

# ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY

By the Rev. A. S. Devenish.

The University of Adelaide, which celebrated its jubilee from August 14 to 18, has had a quite romantic history. Fifty years ago Sir (then Mr.) W. W. Hughes handed to the Free Church leaders in South Australia the sum of £20,000 to found a Theological Hall. The Rev. Dr. Jefferies, one of the recipients, said he thought that Mr. Hughes, when asked, might perhaps have given a hundred pounds to that end; but when a gift of £20,000 was received, Dr. Jefferies and Rev. Jas Lyall, the one an Independent minister, the other a Presbyterian, decided to approach the Government and ask that a University be founded. This unanimous surrender of purely denominational ends to the public good has not been without justification, and since this first generous act on the part of the ministers mentioned above, money has flowed freely into the University coffers, and Adelaide is proud of its University, and gratified with its work and influence. The jubilee celebrations were punctuated by further gifts, one by Sir Joseph Verco, of £5,000, to ensure the publication of the results of medical research, and another by Sir Josiah Symon, of £10,000, for the erection of a Women's Hostel affiliated with the University. This hostel is to be named after Lady Symon. The Government furthermore honoured the occasion of the jubilee by erecting an engineering school at a cost of £50,000. During the jubilee celebrations this building was opened by the South Australian Premier for the use of the engineering faculty.

In 1876 the University opened with four professors and thirteen students. This Gilbertian proceeding occasioned some ridicule. They met in a single room lent by the Education Department. Only Arts and Science were represented. The students, however, seem to have been sorted out so as to give each learned professor something to do. What could be done they did, and the University of Adelaide started on its career of usefulness and success.

The newspapers freely criticised the new institution, and there were numerous raucous critics besides. From the start, however, the University was in the hands of able and disinterested men. Sir W. W. Hughes' gift of £20,000 was followed by another gift for the same amount from Sir Thomas Elder. Then Mr. J. H. Angus founded a Chemistry Chair with a provision of £6,000. Subsequently Sir Thomas Elder bequeathed £120,000 to the University. Mr. Barr-Smith gave several thousands to the library. Sir Langdon Bonython and others have since given liberally. These benefactions, with Government aid added, have placed the University on a sound footing with ample buildings and equipment. The future of the University has been further assured by the donation of Mr. Waite of large and valuable landed properties at Fullarton, near Adelaide.

The opening conversation was a very brilliant and interesting start to the jubilee celebrations. It was an occasion for a reunion of students and teachers who had not seen one another for many years. It was a perfect Adelaide night, and the lighting and colours made a memorable scene. The delegates and visitors were received by the Chancellor, Sir George Murray, and the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Wm. Mitchell, the most recent Gifford lecturer.

On the following Sunday afternoon a University thanksgiving service was held in the Cathedral. Bishop Thomas preached from St. Paul's words: "Our sufficiency is of God" (II. Cor. iii. 5). Dr. Thomas made good his main thesis that all science, art and knowledge had a hollow ring about them, and ended nowhere if God were not in them to give them cogency and efficiency of content. But the preacher urged a further point by saying that the time would surely come when the University would recognise God, and be recognised by Him, in the founding of theological faculties. The University of Adelaide, with its peculiar additions, may yet be the first of the Australian Universities to break through the secular restrictions of the past and take the Christian path indicated by Dr. Thomas. At this service the Chancellor of the University, Sir George Murray, read the first lesson and the Elder Professor of Mathematics, the second. The latter is also president of the Adelaide Council of Churches. Sir George read the well-known chapter in Isaiah in praise of noteworthy men, in a way that suggested that the Chancellor would have made an

excellent ecclesiastic. His reading of the Scripture was most admirable and telling, and many clerics might have learned much from listening to so august a layman.

At a subsequent special congregation the rise and progress of the University was dealt with by the Chancellor, who particularly emphasised the gift of Sir Josiah Symon for a Women's Hostel, but more particularly still the fact that the Church of England had just founded the first college (St. Mark's), affiliated with the University. It was hoped that this venture on the part of the English Church would soon be followed up by others, thus extending by means of residential colleges the truer scope and intercourse of University and college life. It is gratifying to note that St. Mark's is already overtaxed for accommodation. St. Mark's is just behind the Cathedral, close to St. Barnabas' theological hall, and only a short walk from the University.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem was represented at the jubilee by the Rev. D. Hirsch, B.A., a fact of greater omen than many may think. *Eper si muove.*

Although the youngest of three larger Australian Universities, the University of Adelaide has had men of distinction in its chairs. Sir Wm. Bragg, well known in connection with research in wireless at Leeds, was formerly Professor of Physics; Sir Douglas Mawson, the explorer, occupies the Geology chair; and Prof. Mitchell, now Professor Emeritus, is the latest Gifford Lecturer on The Power of the Mind. The work by the same author on The Growth of the Mind was a well-known text-book. One of the latest additions to the professorial staff is William Keith Hancock, B.A., appointed Professor of Modern History in 1926—well known in the diocese of Melbourne.

Only one fly in the ointment of the apothecary caused slightly unpleasant savour, and that was a discussion as to the place of the thanksgiving service. However, men and women of goodwill attended largely in accordance with the singular traditions of the University and gave thanks to Almighty God for the benefits and favours of fifty years. Men and women teachers and graduates left the Cathedral confident that better things still were in store; and that to have held this service in the Town Hall, the Exhibition Buildings, or the park lands, would have been a melancholy tribute to the eternal unfitnes of things. The University holds fast its original and traditional armorial motto:—Sub cruce lumen.

