

NEW TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

FOUNDATION STONE LAID.

WORK TO BE COMPLETED IN 12 MONTHS.

The new teachers' college, which is being constructed at Kintore avenue, will be completed in about 12 months' time, and will be one of the best of its kind in Australia. The Minister of Education (Hon. L. Hill) laid the foundation stone on Friday afternoon.

The principal of the college (Dr. A. J. Schulz) was in charge of proceedings, and with him on the platform were the Minister of Education (Hon. L. Hill), the Chief Secretary (Hon. J. Jelley), the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy), the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Professor W. Mitchell), Sir George Brookman, and Sir David Gordon.

Real Home at Last.

In calling on the Minister to lay the foundation stone, Dr. Schulz said the event was one for which those who were intimately connected with the college, the staff and students, had long been looking. For nearly 25 years they had been without a real home of their own, being housed in temporary premises which were quite inadequate and unsuitable and often very unhygienic. Their gratitude was due to the Government for all it had done for education, and especially for having at last given them the long-planned college.

Special gratitude was due to the Minister and also to the Director (Mr. W. T. McCoy). (Applause.) The Director, in supporting the request, said the completion of the building would mark the beginning of a new era in connection with the training of teachers in this State. The training of the teacher was the foundation of the school system. It was impossible to give adequate training to students unless they were housed in a building comfortable and convenient for the purpose. It was four years since the present system of training was inaugurated, and the manner in which Dr. Schulz and his staff had faced the difficulties occasioned by working in buildings that were something a little better than a stable, was beyond all praise. The Education Department fully appreciated the difficulties under which they had laboured, and hoped the end of those troubles was now in sight. He congratulated Dr. Schulz, the staff, and students on the prospect of their being properly housed, and trusted that the work of the college would continue to reflect credit on the staff and be of great benefit to the children of the State. (Applause.)

High Standard of Education.

In according to the request to lay the foundation stone, the Minister said that in the most progressive countries the importance of giving to the teacher a sound academic and sufficiently professional training was fully recognised. The standard of admission to the Teachers' College, the character of the training, and the length of the course, were matters which received very careful consideration everywhere, and in South Australia they were not behind hand in those respects. It was held that the student should have a sound education before entering on the professional course, and that he should not practise his profession until his training had been completed. To the present the organization and working of the Teachers' College had been seriously hampered by inadequate and unsuitable accommodation for both the students and the staff. The rooms in the temporary building were overcrowded and ill lighted, and the accommodation was insufficient. It was certain that when the new building was completed, all those difficulties would disappear, and they would have a comfortable and convenient college, which would meet all the department's needs for years to come.

Government and Education.

The cost of the new college would be £28,995. It might interest them to know that it was the ambition of the Government to bring all facilities for education under the control of the State up to date. The Government, not only paid the cost of all the State primary, secondary, and technical schools, but it voted annually a sum of £43,785 to assist the University, and £21,802 to assist the School of Mines. Last year the Government spent £93,000 in building new schools and remodelling and renovating school buildings, and this year it was proposed to spend £133,000 in a similar manner. Among the many new buildings to be erected this year, in addition to the Teachers' College, was the new technical school for housing the apprentices. A contract for £22,000 had been let for the erection of a suitable building immediately to the south of the Teachers' College.

The Building.

The new college building was designed by Mr. A. E. Simpson the Architect-in-Chief. It would be a commodious

structure of stone and brick, built upon up-to-date lines on the site of two acres, and would be heated throughout on the American central heating system. The basement would contain a boiler house, a cycle shed, a men's locker room, a men's common room, and suitable lavatory accommodation. The ground floor would contain a large assembly hall, capable of seating 400 people, three class rooms, a common room for the women students, a nature study laboratory, suitable store rooms, a public office, and four teachers' rooms. The first floor would contain four commodious classrooms, a library, a book store, and suitable teachers' rooms. It was intended to make provision for the teaching of domestic arts, woodwork, and sheet metal work in buildings which were to be erected at the back of the main building. Science would be taught in the laboratories at the University.

