

The Advertiser
March 25th 15.

The Chancellor of the University of Adelaide (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.) and the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow, C.M.G.) were, for the first time during several months, together present at the meeting of the University senate yesterday. This was Sir Samuel Way's first appearance at a senate meeting since the death of his wife. Ill-health laid him aside for some time, and Dr. Barlow has also suffered poor health until lately. The chancellor and vice-chancellor previously were remarkably regular in their attendance.

The Hon. Angas Parsons (Attorney-General) was elected by an overwhelming majority at the meeting of the senate of the University of Adelaide yesterday to be a member of the University Council. Mr. W. R. Bayly, B.A., B.Sc., withdrew his nomination, and the only other candidate was Mr. T. Ryan.

The Register
March 25th 15.

Doctors and the War.

The Senate of the University of Adelaide on Wednesday made an addition to the statutes of the University with the object of increasing the facilities for students to enter the army medical corps and other branches of the military service. Professor Stirling (Dean of the Faculty of Medicine) obtained permission to move that the following clause should be added to chapter 25 of the statutes:—"Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the statutes or regulations of the University, the council shall have power during the continuance of the present war—(1) to shorten the period of study required to obtain any degree or diploma; and (2) to alter the date prescribed for any examination." Professor Stirling explained that the immediate cause of the motion was a letter received from the Defence Department which stated that 100 doctors were urgently wanted for the Imperial medical services in addition to the numerous men required for the Australian medical staff. The department hoped the University would do all in its power to assist the military forces at the present juncture. The letter stated that the Defence Department had refused to accept any fifth year, and therefore fourth year students, because they considered such students would be doing better in qualifying themselves to serve as medical officers rather than merely as ambulance men. Those men who had received their discharge had been given it on condition that they offered their services when they had qualified. The medical students had written to the faculty of medicine stating that they hoped the University would see its way to shorten the period of study, and suggested that instead of the examination being held in November, which was the statutory month, it should be held as early as possible in September. They offered to continue their studies through the two short vacations, which would occur in the meanwhile. When the matter was discussed by the faculty of medicine the teachers concerned readily offered to continue their lectures through the vacations. There was a unanimity of opinion that it was "up to them" to do what was asked, and, in fact, all they could, to help in the great crisis. The motion went to the education committee, which was similarly unanimous, and the council subsequently also agreed. What was asked was not very much, but even if the period of study were further reduced, it would be their duty to do as suggested as long as they sent out well-qualified men, as they prided themselves they had always done. (Hear, hear.)

The motion, which was formally seconded by Dr. W. T. Hayward, was carried unanimously.

The Daily Herald
March 5th 15

UNIVERSITY SENATE

SHORTENING PERIOD OF STUDY

GREAT NEED OF DOCTORS.

The monthly meeting of the University Senate was held yesterday afternoon in the Prince of Wales Theatre at the University on North terrace, when there was a big attendance. The warden (Frederic Chapple, B.A., C.M.G.) presided. The chancellor (Sir Samuel Way, K.C.M.G.) and the vice-chancellor (Dr. Barlow, C.M.G.) were both present.

Election to Council.

Mr. W. R. Bayly, B.A., B.Sc., who was nominated as a candidate for a seat on the senate council, withdrew his nomination, and this left Mr. Thomas Ryan and Mr. H. A. Parsons as candidates. The election resulted in Mr. Parsons being elected by a strong majority.

Assisting to Make Doctors.

Dr. Stirling, under clause 20 of the standing orders, asked permission to move a resolution to increase the facilities for medical students to obtain degrees and diplomas. The necessary three-fourths majority of members having acceded to the request, the resolution, as follows, was submitted:—"That notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the statutes or regulations of the University the council shall have power during the continuance of the present war—(1) To shorten the period of study required to obtain any degree or diploma; and (2) to alter the date prescribed for any examination." He pointed out that there was a continued call for more and more medical men for military service to the Empire. The cause for the action proposed to be taken was a letter to the Faculty of Medicine from the Defence Department in Melbourne, in which it was stated that 100 doctors were required for medical service, in addition to the medical men required for service with the Australian troops. The Defence Department's letter expressed the hope that the University of Adelaide would do all in its power to assist the military forces at the present juncture, and asked that they might shorten the period of the curriculum for a degree in the university. It was also explained in the letter that the defence authorities had refused to accept any fifth year medical students, several of whom had joined the Army Medical Corps in the expectation of going to the war. The defence authorities considered that such students could give better service by qualifying to serve as medical officers rather than as ambulance troops. Such fifth year students had received their discharges on condition that they would reoffer their services when qualified to go as doctors. The fifth year students had communicated with the Faculty of Medicine, and suggested that instead of holding the examinations in November that they should be examined in September and allowed to continue their studies in the short vacation. All the teachers in the Faculty of Medicine had agreed very readily and willingly to give their services to help the students in this great crisis. The University Council had considered the matter and although the proper period was shortened by six or seven weeks, and seeing that some of the deficiency would be made up by the three or four weeks in the short vacation, it was decided to recommend the course proposed, so long as such students were turned out properly qualified medical men. By carrying the resolution he had submitted other students, such as those studying the law or engineering, could be facilitated in receiving their degrees or diplomas.

