

THE UNIVERSITY.

RELATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR CHAPMAN.

In the opinion of Professor Chapman, one of the best safeguards against the intrusion of Bolshevism is education. He holds that, with the liberal system of education in Australia, there is nothing to fear.

"The University in Relation to Community Life" was the title of an address delivered by the Acting-Chancellor of the University (Professor Chapman) at the mid-day lunch of the Constitutional Club at Balfour's Cafe on Wednesday. The president (Mr. B. S. Leahey) welcomed the lecturer, who, he said, had given 30 years of wonderful service to the State. The results of his labors would be seen throughout the British Empire. Men who had received training under him at the Adelaide University held important posts in engineering in all parts of the world.

Money Spent on Education.

Professor Chapman, who was received with applause, said it was important that people interested in constitutional Government should take an interest in the money spent on education. One naturally asked whether education was a vital necessity, or an expensive luxury. In 1912 £330,000 was spent on education in South Australia, and in 1927 the amount totalled more than £1,000,000 out of an expenditure of £20,000,000. Last year £100,000 was spent on the University. A little less than half that amount was given by the Government, and the remainder came from private bequests and students' fees. South Australia had reason to be proud of the generous support received from benefactors.

Practical Worth.

Some people seemed to think that a University was a place where they turned young ladies into "blue stockings," and where young men became "highbrows," or unpractical people with their heads in the clouds and their feet nowhere. Others supposed that the University was a pleasant place for young men of the well-to-do class to spend a few years in. As a matter of fact, the object of the Adelaide University had been to turn out professional men who had filled the ranks of the legal, engineering, medical, and teaching professions, and taking them as a whole they were a pretty hard-headed lot. (Applause.) Many of the professional men at the top of their profession had entered the University as boys holding public scholarships. The lecturer illustrated his remarks with the story of the career of a young man from Hahndorf, who showed mathematical inclinations. He was a wheelwright, and after being given encouragement managed to work his way through the University until now he held a distinguished professorship in an American University. In a similar instance a young man was working in a quarry earning £4 17/ a week. Of that he saved £3, and was endeavoring to secure sufficient to pay for fees of a course at the University. That, said the lecturer, was the kind of man who would get on. There were many men who had worked their way in such a manner, and they were the kind who generally reached the top.

Safeguard Against Bolshevism.

One assurance that the people could rely on was that money spent on education was a safeguard against the spread of Bolshevism, which was a weed that spread on ignorance. Russia was paying the penalty for generations of a policy by the governing class of keeping the people ignorant and uneducated. Bolshevists had been more or less successful in countries where the population was ignorant, but it was making slow progress in the better educated countries of Europe. There was not the least fear of its lifting its head to any extent in Australia, where there was such a splendid system of primary education. He did not think there was any danger of Bolshevism in Australia, despite the wild Red remarks of agitators. (Applause.)

Scientific Research.

Dealing with the work of the Adelaide University, Professor Chapman said last year there were 770 undergraduates, 858 non-graduating students, and 96 post-graduate students. The main object of the University was to reach out for students who in the ordinary way would not be able to get to the University at all. In most universities it was necessary

for a student to take a course in a certain number of years. In Adelaide a student might take his subjects singly and he could earn his living at the same time. The courses at the Adelaide University had been liberalised with that end in view. The teaching of a student of the professional class was not the only function of the University. It was also necessary that facilities should be provided for reading and keeping in touch with the latest developments and discoveries in science. Therefore the University had to be well provided with the latest literature and books, so as to be kept up to date. If they were to hold their own among the nations they must take their share in scientific research and discovery. That had been a great difficulty at the outset, but recently, through the generosity of public-spirited men, they had been able to extend their activities, and now there were several branches of valuable research work being conducted. For instance, in his opinion, the experiments being conducted at Urrbrae would eventually prove of untold value to the community, particularly with regard to plant life. Here the lecturer told the story of a wealthy squatter being taught to realise what he owed to scientific discovery, and how, as the result of his realisation, he resolved to do something in return. The University was a vital necessity in the community, and was not, as some people might imagine, something which could be done without. They had fine traditions set by the British nation in discoveries of science, and he trusted that the University of Adelaide would be able to serve a useful purpose in that direction. (Applause.)

REC. 16. 8. 28

WHEELWRIGHT TO PROFESSOR.

