

# UNIVERSITY JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

A SPECIAL CONGREGATION.

## DEGREES FOR DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS.

FURTHER BENEFACTIONS ANNOUNCED.

At a special congregation of the University of Adelaide yesterday in connection with its jubilee celebrations, degrees ad eundem gradum were conferred upon his Excellency the Governor, the Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce), and the Chancellors of the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne. The Chancellor (Sir George Murray) welcomed the delegates from various universities, and in referring to the generous gifts made to the University in the past, announced that Sir Joseph Verco had offered £5,000 to secure for all time the publication of original work in the medical sciences, and that Sir Josiah Symon had offered £10,000 for a women's portion (and library) of the proposed union building for men and women.

The austere beauty of the Elder Hall made a fitting background for the simple but impressive ceremonial at the University yesterday afternoon, when a special congregation was held in connection with the jubilee celebrations, at which honorary degrees were conferred upon his Excellency

of the Conservatorium in the following order:—Members of the Senate, Bachelors of Arts, Bachelors of Music, Bachelors of Laws, Bachelors of Science, Bachelors of Engineering, Bachelors of Medicine, Bachelors of Dentistry, Masters of Arts, Masters of Engineering, Doctors of Music, Doctors of Laws, Doctors of Science, Doctors of Medicine, Doctors of Dentistry, and the Warden of the Senate.

They were followed a few minutes later by the representatives of other Universities, and as soon as these were seated the procession of lecturers of the University, professors of the University, members of the Council, the Registrar, the Vice-Chancellor, the Mace, and the Chancellor made their way to the hall to await the arrival of his Excellency and Mr. Bruce. In addition to the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor (Professor W. Mitchell) other members of the University Council present included Sir Langdon Bonython, Sir George Brookman, Sir Joseph Verco, Professors Rennie, Chapman, and Darnley Naylor, Dr. F. S. Hone, and Messrs. W. T. McCoy and W. R. Bayly, and Dr. Helen Mayo.

To the graduates and undergraduates the distinctive dress of the representatives of the various faculties from the Adelaide and other Universities was doubtless an open book, but it formed the subject of much whispered comment among the ladies who occupied a great part of the hall. As Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Sir William Cullen was resplendent in a gold braided uniform, and Sir John MacFarland (Chancellor of Melbourne) was another whose uniform attracted attention. The scarlet and yellow of two of the Scottish representatives was in contrast to the modest line of green that marked the hood of the representative of the National University of Ireland. Scarlet and gold and black and scarlet with old gold and yellow were other daring color combinations that lent a touch of brilliance to the scene as their wearers delivered greetings from the Universities they represented. It was typical of the spirit of learning to-day that the two representatives of Manchester University should have been husband and wife, and though the thought of a Hebrew University of Jerusalem would have been looked on as the wild dream of a Zionist a few years ago, its accredited representative was present yesterday afternoon.

Fifty years ago, when Bishop Short, as Chancellor, delivered the inaugural address he was anxious that the study of geology, astronomy, and other subjects should be undertaken in a thoroughly religious spirit. The good Bishop's half-formed doubts of the influence of science upon Christianity and Bible teachings generally would have been set at rest could he have beheld the gathering yesterday, which included many of those whose practice of Christian ethics has made them outstanding members of the community. Telegrams from various Universities throughout the world made it apparent that learning, at least, is international, and knows no barriers of creed or race, for they came from Paris, Berlin, Bonn, Lithuania, Warsaw, Algiers, Allahabad, Rangoon, and Belgrade, and a score of other places, the names of some of which even the learned Vice-Chancellor found difficulty in pronouncing. Sir George Murray, as the Chancellor, sat behind the Mace, and his rightful pride in the University was reflected in his welcome of the distinguished visitors, the first of whom to arrive was the Prime Minister in his gown as a doctor of laws of Cambridge University. The playing of "The Song of Australia" by Dr. Harold Davies at the organ marked his arrival, and the people rose to their feet in greeting. A few moments later Sir Tom Bridges arrived. He was accompanied by Lady Bridges and Miss Alvide Bridges, and attended by Mr. Legh Winsor. Dr. Davies played the National Anthem, and immediately on its conclusion the Governor, who was attired in the scarlet robes of a doctor of laws of the McGill University, proceeded to the dais, where he took up his position at the Chancellor's right hand.