## ST. FRANCIS.

St. Francis walked in Umbria  
Seven hundred years ago;  
His soul was gladdened at the sight  
Of those strong hills, where all the night  
The fireflies dance and silver light  
Glams where the olives grow.

With lowly men in Umbria  
He sang the sweet refrains  
Of Southern songs that light the heart,  
He preached the Faith in Church and mart,  
Until the skies were torn apart,  
And Christ walked in the plains.

The little man of Umbria,  
He praise with all his might  
The Lord who made the little things,  
Who fashioned birds with beating wings,  
And slaked the earth with water springs,  
And dowered with stars the night.

The Faith he found in Umbria  
He taught it to the throng;  
For emblem of the Faith he took,  
Nor lowered eyes and solemn look,  
Nor frozen heart nor printed book,  
But laughter and loud song.

—By J. B. Morton (from "The Little Brown Company": an anthology of Franciscan prose and verse).—  
From "The Australasian Intercollegiate."

REG. 13.11.26  
Many citizens will join in extending greetings to Mr. J. T. Smyth, B.A., B.E., 105eley street, Glenelg, to-day, upon the attainment of his eightieth birthday. As a teacher, and subsequently inspector of public schools, he helped to influence the careers of a good number of students who to-day are occupying responsible positions in the public, professional, and business life of the community. Mr. Smyth is an Irishman, having been born at Fermoy, County Cork. At the age of 15 years he matriculated at Queen's College, Cork, and gained a £10 prize in mathematics on entrance. After a strenuous but successful career, he passed and gained the diploma of civil



MR. J. T. SMYTH.

engineering, which was conferred on him at Dublin Castle by the Chancellor in October, 1864. After filling positions as resident mathematical master at a collegiate school in Bradford, Yorkshire, and a boarding school at Ramsgate, he decided to try his luck in Australia. He reached Melbourne in January, 1868, and secured the head mastership of the Government school at Chiltern (V.). There he qualified for the certificate of competency as a teacher, and gained special commendatory reports from the four school inspectors. In June, 1870, he was appointed head teacher to the Bourke street west Hebrew school. After seven years he resigned and came to this State to take the position of head master at the newly erected model school at Norwood, with about 1,000 scholars. Several of his pupils matriculated. Prior to leaving Melbourne he gained the degree of B.A. at that university. A reference to Mr. Smyth's work in this State appeared in The Register on Friday.

## NEWS 12.11.26 Armistice Day

J. S. Fielder, Adelaide:—As a student sitting for examination at the University of Adelaide on Armistice Day I should like to express pleasure at the action of Prof. Brailsford Robertson and fellow-students in observing the two-minute silence at 11 o'clock. At the call of the professor punctually on the stroke of the clock every student immediately ceased work and stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the fallen. In the circumstances this was most impressive. I am sure that as a member I can also express the appreciation of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial League of the action of the professor.

## REG. 25.11.26

At a meeting of the University Senate, on Wednesday afternoon, endorsement was given to the motion which had been carried by the council at its last meeting, expressing regret at the resignations of Sir George Brookman and Professor H. Darnley Naylor.

## ADU. 24.11.26.

**THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP.**  
A meeting of the Rhodes scholar Committee will be held at the University of Adelaide on Monday next, when this year's scholar for South Australia will be selected. The members of the selection committee in South Australia are his Excellency the Governor (Sir Tom Bridges), the Chief Justice (Sir George Murray), Professors R. W. Chapman and W. K. Hancock, Messrs. J. R. Fowler, Harry Thomson, R. J. Rudall, and C. T. Maddingan. Mr. F. W. Eastley is honorary secretary.

## NEWS. 24.11.26

Mr. W. R. Kelly, S.M., who has been appointed to the Port Augusta district in succession to Mr. W. J. Hinde, S.M., left Yorketown this morning for Adelaide. He was tendered a smoke social by the residents of Yorketown and district and presented with a gold-mounted fountain pen.

## NEWS. 24.11.26.

### FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

#### Examination Results Issued

Faculty of Dentistry examination results were made available today by the University of Adelaide:—  
First Year.—Passed with Credit (in order of merit)—Evans, Mervyn Wyke; Thomson, Sydney William. Passed (in alphabetical order)—Phillips, Walter Raymond; Sudholz, Herbert Frederick.  
Second Year.—Passed with Credit—Wilson, Harry Max. Passed (in alphabetical order)—Bateman, Albert; Burns, Chester Arnold; Chapman, Ernest Stirling; Evans, Walter Alfred Wyke; Forder, Charles Rex.  
Third Year.—Passed with Credit—Smerdon, Francis Lawry. Passed (in alphabetical order)—Christophersen, Jack Vivian; George, Adalbert James; McEachern, Morven; Preedy, Winifred Edna.  
Fourth Year.—Passed with Credit (in order of merit)—Ellis, Roy Gilmore; Joyner, Malcolm Stewart. Passed (in alphabetical order)—Burns, John Cumming; Phillips, Charles Leslie; Thomson, Linda Lovibond.

## REG. 25.11.26

### UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

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