College History.

The Adelaide Teachers' College was established with 30 students on June 8, 1876. The entrance requirements were at that time relatively low, and most of the students had had no previous experience of teaching. The course of training extended over six months only, and included both a study of the ordinary school subjects and actual teaching practice in special schools. As the department increased in size, the students of the college were recruited from the ranks of provisional teachers and of pupil teachers who had had four years of teaching experience in primary schools. In time, the course was lengthened to one year, the standard of the educational work was raised, and some of the students were given opportunities to attend University classes. A radical change in the system was made in 1900. The then existing pupil teacher system was abolished. Those who wished to become teachers first received two years' general education at the Pupil Teachers' School in Grote street (subsequently renamed the Adelaide High School), followed by two years of practical work as pupil teachers in primary schools. They then entered upon a two years' course at the college, which was transferred wholly to the University and renamed the University Training College. Until the year 1910 the work of the students consisted almost entirely of University studies, only one hour weekly, for instance, being devoted to teaching practice in various city and suburban schools. A further considerable modification was made in 1910. The length of the preliminary general education at the High School was increased to three years, and that was followed by a single year of pupil teachership, and a reduced college course of one year. The college staff was increased, and the work re-organized in such a way that less time was devoted to University work and more to professional studies (drawing, singing, Nature study, principles of teaching) and to teaching practice. In the meanwhile, however, subsidiary training courses had developed unconnected with the central college—courses for training teachers of small country schools, for domestic arts, and for woodwork. A pronounced forward movement began in 1920. Since the beginning of 1921, the whole scheme of training had been remodelled. The system of junior teachership, which required the young men and women to gain their teaching skill almost as best they could without previous training, was abolished. The present system aimed at ensuring the training of teachers before they were appointed as responsible teachers in charge of classes or schools. Special practice schools had been established at Flinders street, Gilles street, and Currie street, and the college courses in operation for training teachers staff had been considerably augmented; the various training centres brought under a single control, and each course re-organized. There were now eight courses in operation—for training teachers for primary schools, infant schools, secondary schools, small country schools, technical schools, and for commercial subjects, domestic arts, and woodwork. The shortest course in the college covered 12 months; most of the courses extended over two years, and the secondary course extended over from three to four years. At the present time there were 277 students in the Teachers' College, of whom 106 were men and 171 women. Those students were being trained in the various courses mentioned above. Quite one-half of them came from the country, and although the department, through Miss Watson—one of the senior lecturers—took great pains to find them suitable board and residence at a reasonable cost, the arrangements were not so satisfactory as if they had a residential college or, at least, suitable hostels. The question of providing residence for country students was one in which the department was keenly interested, but the great cost of doing so

had compelled him (the Minister) to postpone further consideration of such plans until the more urgent needs in regard to the provision of classrooms and so on had been met. The ranks of the teaching staff were annually depleted to the extent of about 100 in consequence of retirements, marriages, and other causes. To fill those vacancies, and to keep pace with the ever-increasing enrolment, an annual supply from the college of about 200 new teachers was required.

Before concluding, he would like to commend Dr. Schulz and his staff on the high state of the college in spite of the unsuitableness and inadequacy of the accommodation.

It was pleasing to note that measures had been taken for the promotion of the development of the body and character, and to observe that suitable encouragement was given to the practice of such manly sports as football, cricket, rowing, tennis, hockey, basketball, and swimming. He ventured to express the hope that the college would continue to turn out a fully supply of well-educated and well-trained teachers, who would realize that their chief duty to the State was to build up the character of their boys and girls and train them to become intelligent and well-behaved citizens of the State. (Applause.)

