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UNIVERSITY EXPANSION.

"The Mail" congratulates the unknown donor of £10,000 for University expansion upon his sagacious generosity, and believes that the splendid lead given to public and private munificence will be enthusiastically followed. A University stands to-day for professional equipment, scientific research, and culture, and its efficiency is denoted by the strength of its staff and the good feeling among the students. Within its range the Adelaide University has answered the tests, but its range has been necessarily limited. For some years it was little else than a brief and pill factory, more recently it has become distinguished in arts and science; its experiment in elementary music is doubtful, but though it is receiving liberal aid from the Government its capacity for usefulness is still greatly restricted by the eternal want of pence. Its teaching staff is, on the whole, remarkably good, and the tone of the institution excellent. Established upon sound lines, a residential college would promote the cultural ends of the University, but most desirable it is to encourage post-graduate work, original research. Probably private munificence could not be directed more fruitfully than to make the University of Adelaide fully worthy of the "city of culture."

Scotland, Denmark, Germany, Japan, and Bulgaria furnish illustrations of the influence of culture upon national character and development. Universal suffrage demands universal education; cosmopolitan commerce necessitates industrial training, technical instruction; and modern civilisation requires an increasing measure of culture, which has been well defined as something beyond and above economic education. Like honesty, culture, when pursued disinterestedly, is not without commercial profit. When the founders of new Denmark conceived the need of the people to be industrial co-operation they undertook to effect it by an intellectual method, and they succeeded by creating a popular enthusiasm for the national literature, national folklore, national history. They lifted the popular intelligence to a degree at which industrial co-operation became possible, a degree of understanding, and sympathy, and trust, and teachableness. Industrial Germany indicates a social discipline which would be intolerable and impracticable but for the wide diffusion of culture. Though the University is the apex of the educational system, paradoxically the lesser is more than the greater, the point than the line, the keystone than the foundation, for the tone of the State school which is its virtue is derived from the spirit of the highest academy. In proportion as the University is perfected, rendered universal in knowledge and wisdom, the popular intelligence is raised, especially where, as in Adelaide, it is directly the teacher of teachers.

An ideal University should be more than a repository of learning ancient and modern, more than a teaching, examining, and attesting body; it should be also a centre of art, of good fellowship, of original and radiating thought. It is not enough that it makes lawyers, and doctors, and philosophers, and scientists, and engineers, and agriculturists; its greater glory is to make each and all full-orbed men, citizens, leaders of men, citizens with a passion for humanity, professional men with enthusiasm, yet with a soul above shop. Money will buy the material equipment of a University, buildings, laboratories, libraries, chairs, and fellowships; but it cannot buy the tone—that is a gift of the gods. Yet spontaneous donations, enthusiastic donations, intelligent donations—these convey more than the money they represent; they bespeak the supreme gift. South Australians are justly proud of the University on North terrace. Long let it remain there; soon may it expand to achieve the laudable ambitions of its directors, multiply its hundreds of students into thousands, extend the roll of munificent founders and

donors, for its foundation is broad-based on the people's good, its temple is one of enlightenment, its aim a beneficent enlargement of power, it is a pillar of civilisation, an ornament of society, and an assurance of social regeneration. The "new learning" gave us the modern State with liberty of conscience and political equality; it is to the newer learning we look for the future and better State with economic freedom and industrial co-operation.

RESIDENCE AT UNIVERSITY.

SEVERAL VIEWS.

PROFESSOR CHAPMAN'S OPINION.

