**NEEDS OF THE UNIVERSITY.**

Turning for a moment from the popularity of Mr. Hughes and the big tasks that await usmen of the Commonwealth, we can come nearer home to matters of local interest that demand our concern. Government should not be too certain. It is of great magnitude sometimes without counting the cost, and sometimes without thinking of the smaller tasks on hand. The pendulum is apt to swing from one extreme to the other, and from being too conservative they will become too radical. In a way this is what has happened over providing hospital training. It was becoming a disgrace to the community that the provision in this direction was inadequate. The government moved, moved, and was bought almost enough land to provide for the same as well as the insane, without reckoning on what was to be done with the old buildings. This matter was brought up in the Assembly last week. The appeal was made on behalf of the University for the Parkside site. It is certainly becoming daily clearer that something will have to be done with regard to an extension of the University. The great difficulty is in obtaining a suitable site in the central portion of the city. That there is a need for two schools, at least, in the University the range of sites is strictly limited. The medical school must be near the hospitals; the law school must be in the city; so students can attend and get the practical training. While it is not absolutely necessary to have all the various schools contained in one site, it is more or less desirable. At the same time the growing needs must be met, and if the Parkside site is deemed suitable there is good reason in favour of setting this aside. While the claims of the University are great and are wisely kept before the Government, they should not overshadow lesser claims. The policy of the Government on educational matters is not all that it might be, and cannot be, while primary teachers are laboured under the disabilities which they are. The Government is too loth to spend money on primary education, because they are limiting in every sphere by their disregard of the work that should be done. This is a peculiar work whose claims are of the utmost importance, and should not for a moment be forgotten. There is room for much improvement, and students can improve and, when made, will be reflected in the life of the community.

**EXTENSIONS AT MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.**

**Melbourne, September 3.**

*After a Public Inquiry (which was not before the University) on the University today, the University of Melbourne has been asked to make available at least $300,000 for building extensions and improvements at the University.*

**Legislation Session.**

$2,000,000 for New Buildings.

An abundant expression of confidence in the Melbourne University and on the need for the immediate extension of the buildings was the speech of the Minister to the Houses of the Parliament on a grant to the University for new buildings. He expressed the confidence of the Government in the educational importance of the University. (Mr. Lawrence, most members of the Cabinet, and the nation, deplored the state of the University. It was the desire of the present Government to impress on the public the importance of the University. Amongst sympathies were those of Mr. Prendergast, who remarked that some persons had not quite appreciated the University, and thought that the people of Australia were not sufficiently aware of its importance. Amongst those of the Parliament, together with a statement of the important of the University, the Parliament showed that the University had a public, a national, and an international importance. It was the desire of the Government to make the University national in its dress, and to make it a useful national institution.