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THE NEW UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.

Under the University Act passed last session important changes were made in the constitution of the University Council. The first meeting of that body under the new conditions was held on Friday. The chief business on the agenda was the election of a chancellor. By a unanimous vote the council passed the following resolution:—"That the Right Honorable Sir Samuel James Way, Baronet, Privy Councillor, and Chief Justice of South Australia, be and is now elected Chancellor of the University of Adelaide. That the council hereby tender to the Chancellor their hearty thanks for the many and great services which he has rendered to this University." At a later stage of the meeting the Chancellor attended, and the Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of the council, welcomed him. The Chancellor heartily thanked the council for their continued confidence and for the loyal support he had always received from the members. He reported that in accordance with the provisions of the University (Amendment) Act the undermentioned gentlemen had been elected members of the council:—The Hon. Sir J. L. Stirling, K.C.M.G., LL.B., the Hon. J. J. Duncan, M.L.C., the Hon. F. W. Coneybeer (Minister of Education),

Mr. S. B. Rudall, and Mr. W. Senior. On behalf of the council the Chancellor heartily welcomed the Minister as a member of the council. The other new members were unavoidably absent.

At the meeting of the council of the University on Friday, the Chancellor (Sir S. J. Way) was invited by the council to act as one of the representatives of the University at the Congress of the Association for the International Interchange of Students, to be held in London in June. Sir Samuel Way said on Monday that he had no intention to apply for leave to enable him to visit London for the purpose mentioned.

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At a meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide on Friday the Right Hon. Sir S. J. Way was unanimously re-elected Chancellor, and the council tendered to Sir Samuel his "hearty thanks for the many and great services which he has rendered to this University." At a later stage of the meeting the Chancellor attended, and the Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of the council, welcomed Sir Samuel. The Chancellor returned his hearty thanks to the council for its continued confidence, and for the loyal support he had always received from the members.

Register, Feb. 3/12

HOW STUDENTS WIN FEES.

More than £15,000 was earned last year by students at Columbia University, who are compelled to work to support themselves during their four-year university course. The largest amount earned in the 12 months by one student was £548, who put in his spare time as press agent for a well-known actress. A second-year man sold stocks on commission, and secured a profit of £197. A senior in the law school peddled straw hats during the summer holidays, earning £119. A student in philosophy waited at table for his meals and £69, and, in addition, he received £32 for acting as a subject in psychological tests. A senior in the teachers' college laid bricks during the long vacation, which netted him £72.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the Council was held on Friday afternoon, when there were present the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow), the Minister of Education (Hon. F. W. Coneybeer), Professor Stirling, Dr. Positton, Messrs. Chanole, Brookman, Murray, Webster, Jacobs, and Talbot Smith. The annual report and balance sheets for 1911 were approved. The Council also received a report from the Registrar in regard to visits paid by him to other universities. The Council granted an application from Perth for the delivery of lectures of the year for the Mus. B.Sc. degree, and approved of the appointment of the Rev. B. Wiberley, Mus. B.Sc., as lecturer in Theory of Music, and Mr. J. Allen, B.A., B.Sc. as lecturer in acoustics. The report of the Public Examinations Board in regard to nominations for the Public Examinations Committee, the results of public examinations, and candidates eligible for Government bursaries was adopted. Messrs. J. Edwin Thomas and A. Y. Harvey were appointed University Auditors for 1912.

INTERCHANGE OF STUDENTS.

A letter from the secretary of the Association for the International Interchange of Students was read at the meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide on Friday, inviting that body to appoint delegates to attend the congress to be held in London in June. It was resolved to invite the Chancellor (Right Hon. Sir S. J. Way), Profs. Darnley Naylor, Lamb, and W. H. Bragg, to act in that capacity.