### A Welcome to Delegates.

The Chancellor (Sir George Murray) said it was his privilege that day to offer to his Excellency most grateful thanks for his presence, and to the delegates from

other universities, a most cordial welcome, at that special congregation of the University of Adelaide held in celebration of its jubilee. Many of the universities to which invitations were sent, were unable, on account of distance, to be represented by any of their officers or graduates, but they had sent them greetings and congratulations which they highly prized and appreciated. It was particularly gratifying to them to be honored with the presence in person of the chancellors of the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne—(Cheers)—and to see as the senior delegate from Tasmania, Archdeacon Whiting-

possible government upon the colony. Subsequently he became Attorney-General, and was leader of the Government in the House of Assembly when the first Torrens Act which established the system of land registration, that had since been adopted throughout Australasia and in many other parts of the Empire, was passed. (Cheers). He was appointed Chief Justice in 1861, and died in March, 1876, six weeks before the formal inauguration of the University. The first Vice-Chancellor was the Right Reverend Augustus Short, D.D., first Bishop of Adelaide. (Cheers). A graduate of Christ Church (Oxford), a public examiner, select preacher, and Bampton Lecturer at his University, and tutor and lecturer at his college, he had amongst his pupils in the reading of Thucydides, one of the future Prime Ministers of England, William Ewart Gladstone. (Cheers). Appointed to the See of Adelaide in 1847, he founded the Collegiate School of St. Peter in the same year, and the Cathedral Church of St. Peter just fifty years ago. On the death of Sir Richard Hanson, he was elected Chancellor of the University, and presided on the occasion of its inauguration on April 25, 1876, a day in the yearly calendar destined to be of fateful importance in Australian history, and always, as they ventured to hope, to be a day of good omen. (Cheers.) Dr. Short was succeeded as Vice-Chancellor by the Chief Justice, the Hon. Samuel James Way, afterwards the Right Hon. Sir Samuel Way, Baronet, a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and the most distinguished of South Australians. (Cheers.) On the retirement of the Bishop of 1883, he became Chancellor, and held office continuously until his death in January, 1916. What the University owed to him could never be fully told.



The Chancellor (Sir George Murray).

ton, of Hobart, one of their earliest students. (Cheers.) The Chancellors of the Universities of Tasmania and Western Australia had unfortunately been prevented from coming at the last moment. The gathering was also distinguished by the company of the Prime Minister. (Cheers). Mr. Bruce had been good enough to so arrange his engagements that they might have the pleasure of conferring upon him the same honor as he received from the University of Cambridge in 1923. (Cheers.) He regretted that the Premier (Hon. J. Gunn) was unable to be present as he had hoped to thank him for the support which had been given to the University during his term of office, and to congratulate him upon his appointment as a member of the Migration Commission by the Federal Government. (Cheers.)

### Origin of the University.

The University of Adelaide owed its origin to an act of self-denial. Union College, now no longer in existence, had been founded in 1872 for the education of Presbyterian, Congregational, and Baptist ministers. Mr. Walter Watson Hughes (afterwards Sir Walter), offered to endow the college with a sum of £20,000, but the members of its governing body, led by the Rev. James Lyall and the Rev. James Jefferis, the latter of whom had graduated as a Bachelor of Laws in the University of London, and afterwards proceeded to the degree of Doctor of Laws in the University of Sydney, a famous preacher in his day, both in Adelaide and Sydney, suggested to Mr. Hughes that he should devote his gift to the more general object of founding a University. (Cheers). The generous donor acquiesced in the proposal. In 1872 an association was formed to further the project, the scheme was aided by the contribution of another £20,000 by Sir Thomas Elder—(Cheers)—a bill was introduced into Parliament two years later, and under the skillful guidance of Mr. W. H. Bunday, the Attorney-General (afterwards Sir Henry Bunday, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court), it passed both Houses, and received the Royal Assent on November 6, 1874. The University of Adelaide thus came into being as the third University in Australia, 23 years junior to the University of Sydney, and 22 years junior to the University of Melbourne. Its first Chancellor was Sir Richard Davies Hanson, the Chief Justice of this colony. As a young man in London, Mr. Hanson had been one of the advocates of Edward Gibbon Wakefield's system of colonisation, and an ardent supporter of the movement for the foundation of the colony of South Australia. In 1839, he went to Canada as private secretary to Lord Durham, and assisted in the composition of the famous "Durham Report," which "recommended the Union of the two Canadian Provinces, the ultimate union of all British North America, and the granting to this large State of full self-government." He came to South Australia in 1846, was appointed Advocate-General, introduced the first Education Act, and drafted the Constitution Act of 1856, which conferred res-