Dr. Hayward seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Professor Kerr Grant moved pursuant to notice that a subcommittee, comprised of the warden (Dr. Chapple), Professor Jethro Brown, Mr. E. V. Clarke, and the mover, be appointed to draft a schedule of rules for the guidance of the returning officer under the method of proportional representation adopted by the Senate at the meeting on July 22, 1914.

The resolution was carried.

A motion of congratulation was carried with acclamation to Frederic Chapple, the warden, on his preferment to the office of Companion of the Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The warden suitably responded, and the meeting closed.

The Register
March 26/15

DENTAL MATTERS.

From Charles Newling:—"A few weeks ago I drew attention to the reappointment of the Dental Board. My statements have never been challenged—that no notification was sent to dentists of an impending election, and that as a result no election took place. The board simply reappointed itself, as it has been doing during the past nine years. The dentists know nothing of it till the date is past, and a notice appears in the press that the board has been re-elected 'by registered dentists.' They were partly so, some nine years ago; since then we have never had a look in. No news reaches the dentists of the board's doings; no notices are sent out, as is usual in all other places, notifying an election, and inviting candidates. Were this done, there would be a keen contest, as in other States, where dentists are duly notified, and there are always plenty of candidates. Again, no balance sheet is published. Yet this board has for years been receiving annual fees from the registered dentists—fees which are staggering, and as much as 10 times those charged in other places, where dentistry is properly regulated by a Dental Board consisting of dentists only—not, as in South Australia, where the board is dominated by men outside the dental profession. The board was never intended to be appointed and monopolized in the way it has been. The Dentists Act was framed to protect the public against unauthorised persons practising dentistry; yet probably half of the dentists are unregistered. These pay no fees, and are not recognised by the board. They are permitted to carry on business. Fresh men are placed upon the register from time to time. How they get there no dentist seems to know. The board apparently even allows persons to use diplomas which it will not recognise. Can it be wondered at that dentists pay their fees under protest, or even refuse to pay at all? The Act was framed to protect the public from unskilled practitioners. The business of the board is to see that the Act is fully administered. As things are, there seems to be nothing to prevent any one from practising dentistry so long as he does not use the word 'dentist!' The public are under the impression that all the men practising dentistry are qualified, and authorised to do it. This is not so. This is a serious matter of national importance, which strikes at the very foundation of public health."

GERMAN RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Germany is one of the nations outside the British Empire which, under the Rhodes scholarship scheme, is entitled to send students to Oxford and Cambridge. At present, it is hardly necessary to state, the scheme is in operative as far as Germany is concerned, and at the next meeting of the Melbourne University Council (stated *The Argus* on Wednesday) Dr. Leeper intends to move:—"That the council is of the opinion that until the time arrives when it may be desirable to encourage again the competition of German students for the Rhodes scholarships, the scholarships at present set aside for the benefit of Germany might, with great advantage to the Empire, be thrown open to candidates from the overseas dominions." Contingent upon this motion being adopted, Dr. Leeper will move:—"That the other universities of Australia be consulted on the question, and that in the event of their being willing to co-operate, arrangements be made for bringing the matter under the notice of the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth."

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The Calendar of the University of Western Australia for the year 1915 is a capital production, which well indicates the remarkable progress which has been made in the university in its short lifetime of only four years. The lecture and examination courses show a high academical standard, and embrace nearly every subject from agriculture to music. The Government endowment amounts to £13,500 annually, and the aggregate sum received from the State last year was £25,433. Salaries absorbed £9,285, of which professors and lecturers took £6,897. Women perform an important part in university life in Perth; and the University Women Students' Club was the earliest organization of any kind formed among the students.