WOMAN’S ONWARD MARCH

Adelaide’s First Lady Lawyer.

A quarter of a century ago Miss Laura Margaret Fowler (now Mrs. Hope, the wife of Dr. Charles Hope, of Calipponga, India) graduated in medicine at the University of Adelaide. It was considered a great event at the time, and the opinion was expressed that when people became accustomed to it, and when women were educated in their own sex as medical practitioners, an occasion for surprise would be, not that ladies should find opportunities to exercise their minds and powers, but that they should have been so long out of a peculiarly appropriate sphere of labour. In according the degree upon Dr. Hope, the late Archbishop Farr (formerly Vice-Chancellor of the University) said it was somewhat simpler experience for him to admit a young lady as a bachelor of medicine than he was acquainted with, as he was a graduate, possessed of ability and industry of a high order. Since 1851 no fewer than 36 women have entered into jujumus in various parts of the State.
Women have begun to assume many prominent places in public affairs, partly due to these college branches—10 Bachelors of Music, 21 Bachelors of Science, and 90 of Arts (11 of whom are women) have been given to the University. A lady lawyer might command the respect of society in her own sex in a more reciprocal and impressive manner perhaps could a man. To-day, however, instead of a man's, the title rests prudently from a fact that at the annual commencement of the University of Adelaide Thursday, 28th July, Miss (R. Murray) will confer the degree of Bachelor of Arts, only the unique distinction having been the first lady at the University.

Two other ambitious ladies in earlier years entered upon the course, but they did not persevere. One of them was the daughter of Sub-Inspector Kriston, of the Adelaide Police; and the other, the child of years of age, which fact adds lustre to her brilliant achievement. She received her degree with the address of the Foundation, Mercy, Angus street, and, as a pupil of that institution, passed the public senior examination in 1910, and a year later higher public.

Law Course Began.

In 1912 she entered for the course for the degree which she was entitled to take, and in August, 1914, was attacked by Mr. Messrs. P. & J. Johnston, solicitors, of the aforementioned course, and not being content with passing in law, she was known to the Supreme Court as a qualification as a Solicitor. Miss Kriston has shortened the necessary period of service under articles by two years, and a Practitioners Act of this State, South Australia, and Victoria, opened the doors of the legal profession to women. Miss Kriston's success was not due to her persevering, and her future career will be one of the things she enjoys her friends, but by all who see, whether with approval or disapproval, the increasing number of women in the profession of law.

—Husband and Wife Practising.

The first woman to enter the law in Victoria, Miss Kriston, was admitted to practise on August 1, 1905. Several years later three other women entered Victoria the following year, and, therefore, four have been admitted at any rate. Miss Kriston has kept up with the times.

In one case, Miss Gladys A. Taylor, M.A., LL.B., who qualified in 1916, and Mrs. Horatio, R. E. A. Hale, LL.B., who qualified in 1917, have been fighting for King and country, and the legal business of both her husband and herself.

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At the University commencement of Warrnambool, 1916, Mr. R. Murray, in referring with pride to the large number of graduates and students at the University, added: "It is a great joy to note those who had achieved success." Major Greenway and J. E. M. Carleton had each twice mentioned in the list, and Major Donald Kerr had been awarded the Military Medal. Captain A. S. Blackburn had been given the Victoria Cross, and Captain William Blackburn, who was present, was also distinguished for his modesty and type of hero they all delighted to honor and the University cordially congratulated.

The Director of Chemistry, Mr. W. Hargrave, had the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. On the same day at the University commencement and in that capacity received many congratulations.
The UNIVERSITY.

ANNUAL COMMEMORATION.

DEGREES CONFERRED.

The annual commemoration of the University took place in the Eild Hall on Wednesday, March 15th, the gathering, which included its Chancellor, the Governor, Lady Gateway, and other members of the University, being presided over by the private secretary (Mr. Loth, Winters) and rather than usual. The gathering was in attendance of the Governor (Hon. C. R. Murray), The Song of the University was played on the organ. The Governor was then delivered a lecture (Professor Mitchell) and conducted by the principal (Prof. H. Vaughan, LL.D.), the President (Prof. H. McKinnon), and the University's officers (Hon. J. H. Vaughan, LL.D.), the presidents of the faculties, and at the meetings of the boards and the senate, the registrars (Prof. C. R. Hodges), and candidates for all academic robes.

