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Rey. 16.6.19.

Hobart Mercury  
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### EDUCATING SOLDIERS.

#### RETURN OF MAJOR THOMSON.

Among the officers on the Kaiser-Hind which arrived at the Outer Harbor on Saturday was Major H. Thomson. Major Thomson is a Rhodes scholar, and when the war broke out was practising law in Adelaide. He enlisted in July, 1915, in the 1st Reinforcements of the 10th Battalion, and in February, 1916, was transferred to the 50th Battalion. Altogether he saw 3½ years of active service in Egypt and France, most of the time as staff-captain of the 4th Brigade. In August, 1918, Major Thomson and the Bishop of Bathurst (Bishop Long) were approached by General Birdwood with a view to commencing an educational service among the Australian troops. A month was spent by the two gentlemen in visiting all the universities and technical schools in the British Isles, with the object of arranging that there should be an educational officer with every battalion at the front. Cheshunt College was the first school, and it was under the direct supervision of Major Thomson. A survey school was then started at Southampton, where 70 men studied for license, surveyor's certificates. A large agricultural school was also instituted at Sutton Beny, which is expected soon to have a roll-call of over 2,000 students. In addition to this, up to the end of April there were placed in all sorts of trades and professions in England and Scotland over 8,000 members of the A.I.F. Special classes in agriculture and the technique of wool have been provided in the Bradford and Leeds Universities. In February in France the enrolment in the classes by the ordinary community numbered 21,000, and in England, to the end of April, there was a total of 14,000. A monthly educational journal was issued. Numbers of officers were put through the schools, 60 to each school, and by the end of December, 1918, three-quarters of the units of the A.I.F. had educational officers. Special books had to be printed on agriculture, as none of the English books on the market were suitable for the work required to be done. By the end of April, when Major Thomson left, there had been distributed over 110,000 books. Of these the majority had been sold to the students, and the more costly ones had been lent to them. Major Thomson received the assurance that the next step, to be taken immediately, was to get recognition by the Surveyors' Board, the universities, the Civil Service Board, and others who controlled the industries of the country, of the work done and the examinations passed by the students in their six months' course in the service. This recognition had already been promised in several cases in the other States.

Among the more prominent men connected with the education of the A.I.F. troops are the following South Australians:—Major H. Thomson, Captain Rudall, Lieutenant J. H. Vaughan, Lieutenant Stanley Kelly, Captain Burke (formerly instructor at Roseworthy College), Captain T. J. Clarke, and Lieutenants Gartrell and E. T. Clarke (formerly lecturers at Adelaide University). The service will be automatically discontinued as soon as all the Australian troops are home in Australia again.

Rey. 17.6.19.

#### DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

The Minister of Education (Hon. W. H. Harvey) stated on Monday that the Public Service Commissioner had been instructed that day to issue a circular, calling for applications throughout the Commonwealth, for the position of Director of Education in this State, at a salary of £1,000 a year. The ex-Director (Mr. M. M. Maughan, B.A.) received £800 a year.

### UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

#### ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING COURSE.

#### THE SCHEME ADOPTED.

#### PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

A meeting of the University Council was held yesterday in the library-hall of the University, and there were present the Chancellor (Hon. Tetley Gant, C.M.G., M.L.C.) in the chair, Mr. F. Young (Acting Vice-Chancellor), Dr. Sprent, Prof. Williams, Messrs. F. Lodge, W. T. McCoy (Director of Education), W. F. D. Butler, H. Gillett, and L. H. Linden.

Mr. McCoy moved the reception and adoption of the following report:—

Report of conference of the committee appointed by the council of the University of Tasmania, the Director of Education, the organising inspector of technical education, and the advisory committee in applied science (technical education branch), called by the Director of Education to consider:—

(1) The possibility of co-ordinating the work of the University and the Education Department in the proposed electrical engineering course.

(2) The desirability of avoiding unnecessary duplication of buildings, equipment, lecturers, courses of study, etc.

#### DEGREE IN ENGINEERING.

The conference recommends that a degree in engineering be established at the University, and that a course of four years in electrical engineering leading to the degree be established forthwith conjointly at the University and the Hobart Technical School.

Details of Course in Electrical Engineering.—That the course in electrical engineering for the degree be generally as follows:—First year: Pure mathematics I., applied mathematics I., physics I., chemistry I., and mechanical drawing. Second year: Mathematics II. (engineering), physics II. (engineering), chemistry II. (engineering), electrical engineering I., mechanical engineering I., strength and elasticity of materials, and machine design. Third year: Electrical engineering II., mechanical engineering II. (including hydraulics), theory of structures and structural design, or electro-chemistry and metallurgy. Fourth year: Either electrical engineering III.—(a) Electrical technology, (b) design of electrical machinery and apparatus, (c) generation, transmission, and distribution of electrical energy, or electro-chemistry and metallurgy.

