

Meeting on Friday

Sir George Murray, K.C.M.G. (Chancellor of Adelaide University) will preside on Friday evening at a public meeting in Adelaide Town Hall, convened to inaugurate the movement for erecting the Students' Union Building and War Memorial.

It may not be generally known what constitutes a University Union. A few particulars concerning the one connected with Sydney University are enlightening. It is proposed that the Adelaide Union shall be constructed on similar lines.

The original society in Sydney had for its main object the intellectual culture of its members, and sought to achieve that object for the most part by holding weekly debates interspersed with public lectures, and by promoting a few social functions each year.

Later a well-appointed club, with common room, reading room and library, assembly hall, refectory, billiard and committee rooms were established, and immediately became the centre of undergraduate life.

Then for the first time did many of the students realise that they were members of a community which had much more to offer than the daily grind of lectures.

Successful Scheme

So successful was the scheme that the committee of management was compelled to consider extensions, the assembly hall was doubled in size, and the management of a large refectory outside the building was undertaken. Even this was inadequate, and a large additional block was erected to provide an up-to-date refectory where members may obtain anything from the simplest cafeteria service to the most elaborate dinner.

Among university graduates some of their happiest memories are of the years spent in the halls of learning, even though there may have been no union movement. The establishment, therefore, of such an institution in Adelaide should do a great deal toward fostering the corporate life of undergraduates.

Speakers at Meeting

Prof. Harold Davies, Mus. Doc. (Director of Elder Conservatorium), speaking of the future of the University of Adelaide, said that in the spread of learning would be the safety of the youth of Australia, who would soon step into the arena to fight for the development of the marvellous potentialities latent in our land.

A fuller and more liberal education was our abiding hope in contemplating the future and the welfare of the university was the vital concern of every man, woman, and child of the State inasmuch as it was the precious possession of the whole community.

Speakers at the meeting on Friday will be Sir Josiah Symon, Mr. Justice Angus Parsons, the Hon. R. L. Butler (Premier), and Hon. L. L. Hill (Leader of mlier), and Hon. L. L. Hill (Leader of honorary organising secretary).

Graduates, undergraduates, and all interested in university work are invited to be present.

UNIVERSITY UNION.

A HANDSOME BUILDING.

DESCRIPTION BY THE ARCHITECT.

A drawing of the proposed new Union Building for the Adelaide University appeared in "The Advertiser" on Saturday. The construction of portion of it—the Lady Symon Building—will begin at an early date, and a public meeting will be held in the Town Hall on Friday night to launch an appeal for the £20,000 required to complete the work.

The building was designed by Messrs. Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne-Smith. Mr. Laybourne-Smith, referring to the architectural characteristics of the Union Building, said the style chosen was one that Sir Christopher Wren developed with great success in England, and some of his work in The Temple, at Mordeas College, Blackheath, the Guildhall, Rochester, and at Hampton Court, showed how admirable brick, with stone dressings and quoins, might be made. Age was required for the full blending of color. Brickwork ab-

most went out of use in England through want of knowledge of its traditional use and in a false straining after grandeur it was thought to be too mean a material. As Sir Reginald Blomfield had said, "The eighteenth century amateurs of Gothic architecture, who considered that no building had caught the true medieval manner unless it was prickly with pinnacles, found it cheaper to build sham castles in stucco and plaster."

The use of brickwork had, during the last 35 years, again become popular, both in England and in America, and the kindly domestic architecture inspired by Wren had once more come into its own. The cloisters were perhaps more Italian in feeling with the light round-headed arches on columns of cut stone. The roundels in the spandrels of the arches would provide space for emblematic or memorial decoration.

The contract has been let to Mr. H. S. C. Jarvis, of Croydon, and includes the Lady Symon Building, which is a three-storey block; the refectory, which includes two shops, a dining-room (100 ft. by 45 ft.), kitchen (42 ft. by 20 ft.), and full residential quarters for a caretaker, as well as rooms for the dining-room staff. Two sides of the cloisters are to be built, and the foundations of the other two sides will be put in in order to retain the earth of the internal courtyard. It is hoped that it will be possible to complete the cloisters, as the monumental character of the buildings depends so much upon them. The contract price for the work in hand is £20,162.

The building will be near Victoria-drive, where the front entrance of the University will eventually be located. The Union Building will be grouped with the new library and the laboratory of the Commonwealth Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to form a worthy entrance to the University.