The Pee Sir Samuel W...

The Chancellor, in opening the proceedings, expressed great pleasure at the presence of so many notable personages. There had been times when King's representative had gone to a University for the first time, and when the University presented a present of books to the King. In the University of Oxford, there is no such custom. There are more books, but he did not think they could have been presented in the minds of all the scholars. A chancellor who for 22 successive years presided over the University was not the King's representative. The late Sir Samuel Wise was no ordinary man. With no advantage to help him, he was the first to introduce the study of history, and endowing physical energy. He was the first to introduce the study of the law, and to the most remote. It is therefore fitting that the University, in thanking him, gratefully selected the suggestions and nobly performed the work he had undertaken. Exhusted though his body was, at the University ceremony, he appeared the most energetic and cheerful man who had been seen in the Full Court. That was his last appearance in London, and he was not well when his career was closed. A great man had passed away, and in his place was a kinder and more pious one. A splendid example of what he set before them. (Applause)

The Call of Patriotism.

Over 200 members of Parliament, having answered the call of duty and had joined the files. Considering how few members of the House of Commons are now in office, there was a creditable act of patriotism. (Applause) The House was not and not, and those who had been admitted to the full rights of the House, and never to forget the splendid example of the polished and the wise. The world would be spoiled for the good that the great man had done. (Applause)
After the war is over—and there could be no misgivings here—the education must play an even more important part in the conservation and development of their national ideals and natural resources. The Federal and State Governments have taken upon themselves the application of science to industry—movement that could not fail to be fruitful, and the South Australian Parliament had voted a sum of money that would strengthen their efforts in teaching of economics and in bringing the benefits of higher education nearer to the people. Of this move, the Attorney-General, as the presiding officer, would be assured of the wisdom of the policy and anxious to assist in carrying it into effect. Application was made to institute a series of lectures next year by means of the usual extension lectures, which they hoped would be useful in the direction indicated. (Applause.)

Degrees and Diplomas.

The Chancellor then proceeded to confer the degrees. There could be no better proof of the patriotism of the students than the shortness of the programme. The graduates in medicine, except one who was in Western Australia, were admitted to their degrees in June, and had enlisted. In the case of those who were about to receive degrees and diplomas he intended to follow the practice that prevailed in the universities of the old world, and not address any individual congratulations to them. They need be no less assured, and particularly Miss Kittson, who was the first lady to obtain the degree of LL.B. at the University of Adelaide, of the pleasure their success gave, and of the high hopes entertained of their future achievements. (Applause.)

The conferring of each degree was the occasion for remarks from the Dean of the Faculty of Law (Mr. W. J. Ibbister, K.C.:)

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Professor E. C. Stirling) recommended—For the degrees of bachelor of laws, Mary Cecilia Kittson.

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Professor H. Darnley Naylor) presented—For the degree of bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery, Oscar Arnold Plots, and the degrees were conferred in addition.

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Professor Osborn) presented—For the ordinary degree of master of arts, Euphemia Theodosia Blair, B.A., and Angelina Williams, B.A. For the honor degrees of bachelor of arts, Phyllis Constance Gillman and Susie Lewin Somerville. For the ordinary degree of bachelor of arts, Robert Barbour, and Josephine Gold, Charlotte Annie Holland, David Galway, and Thomas Bernard Galvin (in absentia).

The Dean of the Faculty of Science (Professor Osborn) presented—For the degree of bachelor of science, Hugh John Gay Nicholson, for the degree of bachelor of science, Walter William Hurst, Cyril Douglas Banks, and William More. For the degree of bachelor of engineering, Hugh John Gay Nicholson.

The chairman of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research (Mr. Fowler, M.A.) presented—For the diploma in commercial science, George Percival Howe, John Pender Battye (in absentia), and Harry Sidney Perry (in absentia).