

E. REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO, 1921.

(The University of Otago Ordinance, 1869.)

Visitor.—His Excellency the Governor-General.*Council.*

Appointed by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council—Hon. Sir J. Allen, M.A., K.C.B.; G. R. Ritchie, Esq., J.P.; James Fitzgerald, Esq., B.A., M.B., &c.

Elected by graduates—Rev. A. Cameron, B.A. (Chancellor); T. K. Sidey, Esq., B.A., LL.B., M.P. (Vice-Chancellor); Rev. Professor W. Hewitson, B.A.; W. M. Macdonald, C.B.E., B.Sc., M.D., &c.

Elected by the professors—W. B. Benham, Esq., D.Sc., M.A., F.R.S.; Henry Lindo Ferguson, C.M.G., M.A., M.D., &c.

Elected to represent Otago Hospital Board, J. W. Scurr, Esq.; elected by teachers in primary schools, W. Eudey, Esq.; elected by the Otago Education Board, P. McKinlay, Esq., M.A.; elected by High School Boards, J. C. Stephens, Esq.; elected by the Southland Education Board, J. C. Thomson, Esq.; elected by School Committees, L. D. Ritchie, Esq.; elected by teachers of secondary schools, W. J. Morrell, Esq., M.A., Oxon.; elected by Dunedin City Council, James H. Walker, Esq.

Staff.

Professors.—Biology—W. B. Benham, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.; English—Herbert Ramsay, M.A.; Physiology—J. Malcolm, M.D.; Mining—James Park, M.Am.Inst.M.E., &c.; Dentistry—H. P. Pickerill, M.D., M.D.S., &c. (Clinical Dentistry)—R. C. Bell, B.D.S.; Metallurgy and Assaying—D. B. Waters, A.O.S.M.; Chemistry—J. K. H. Inglis, M.A., D.Sc.; Home Science—Gertrude H. Rawson; Domestic Arts—Ann G. Strong, B.Sc.; Physics—R. Jack, M.A., D.Sc.; Mental and Moral Philosophy—F. W. Dunlop, M.A., Ph.D.; Anatomy—W. P. Gowland, M.D., B.Sc.; Pathology—A. M. Drennan, M.B., Ch.B.; Classics—T. D. Adams, M.A.; Modern Languages—G. E. Thompson, M.A.; Mathematics—R. J. T. Bell, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E.; Geology and Mineralogy—W. N. Benson, D.Sc., F.G.S.; Surgery—L. E. Barnett, M.B., F.R.C.S.; Systematic Medicine—D. W. C. Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.; Ophthalmology—H. L. Ferguson, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.I.; Economics—W. H. Pringle, M.A., LL.B.; History—J. R. Elder, M.A., D.Litt.; Clinical Medicine and Therapeutics—F. W. B. Fitchett, M.D., C.M. Also lecturers, demonstrators, and assistants.

Registrar.—H. Chapman, Esq., B.A.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL (ABRIDGED).

YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

I have the honour herewith to report on the proceedings of the University of Otago for the year ended 31st December, 1921.

The Council.—It was with universal regret that the Council at its April meeting received an intimation from the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Roberts, that the time had arrived when he must ask to be relieved of his duties as Vice-Chancellor and as a member of the Council. Sir John Roberts had been a Councillor for two periods, covering in all a membership of twenty years; during this time he had, by his singleness of purpose, his zeal for the conservation of University interests, and his kindly courtesy, won the highest respect of all members. Our good wishes go with him in his retirement. To fill the vacancy thus caused Mr. T. K. Sidey, M.P., the senior Councillor, was appointed Vice-Chancellor, and Mr. G. R. Ritchie was appointed a member of the Council.

The Teaching Staff.—I regret that it is necessary for me to report the loss, by death, of one of our professors, Professor Champtaloup. Dr. Champtaloup was appointed to the teaching staff in 1910. In 1911 he was made Professor of Bacteriology and Public Health, and for ten years rendered excellent service. His death at so early an age is deeply deplored by the Council, his colleagues, and the students.

During the year no fewer than four new professors commenced their work in the University—viz., Mrs. Ann G. Strong, Professor of Domestic Arts; Dr. J. R. Elder, Professor of History; Mr. H. Ramsay, Professor of English; Mr. W. H. Pringle, Professor of Economics. All these professors have taken up their duties with enthusiasm, and the University teaching-power is much strengthened by their appointment. During the year Professors Elder and Pringle have delivered series of public lectures, which met with a most gratifying measure of success.

Buildings.—On the 3rd May the University was honoured by a visit from the Minister of Education, the Hon. C. J. Parr, who laid the foundation-stone of the new Physics Building. The completion of this building will meet a long-felt need, and will relieve the congestion at present existing in the Arts Building. A small addition has also been made to the Dental School. While the Council recognizes with thanks the assistance it has received from the Government for these buildings, it cannot too strongly emphasize the fact that the present buildings are still quite inadequate for the work of the University. The Dental additions are only of a temporary nature, and the crowded condition of the school is not in the interests of efficiency. Moreover, additional buildings for the Medical School, as pointed out in previous reports, are still urgently required.

Finance.—The question of finance has given the Council much concern during the past year, and the prospects for the current year are not bright. Owing to the depressed condition of the wool-market some of the University tenants have made representations to the effect that they are unable to meet the present rentals of their holdings. In consequence of these representations legislation has been passed making it legal for the Land Board, with the consent of the University Council, to reduce the rents payable by these tenants, and probably some relief will have to be given in the direction indicated. Such action, however, together with the fact that the tenants are already in arrears to the extent of some £4,000, is calculated to have a very serious effect on the Council's finances. The Council sincerely trusts, therefore, that the provisions of the Public Expenditure Adjustment Act, which provides for a decrease in the Government grants to University colleges, will not be put in to operation, since the result would be most embarrassing to the Council.