

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL.

TWENTY-ONE YEARS OLD.

During the present year the medical school of the Adelaide University will reach its majority, and it is intended that the annual dinner, which is to be held on August 4, shall fitly celebrate the interesting event. It was in 1883 that Sir Thomas Elder made a gift of £10,000 to the University for the foundation of a school of medicine, and the council at once established a chair of anatomy, and a lectureship in physiology, besides making provision for the first two years of the medical course. This was in 1883, but Dr. Stirling's appointment as lecturer in physiology in 1882 may be regarded as the initiatory step in the career of the school. The doctor's lectures were of an elementary character, and were largely attended by students of the Training College, and members of the general public. It was in the following year that the lectureship was adapted to the requirements of the medical course, and another step was taken in 1884, when Dr. Rennie was appointed professor of chemistry under the J. H. Angas endowment of £6,000, the chemistry lectures being arranged to fit in with both the medical and science courses. In 1885 Dr. Watson was chosen to fill the chair of the newly-established professorship of anatomy, and in that year the medical school proper was organised.

In their report for 1886 the council of the University pointed out that permanent arrangements had been made for the last three years of the medical course, thus completing the full curriculum for the degree of bachelor of medicine. Prior to that the Government scholarship had enabled South Australian students to proceed to England to go through a course of study, but in view of the educational advantages furnished by the local University under the new order of things, the Government decided to abolish the scholarship after the award of it for 1886, and since that date nearly every South Australian who has secured a medical degree has won it at the local institution. After coming to the determination to abolish the scholarship, the Government accepted a suggestion made by the council that in order to complete the course of instruction for the degree of bachelor of medicine, the income previously granted for the scholarship should be transferred to the medical school. The difficulty still existed that the income would not become available until the scholarships in operation expired, but this was removed by the generous offer of Sir Thomas Elder to contribute £500 for two years, and thus supply the additional funds required. The lectureships necessary were then established. During the year a medical theatre and biological classroom were provided, and four students commenced the course for the M.B. degree, while six completed their second year, 49 others having attended the lectures on elementary physiology. Sir Thomas Elder's annual prizes for animal physiology were awarded to Mr. William Alfred Verco, who was a student in medicine, and to Miss Edith Bristowe, who was a non-graduating student. From that time up to the present, with the exception of the regrettable gap caused by the hospital dispute, the medical school has gone on progressing, and at the present time, in addition to Professors Rennie, Watson, and Stirling (Dr. Stirling's lectureship on physiology was converted into a professorship in 1900), the following doctors hold the lectureships opposite their names:—Principles and practice of medicine, Dr. J. C. Verco (assistant physicians, Drs. A. A. Hamilton and H. Swift); principles and practice of surgery, Dr. B. Poulton (assistant surgeon, Dr. W. R. Cavenagh-Mainwaring); obstetrics and diseases of infants, Dr. A. A. Lendon; the Way lecturer on gynaecology, Dr. J. A. G. Hamilton; therapeutics and materia medica, Dr. W. T. Hayward; forensic medicine and jurisprudence, Dr. W. L. Cleland; bacteriology, Dr. T. Borthwick; pathological anatomy and operative surgery, Professor Watson; pathology, Dr. W. R. Cavenagh-Mainwaring; clinical medicine, Dr. W. T. Hayward; chemical lecturer on diseases of children, Dr. A. A. Lendon; Gosse lecturer on ophthalmic surgery, Dr. M. J. Symons.

Sir Thomas Elder having since 1882 given £20 yearly for prizes in the medicine course, the council, at the death of Sir Thomas in 1897, resolved to continue them. They are worth £10 each, and are given to the best students in the first and second years of the M.B. course who are placed in the first class. Two scholarships of the value of £10 each were founded by Mrs. Davies Thomas, in memory of the late Dr. Davies Thomas, who had occupied the position of lecturer in the principles and practice of medicine and therapeutics at the University. They are awarded to the best student in each of the third and fourth years of the M.B. course who are placed in the first class. Then there is the Everard scholarship, founded by the late Mr. William Everard, which is valued at £50 and is awarded to the student who is placed first in the class-list of the final examination for the degrees of bachelor of medicine and bachelor of surgery.

The donations to the school from the beginning have been as follows:—Endowment of school, Sir Thomas Elder, £30,000; prizes for physiology, £200, Sir Thomas Elder; endowment of chair of chemistry, Mr. J. H. Angas, £6,000; endowment of lectureship on ophthalmic surgery in memory of Dr. Charles Gosse, public subscriptions, £800; to enable the council to establish the full medical curriculum, Sir Thomas Elder, £1,000; to found a scholarship (the Everard), Mr. W. Everard, £1,000; to found scholarships in memory of Dr. Davies Thomas, Mrs. Davies Thomas, £400; endowment of lectureship on gynaecology in memory of Dr. E. W. Way, public subscriptions, £400.