#### FACULTY OF ENGINEERING.

That a Faculty of Engineering be established, on which is represented (1) the University of Tasmania, (2) the Education Department of Tasmania, (3) the practising profession of engineers. The University should be represented by members of the teaching staff giving instruction in subjects of the degree. The department should be represented by the organising inspector of technical education, two members of the advisory committee on applied science nominated by the Minister of Education, and such members of the teaching staff of the Hobart Technical School giving instruction in the subjects of the degree as the Minister of Education may nominate. The practising profession of engineers should be represented by two practising engineers nominated by the Tasmanian Institute of Engineers, or, failing that, by the Minister of Education.

#### TEACHING AND EQUIPMENT.

That the subjects of the said degree course on the one hand and the diploma and certificate courses in electrical engineering established by the Education Department on the other hand be co-ordinated in order that:—

(a) Certain subjects of the diploma and certificate courses may be recognised as subjects of the degree course, and vice versa.

(b) The teaching and equipment for such subjects shall not be unnecessarily duplicated.

#### MANAGEMENT.

That a board of eight members for the consideration and management of joint interests of the University and the Education Department be appointed as follows:—

Four members appointed by the Minister of Education, of whom at least two shall be members of the Faculty of Engineering.

Four members appointed by the council of the University, of whom two shall be members of the standing committee of council, and two shall be members of the Faculty of Engineering who are members of the teaching staff of the University, and nominated by the Faculty.

That the board shall have such executive powers and such advisory powers as shall be determined by the Minister of Education and the council of the University.

#### UNIFICATION OF BUILDINGS, SITE, ETC.

That it is imperative that the physics department, the electrical engineering department, and the plant for testing and standardising be contiguous. That the buildings be erected on the Park-street frontage of the University ground, approximately as shown on a plan to be produced.

#### BUILDINGS REQUIRED.

That the physics department generally be as already planned, and for which a sum of £3,000 has been voted. These plans will probably require to be adapted with a view to completeness and co-ordination.

That the electrical engineering department generally be as set out below, but with such modifications as may be required, in view of the present proposals for technical education:—Electrical laboratory, lecturer's offices (2), two rooms for testing and standardising, battery room, instrument room, library, lavatory and storeroom, electro-chemical laboratory, and at least one research room.

#### STAFF.

That, to provide instruction for 1920, the following staff will be required (the division of salaries indicated is only intended to show the relative division of the lecturer's work):—Lecturer in electrical engineering. — University salary, £150 per annum; Education Department salary, £250 per annum; total, £400 per annum. Duties: Lecturer in electrical engineering, lecturer and demonstrator in physics. Lecturer in mathematics (engineering) and mechanical drawing. — University salary, £200 per annum; Education Department salary, £200 per annum; total, £400 per annum. Duties: Lecturer in mathematics (engineering) and applied mechanics, and demonstrator in mechanical drawing. Electrical mechanic. — Salary, £200 per annum.

#### CAPITAL COST.

It is estimated that the sum of £10,000 should be provided, of which £3,000 has already been voted, such sum to be made up as follows:—Buildings, £3,000; first equipment, £2,000; total, £10,000.

#### GENERAL RECOMMENDATION.

That the conference urges that, in view of the immediate needs of the technical branch of the Education Department, it is essential that preparation for instruction be completed to enable a start to be made at the beginning of February, 1920.

Mr. McCoy said that some time ago the Minister of Education made a promise to certain technical members of the teaching staff of the University, and to members of the University Council, that nothing should be done by the Education Department to elaborate a scheme for teaching electrical science until the Council of the University had had an opportunity of stating clearly what it proposed to do. Pursuant to that promise, the conference, which now reported, had met to arrange, if possible, for co-ordinating the work, thus avoiding unnecessary duplication of buildings, teaching, etc. The report had been drawn up, and unanimously approved by all the leading experts in electrical science that Tasmania could provide, and all were satisfied that the scheme was a magnificent one if the requisite money could be obtained. It was proposed to create a board, to be invested with powers very similar to those of the standing committee of the University, to manage the concern, and to erect a set of buildings on a corner piece of ground belonging to the University, close to Park-street and adjacent to Bathurst-street. As to lecturers in certain subjects, the Education Department would bear a share in relation to students from the Technical School, and the University its share as to the cost of teaching University subjects. It was most essential that the laboratories should be under one roof. The first annual cost would be about £350 for general purposes, and Parliament would have to be asked to vote that sum.

The Vice-Chancellor said that £550 would be required for the new teaching. Mr. Lodge seconded the motion to adopt the report. As to the nomination of a joint board, he said the money would

have to be provided from two sources—the Government and the University Council—so there must be some joint authority, subject to such limits as might be arranged between the Education Department and the University Council, to have practical supervision and control of such a new branch of education.

