UNIVERSITY. TROUBLE AT THE ADELAIDE

Professor Coleman Phillipson, who has resigned the chair of law at the Adelaide University, admits that his private tuition of backward students may have been inexpedient, but denies that there was anything dishenerable in it. A paper describing him as a blackmailer was recently affixed to his

ment. He particularly wished it to be I had written it entirely in London. he had been at the Adelaide University ternational affairs; and at the Paris Peace was wholly completed in London. Re- Conference I was counsel in international ferring to a publication of his on "An- law for the British Delegation. It may ment Law," the professor said it was uc- interest you to see a communication from knowledged to be the foremost book of the present Lord Chief Justice, who refers its kind in the world in any language, He to certain experiences we had together in regretted that he was unable to answer Paris:- You paid a number of visits with a question whether he had been asked to me to the other lawyers who were sitting resern as a result of the investigation by a committee of certain charges brought aponsibility of those accused of the violaagainst him. Atthough admitting there was a possibility that his private intion of backward students could lay itself open to criticism, he pointed out that in the law examinations there was always an outside independent examiner, in addition to lumself. A well-known professor in London had, white occupying a similar position to his, been at the same time head of a coaching academy. also was an examiner at the University. Protessor Coleman Phillipson said he

had understood his predecessor was admitted to the South Australian bar, and he had naturally assumed that the same right would be accorded him, otherwise he would never have come to South Australia, where, he added, he "did not need to win his spurs." His resignation from the University staff would take effect during the present week, and as far as he was personally concerned he was prepared to sail within a mouth, but he had an expensive house and offects to dispose of, and he could not state definitely how long that might take, so that he might be here for a few weeks or a few months.

sor's letter of resignation:-

May 18th, 1925. Duar Vice-Chanceller,

Owing to an attack recently made on me, which I consider unjustillable, and the unolegantness thereby caused, I beg to tender my resignation. I do so to accordance with or original agreemen, which provided that after ave years' service the engagement might by terminated by six months, notice; I wish to return to Empland in order to con-

tale for two books which I could not finish re because of the lack of documentary sources. any anxious, too, to resume practice at the flary in England the right to practice worself granted to the holder of a legal chair. You will remember that I came here under-

Having regard to the fact that I have now completed five years' service, I would ask the

The reply is as follows:-

The University of Adeletes > \$8(B May, 1930)

Dear Probosoc Phillipson, have read to the council the letter which have addressed to me, intimating your des ences keenly interested in intellectual worse. mer to waigh from the Chair of Law at the questions and international matters." and of the present year, and requesting that was be granted leave of absence until then. The council has decided to accept securities, and to grant you leave of absonce you have completed the work of the Helieve me, yours discordly,

(Agil) W. MITCHELL, Vice-Chancellon,

Protessor Phillipson's Statement.

in a statement given to a represen-Matter of "The Advertiser," "that cluring the last two years, especially after his camed objected to my call to the S.A. Esr, & have been desirous of returning house, and but for the dissupsion of my wur, who loves the climate here, I would have already returned to London-that glerious and incomparable centre of life, scholarshop, culture, and international affairs. It me only there that I can continue my researches, of which Lord Birkenhead. when Lord Chancellor, wrote to me from the House of Lords in this letter, which I am glad to show you. He says:-'It may he that you will have withment leisure to compile that complete butter of internanoma law which ho one living is more

On Saturday morning Professor Colemn | unpetent to produce.' I may add that Phillypson, whose resignation from the Lord Reading, the present Vicercy of staff of the Allelaide University takes of India, concluded in the following words feet during the present week, made a a letter which he sent me after his misstatement with regard to the step he had sion to the United States;-'It may intaken. He explained that there were terest you to know that you have a good several matters on which he was pledged number of admirers in the United States," to sience, but he had dealt with the affair Lord Reading was thinking of the inas fully as possible in the statement be duence my publications had in America. was prepared to make. He had taken Well, it is this work I want to continue; special care to verify the details of the and I cannot possibly do so here. I pubvarious testimonials quoted in his state- lished one book during my stay here, but

> upon the commission to consider the retions of the laws of war, and I was much interested to find that you had already, by your books, achieved among them a standing which was not only important but gratifying.

