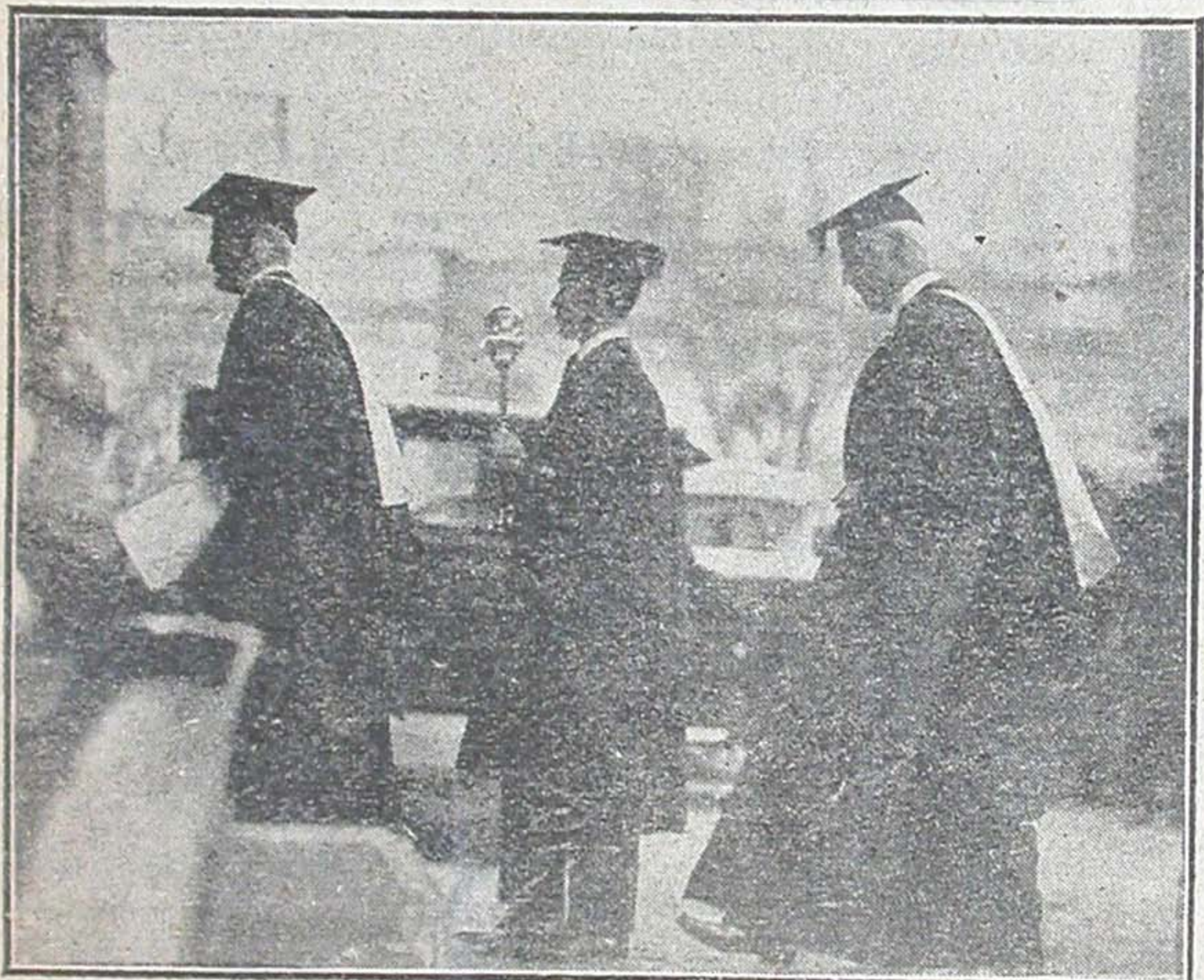




Adelaide University Council on way to Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter's Cathedral

In the picture are Mr. K. H. Boykett (president of the Students' Representative Council) carrying the mace, Prof. W. Mitchell (vice-chancellor), Sir George Murray (chancellor), Prof. E. H. Rennie, Mr. W. T. McCoy, B.A., Sir Langdon Bonython, Mr. W. R. Bayly, B.A., B.Sc., Prof. H. Daruley Naylor, and Dr. Helen Mayo.

REG. 17. 8. 26.



The Vice-Chancellor (Professor W. Mitchell), the Chancellor (Sir George Murray), with the Macebearer entering the Elder Hall for the celebrations, which were conducted on Monday afternoon.

ADV. 18. 8. 26

THE UNIVERSITY JUBILEE.

