

Register, Dec. 9/11.

Register, December 11.

### MAWSON EXPEDITION.

HOBART, December 7.

The steamer Toria left for Macquarie Island this afternoon with the following members of Dr. Mawson's antarctic expedition on board:—Messrs. Correll, Stillwell, Hoadby, Bage, Blake, Hunter, Lasseron, Sondell, Close, Hamilton, Sawyer, Moves, Dovers, Murphy, and Drs. Whetter, Jones, and Mertz. Mr. Eitel (secretary of the expedition) will also go as far as Macquarie Island. The Toria took 140 tons of coal and stores, including 50 sheep, part for the Macquarie Island port, and part to be transferred to the Aurora.

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### IN THE COUNCIL.

Another busy afternoon and evening were spent. After half an hour's adjournment out of respect to the memory of Sir Jenkin Coles, the Early Closing Bill was further amended. Clause 46 was reinstated, and provision was made to prevent Sunday trading in hairdressing saloons and shops. In the Adelaide University Bill the Hon. J. G. Bice carried an amendment to clause 9 by eight votes to six providing that the agreement between the University and the School of Mines, with regard to the engineering course, should be maintained.

Advertiser, Dec. 9/11.

### UNIVERSITY BILL.

In committee.

Clauses 1 to 8 passed.

Clause 9. University may confer degrees of bachelor and master of engineering.

The Hon. J. G. BICE moved to add a proviso that "the existing agreement, dated March 3, 1903, made between the School of Mines and the University in regard to the engineering course be maintained." He thought that amendment would meet with the support of everyone.

The Hon. J. COWAN complained that Parliament did not know enough of the agreement, and therefore they should not make it permanent and binding. It would be more to the interests of both institutions to let them go along by themselves. He was confident their relations would be most harmonious if the Bill were passed as it was.

The CHIEF SECRETARY said at any time it might be found necessary to vary the agreement, and in that case an Amending Bill would have to be introduced if this amendment were agreed to.

The Hon. J. G. BICE stated that in the agreement itself there was a provision for alteration, when thought necessary by the Faculty.

The Hon. J. J. DUNCAN considered that the amendment would be binding during the life of the Bill. If the agreement was to be maintained no clause of it could be altered. If the agreement between the University and the School of Mines had been sufficient for ten years to ensure harmonious working, why should it not continue?

The Hon. J. G. BICE—You are altering the whole position by this clause.

The Hon. J. J. DUNCAN did not think so. He opposed the amendment.

The Hon. J. G. BICE said if there were any alterations desired, to which the Faculty could agree, they could be made under clause 8 of the agreement, and if any drastic alteration were necessary an amending Bill could be passed. Amending Bills were not unusual.

The CHIEF SECRETARY pointed out that the agreement could only be terminated on 12 months' notice, and therefore there was no need to pass this amendment. The agreement was sufficiently permanent in itself, and if notice of termination was given another Bill could be introduced next year.

The Hon. A. W. STYLES could see no harm in the amendment. It would not in any way interfere with the intentions of the Commission.

The amendment was declared carried, and the Hon. J. J. DUNCAN called for a division, which resulted as follows:—

Ayes (8)—Hons. J. R. Addison, A. von Doussa, J. H. Howe, T. Pascoe, E. L. W. Klauer, A. W. Styles, C. R. Morris, and J. G. Bice (teller.)

Noes (6)—Hons. J. Warren, F. S. Wallis, J. P. Wilson, J. Cowan, J. Lewis, and J. J. Duncan (teller.)

Majority of 2 for the Ayes.

Clause as amended passed.

Clause 10 and title passed. Bill reported, report adopted, and the standing orders having been suspended the Bill was read a third time and passed.

### ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY BILL.

In committee clauses 2 to 8, inclusive, passed. "University may confer degrees of bachelor and master of engineering."

The Hon. J. G. BICE moved, on page 2, line 39, after University, to insert "provided that the existing arrangement with the School of Mines be maintained." That would be entirely in accordance with the expressed wish of every one who had spoken on the Bill, and would have the effect of maintaining the position every one desired should be maintained. The existing arrangement was an admirable one, and degrees would be granted under the same condition as diplomas were granted now.

The Hon. J. COWAN said Mr. Bice was assuming rather a peculiar attitude in respect to this clause. In speaking on the clause Mr. Bice expressed the intention of moving, so that the present agreement would be interfered with, and now he was moving in just the opposite way. (Hon. A. W. Styles—"Second thoughts are sometimes the best.") Perhaps these second thoughts were better, but they were not the best. Parliament had no voice in the making of the agreement between the institutions, and they were not intimate enough with the agreement or with the parties to it to make it binding. Parliament should not adopt that attitude. The agreement had been in existence for about eight years, and had stood the test of time, and if it continued to be satisfactory, it would stand a further test without the interference of Parliament. If it was not to be satisfactory it would be doing both institutions an injustice in making it permanent. The retention of harmonious relations between the two institutions would be best served by the Council not interfering with the Bill. In the interests of the School of Mines it would be better to pass the Bill as it stood.

The CHAIRMAN—May I officially point out that different members have referred to this matter covered by the Hon. Mr. Bice's amendment as an agreement and as an arrangement. I suggest that there should be some words to indicate what the existing arrangement or agreement is. At present there is no indication in the Bill or the amendment of what it is. I ask the hon. member to identify it in some way.