> "And there is a letter from Lord Hardinge of Penshurst:- Dear Mr. Phillipson-On behalf of Mr. Balfour and myself, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the valuable assistance you have been good enough to give the historical section in the compilation of the series of handbooks for the Peace Conference. Those books, which are the product of much learning, literary skill, and hard work ungrudgingly given, have not only earned glowing testimony throughout all ranks of the British delegation, to which they have been a very great benefit, but will undoubtedly prove of lasting utility and interest. With many thanks for your share in their success, believe me, yours sincerely (Signed). Hardinge of Penshurst,'

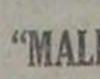
"Here is a long memorandum, signed by some of the leading delegates at the Peace Conference. They speak of a certain piece of work I did there as 'wonderful,' But it may interest you, in view of the recent death of the Prime Minister of New Zealand, to see this letter from him to me. The following is the text of the profes- He says: - I am quite certain that, had it not been for your knowledge of international law and the advice which you were able to give me on very many occasions, the report of Sub-Commission I, of which I had the honor of being chairman, would not have been in such a satisfactory form as that in which we were able to present it to the Plenary Comtisue my restarches, and to complete the mate- ber that some time ago I was offered by the South Australian Committee har here. I would not have dreamt of

"Nothing Dishonorable or Wrongful."

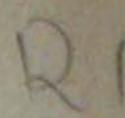
objected to it. There is nothing dis I can continue my researches, of which international matters." honorable or wrongful in it, though it may be inexpedient, as there is always some-The fact is," says Professor Phillipson body or other ready to place the worst possible construction upon it, and comebody did. It is possible, of course, that the practice may be abused, but why necessarily regard a possibility as an accomplished fact? Anyhow, I am sick and The chamber music recital by the Elder

sity about six weeks ago;

REGISTER 18.5.25 PHILLIPSON'S RESIGN



"MALICIOUS ATTACKS"



In a remarkable statement, which contained a quotation from an anonymous note which he recently found pinned to his study door, Protessor Coleman Phillipson (Dean of the Faculty of Law at the Adelaide University) explained on Saturday the reasons for his resignation from that position.

Questioned regarding his resignation, Lord Birkenhead, when Lord Chanceller, and his intentions for the future, Profes- wrote to me from the House of Lords in sor Phillipson gave a copy of his letter of resignation, and the reply of the University council thereto. The resignation was addressed to the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mitchell), and was worded:-

which provided that after five years' service the engagement might be termimy researches, and to complete the materials for two books which I could not finish here, because of the lack of documentary sources. I am anxious, too, to resume practice at the Bar; in England the right to practise is usually You will remember that I came here have now completed five years' ser- ing vice, I would ask the council to be tant, kind enough to allow me leave of absence till the end of the present year. am, yours sincerely, COLEMAN PHILLIPSON.

Council's Reply.

The reply of the council on May 15

Dear Professor Phillipson-I have read to the council the letter which you have addressed to me, intimating your desire to resign from the Chair of Law at the end of the present year, and requesting that you be granted feave of absence until then. The council has decided to accept your resignation, and to grant you leave of absence when you have completed the work of the present term. You will be paid the salary of the professorship till the and of the year. This will leave you free to resume the valuable work which you gave up to come to Adelaide. Believe me, yours sincerely, W. MITCHELL, Vice-Chancellor.

An Anonymous Communication.

Questioned regarding the meaning of the 'attack" and the unpleasantness mentioned in the letter, Professor Phillipson mission. This kind of work interests me said:—"The crux of the whole matter was deeply. Besides, I shall resume practice my willingness to give private tuition to at the Bar; and you may perhaps remem- one or two backward students. The council objected to my doing so. There is of nothing dishonourable or wrongful in it, that in which we were able to present producers a case for the Privy Conneil, though it may be inexpedient, but there it to the Plenary Commission. could not have taken it, because of the is always somebody or other who is ready Council's objection to my admission to the to place the worst possible construction seasons that I could be admitted to the South coming here if I had not understood that of course, that the practice may be abused, on it, and somebody did. It is possible, Australian Bar; but the council's subsequent my admission would be allowed. Having but why necessarily regard a possibility as completed my five years' service as agreed, an accomplished fact. I am sick and tired I am glad to return home, where I shall of the whole thing. I wish no one ill, find a wide field for my interests, logal, not even him who is maliciously disposed concil to be kind enough to allow me leave political, and literary. I am afraid I shall to say and think the worst. Therefore, no longer be able to inflict lectures on let the person stick another paper on my the long-suffering public. They have door worse even than the last one, which always listened with patience and en- was;- Coleman Phillipson, blackmailer, thusiasm to my addresses, and I thank Get out, you dirty swine. Also let the them heartily. It was always a stimulus person who said he 'wondered I did not and an inspiration to me to see fine audi- snatch his wife's bag' say something

Wanted to Return Home.