The Minister then placed the foundation stone in position. The stone bore the inscription:—"This stone was laid by the Hon. L. L. Hill (Minister of Education) on December 4, 1925. Mr. W. T. McCoy (Director of Education); Mr. A. E. Simpson (Architect-in-Chief). In commemoration of the event the Minister was presented with an inscribed silver trowel."

The Building.

The college is built on land specially dedicated for the purpose, and occupies a commanding position overlooking North Adelaide, and immediately adjoining the University lands, a particularly desirable position when it is remembered that the work of the college is intimately associated with that of the University. The building is of two stories, with a partial basement at the northern end, and will be built of Tapley's Hill bluestone, with brickwork walls and a white cement finish, the lot surmounted with a tiled roof. The design adopted will ensure a most effective and striking structure. The building forms the first portion of an ultimate quadrangular plan, in which all the latest facilities will be installed. The accommodation provided comprises seven commodious classrooms of various sizes, a Nature study room, laboratory, teachers' rooms, office, and principal's rooms grouped around a central assembly hall, 65 ft. by 38 ft. Special attention has been given to the treatment of this hall with its natural hardwoods, wainscoting, and open timber-worked roofs. The building, which was begun some months ago, will not be completed for about 12 months, and the present stage of construction is the nearing of the completion of the ground floor line.

Professor W. Mitchell moved a vote of thanks to the Minister, a sentiment that was greeted with applause, and the proceedings concluded with the singing of the "Song of Australia."

FINAL CONSERVATORIUM CONCERT.

CONFERRING OF DIPLOMAS.

The final concert of the year in connection with the Elder Conservatorium was given at the Elder Hall at the University on Monday night, when students who had secured diplomas were presented to the Vice-Chancellor (Professor W. Mitchell) by the director of the Conservatorium (Dr. Harold Davies).

The diploma winners were:—Misses Marjorie D. Adamson (pianoforte), Muriel B. L. Lillecrapp (singing), Bessie Francis (pianoforte), Evelyn M. Morley (pianoforte), and Messrs. David A. Burnard (pianoforte), Harold R. Foale, and John A. Williams.

Scholarship winners who were also presented were:—Mr. Hartley Williams (Alderman scholar), Miss Joyce E. Watson (Alexander Clark scholar), and Misses Theodora Allman and Miriam B. Hyde (public examinations in music scholar).

The concert was one of the best given this season, and was highly appreciated by the large audience. There was a pleasing variety, and every item was of high quality. Although in such a programme it is perhaps a little unwise to single out any particular item for special praise, special mention must be made of the magnificent rendering of Verdi's "Caro Nome," from "Rigoletto," by Miss Marjorie Walsh, a student of Mrs. Reginald Quesnel. Miss Walsh has a voice which, while not voluminous, is as pure in tone as a bell. The diction is perfect, and the voice always under perfect control. The expression is good, and it would not be exaggerating to say that her rendition was rightly the popular one of the evening. The programme began with the performance of Glinka's "Incidental music" (Komavinskaji—a Slavonic wedding), by the Conservatorium Student Orchestra. Mr. W. H. Foote conducted, and he secured subtle response, an excellent balance, and effective ensemble. The result was an extremely pleasure-giving interpretation. An organ Choral in A minor (Cesar Franck) by Miss Jean Renon, A.M.U.A., and Mr. Alex Burnard, A.M.U.A. (both students of Mr. George Pearce) was marked by splendid cohesion and technicality. Mr. Frederick Finlay, a pupil of Mr. Harold Wyde, F.R.C.O., handled the rather difficult "Sonata in E flat minor, first movement" (Rheinberger) with ease and facility. Miss Clarice Gmeiner, A.M.U.A. (a student of Miss Sylvia Whittington, A.M.U.A.) pleased with her rendition of Max Bruch's "Concerto in D Minor." The Templar's song, from "Ivanhoe" (Sullivan) found Mr. Sydney Coombe (Mr. Frederick Bevan) in good voice, and the piece was given with appropriate expression. Pleasing indeed was the technically perfect and expressionistically good rendition of Chopin's "Concert in F Minor Op. 21, first movement—Maestosa," by Miss Muriel Prince, A.M.U.A. (Brookman scholar). At the other piano was Miss Maude Puddy, Mus. Bac. The lively strains and passionate expression of Popper's "Spanish dance" were very effectively brought out by Mr. Carlisle Jones, a 'cello pupil of Mr. Harold Parsons, Mus. Bac. The full-toned, pleasing contralto voice possessed by Miss Gladys Michie (Madam Delmar Hall) was heard at its best in the recit and aria, "Ombra Mai Fu" (Handel). Mr. Fred Gibbons supplied the 'cello obbligato. Mr. Jack Williams, A.M.U.A. (Mr. William Silver) gave a delightful "Gavotte and variations" (Rameau), with due regard for its racy technical requirements. Miss Louise Hakendorf (Mr. Charles Schilsky) played "Polonaise in D" (Wieniawski) with an ease and facility that was truly remarkable. A pupil of Miss Hilda Gill, A.M.U.A., Miss Ruth Naylor, gave a fine rendition of Puccini's "One fine day" from "Madame Butterfly." Miss Mery Horgan (Mr. I. G. Reimann) played the "Polonaise in E" (Liszt) with fine discernment.