The motion was agreed to. It was also resolved that the Chancellor and Registrar be directed to arrange for the preparation and presentation to the Council proposals in reference to the staff, regulations for the board of management, and other matters necessary to carry into effect the recommendations contained in the report. Also that a deputation, consisting of the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Mr. F. Lodge, Mr. W. F. D. Butler, Professors Williams and Burn, and Dr. Glasson, be appointed to wait on the Minister of Education and request him to place on the estimated a sum of money to enable the Council of the University to carry out the proposals; and that Messrs. D. Meredith (assistant general manager of the Electrolytic Zinc Co.), Mr. Gillies (managing director of the Hydro-Electric Co.), Mr. C. B. Davies (engineer of the Hobart Municipal Tramways), Mr. C. H. Lamprill (president of the Hobart Chamber of Commerce), and Mr. Malcolm Kennedy (the vice-president), be invited to attend as members of the deputation.

#### AIRCRAFT FOR TASMANIA.

A despatch was read from the Agent-General to the Premier, inquiring whether the University desired to have a set of aircraft engines, etc., for instructional purposes, the same being obtainable from the British Government at nominal cost. This was considered, together with a report of Professor Burn, who pointed out that it would be a very desirable thing.

It was resolved to first ascertain the cost.

#### FACULTY OF COMMERCE.

It was resolved to approve of the following nominees as members of the Faculty of Commerce, in addition to two members of the University Council:—Hobart Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Malcolm Kennedy; Launceston Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Walter Miller; Tasmania branch, Incorporated Institute of Accountants (Commonwealth of Australia), Mr. H. H. Cummins, A.I.A.C.A.; Tasmanian division, Federal Institute of Accountants, Mr. R. J. Meagher, F.I.A.; Tasmanian branch, Australasian Corporation of Public Accountants, Mr. J. J. Wise.

#### LIBRARIAN.

Dr. Morris Miller was appointed University librarian, to organise and catalogue the library, superintend it, etc., at £50 per annum, the appointment to be renewable annually at the discretion of the Council.

#### CORRESPONDING DEGREES.

On the recommendation of the Board of Studies, the Council approved of admission to corresponding degrees of Rev. J. H. M. Dabb, B.A., Melb., and Bro. J. A. Kearney, M.A., Sydney.

#### VICTORIA LEAGUE STOURTON PRIZE.

Draft regulations were approved in connection with the Victoria League Stourton prize of £60, which is to be vested, and in connection therewith a prize to be awarded annually on the recommendation of the Board of Degree examinations to the candidate at the ordinary examination for degrees who, in the opinion of the examiner, showed the greatest proficiency in the subject of general history of England.

#### PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

The following were appointed examiners for the next senior and junior examinations:—

Senior Public Examination.—English language and literature, Mr. Linden; modern history, Mr. Coyland; ancient history, Mr. Linden; geography, Mr. Young; economics, Mr. Copland; Latin, Prof. Williams; Greek, Prof. Williams; French, Mr. Raamsdonk; German, Mr. Raamsdonk; arithmetic, Mr. Walker; algebra, Dr. Glasson and Mr. Ellis; geometry, Mr. Walker; trigonometry, Prof. McAulay; physics (a) and (b), Dr. Glasson; chemistry, Mr. MacLeod; geology, Mr. G. O. Smith; botany, Prof. Flynn or Mr. Rodway C.M.G.; physical hygiene, Dr. Clarke or Dr. Sprent; drawing, Prof. Burn; book-keeping, Mr. H. H. Cummins; shorthand, Mr. Griffiths.

Junior Public Examination.—English, Mr. Johnson and Mrs. Kennedy; history, Dr. Morris Miller; geography, Mr. Hill; Latin, Prof. Dunbabin; Greek, Prof. Dunbabin; French, Mr. Raamsdonk or Miss Dunbabin; German, Mr. Raamsdonk and Miss Nicholls; arithmetic, Messrs. Brooks and E. M. Johnson; algebra, Prof. Flynn or Mr. E. M. Johnson, Dr. Glasson co-examiner; geometry, Prof. Burn and Miss Hurst; physics, Dr. Glasson and an assistant to be appointed; chemistry, Mr. MacLeod; physiology, Mr. G. O. Smith; botany, Prof. Flynn or Mr. Rodway, C.M.G.; physiology, Dr. Sprent; drawing, Prof. Burn; book-keeping, Mr. H. H. Cummins; business practice, Mr. H. H. Cummins; shorthand, Mr. Griffiths.

The Council, having considered and approved amendments of details of the junior public examination and the estimates for the year, rose.