"Among the ranks of the professional men you will find that a considerable proportion of those now at the top of the tree entered the University as boys from humble homes and holding scholarships. They fought their way to the place that they now hold." The speaker was Professor R. W. Chapman, Acting Vice-Chancellor of the Adelaide University, who gave an address on University life to members of the Constitutional Club on Wednesday. He recalled the case of a young wheelwright at Hahndorf, who forwarded a paper on the calculus for submission to the Royal Society. The paper was perused by a number of University teachers and professors, and, while it was thought unsuitable for reading before such a society, it was recognised that the writer of it was no mean thinker on mathematics. The young man had had no training in his subject, and, while wishing to pursue his study, he had no money to do so. By the arrangement of certain cadetships, however, the wheelwright had been enabled to pass through the Adelaide University. He went on to Cambridge, where he became a very distinguished investigator. Now, said Professor Chapman, the young wheelwright is a professor at Schenectady, New York. He quoted another instance of a young man earning £4 17/ a week as a quarry hand in the Adelaide hills, who out of that wage saved £3 a week to enable him to take a full course at the University.

ADV. 16. 8. 28

VISITING PROFESSOR IN CLASSICS.

The Graduates' Association of the Adelaide University has undertaken to arrange two lectures by Professor R. S. Conway, Hulme Professor of Latin in the Victoria University of Manchester, and lecturer in classics in 1927 at Harvard University, on two topics relating to the classics. Professor Conway is touring the world, and has come to Australia by arrangement with the Australian Universities. Professor Darnley Naylor, formerly of Adelaide, recommends him, not only as one of the best classical scholars of the day, but as an extremely interesting lecturer. Professor Conway is a fellow of the British Academy, a governor of the British Institute of Florence, and member of many learned societies. He will speak on Wednesday, September 12, and Friday, September 14, in the physics lecture theatre in the engineering building, on "Rome's master mind," and "The place of classical study in the modern world." His Excellency the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven) has signified his intention of attending the first lecture, at which the Chief Justice (Sir George Murray) will preside.

ADV. 16. 8. 28

THE CLOSING OF WAITE PARK.

From "JUSTICE," North Adelaide:—The action of the University in turning the Waite Park into an arboretum may benefit students of forestry at the Research Institute, but what of the numbers of people who are using this reserve as a golf course? How are they going to fare? The facilities for sport, which are so amply provided in other suburbs, are lacking at Fullarton, and the residents have been using this park to play in.

was controlled by a cancer committee of the university. In addition to the hospital there was a special committee at Brisbane University.

Dr. Burrows has been engaged by the Federal Government for three years. He began his duties in January.

ADV. 16. 8. 28

MUSICAL CAPS AND GOWNS.

To the Editor.

Sir—A letter signed "Cerdor" appeared in "The Advertiser" on August 4, under the above heading. Some inaccuracies require refutation. "Cerdor" writes:—"Mr. Mitchell is in error in stating that these colleges have no authority to examine. They are incorporated pursuant to an Act of Parliament of Great Britain, which can be easily verified by anyone seeking the truth. They are on precisely the same footing as Trinity College, for which he holds a brief." The assertion that I hold a "brief" for Trinity College is both incorrect and absurd; my letter of July 31 gave no warrant for it. In reply to the statement that "these colleges are incorporated," I have in my possession a letter written by the secretary of the Teachers' Registration Council of Great Britain, dated January 26, 1928, in which it is stated that the council accepts as evidence of fitness for registration the diplomas A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., F.R.C.O., and A.R.M.C.M.; these four colleges being chartered institutions. In addition, the secretary states that the council recognises the diplomas of the following non-chartered institutions—Trinity College of Music, the Incorporated London Academy of Music, and the Guildhall School of Music; only, however, provided that the applicant for registration has attended a course of three years at the institution concerned. In respect of examining bodies which are operating neither under a charter, nor with any ascertainable measure of public responsibility, the council refuses to recognise the diplomas which they give. Failing other evidence of musical attainment, diplomas of irresponsible "colleges" are not admissible to the register. Their diplomas carry no weight whatever, and are completely ignored; further, that this practice corresponds with that of the British Board of Education.

Of the "colleges" which trade in parchment and millinery in Australia, one was registered as an unlimited company on August 31, 1898, under the Companies Act of 1862-1898; the other is a limited company, registered on November 5, 1891. These companies are in the diploma business for financial reasons, and owe direct responsibility only to their shareholders; it is probable, therefore, that the easier the pass the greater the following. The line of least resistance is usually taken by those whose desire is cheap distinction. In the "Daily Mail," London, on May 9, 1927, there appeared a well-informed editorial on the subject of "Trade in Valueless Degrees and Diplomas." It was remarked how ready people are to be impressed by a string of letters after a music teacher's name. Knowledge of what those letters represent may be of the vaguest, but their mere presence seems to inspire confidence. So teachers find it necessary to acquire some letters, and, maybe, at times to disport themselves in robes, hoods, caps, and tassels. As the demand naturally stimulates the supply, inevitably there are obliging people who, for a consideration, are ready to provide fancy letterings, with or without fancy dress. The alphabet is always accessible, so the letters cost the vendors nothing, whilst the millinery yields a handsome profit.