Speaking of the need for a residential college such as is likely to become an accomplished fact as the result of Mr. R. Barr Smith's donation of £10,000, Professor Chapman, of the Adelaide University, said on Friday:—"Most of the older universities have their residential quarters. Melbourne, for instance, has three separate colleges, which are occupied by men whose homes are far from the metropolis. The fact of men living in close association adds tremendously to the range of university life. One of the greatest benefits men can gain from their university experience is the result of the associations they have formed there. Men of all shades of political and religious opinions mix together in everyday life in these residential colleges, with the result that an invaluable influence is worked on the development of the minds of the young men. We miss that sort of thing here. Men come to lectures and go away, and great numbers of them never meet outside the lecture hall, and do not get to know one another. Of course, we try to overcome the difficulty with our different associations, but that does not fill the bill, although the sports club has a very useful influence. The man who spends three or four years in a residential university stands a very much better chance of developing his mind as well as his body than another who simply attends lectures in a certain number of subjects and is affected by no other influence outside his course of study."

THE LAND HUNGER.

UNIVERSITY WANTS BIGGER SITE.

GROWTH OF EDUCATION.

EXHIBITION GROUNDS, POLICE BARRACKS, AND DESTITUTE ASKED FOR.

One of the conditions under which Mr. R. Barr Smith's magnificent gift of £10,000 was made to the University was that the Government should advocate to and vest in the University the additional grounds for which the council has made request. It transpires that the grounds the council has asked for involves certain allotments situated to the north of the University site. These include a portion of the Jubilee Oval, which, at the end of another year the Royal Agricultural Society will vacate, part of the police barracks behind the Art Gallery and Museum, and also part of the ground on which the Destitute Asylum is now situated. A commission is at present considering the matter of the allocation of these grounds, and the difficulty which the Government have to overcome is a fair division or allotment of the land among all those applicants who have asked for blocks for public purposes.

Speaking on the matter on Friday, Mr. F. W. Eardley, the Assistant Registrar of the University, said the five acres on which the University was at present situated was wholly inadequate for the intended expansion. He pointed out that Sydney University had 120 acres, Melbourne 100 acres, and Queensland 13 acres. The five acres of land now occupied constituted the whole of the original grant under the Act of incorporation, and no addition had been given since. Almost the whole of the site was occupied by school buildings, and it was quite out of the question to erect any more on it. They were at present quite cramped for space, and so long as the question of the allocation of the land applied for was in abeyance there could be no definite scheme for expansion evolved. It was necessary for the development of the University to draw up a scheme for its expansion, but it was useless to attempt this with the present small site at their disposal.

Professor Chapman was also seen by a representative of "The Mail" in regard to this scheme for extension and the land necessary to carry out that idea. He said there were only a thousand students at the Adelaide University, but if that number was compared with the figures of Sydney and Melbourne in proportion to the population it would be seen that the Adelaide University was more largely availed of than in the bigger cities. For instance, in Melbourne and Sydney the number of students for every thousand of population in the metropolis, that is, within a radius of 10 miles, was 2.21. In Adelaide it was double as much—4.2. More land was needed for the establishment of schools of biology, physics, geology, and engineering, while the medical school needed enlarging considerably. The buildings for such schools should be arranged on a definite plan of isolation, so that they were kept separate, and when the time for expansion came they were not cramped. When such a scheme was completed Adelaide would have something to be proud of. As Mr. Barr Smith said when he handed over the £10,000 to the Government, it would merely serve to establish the nucleus of the big scheme which the council at present had as its ideal. Such a scheme as is advocated would, of course, need a great deal larger sum than the £20,000 given by the donor named and the Government. It might seem a lot of money to spend, but South Australia's population was growing, and as their State developed so their educational requirements would have to be enlarged.

"People who don't know are prone to regard the University as an institution for the rich alone, but this is a mistaken

idea," the Professor continued. "As a matter of fact, many of our very best students have been the sons of quite poor people. For the benefit of those who are without means, the Government have increased the number of scholarships entitling the winners to free education at the University from three to twelve. Then again, a man who is working for his living, either the whole of the day or a part of the day, can make use of the University. The council has legislated in a way that degrees in arts and sciences can be gained after as long as ten years' study, the student merely taking one subject per year as his time allows. In other universities it is necessary to take so many subjects a year, and this is against the man who has to earn his livelihood while he is studying. It is the council's general desire to make it available for all those that can take advantage of what it has to offer."