

(b) THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

27. The history of the National School of Engineering at Canterbury University College dates back to 1885, when certain lectures were given. These were so successful that a Lectureship in Engineering was established in 1887. By 1894 there had been sufficient development to warrant the establishment of a Chair in Engineering and the appointment of Professor R. J. Scott as the first Professor in charge of the school. The great majority of the students had not in fact matriculated, but for those who had there was a course of four years embracing mechanical or civil engineering. The successful students obtained the certificate of the school until the institution of certificates by the University of New Zealand in 1892, as already mentioned. When the University instituted the B.Sc. (Eng.) degree in 1893 the Canterbury College School was recognized as the engineering school of the University in civil and mechanical engineering. Instruction in electrical engineering began in 1901.

28. In 1920 the school was explicitly recognized by the Government as the National School of Engineering for the Dominion. On the retirement of Professor Scott in 1923 it was decided to create a Chair in each of the three main branches—civil, electrical, and mechanical. The school now provides complete courses for the B.E. and the B.E. (Hons.) degree in mechanical, civil, electrical, and chemical engineering. Details are set out in Appendix 3.

(c) AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

29. A study of the development of the School of Engineering at Auckland University College is bound up with the history of the thorniest problem in University affairs—the location of special schools. Soon after the opening of Auckland University College in 1883 the question of the distribution of special schools came up at a time when the University of Otago was finding it increasingly difficult to finance special schools of both Medicine and Mines. The suggestion was made from Otago that Otago should concentrate on Medicine, Canterbury on Engineering, and Auckland on Engineering and Mining. This proposal made no progress until 1904, when the Prime Minister promised assistance to the Otago Medical School on the sole condition that the School of Mines be transferred to Auckland. Otago, however, successfully resisted the transfer, and finally a compromise was arrived at by which Auckland University College was also to have a School of Mines. A Government grant was made in 1906, and a Professor was appointed to take charge of the School of Mines and to give some instruction at technical-school level to engineers. As there were four mining schools on the Auckland mining field where the students could get theoretical and practical training at the same time, the University school failed to attract many students. Accordingly, the equipment was used for the training of engineering students. In 1918 the Senate of the University of New Zealand permitted Auckland University College to start classes in Architecture, and in the following year the School of Architecture was formally recognized.

30. With the Schools of Mines and Architecture Auckland found itself authorized to teach all of the subjects for the first three years of the full B.E. course in mechanical engineering and practically all those for civil and electrical engineering. For a long time the anomalous position continued, that for most of the examinations in the first two professional examinations of the degree in engineering an Auckland student could sit and count a pass towards degrees in mining and architecture, but he could not sit for civil, mechanical, or electrical engineering degrees, although the examination papers were identical.

31. In course of time the Senate recognized the Auckland school as being competent to prepare students for the First Professional Examination of the B.E. degree. This was extended later to cover the Second Professional Examination, and from