Proprietary institutions, indeed, doing business for what can be got out of it, have every inducement, first to attract all the candidates they can for the sake of the fees, and then to pass as many as possible for the good of the trade. However, the prime test of a musical degree or diploma is, does it emanate from a public institution, with a public responsibility, or from a proprietary concern, run for personal profit? Which? There is a movement in England towards the establishment of a joint examining board for teachers of music, to consist of representatives of all reputable teaching and examining bodies, and when such a board is constituted it is hoped that the activities of privately conducted and profit-seeking enterprises will be considerably curtailed, if not altogether abolished. I have sheaves of evidence concerning the matters under consideration, available if the need should arise, but it will suffice to say that it surely behoves all self-respecting teachers of music whose aim is true education in their art to support solely those examinations which are above reproach.—I am, &c.

ERNEST E. MITCHELL.

Adelaide, August 14.

gation of market conditions of supply and demand. According to Copland, the first and obvious need in Australia was complete and accurate information upon the costs of marketing including retailing. Before any attempt was made to supplant existing machinery of marketing with plans for co-operative enterprise or pools, with or without Government support, it was essential that the reformers should have full knowledge of the existing machinery and of its cost. Another phase of research which arose from marketing was the problem of co-operation action among producers. Agricultural production was essential to national welfare, and the only guarantee of an adequate and dependable supply of agricultural products was a contented and prosperous agricultural population. This result could not be obtained in agriculture unless it availed itself of the efficiencies and economies of organisation and specialisation which characterised the secondary industries of the day. Co-operative marketing was firmly established in the Scandinavian countries and in the United States. In the latter country, the business transacted by co-operative agricultural organisations exceeded £500,000,000 per annum. To secure a material increase in production, there were two courses—to extend the margin of agriculture into the drier lands of more uncertain rainfall, or to intensify production within the existing settled area. Without lessening in any way efforts to increase production through the application of scientific methods, it was necessary to give more attention to the business and economic aspects of agriculture. In view of the important developments in applied economic research on agriculture in other countries, and the importance of agriculture to the national welfare, there appeared to be an urgent need for the establishment of an organised economic service which would provide for continuous research by trained investigators, not only of the major economic problems affecting the welfare and permanence of agricultural industries, but which, by providing the community with the right background of economic information, would guide intelligent programmes of production and land settlement, increase farm efficiency, promote effective marketing, and reduce costs of production. The economic societies throughout Australia could, by their active support, greatly assist in materialising such a service.

NEWS 15-8-28

TREATMENT OF CANCER

Money Needed for Research

OPERATIONS IN ADELAIDE

Dr. Arthur Burrows, who is supervising the campaign in Australia for the treatment of cancer, returned to Melbourne by the East-West express last night. He arrived in Adelaide yesterday morning and conferred with the University Cancer Research and Treatment Committee.

Interviewed last night Dr. Burrows said that he had made a statement to members of the committee in which he outlined what was being done elsewhere in Australia by various cancer committees. Already in Sydney £137,000 had been raised by public subscription, and £40,000 had been made available in Brisbane.

He suggested that a similar effort be made in Adelaide, and that for the purpose the territory should be divided into sections and organisers appointed to take charge of the sections. It was proposed that money received should be devoted to co-ordination of cancer treatment by providing modern centres, and to the promotion of research.

Dr. Burrows said that cancer centres were being established mainly for radium and deep X-ray treatment. Lead treatment was also being tried. For the present research work was being confined to treatment, but the important matter of causation would be considered and work on that connection undertaken in due course.

Questioned regarding the probable location of centres, Dr. Burrows said that they were being established only in capital cities. Cancer cases were usually able to travel and consequently there was little need for outside treatment centres. The only committees likely to be constituted in large country towns would be for organising the collection of funds.

Plans had been made at the meeting for work to be done in Adelaide during the next few months, after which he might make another visit. So far the scheme was in a preliminary stage.

Centres had been started in Sydney and Melbourne, and when structural alterations were completed in Brisbane the scheme would begin operating there. Melbourne Hospital and University were the Victorian centres. In Sydney work