Misses Alice Meeran, A.M.U.A., and Mr. Will Prince, A.M.U.A., were the accompanists.

Why Not Eat Horse?

Arthur Gask, dental surgeon, Adelaide:—I was greatly amused to note in "The News" the diffident and almost apologetic manner in which two of our learned University professors approached the suggestion of horseflesh as an article of human food.

As one who has had some experience of it I wish to state that there is no objection to eating horseflesh and no hardship either. When in the Old Country in the last fifteen months of the war my family and I had horseflesh on the table whenever we were able to procure it. In those days people in Britain were strictly rationed. Eight ounces of ordinary meat a week was the allotted adult allowance for both rich and poor. If one chose horseflesh 20 oz. was given.

Having been schooled in France and Belgium, and remembering the delicacy of horse sausage there, directly the regulation came out I procured horse steak. At first I admit that my domestic felicity was in danger of being disturbed. The cook almost refused to handle the meat, and finally did so only under protest. My wife thought that she would have eggs for dinner, and my innocent children sat round me, watching as though it were a strange animal feeding in the Zoo. This was for only the first meal, however.

A week later everything had changed, with my solitary horse steak giving place to the family horse-meat joint, and everyone enjoying it, too. My children were the first to be converted, then my wife, and finally the maids. The flesh is practically like that of ordinary beef to eat, with a little sweeter taste.

In ignorance and prejudice we turn from a beautiful clean feeder like the horse, yet we are ready to consume with gusto pigs, ducks, and eels, well knowing that they are the most disgusting feeders in the world.

Professor Hancock, who has been appointed to the Chair of Modern History at the Adelaide University in succession to Professor Henderson, will arrive from Britain to assume his duties at the beginning of the first term of 1926.

Among the successful candidates at the law examinations this year who will be formally admitted to the Bar on December 19, is Miss Peity Corda Saunders, a well-known member of the University Hockey Club. Miss Saunders, who has been articled to Messrs. Fisser, Powers, and Jeffries, was born in England, but has spent the greater part of her life in Australia, having accompanied her parents to Western Australia from Bradford when she was only six months old. When she was nine, the family returned to England for a time, and Miss Saunders continued her education at the Sir William Perkins Secondary School for girls, in Surrey, and the Watford Grammar School for girls in Hertfordshire. Miss Saunders was fourteen years old when she returned to Australia, settling in Adelaide, where she attended the Grote-street High School, from which she went to the University in 1921. Miss Saunders has been exceedingly popular at the University, where she has taken a leading part in the social life of the students. She will be the seventh woman to be admitted to the Bar in South Australia.