

5. UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO.

Visitor.—His Excellency the Governor-General.

Council.

Chancellor.—W. J. Morrell, Esq., M.A. *Vice-Chancellor*.—L. D. Ritchie, Esq.

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

Elected by graduates—F. S. Batchelor, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.; Rev. D. C. Herron, M.C., M.A.; Rt. Rev. W. A. R. Fitchett, M.A.; J. W. Howorth, Esq., LL.B.

Elected by the professors—R. J. T. Bell, Esq., M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.E.; Sir H. L. Ferguson, C.M.G., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.I.

Elected to represent Otago Hospital Board—Alexander Steel, Esq.; elected by teachers in primary schools, J. Robertson, Esq., B.A., B.Sc.; elected by the Otago Education Board, James Wallace, Esq.; elected by High School Boards, W. R. Brugh, Esq.; elected by the Southland Education Board, Major S. Rice; 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, F. W. Mitchell, Esq.

Staff.

Professors.—Chemistry—F. G. Soper, Ph.D., D.Sc., F.I.C. (Lond.), F.N.Z.I.C. Biology—W. B. Benham, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., F.N.Z.Inst. English—Herbert Ramsay, M.A. Physiology—J. Malcolm, M.D. Dentistry—R. B. Dodds, D.D.S. Domestic Arts—Ann G. Strong, O.B.E., B.Sc. Physics—R. Jack, M.A., D.Sc., Ph.D. Philosophy—J. N. Findlay, M.A., Ph.D. Anatomy—W. P. Gowland, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., Eng. Pathology—E. F. D'Ath, M.D. Classics—T. D. Adams, M.A. Modern Languages—G. E. Thompson, M.A., Litt.D. Mathematics—R. J. T. Bell, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E. Geology and Mineralogy—W. N. Benson, D.Sc., F.G.S., &c. Surgery—F. G. Bell, M.D., L.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. Systematic Medicine—D. W. C. Jones, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. Ophthalmology—Sir H. L. Ferguson, C.M.G., M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.I. History—J. R. Elder, C.M.G., M.A., D.Litt. Clinical Medicine and Therapeutics—F. W. B. Fitchett, M.D., C.M. Bacteriology and Public Health—C. E. Hercus, M.D., B.D.S., D.P.H., D.S.O., O.B.E. Economics—R. W. Souter, M.A., Ph.D. Education—R. Lawson, M.A., Litt.D. Midwifery and Gynaecology—J. B. Dawson, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Mining—A. R. Andrew, D.Sc., &c.

Associate Professors.—Dentistry—J. R. Burt, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Also lecturers, demonstrators, and assistants.

Registrar.—H. Chapman, Esq., B.A.

REPORT (ABRIDGED) OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO.

In accordance with the provisions of the University of Otago Ordinance, 1869, I have the honour to report on the proceedings of the University of Otago for the year ended 31st December, 1936.

The Council.—During the year the Council received the resignation of Mr. J. W. Dove, who had represented the Otago Hospital Board since 1928. Mr. Dove was a valued member, and his loss is much felt. The Council realized, however, that the pressing claims made upon Mr. Dove by his appointment as Chairman of the Hospital Board made it impossible for him to retain his seat. The vacancy thus created has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Alexander Steel.

Teaching Staff.—During the year the Council received the resignation of two senior and prominent members of the teaching staff—viz., Dr. W. B. Benham and Sir H. Lindo Ferguson.

Dr. Benham was appointed Professor of Biology and Curator of the Museum in 1898. During his long and successful tenure of these positions he brought great distinction to himself and to the University by his teaching and researches. The value of his original work was recognized by his election to a Fellowship of the Royal Society in 1908 and by many other scientific honours.

The value of the service rendered to the Medical School by Sir Lindo Ferguson can scarcely be overstated. He joined the Faculty as Lecturer in Ophthalmology in 1886 and was appointed Professor in 1909. In 1914 he accepted the additional office of Dean of the Medical Faculty, becoming also Director in 1934. He devoted himself with unselfish devotion and unflagging energy to the welfare of the School. The new buildings which have been erected, the extension of the teaching staff, the improvement of the curriculum, and the great increase in the number of students, all bear testimony to the distinguished success of his administration.

To both these Professors the Council wishes every happiness in their retirement.

In my last report I referred to the loss the Council had sustained through the death of Dr. Inglis, Professor of Chemistry. The vacancy was filled during the year by the appointment of Dr. F. G. Soper, Lecturer in the University of Bangor, Wales. Mr. B. J. Marples, M.A. (Oxon.), M.Sc. (Manchester), was appointed Professor of Biology in succession to Dr. Benham, while Mr. H. D. Skinner, Assistant Curator of the Museum, was promoted to the position of Curator. To replace Sir Lindo Ferguson as Dean of the Faculty the Council has appointed Dr. C. E. Hercus, who still retains the position of Professor of Bacteriology and Public Health.

Building Accommodation.—I wish to record the Council's appreciation of assistance rendered by the Government during the year in the provision of much-needed accommodation for the Medical School, and by the grant of a substantial sum for the erection of a retaining-wall on the bank of the Leith. I have to point out, however, that some very important needs of the University are still to be met, notably a new library and a new biology department for the Arts and General School and a new out-patient department in connection with the Medical School. These needs are becoming urgent in the extreme, and the Council trusts that the Government may be able to make the necessary provision during the coming year.

Finance.—During the last two years the Council has been forced to provide additional assistance in several departments, with the result that in the Arts and General Department the expenditure for the year now exceeds the income. Although the staffing has been improved, the efficient carrying on of the teaching still throws too great a burden on the Professors, who are thus severely handicapped in the undertaking of research. The Council is therefore asking the Government for an additional grant to enable it to balance its budget and to effect further improvements in the staffing of the institution. It sincerely trusts that this request may be favourably received.

Benefactions.—During the year the Council, under the will of the late Mr. Adolph Moritzson, became possessed of property which is expected to realize approximately £4,000. It is to be used in connection with the museum, to which Mr. Moritzson had formerly made generous gifts.

The Carnegie Corporation of New York during the year presented to the University a valuable set of material for art teaching and for the cultural benefit of our students. For this, as for many other generous gifts, the Council is deeply grateful to the Corporation.