The CHIEF SECRETARY supported the point raised by the Chairman. There was nothing in the measure to show what the arrangement comprised. He hoped the Bill would not be altered. It might be found necessary at some future time to vary the arrangement. If it were to be made permanent under the present Bill it would be then necessary to secure an alteration of the law to make a change.

The Hon. J. G. BICE said that he had not been inconsistent in what he desired. Seeing that he could not get what he wanted, namely, an assurance that the whole of the teaching of the engineering course would be done at the School of Mines, he had decided to try and get an affirmation of the existing arrangement which gave the School of Mines an equal share in the teaching of the course. He was justified in taking what he could get, and he felt that he was asking for at least a good half. In regard to the suggestion of the Chairman, he pointed out that an approved arrangement existed between the University and the School of Mines, and was recognised by the Government. Within that arrangement there was means provided for its alteration. If the objection of Mr. Cowan held good they would be putting in something rigid that could not be changed without the alteration of an Act of Parliament. But there was already provision for alteration by the faculty controlling the course. The reference in the clause was elastic and sufficiently binding for the purpose in view. The arrangement was in exactly the same category as the statutes and regulations mentioned in the clause. It was not a fixed quantity. He was willing to employ the term "agreement."

The Hon. J. J. DUNCAN said Mr. Bice was putting a wrong construction on his own amendment. If it was carried they would be absolutely tying the hands of the authorities of the two institutions during the life of the measure. This was a Bill founded on progress reports. It was almost certain that when the final report was brought up the measure would require some alterations. If the agreement between the University and School of Mines had been sufficient for the past 10 years, why should it not be continued as at present? (Hon. J. G. Bice—"You are altering the whole position by this clause.") He thought not. The Bill should not be altered.

The Hon. J. G. BICE said the argument that the Bill had to be passed in the interests of the financial arrangements of the University, and that it should not be delayed or amended therefore, should not be employed. With reference to the flexibility of the agreement made between the School of Mines and the University, there was a provision that alterations could be made, and those alterations he had already

indicated. The agreement was made on March 3, 1903, and was "in order to avoid duplication." Arrangements for diploma and fellowship courses were set out in detail in the scheme attached, which was subject to alteration under clause 8 of the agreement, and other courses could be added as the councils of the two institutions from time to time determined. If, when the final report of the commission came in, some change was found necessary, it might necessitate the passing of an amending Bill, which was no new thing. (Hon. J. J. Duncan—"How does the Bill affect this agreement?") The whole position was altered, inasmuch as under the agreement the diploma was issued from the School of Mines. No one would want the diploma when they could get an engineering degree from the University, and seeing that that was so the agreement might be terminated and the whole of the higher class work of the School of Mines go from it.

The CHIEF SECRETARY said Mr. Bice seemed to be cutting the ground from under his own feet in the matter of the agreement, which itself contained conditions for alteration. Clause 19 said that if either institution chose to terminate the agreement it must give a year's notice. Next session would be quite time enough if there were any risks which members did not foresee in connection with the Bill. Mr. Bice said no one would want the diploma if he could get a degree; but instruction that students required up to a certain stage could be obtained at the School of Mines, and further instruction to enable them to get a degree, which was worth 50,000 diplomas, they could get at the University. He saw no necessity to make reference to the agreement in the Bill.

The Hon. J. G. BICE said the Chief Secretary failed to realize that the course which entitled to the diploma and fellowship was a joint professional course, equally supplied by both institutions. When the power of granting the degrees was given to the University, so far as concerned the point about one institution teaching up to a certain point and the other taking on from there, was the very point of danger. So soon as power was given to the University to grant the degrees, he feared, unless some provision such as he proposed were made, that notice would be given for the termination of the agreement. The Government had brought down the Bill based on a partial enquiry. The question had been asked why should they not knock out the clause altogether? He did not want that, as he thought it a wise provision that degrees as asked for should be granted, but they should protect the institution which was the equal partner in granting the present degree or diploma. He wanted the institutions to remain equal partners in that respect.

The Hon. A. W. STYLES said no harm would be done in agreeing to Mr. Bice's amendment, as it certainly would give satisfaction to the other partner in the case. The report before Parliament, however, was immature, as members of the commission had not had the opportunity to go into the business as they would like to have done. In the circumstances it would be better to pass the other clauses of the Bill, and leave clause 9 stand out. Then when the commission brought in a final report they could deal with the question as would meet the interests of the parties concerned.

The PRESIDENT—The Hon. J. G. Bice has asked me to alter the amendment to

read:—After "University" insert "provided that the agreement dated the 3rd day of March, 1903, made between the University and the School of Mines and Industries with regard to the engineering course, be maintained."

The amendment was declared carried. The Hon. J. J. DUNCAN called for a division, which resulted:—

Ayes, 8—Hons. A. R. Addison, J. H. Howe, E. L. W. Klauer, C. R. Morris, T. Pascoe, A. W. Styles, A. von Doussa, and J. G. Bice (teller.)

Noes, 6—Hons. J. Cowan, J. Lewis, F. S. Wallis, J. Warren, J. P. Wilson, and J. J. Duncan (teller.)

Majority of 2 for the Ayes.

Clause as amended passed. Title passed; Bill reported; report adopted. Standing orders suspended; Bill read a third time and passed.