At the meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide on Friday the Chancellor reported that, in accordance with the provisions of the amended Act of the University Act, the following gentlemen had been elected members of the council:—The Hon. Sir J. L. Stirling, K.C.M.G., LL.B., P.C., the Hon. J. J. Duncan, M.L.C., the Minister of Education (Hon. F. W. Coneybeer), and Messrs. S. B. Rudall, and W. Senior. On behalf of the council the Chancellor heartily welcomed the Minister of Education as a member of that body.

JOHN BAGOT PRIZE.

At the meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide held on Friday a communication was received from Mrs. John Bagot offering a sum of £500 in trust to provide an annual John Bagot Prize in connection with the School of Botany and Forestry. The council resolved to accept the offer, and to convey to Mrs. Bagot an expression of its thanks for the generous gift.

THE SKIPPING STONE

PROBLEM OF THE SPLASH.

RESEARCHES BY MR. B. WHITTINGTON.

The skipping stone on the water is one of those remarkable phenomena of nature observed day by day, and it remains a mystery unsolved. A little more than four years ago Mr. B. Whittington, now lecturer and demonstrator on science and physics at the Ballarat School of Mines, formerly a student of the Adelaide University, of which he is a Bachelor of Science, set himself the task of unravelling the many intricacies surrounding the problem and he has succeeded in discovering something of the behaviour of the elements that operate in the occurrence (says The Ballarat Courier of January 27). A reporter last evening gleaned from Mr. Whittington the measure of success he had achieved and the circumstances under which he took up the problem. Mr. Whittington said—"I became interested in the problem through Professor Chapman, of the Adelaide University, who submitted it as offering a good field for research with great possibilities. About two years ago the Melbourne University granted me a Government science research scholarship worth £75, which has enabled me to procure material with which to experiment and continue my researches."

"What are some of the possibilities of the elucidation of the problem?"—"No research work has been done on it by anybody else," Mr. Whittington observed, "and I have only, as it were, scratched the surface of the problem. You never know where research of this kind might lead to. For instance, one might, by trying various liquids with the skipping stone, discover a means of determining a property yet unknown in the realm of liquids. At one time I thought the problem might be applied with advantage to the concentration of ores."

"And in naval warfare?"—"Yes, the ricocheting of the bullet or cannon ball on the water's surface is of interest to scientists. When in Queenscliff a couple of years ago I went over to Col. Clark, officer commanding the forts, to see if I could get on to the target boat to procure a photograph of the ricochet of the cannon ball; but he said it was not an easy thing to get on to the boat, and also pointed out the difficulties of photographing owing to the weather. Col. Clark then told me some points about the ricochet, that the ball always took off in the direction of the rifling of the gun, but there were exceptions when it ricocheted on the other side. In this case, however, the colonel said that the deviation from the true path was considerably less, and that they had not been able to explain this exceptional turn of the ball. It is in all probability due to some disturbing element in the path of the missile. Perchance the ball strikes a wave that deflects it. I regret yet that I have not yet had the opportunity of reaching the target boat, but I am anxious to get on the boat in pursuance of my research work."

—Detailed Explanation.—

Asked to describe the nature of his research work in detail, Mr. Whittington said:—"My first task was to determine what was the best method of obtaining a very oblique impact on the liquid surface, as the ricochet only occurs under these conditions. After a number of trials with a small wooden gun, I put together a short steel gun, which yielded some fair results, and a good deal of exploratory work was done with it. Observations of the velocity lost during impact were made, and also the rise of the ball after the ricochet. A spherical ball was used in all the experiments, and balls of varying density have been tried. In order to measure the velocity of the ball after contact with the liquid some considerable work is required. A chronometer had to be designed to measure the time taken by the ball in its flight from the mouth of the gun fixed to a screen, which recorded the height the ball had risen to up to that point. The chronometer used is a pendulum of a heavy make and a tuning fork, and by means of this apparatus it is possible to measure to the 1,000th part of a second. By then making certain calculations with the observed results, it is possible to arrive at an approximate idea of the velocity the ball has after its contact with the water. The results show that there is a considerable reduction in the velocity the ball had initially and from the other observation on the screen it is then possible to determine the highest point reached by