

council's statement sets forth the need for extensions calling for a large capital expenditure on buildings and equipment, and an increased annual expenditure. Two of the recommendations have practically been carried into effect by the appointment of Professor Meredith Atkinson, and the arrangement now being made to appoint Dr. Smyth as professor of education. These changes, however, entail but little expense, comparatively, and touch only the fringe of the recommendations. It is not proposed to make any change in the financial position of the University.

With regard to the constitution, the present position is that the government of the University is, nominally and de jure at least, in the hands of the senate, a body composed of all those graduates of the University who have taken a master's or doctor's degree, of whom there are several thousands scattered over the face of the earth. The senate elects 20 out of the 23 members of the council, the other three being nominated by the Ministry. Apart from this, the senate is a "house of review," since all new regulations or amendments to existing ones have to be approved by it. In practice this has proved an intolerably cumbrous and anomalous system of government. The vast majority of the members of the senate never, or hardly ever, attend its meetings, and it is often very difficult to get the bare quorum of 20. In practice questions are usually decided by the votes of a few graduates living in Melbourne, who chance to attend the meetings. It is often not difficult for the opponents of a reform to "whip up" enough votes to block, often those of persons very little interested in it.

If the bill follows the recommendation of the council, as may be expected in this case, the senate will disappear as a legislative body. In its place there will be a purely elective body of graduates, with no direct power over legislation, and a greatly reduced share of representation in the council. The council proposed that this body should be called the "convocation," and should consist of all graduates over 21 who had paid a registration fee of £1/1/, this ensuring membership for life.

The practical abolition of the senate will give the University a "one-chamber" constitution, and greatly increase the importance of the council. At present all the members of the council, except three who are appointed by the Ministry, are elected by the senate. The University staff, for instance, is represented on it merely because the senate choose to elect certain professors. The scheme drawn up by the University provided for a council of 41 members, composed as follows:—The principal of the University and the director of Education, ex officio; the heads of the four affiliated colleges, also ex officio; three members appointed by the Governor in Council, and five appointed by the professorial board; 21 elected by the graduates, one by the undergraduates, and one by the Secondary Teachers' Association, and four co-opted members. It is suggested that the co-opted members should be leading men associated with business and industry, and should practically represent the general public.

On this point of the composition of the council there are strong differences of opinion. The proposal outlined above still leaves just over half the members to be elected by the senate. The 1913 report proposed a council of 34 members, with only 12 elected by the Senate. The proposal that the heads of the affiliated colleges should be ex officio members of the council has also aroused keen opposition. The council's scheme gives the State but three direct representatives, as at present, apart from the fact that the director of Education is to be an ex officio member. For this reason, if for no other, the Government is not likely to adopt this recommendation in its entirety. The feeling has often been expressed by members of Parliament that, as the State provides not much less than half the total revenue of the University, it should have a greater voice in the management, and a concession to this feeling may be looked for in the bill. But, on the other hand, there is a belief amongst members of the University staff and others that it is against the best interests of the University and of the country that there should be too great a measure of direct State control. This no doubt influenced the council, but the bill will probably provide for greater direct representation of the State on the council.

The principal is an officer who does not at present exist at the University, and here again there is a good deal of division of opinion. Some members of the committee were totally opposed to the creation of such an office, and others saw difficulties. However, the proposal carried the day, and the bill may be expected to carry out the recommendation. He would be the chief administrative officer and executive head of the University. The council's statement points out that at present many of the duties belonging to such an office are carried out partly by the Vice-Chancellor and partly by the president of the Professorial Board, and that in the case of the president they encroach very seriously on the time necessary for the work of his own department. The council considered that the principal should be the "leader and seer" of the University, should exercise a general supervision over its various activities, and assure himself of the efficiency of all departments; and should also act as the "chief apostle" of higher education to the Government and to the community. It is recommended that the principal should receive at least £1,500 a year, and a house, and if the grant to the University is not to be increased this would mean a certain strain on the finances. But the arguments in favour of having such a head to the University are likely to prevail.

Daily Herald 15.7.18

## OUR EDUCATION

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR  
ATKINSON.

