

Ad. 25.9.19.

### THE UNIVERSITY.

#### PARKSIDE SITE EAR-MARKED.

Mr. Gunn, in the House of Assembly on Wednesday, spoke on the motion by Major Smeaton:—"That in view of the contemplated erection of a new Mental Hospital at Enfield, it be determined that the site of the present buildings and grounds at Parkside be definitely secured for the future use of the Adelaide University." He said the object of the motion was to give the Government a lead in regard to the removal of the Mental Hospital and to set aside the site for University purposes. After visiting a similar institution in Victoria, he had made a comparison with that at Parkside, and he, like others, was ashamed of their provision for the mentally afflicted. The hospital was a gaol, and they were all agreed that the Mental Hospital should be removed from Parkside, where valuable land would then be available for University purposes. There had been a difference of opinion among the professors in regard to the removal of the University from its present site. Sir Langdon Bonython had been the first to suggest to a Royal Commission the removal of the University to the Parkside site.

Major Smeaton, in reply, disabused the minds of any who thought that the carrying of the motion would mean the immediate removal of the University. That was not so. The objection to removal was still continued by the Chief Justice, and consent to the removal had been grudgingly given by some members of the council on the understanding that the removal was not to be immediate. The motion was carried.

Ref. 25.9.19.

### THE FOURTH JUDGE.

#### Probable Appointment To-day.

It is understood that at Executive Council this morning Mr. T. Slaney Poole, M.A., LL.B., K.C., will be appointed the fourth Judge.

The selection of Mr. Slaney Poole will be heartily endorsed by the members of the legal fraternity, among whom he enjoys a high professional and personal status. Mr. Poole's brilliant academic record and his splendid career at the bar, eminently fit him for the important duties and responsibility attaching to the judiciary, and he will step on to the Bench with the complete confidence and good wishes of his colleagues. The compliment which has been paid to Mr. Poole is a singularly



MR. T. SLANEY POOLE, K.C., who, it is understood, will be appointed Fourth Judge to-day.

high one, for he is only just 46 years of age, but for his years he has a remarkably full and balanced mind. To have been taken from the junior Bar and elevated to the judiciary is a striking testimony to his legal equipment. Mr. Poole's name, however, has been mentioned for this promotion ever since the Government decided to appoint another Judge, and Parliament approved. His selection will undoubtedly strengthen the Bench.

#### —A Distinguished Record.—

Mr. Poole was born at Strathalbyn in 1873, and is a son of the Rev. Canon Poole, M.A. At school and university he had a most distinguished career. At St. Peter's College he obtained the Farrell (clerical) and Young Scholarships, and at the age of 16 was head of the school. At the University of Adelaide in 1889 he obtained a first class in the senior examination, heading the lists in English and history, Latin, Greek, and chemistry. On leaving St. Peter's Mr. Poole went to Trinity College, in the University of Melbourne, where he obtained the Warden Clarke and Henry Borthon scholarships in successive years, and also won the President's and Vice-Presidents' medals for essay writing and oratory in connection with the College Dialectic Society. At the university the new Judge obtained first-class honours, and an exhibition and prizes in Greek, Latin, and comparative philology, and, in the final year of his arts course, the Scholarship in these subjects, and took his B.A. degree in 1894. In the same year Mr. Poole entered upon his law course at the University of Melbourne, but stopped in his progress to become temporarily, pending the arrival of a new professor, Lecturer in Classics at the University of Adelaide. In 1896 he took the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1897 that of Bachelor of Laws with honours.

#### —Admitted to the Bar.—

In the latter year he was admitted to the Victorian Bar, and on that very day was offered the position of Associate to His Honor the late Sir William Henry (then Mr. Justice) Bunday. On giving up this position he entered the offices of Messrs. Symon, Rounsevell, & Cleland as managing clerk, and subsequently became a junior partner in that firm. In 1909 he joined Mr. P. E. Johnstone, and since that date has practised in partnership with him. Few men, if any, at the Bar have had more varied work than Mr. Poole. He has appeared in every Court and in all classes of cases. He has been retained in a larger number of important arbitration cases. He was the draftsman of the Rules of Court, 1913, and of the Local Courts Bill shortly to be introduced into Parliament. Mr. Poole, in addition, has found time to act as lecturer in the "Law of Wrongs" at the University of Adelaide, but resigned that position owing to increasing pressure of business last year, only, however, to undertake another, the task of lecturing in "Evidence and Procedure." He has also for the past three years been Chancellor of the Diocese of Adelaide. He is a member of the Board of Examiners for articled clerks, and of the statutory committee of the Law Society—the body entrusted with the duty of investigating charges of misconduct made against practitioners, and is on the council of that society. In the profession Mr. Poole is regarded as a man of wide experience, considerable learning, and as one who possesses sound common sense, quick intellect, and clear judgment.