### The Council and the Senate.

The corporate body of the University—the universitas in the original legal sense of the term—consisted of a council and Senate, the Senate being composed of all graduates of at least three years' standing and the Council of 20 members, not necessarily graduates, elected by the Senate, with the addition since 1911 of two members of the Legislative Council and three members of the House of Assembly, elected by the two Houses of Parliament respectively. The Senate was constituted in the first instance of graduates of other universities, who were admitted ad eundem gradum at the first commencement ceremony, held on May 2, 1877. The fact was important, as showing the interest taken by university men from different parts of the globe in the foundation of the new institution. There were 77 in all admitted, and among them graduates of every university then existing in England, Scotland, and Ireland, with the exception of Durham, graduates from five universities in Germany, one graduate from Dorpat, in Russia, one from Toronto, and two from Melbourne. Sydney, curiously enough, was not represented, but she had since made good the deficiency in generous measure. Of the original members seven were happily still alive, and three of them, to whom he offered the heartiest congratulations, were, he believed, present that day—Sir Lancelot Stirling, Canon Poole, and Mr. E. W. Hawker. (Cheers.) The others were Professor Horace Lamb (now at Cambridge), Sir John Cockburn (a former Premier, now resident near London), the Rev. J. H. Corvan (of Hobart), and Canon Hey Sharp (for many years the warden of St. Paul's College, Sydney). He had mentioned that the whole of the members of the Council were, until 1911 and 20 of them still were, elected by the Senate, and that a degree was not a necessary qualification for election. The Senate had always exercised its privileges in a large-minded way, and with admirable self-restraint. Of the original Council—and he regretted to say that none survived—there were ten who were not members of the Senate. Among them were such eminent men as Sir Richard Hanson, Sir Samuel Way, Dr. Reynolds (the Roman Catholic Bishop of Adelaide), Sir Henry Ayers, and Mr. Justice Stow. And since then they had had Mr. R. Barr Smith, Sir Samuel Davenport, Sir John Downer, Sir Josiah Symon, Sir Charles Todd, Sir Langdon Bonython, and Sir George Brookman. (Cheers.) Graduates, on the other hand, who were elected and whom they desired gratefully to remember, included the Rev. James Jefferis, Archdeacon Farr (a former headmaster of St. Peter's College), the Rev. W. Roby Fletcher, Mr. J. A. Hartley (Inspector-General of Schools), Mr. Frederic Chapple (headmaster of Prince Alfred College), and Mr. William Barlow (the first registrar). Mr. Fletcher, Dr. Farr, Mr. Hartley, and Dr. Barlow from time to time held office as Vice-Chancellor.

### Progress of Growth.

The University began with two faculties—arts and science—four professors, and eight undergraduates. The first professor of mathematics was Dr. Horace Lamb. Ten years later he was succeeded by Mr. W. H. Bragg, now Sir William Bragg, Director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain. (Cheers.) The achievements of Professor Lamb and Sir William Bragg in the world of science were too well known to require any allusion to them, but it was not so well known, except to a few of them, how great was the influence they exercised during the early period



His Excellency the Governor (Sir Tom Bridges).

the Governor (Sir Tom Bridges) and the Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce). It was a far cry from the dignified building, with the pipe organ pealing a greeting to the distinguished visitors, who were received by the Chancellor (Sir George Murray) in his richly carved chair of office, to the building of one room which served to house the four professors and their classes when the University was first opened. Indeed, so keenly were these disabilities felt



The Prime Minister (Mr. S. M. Bruce).

that the formal opening of the University, which took place on April 25, 1876, was held in the Adelaide Town Hall, and pealing bells, and a posse of foot police outside the building marked the importance of the occasion.

There was need for neither to draw attention to the occasion on Monday afternoon, but the people who filled the Elder Hall were themselves a testimony to the living force the University is in the life of South Australia. All the faculties were represented, and punctually at 2.40 p.m. the procession of graduates and members of the Senate filed in through the main door