All who have read our reports of the proceedings from day to day must agree that nothing has been wanting to the success of the Jubilee celebrations of the University of Adelaide. Our principal seat of learning has put itself on fete for the occasion, and has drawn on its laboratory and other resources and on the expository services of its professors and lecturers, for the entertainment of its many distinguished guests, including visitors of the highest academic rank from the other States. The responsibility of the organisers has been no light one, for they have had not only the good name of the University to vindicate, but also, as Sir John MacFarland, Chancellor of the Melbourne University, reminded them, the reputation of Adelaide as "the City of Culture." It is a minor point, but think, self-appropriated, but originated in the choice made by Sir John Fraser of adjectives whereby he could distinguish the Australian capitals from

one another. The important matter is that the description should be merited and if it is a sign of culture to be proud of the history and achievements of its University, then Adelaide may fairly be adjudged to have established one claim to the title. The speeches, as might be expected of those who made them, have been worthy of a great occasion. That some should have partaken of a retrospective character is not unnatural, for the thoughts of everyone must have turned this week to those who, fifty years ago, drove the first furrow into the field which has yielded so rich a harvest. It is not to forget the pioneering beneficence of Sir Walter Hughes, and of later benefactors, but more pleasing still was it to be reminded by the Chancellor, Sir George Murray, that the movement which eventuated in the crowning of the edifice of our educational system represented the labor of a single individual. Persons celebrated and obscure, men of affairs and business, academic and professional luminaries, and humbler citizens—who could not claim to have themselves im-

bibed very copiously of the Pierian spring—all were animated by the same devotion to a great cause, the infusion of "sweetness and light" into a young State naturally much occupied with the prosaic, not to say sordid, side of existence. Without a sufficiency of public spirit the University could not have been founded, nor without its continuance in later years could the institution have achieved its material progress, and rendered the service which on behalf of the community has been acknowledged so eloquently. Yet public spirit does not count for everything. A wide allowance must be made for the outstanding ability of many members of the tutorial staff, past and present, more than one of whom has served within its walls an apprenticeship to world-wide fame. With such teachers, it is not surprising that the University should never have lacked students of the first order of brilliancy to spread its fame. If it cannot reproduce the glories of the Cam or the Isis, it may fairly claim by its standards to have made its degrees among the most valuable in the Empire, being as difficult to obtain as any conferred elsewhere. No doubt the University has profited by the boundless importance attached nowadays to knowledge, and by the

demand that the facilities for its acquisition should be of the best. Not always, even in scholastic circles, was culture so valued. The bitter reflections of Gibbon on his University life and teachers stand on record; and we have not to turn many pages of Tennyson's biography to find the scathing indictment he penned on the Cambridge of his time, "whose instructors teach us nothing, feeding not the heart." Since the poet's day the ancient colleges of Britain have been shocked into a recognition of modern requirements; and now there is scarcely a country anywhere which does not include academic facilities among the first of its necessities. No doubt an immense amount of knowledge is acquired and cleverness exhibited outside the Universities; but this may be attributed to the changed conditions of intellectual and social life. With the multiplication of books and leisure for home study allowed by modern hours of labor, the idea that "culture" must be solely, or even chiefly, sought at special "seats of learning" has been greatly modified. But if there is culture of a very high degree among those who have never entered the portals of the University, this does not argue that the training it offers is negligible or superfluous. Even a person who might pass as extraordinarily well read, would find himself better equipped by even a slight familiarity with the methods of the University. He would discover the folly of perfunctoriness in reading; and would learn to face and master the perplexities and obscurities he would ordinarily evade. It is a familiar tragedy to find years of "reading" wasted through neglect of those habits of research and memorising which the University makes it its business to enforce. A University course, though often narrow, is searching. If the limitations of a graduate are sometimes startling, at least he has been shown the path to enlightenment, and it is his own fault if the strenuousness of the pursuit is relaxed. Nor can too much be said about the development of the character to which Sir George Murray alluded as an object of University training, taking precedence in importance to the inculcation of knowledge. Some pregnant remarks of the late Bishop Short were quoted, and everyone will recall the ideal put forward by Cardinal Newman in 1852. He spoke of the value of intellectual discipline for its own sake, and not for the furtherance of some specific training for a profession. Of the proper functions of a University there have been as many descriptions as there have been definitions of poetry; and few are all-inclusive. Newman thought more of the necessities of man than of the State; but the true ideal may be summed up as a training for the whole of life—of the emotions as well as of the intellect. The modern idea of education has a shrewd blend of practicability running through it, and especially is this true in a new country, where an obligation is on the student to learn something that will enable him to obtain a livelihood. The demand is one no University can ignore, and the problem is to reconcile compliance with it and the imparting of that broad culture for its own sake, which Sir William Cullen, Chancellor of the Sydney University, maintained to be the principal function of the supreme academic body. Everyone will agree with Sir William that there could be no more appropriate occasion than the jubilee of a University for a reminder that no country can afford to be without an authority to stand between its people and "the luxury, avarice, and perverted ambition that have brought ruin to many a great Empire in the past." It would be a disastrous day for South Australia if in the so-called interest of the "bread and butter" studies a clean sweep were made of what used to be called "the humanities"—those less remunerative branches of instruction, the classics, modern languages, and literature, which aim solely at the expansion of the intellectual outlook, and the training and development of the aesthetic and moral sympathies.

ADV. 21. 8. 26.

The Chancellor of the University of Melbourne (Sir John MacFarland) left for home by the express on Friday. He visited Adelaide in connection with the jubilee celebrations of the University. Asked his opinion of the celebrations, he remarked, "Nothing can be said except in a complimentary manner. Everything was well managed, and the visitors were most hospitably entertained. Everyone goes away with the feeling that the University of Adelaide is in a most rosy position, and is doing good work." Sir John said he was favorably impressed by the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. There was every promise of splendid work being done there. The institute had a first-class staff.