; Moody, Harold Eric (David Murray Scholar in Theory of Law and Legislation); Reed, Geoffrey Sandford; Yull, George Ashwin (Stow Prizeman), and McDonald, Ross (in absentia).

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Dr. Stirling) presented the following candidates for Degrees in Medicine and Surgery:—

Ad eundem gradum—  
Pulleine, Robert Henry, M.B. (University of Sydney).  
DeCrespigny, Constantine Trent Champion, M.D. (University of Melbourne) (in absentia).  
For the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery:—  
Close, Walter John Westcott; Davey, Laurance Llewellyn; Holder, Sydney Ernest; Le Messurier, Frederick Neill; Lucas, Reginald Blockley; Mayo, John Christian; Nott, Harry Carew; Penny, Harold John; Powell, Harold, and Verco, Joseph Stanley (Everard Scholar).

#### ARTS.

The candidates for Degrees in Arts were:—

Ad eundem gradum—  
Marten, Robert Humphrey, Junior, B.A. (University of Cambridge).  
Winter, William Harris, B.A., B.D. (University of Dublin).  
Jack, Fannie Augusta, B.A. (University of Sydney).  
For the Honors Degree of Master of Arts (Mathematics):—  
Ellis, Frank, B.A.

For the Ordinary Degree of Master of Arts:—

Allen, Edgar, B.A.  
Worsnop, Elsie Madoline, B.A.  
For the Honors Degree of Bachelor of Arts (Classics):—  
Bean, Edgar Layton (David Murray Scholar).  
Prince, Erica Lloyd.  
Walter, Hilda Blanche May.  
For the Ordinary Degree of Bachelor of Arts:—

Eardley, Frederick William; Finch, Emily Olive; Ireland, Norman Arthur; Nietz, Herbert Walter; Pavfa, Roy Rowling; Potter, Roy Adolph; Steward, Frederick John Harold; McAteer, Patrick Joseph (in absentia); and Pearson, Henry Ernest, B.Sc. (in absentia).

#### SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING.

The Dean of the Faculty of Science (Mr. E. V. Clarke) then presented to the Chancellor the candidates for Degrees in Science and in Engineering, and those who had obtained Diplomas of the University of Adelaide and the Fellowship of the South Australian School of Mines and Industries.

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Ad eundem gradum):—  
Corbin, Horace Hugh, B.Sc. (University of London).