

7. Can you express an opinion on the vexed question of external examinations?—I have always voted against abolishing the external examiner. I would like to point out this: in most cases where we have only one school the examinations are conducted by examiners residing in the Dominion. Some engineering examinations are set at Home. But I think that in law and medicine, and in most of the subjects in home science and the School of Mines, the examination papers are set by New Zealand examiners. But where you have four colleges teaching the same subjects I have not yet heard of any scheme of internal examination that has commended itself to me. I have taken up this attitude in the Senate—that I am prepared favourably to consider any scheme of examination on which the reformers are agreed. At the last meeting of the Senate I think every professor on the Senate who spoke in favour of the internal as against the external examiner had a different scheme. I think I am correct in saying that. The difficulty is to know what should be substituted. A board of examiners composed of the four teachers in any subject is the scheme which now seems to be most in favour, but some of the reformers wish an outsider associated with the teachers, as they have in Wales. In Wales the outsider has the right of veto against the three professors. There are three colleges there, and the three professors may agree to pass a student, but if the outside examiner says "No" the candidate cannot be passed. The proposal here is that the four teachers, without an outsider, should examine their own students. Well, I do not know that that exists anywhere. I am not an authority on the system of examinations in other universities, but what I have felt is that we are not yet ripe for the abolition of the external examiners.

8. As to the curriculum and management, should that be in the hands of the Senate?—It is so at present; but ever since I have been a member of the Senate—I joined it in 1902—when any serious change in the prescription for any particular subject is proposed, we refer the question to the four teachers concerned, and it seems to me that in most cases you are likely to get better expert advice from the four professors than you are from a joint Professorial Board. Take, say, the question of mathematics: when it was before the conference of professors they could not agree as to the curriculum they would recommend, and so referred it to the four professors, together with some others in allied subjects.

9. *Mr. Hogben.*] Professor Scott was another, I think?—Yes, the conference of professors felt incompetent to deal with it, and referred it to the experts. I hold that the Senate at much less expense to the community can do that, and where the teachers have been unanimous the Senate always, without exception, has adopted their recommendations.

10. *Mr. Hanan.*] Do you approve of the professors of the Professorial Board being members of the governing body of their colleges?—Yes, we have always had that in Otago, and it has worked well and given satisfaction. I may say that in Otago, whenever the question of teaching comes before the Council, it is at once referred to the Professorial Board, and we find that the presence of two professors on the Council is very desirable; we value their advice very much.

11. In your opinion each subject should have representation?—Not each subject, but each faculty. Representation on the Council is not so necessary if every question relating to the course of instruction is at once remitted to the Professorial Board for a report.

12. You approve of the constitution of the Senate as at present?—Oh, yes, I do. I cannot speak for the Senate, but speaking for myself I am inclined to agree to give the professors a recognized place in dealing with purely technical matters. But if that is done I do not think there should be so many professors on the Senate. You cannot have them governing in both bodies. That is what I think the Senate itself should reform.

13. There is another point: would it not be possible to correlate our Universities better, instead of having them isolated as they are?—I do not know how you are going to do it without interfering with the autonomy of each, and I am quite sure that would be resisted. How are you going to relate them in any very close way without invading the independent rights of each college? For instance, here is a proposal which is being put forward: Before a college can appoint to a Chair there should be a joint meeting of all the professors of all the four colleges, and they should make a recommendation as to a committee of advice in each case. Now, if we in Dunedin want to appoint a Professor of Physics, as we are doing just now, does any one think the Council of the Otago University is to wait until the professors of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin meet and recommend a committee of advice? That would mean that forty-eight professors would have to gather together from the four centres before we could take a step forward. The present number of professors is forty-eight, but it will be always increasing. Do you think that those forty-eight or more professors should gather together, and as a council of advice nominate to us persons with whom we are to consult? I think the thing would not be looked at for a moment by any one of the colleges.

14. You think they are working well now in their different spheres?—I do.

15. Without any alteration in regard to the machinery?—The resolution that was carried at the Senate on the motion of Dr. Fitchett was to the effect that the colleges should be made constituent parts of the University, but without affecting the independent authority of each. If that can be done I think the colleges should constitute a part of the University, but it must be done in such a way as not to invade the rights of each individual college. If that were done it would do away with the reproach that has been hurled against the New Zealand University that it is only an examining and not a teaching body. I approve of that entirely; only it would have to be guarded, as I say, otherwise I am quite sure the colleges would resist.

16. What percentage of income is received from the students?—Last year we received £6,327.

17. Could you give us the percentages from benefactions last year?—I do not know that I could do that.

18. The percentages of private benefactions and endowments. I want to make a comparison with our University?—We received from the City Council a donation of £75, the Law Society £100, the Society of Accountants £100.