"The fact is," continued the professor "that during the last two years, especi Regarding the reference to an attack ally after the council objected to my call and the unpleasantness mentioned in to the South Australian bar, I have been You will be paid the salary his letter, Professor Phillipson said: desirous of returning home, and but for my addresses, and I thank them heartny. Well, the crux of the whole affair is my the dissuasion of my wife, who loves the It was always a stimulus and an inspirawillingness to give private tuition to one climate here, I would have already relition to me to see fine audiences keenly or two backward students. The council turned to London. It is only there that interested in intellectual questions and

this letter, which I am glad to show you:-'It may be that you will have sufficient leisure to compile that complete history of international law which no one living is more competent to produce.' I may add that Lord Reading, the present Viceroy of India, concluded in the following words a "Besides, I am keenly interested in in- May 13, 1925, Dear Vice-Chancellor-Owing letter which he sent me after his mission to an attack recently made on me, which to the United States:- It may interest I consider unjustifiable, and the un- you to know that you have a good number pleasantness thereby caused, I beg to of admirers in the United States.' Lord tender my resignation. I do so in ac- Reading was thinking of the influence my cordance with our original agreement, publications had in America. Well, it is this work I want to continue; and I cannot possibly do so here. I published one nated by six months' notice. I wish to book during my stay here, but I had writreturn to England in order to continue ten it entirely in London. Besides, I am keenly interested in international affairs, and at the Paris Peace Conference I was counsel in international law for the British delegation. It may interest you to see a communication from the present Lord Chief Justice, who refers to certain experiences we had together in Paris:granted to the holder of a legal chair. You paid a number of visits with me to the other lawyers who were sitting upon understanding that I could be admitted the commission to consider the responsito the South Australian Bar; but the bility of those accused of the violations council's subsequent objection I have ob- of the laws of war, and I was much inteserved loyally throughout the whole rested to find that you had already, by period. Having regard to the fact that your books, achieved among them a standwhich was not only imporbut gratifying. And there is a letter from Lord Hardinge, of Penshurst:- 'Dear Mr. Phillipson-On behalf of Mr. Balfour and myself, I wish to thank you most sincerely for the valuable assistance you have been good enough to give the historical section in the compilation of the series of handbooks for the Peace Conference. Those books, which are the product of much learning, literary skill, and hard work ungrudingly given, have not only earned glowing testimony throughout all ranks of the British delegation, to which they have been a very great bencht, but will undoubtedly prove of lasting utility and interest. With many thanks for your share in their success. - Believe me, yours sincerely (signed), Hardinge, of Penshurst. Here is a long memorandum signed, as you see, by some of the leading delegates at the Peace Conference. They speak of a certain piece of work I did there as 'wonderful.' It may interest you, in view of the recent death of the Prime Minister of New Zealand, to see this letter from him to me. He says:-'I am quite certain that, had it not been for your knowledge of international law and the advice which you were able to give me on very many occasions, the report of subcommission I, of which I had the honour of being Chairman, would not have been in such a satisfactory form as Return to Bar.

"This kind of work interests me deeply. Besides, I shall resume practice at the Bar; and you may, perhaps, remember that some time ago I was effered by the South Australian Committee of Producers a case for the Privy Council. I could not have taken it, because of the University Council's objection to my admission to the Bar here. I would not have dreamt of coming here, if I had not understood that my admission would be allowed. Having completed my five years' service as agreed. I am glad to return home, where I shall find a wide field for my interests, legal, political, and literary. I am afraid I shall to longer be able to inflict lectures on the long-suffering public. They have always

ADVERTISER 18.5:25

CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL.

tired of the whole thing. I wish no one Conservatorium String Quartet arranged ill, not even him who is mallejously dis- for to-night promises to be of exceptional posed to say and think the worst. There- interest. The altered arrangements of the fore, let the person stick another paper half have proved ideal. The quarter will on my door worse even than the last one, play on the floor, and the seats will surwhich was this:- Coleman Phillipson round them. The audience will therefore blackmailer. Get out, you dirty awine. hear to perfect advantage a delightful Also, let the person who said he won- Haydn quartet and the whole quintet of dered I did not snatch his whe's bug' may Brabms, with Mr. William Silver at the The paper complained of was affixed to bracket of Brahms's songs. Tickets are Professor Phillipson's door at the Univers on sale at S. Marshall & Sons, Gawlerpolace.