Those in the community who are so prone to boasting of the standard of our educational system would have had some of the conceit taken out of them had they been present at a lecture delivered by Professor Meredith Atkinson in the Independent Hall, Melbourne, on Thursday night. The lecturer did not wince his words. He declared that Ministers who were constantly telling the people that we had "the best system in the world" were guilty of untruths. In his opinion the evils of industrialism made a perfect education system impossible. It was impossible to turn out complete citizens at 14 years of age, and he therefore advocated as our primary requirement the raising of the school-leaving age. No nation which really believed in education would sacrifice the highest interests of its children to the demand for wealth, production, as we were deliberately sacrificing every year thousands of our most promising children. "We leave them," added the lecturer, "to the school of the gutter, the university of the picture show, and the technical school of the factory, and expect them to be good citizens and producers. For the better protection and development of our youth, they should be under the full or partial control of the educator up to the age of 18 years, and full-time compulsory attendance up to 15 should be universal. The needs of wealth production must not be considered alone. Those who are constantly complaining that we are not practical enough and commercial enough in our educational system constitute a real danger to society." In advocating an extension of university teaching, Professor Atkinson said:—"We do not need more universities, but Governments which will take universities more seriously. Not only should scholarships be provided, but in addition a sufficient sum of money for the maintenance of students, so as to enable parents to send their children there without any real economic sacrifice, and so make it possible for the clever child to go to the top of his bent in educational progress."

Reg. 15.7.18

### UNIVERSITY REFORM.

Changes in the methods of government of Melbourne University are to be brought about by the State Government by means of a Bill now being prepared for submission to Cabinet. In 1910 a committee of enquiry, formed of university council members, forwarded to the Government a detailed report containing recommendations upon the matter. It is understood that the provisions of the new Bill will be largely based on this report, and on the minority report accompanying it (says The Melbourne Age). The measure will deal only with the constitution of the university, and not with finance. It is intended that the framing of new plans for the development or financing of the institution will be left to the reorganized governing body, when it is formed in accordance with the Government measure. The chief reform, it is understood, will be the abolition of the senate, as such, and its transformation into a body of "convocation," comprising all graduates. It will have no legislative powers. The Bill will provide that a new university council shall be the sole governing body, upon which "convocation" will be represented.

Register 16.7.18

## DEGREE OF COMMERCE.

### LONDON UNIVERSITY'S SCHEME.

LONDON, July 14.

The University of London has drafted a scheme instituting a degree of commerce. Meanwhile the Leeds University has established a three years' special diploma course in textiles, including economics and languages. The third year will be spent at some colonial or foreign university.

The important aspect of commercial development referred to in this message has engaged earnest attention in South Australia. Mr. E. Allnutt (President of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce), when approached by a representative of The Register on Monday, said:—Perhaps the most important of all the war problems was the recuperation of the wasted wealth of the Empire. The Associated Chambers of Commerce, and the individual Chambers of Commerce, had had the matter under long and careful consideration, and, among other important suggestions, they had laid considerable stress on the extension of commercial education. Quite recently the Adelaide Chamber had invited the University of Adelaide to formulate a larger and wider scheme of commercial education, and a sympathetic reply had been received. It was understood that the University had the matter well in hand, and would shortly submit a scheme, with details of the cost of carrying it out. It would be found on investigation, Mr. Allnutt added, that the movement in England had been largely promoted and based on liberal private endowments. The difficulty was in connection with funds. The present was scarcely the time to approach the Government, but the Adelaide Chamber would later make an appeal to the patriotism and philanthropy of citizens.

Daily Herald 14.7.18

## THE G.P.O.

### PROPOSED ALTERATIONS.

#### PRESENT BUILDING UNSATISFACTORY.

The Postmaster-General (Hon. W. Webster) does not permit his work to accumulate, as the departmental mail follows him wherever he goes. Consequently he was engaged until midnight on Monday in clearing the heavy parcel which awaited him at Adelaide. This task was made easier by the kindness of the secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Club, who placed his room, at the disposal of the Minister. Yesterday morning he received a deputation at 9.30. Happily the mission was not one of complaint.

The problem of remodelling the Adelaide General Post Office was finalised during the day, and plans, specifications, and all data are ready for submission to the Public Works Committee when the House of Representatives reassembles. The work will modernise the present building, so far as the present construction will permit. The number of rooms will be reduced by more than half, every partition which can be removed safely will disappear, and air and sunshine will percolate freely. Most of the branches will be concentrated in their own rooms, easy of supervision, and under conditions making for economy and efficiency. A spacious mail room, in which all mail activities will be centred, will be a feature of the new design. That room will meet the needs for 50 years to come, it is anticipated.