### A NEW KING'S COUNSEL.

#### Mr. F. Villeneuve Smith Chosen.

In Executive Council on Thursday, Mr. F. Villeneuve Smith was appointed a King's Counsel. Mr. Smith is only 35 years of age, and he is probably the youngest King's Counsel ever appointed in South Australia. He is certainly the youngest practising in Australia to-day. His promotion will receive the general approval of the legal profession, for he has won a brilliant reputation for eloquence



MR. F. VILLENEUVE SMITH, K.C.

and skilful cross-examination. He devotes as much energy and care to a small Police Court case as to one before the highest tribunals, and during the past few years he has figured in many important cases. He belongs to a family of lawyers, as he is a son of the late Mr. W. Villeneuve Smith, who practised in Adelaide and Melbourne for many years. A former Chief Justice of Tasmania (the late Sir Francis Villeneuve Smith) was an uncle, and Mr. Villeneuve Francis Smith, K.C., of Western Australia, is a half-brother. The new King's Counsel was educated at the Christian Brothers' College. After having completed the law course at the University of Adelaide in 1906, he was admitted to the Bar in December of that year. He subsequently visited England and Europe, and on his return began practice in 1907. He entered into partnership with the late Mr. C. J. Supple, and subsequently practised in conjunction with Mr. W. J. Denny. He served his articles with his father, and later with Mr. T. S. O'Halloran. Mr. Smith's rise at the Bar was singularly rapid, and his early success was predicted by the late Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way) in the Robe libel case in 1912, in which Mr. Smith appeared for the plaintiff, who was successful. His address in that case drew from the late Chief Justice the high compliment that it was worthy of Sir James Scarlett, the celebrated leader of the English Bar. Mr. Smith, K.C., is at present in partnership with Mr. H. G. Alderman, who had a fine career as a student, and has shown good promise at the Bar.

Ref. 29.9.19.

### SERIOUS CONGESTION AT UNIVERSITY.

At a meeting of the Council of the Adelaide University on Friday, a letter from the Premier in reply to the deputation which waited upon him in regard to the needs of the University was read. The Premier stated that after having given the matter careful consideration the Government, in view of the financial position, regretted that it could hold out no hope of providing the desired financial assistance for carrying out the works asked for during the present year. The whole question was considered at length by the council, and in consequence of the present congested condition and the imperative demand for additional accommodation for the next academic year, it was stated that it might be found necessary to refuse to accept additional students in 1920. The matter was referred to a special committee for immediate consideration and report to a special meeting of the council.

### "A PEACE OF MIGHT."

The following letter signed by Professor Dr. Paul Puntschart for the members of the teaching body of the University of Graz, and by Professor Dr. Rudolph Schubler for the members of the teaching body of the Polytechnic Academy of Graz, was laid on the table at a meeting of the council of the Adelaide University on Friday:—"We, the professors and teachers of the University and the Polytechnic Academy of Graz, beg to raise our voices in pathetic warning. The dismembering of our native country insults both history and justice, and we are deeply afflicted by it; on the other hand, scientific methods of thinking make us clearly discern that the conditions which would be created by a "peace," as desired by unscrupulous dictators in politics, cannot possibly be of duration. Therefore we appeal to all scientific corporations of the world and ask them to render aid against a national dismemberment which would remind of the politics of vengeance, as practised by nations of antiquity in their flush of victory; against the purpose of enslaving us, which would be going to annihilate our productive labour for time incalculable; against the project to starve us by economic famine which would wipe us out of the number of vital nations. We appeal to the honour and conscience of the representatives of science all over the world, and beg them to consider whether German science, arts, and intellectual proficiency, whether German labour are for a long time henceforth to be eliminated from the community of the nations, in which the whole German nation has successfully co-operated hitherto. These terms of peace would not only mean a peace of might, but also a sentence of guilt, passed by a tribunal, consisting of members of one party of the belligerents only, and without hearing the condemned nation. They would cripple and morally debase the German nation, hitherto indefatigably working for civilization; all Europe would be put into a state of insufferable and endless fighting, which would necessarily involve the greatest political dangers for the heart of the continent. By the collapse of Central Europe, in the first place, order in the Nearer East would become impossible, and, thus, in the end, the whole occident would be delivered up to chaotic dissolution. We therefore propose in the eleventh hour that a committee of eminent unbiased scholars of law, of history, of political economy, and of technics may be entrusted with an arbitration on those conditions that have caused the disastrous contents of the terms of peace. Their foremost task would be to investigate whether and to what extent the Germans are responsible for the outbreak of the war. As representatives of a German-Austrian university and academy we, moreover, demand that this committee may examine whether in the Austrian portion of the former Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the suppression of non-German nationalities, so often asserted, has ever actually taken place. Finally, the political, cultural, and economical consequences of the terms of peace, as preferred to German-Austria, ought to be stated by these scholars. May the spirit of scientific truthfulness raise in every one of them the most weighty sense of responsibility for the attack on a durable peace in Europe, that attack which is termed the "Peace of Versailles and of St. Germain." May every body that is concerned in the victory of truth and justice, in a really lasting peace of nations, apply all the acuteness of his mind and all the warmth of his soul to examine these "terms of peace" and to reject them, being infeasible and unjust.

### METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES.

no Council minutes appeared.