STUDENTS' UNION BUILDING.

Adelaide University's Project.

Much of the success achieved by a nation has been fostered in its university. To that end, the Adelaide University has sought to progress upon lines in keeping with the development of South Australia. Apart from the scholastic side, it was determined that the social atmosphere should be regarded as of great importance. Out of that forethought there sprang a Students' Union, and in 1896-97 £750 was raised to erect the present union room for men. Since then no addition has been made, and new quarters are needed urgently. When the war ended, it was felt that steps should be taken to erect a suitable memorial to those who had so gallantly upheld the best traditions of their Alma Mater, but no suitable site could be secured. However, during the past 12 months, an ideal spot has been made available on the flat facing Victoria drive. Further interest has focussed upon the scheme, for upon the occasion of the University Jubilee, Sir Josiah Symon generously gave £10,000 for the erection of a women's union, to be called the Lady Symon Building. A corresponding building for men requires £10,000; and with dining hall, equipment, and cloisters, about £22,000 would be needed. Professor Henderson, upon his recent visit to Adelaide, collected a considerable sum toward the project, leaving £20,000 still to be secured.

The Chief Justice, and Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray) has shown his keen interest in the matter, and has thus expressed his personal views:—"I earnestly commend this appeal to all who are interested in the University of Adelaide. Every one should endeavour to contribute something, however modest the amount may be. Some day the growth of the union may render it desirable that the war memorial should be moved to another site, but for the present it cannot be better placed than under the care of those who are the heirs of its glorious inspiration."

A meeting has been called for next Friday evening at the Adelaide Town Hall. The Chancellor will preside.

Provision for Adelaide

What is the "university life" which has been such a potent factor in moulding many of the great men of the old world? The lecture notebook is not the hub of university life, as committees of every association in Adelaide University spend their official lifetime impressing upon students.

Social intercourse, commingling of interests, development of the community spirit, fostering the finest university traditions—these are the things that make for a truly liberal education, and a knowledge of mankind as well as of matter.

This fuller life has been denied Adelaide University until now. With generous support from University council, staff, and far-seeing public, undergraduate interests will be centred in a combined Students' Union Building and War Memorial.

Already plans have been projected for the Lady Symon Building for women students, a similar building for men, a common dining hall, and memorial cloisters.

To inaugurate the movement Sir George Murray (chancellor) will preside at a public meeting in Adelaide Town Hall on Friday evening. Fullest public co-operation is invited to ensure the success of a scheme so vital not only to students but to the State as a whole.

UNIVERSITY UNIONS.

CENTRE OF UNDERGRADUATE LIFE.

SUCCESS IN OTHER STATES.

The necessity for a Students' Union Building in connection with the University of Adelaide has been realised for a long time, and a definite effort to establish one will be launched at a public meeting in the Adelaide Town Hall on Friday night.

The union is an important feature of universities in other States, even at residential universities, where there is far greater scope for social life and fellowship than at an almost entirely "teaching" university like Adelaide. An interesting example is provided in the case of Sydney.

The Sydney union, strictly speaking, dates back to 1874, but it was reconstituted in 1911 along the lines now proposed in Adelaide. The original society had for its main object the intellectual culture of its members, and sought to achieve that object for the most part by holding weekly debates, interspersed with public lectures, and by promoting a few social functions each year. In the jubilee year, 1902, an effort was made to establish the union building, but not until 1911 was the scheme vigorously revived. A well-appointed club, with common room, reading-room and library, assembly hall, refectory, billiard-room and committee-rooms was established, and immediately became the centre of undergraduate life. Then for the first time did many of the students realise they were members of a community which had much more to offer than the daily grind of lectures. So successful was the scheme that almost at once the committee of management was compelled to consider extensions. The assembly hall was practically doubled and the management of a large refectory outside the building was undertaken. But even this was inadequate, and in 1923 a large additional block was erected to provide an up-to-date refectory, where members may obtain anything from the simplest cafeteria service up to the most elaborate dinner, and even now it is acknowledged that a further building must be erected as soon as funds are available. The building now houses, in addition of the accommodation mentioned above, the Comett Stephen Library of modern English drama, and shops have been included, where undergraduates can purchase books, usually at cheap rates, or arrange the exchange of text books no longer required. Membership is compulsory, the annual fee being £1 1/2, although in appropriate cases the fee may be waived.