Provision is made for an institute, which Mr. Webster regards as the foundation of his scheme of reform. The first step in that direction will be the opening of the Melbourne institute in a few weeks time, a home for which Mr. Webster secured by redesigning the internal plan and co-ordinating the various sections in the new G.P.O., Spencer street. The institute is to be the continuation school of the service. Mr. Webster intends to give the staff, from the messenger boy up, an opportunity to develop to the utmost their ability. In the general division, as it is now known, he will ask the employees to give a couple of hours on two evenings each week, while he will concede two hours on one day each week. Classes, with departmental instructors, will be formed in every grade, and those who seek higher positions will be given a course at the University to enable them to rise from the base to the summit of the service. Mr. Webster holds that the standard of the service is a paramount factor in its success. Lectures, reading room, library, and demonstration classes in mechanics, engineering, and telegraph and telephone operation will constitute a part of the activities. Provision will be made for the physical, as well as the mental, well-being of the staff, in the form of gymnasium, games, billiards and healthy sport.

the scheme is one of self-government, as the staff will be permitted to map out its own destiny within certain limitations. Officers employed outside the metropolitan centres will be provided with a correspondence section, which will enable them to participate in the educational side, while a circulating library will be at their command.

Provision will be made for dining rooms and breathing space on the garden roof, as is in use in Melbourne. Naturally Mr. Webster desires to see the conditions realized early in each State, but the war has, and doubtless will, hamper his progress.

Mr. Webster inspected the telephone and telegraph workshops, carpenters, blacksmiths, and test room in the General Post Office. In no case was artificial light absent, none of these workshops is good, and most are bad. The light and ventilation in the basement renders it unsuitable for the occupation of workmen. He also reviewed the stores to ascertain what temporary relief could be given there, but is not satisfied with the prospect. The relative merits of the workshop plans were discussed with the engineer, and the Minister proposes to go closely into them on his return to Melbourne. He is satisfied that the present position should not be tolerated a day longer than necessary, as the conditions are unhealthy, and uneconomical. Supervision is difficult and costly. Efficiency cannot be expected, as the space is congested, and the conditions are bad. Moreover the plant is capable of much improvement. Some is obsolete and the latest is not installed. All these things make economy difficult, if not hopeless. The Minister, being aware of the actual position, will lose no time in applying the remedy. Most of the sections set out will be absorbed in the new design of the remodelled general post office, and accommodation will have to be found elsewhere.

Daily Herald 18.7.18

#### LATE PRIVATE G. SELWAY.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Selway, of North Glencig, have been informed that their only son (Private G. Selway) had died on June 27 in France, owing to wounds received in action. Prior to enlisting Private Selway was an articled law clerk to Messrs. L. C. Jessop and Duncan Hughes. He passed his final examination for his certificate last year, and intended on his return to complete his studies for the LL.B. degree. The late soldier took a prominent part in church work at St. Peter's, Glencig, and an active interest in sports. He held the office of hon. secretary to the Glencig Oval Association, and at the last meeting of the town council the mayor (Mr. J. Mack) paid a tribute to the deceased soldier, whose manliness and enthusiasm had always made a great impression on him. It was resolved that a special minute be recorded in the books of the council, and that a letter of condolence be written to the parents. Private Selway arrived in England last Christmas Eve, and had been in some severe fighting.

Register 20.7.18

## A MASTER MUSICIAN.

### CHAT WITH MR. EDWARD GOLL.

"I live for my music; so soon as I get to my instrument I forget everything else," said Mr. Edward Goll, the notable pianist, to a representative of The Register on Friday in the course of an interview. Mr. Goll's very personality spells the soul of harmony. Why should it not, when he spends more than half the day at the keyboard? His artistic hands seem musical, although one does not hear him play. Such a temperament is to be looked for in one who holds the position of piano soloist and chief study teacher of the piano-forte at the University Conservatorium of Music, Melbourne. The harder he works the happier he is, for he teaches strenuously for four days a week. Mr. Goll has been at the Victorian University for seven years, and one might well ask the question why he has not favoured Adelaide music lovers with his presence before. The fact is that he has been too busy, too wrapped up in his labours of love. During the past three years alone he has given more than 40 recitals in the Victorian capital, and has played more than 200 different classical works, including those of Beethoven, all Chopin's works, Bach, Schumann, Haydn, and Liszt.