Sir Thomas Elder's endowment of £10,000, made in 1883, was supplemented by £20,000 under his will, and since his death in 1897 the equipment and accommodation of the school have been greatly improved. When

the unsettled period occasioned by the hospital dispute had become a matter of history the medical school began to thrive and it soon became necessary to provide extra room for the increasing number of students. The result was that a sum of £5,814 was spent on new buildings, and Lord Tennyson laid the foundation-stone in 1902, the buildings being finished in time for the academical year, 1903. The old powder magazine which for years served as the dissecting department still stands, but it is not used for that purpose now, commodious premises having been erected on the north end of the University block for the work carried on under Professor Watson. Portion of the Prince of Wales' buildings, too, at the rear of the main edifice, are used by the students under Professor Stirling, and, generally speaking, the medical school is well equipped at the present time.

The Faculty of Medicine now consists of Dr. Symons (dean), the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, Professors Stirling, Rennie, Watson, and Bragg; Drs. J. A. G. Hamilton, A. A. Lendon, J. C. Verco, B. Poulton, T. Borthwick, W. A. Giles, W. L. Cleland, W. T. Hayward, W. R. Cavenagh-Mainwaring, and W. T. Cooke, and Mr. G. J. R. Murray.

At the present time there are 60 medical students, and since the medical course was inaugurated the following students have graduated, the names being given in alphabetical order:—Ethel Mary Murray Ambrose, M.B., B.S., 1903; T. B. Ashton, M.B., B.S., 1903; Rosamond Agnes Benham, M.B., B.S., 1902; M. Birks, M.B., B.S., 1903; J. A. Bonnin, M.B., B.S., 1895; A. E. Brady, M.B., B.S., 1905; R. D. Brummitt, M.B., B.S., 1905; Eulalie Hardy Hanton Burnard, 1905; Renfrey Gershom Burnard, M.B., B.S., 1904; A. J. Campbell, M.B., B.S., 1896; A. W. Campbell, M.B., B.S., 1896; W. R. Cavenagh-Mainwaring, M.B., B.S., 1892; A. R. Caw, M.B., B.S., 1902; Phoebe Chapple, M.B., B.S., 1904; A. R. Clayton, M.B., B.S., 1902; Constance May Cooper, M.B., B.S., 1904; C. Corbin, M.B., B.S., 1894; A. M. Cudmore, M.B., B.S., 1894; A. Curtis, M.B., B.S., 1905; D. Dawson, M.B., B.S., 1905; G. A. Fischer, M.B., B.S., 1894; A. E. Gibbs, M.B., B.S., 1892; H. O. H. Giles, M.B., B.S., 1891; F. Goldsmith, M.B., B.S., 1889; A. Goode, M.B., B.S., 1894; J. B. Gunson, M.B., B.S., 1893; L. W. Hayward, M.B., B.S., 1903; F. S. Hone, M.B., B.S., 1894; Laura Margaret Fowler, M.B., B.S., 1891; C. H. S. Hope, M.D., 1891; R. W. Hornabrook, M.B., B.S., 1896; W. M. Humm, M.B., B.S., 1906; H. O. Irwin, M.B., B.S., 1893; J. L. T. Isbister, M.B., B.S., 1896; A. F. A. Lynch, M.B., B.S., 1889; J. V. McAree, M.B., B.S., 1905; C. W. A. Magarey, M.B., B.S., 1889; R. E. Magarey, M.B., B.S., 1904; Helen Mary Mayo, M.B., B.S., 1902; C. S. Mead, M.B., B.S., 1891; A. M. Morgan, M.B., B.S., 1890; E. F. Moule, M.B., B.S., 1893; F. F. Muecke, M.B., B.S., 1902; C. Newland, M.B., B.S., 1902; H. S. Newland, M.B., B.S., 1896; M. S. 1902; H. A. Powell, M.B., B.S., 1891; A. E. J. Russell, M.B., B.S., 1893; R. D. Russell, M.B., B.S., 1895; J. I. Sangster, M.B., B.S., 1893; M. L. Scott, M.B., B.S., 1904; L. L. Seabrook, M.B., B.S., 1891; P. F. Shanahan, M.B., B.S., 1893; B. Smeaton, M.B., B.S., 1896; A. F. Stokes, M.B., B.S., 1904; E. J. Stuckey, M.B., B.S., 1903; W. A. Verco, M.B., B.S., 1890; C. W. Wells, M.B., B.S., 1902.

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A COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

The opening of the Imperial Congress of Chambers of Commerce in London is an event of more than ordinary moment in British contemporary history. It comes at a time when the minds of men are being impressed with the necessity of radical changes in the trade relations of the Empire, and even beyond mere commercial questions Imperial interests of high significance will be affected by the proceedings of the congress. The fact that Lord Elgin, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, presided at the inaugural meeting is a testimony to the importance of the gathering in the estimation of the British Government. The representatives from various parts of the Empire number over 340. Lord Elgin, in his opening address, stated that he would watch the discussions of the congress with the greatest interest in view of the fact that he will be presiding over the deliberations of the Colonial Conference to be held in 1907. It is now known that the latter conference is to be unrestricted in regard to the topics of discussion, and all questions affecting the well-being of the Empire or the relations of its different States may be introduced by the representatives. The Colonial Secretary therefore implies by his speech that the present voluntary congress will be in some sense, or in some directions, a preparation for the official conference of next year. At the least the congress will exert a powerful influence in drawing the widely severed parts of the Empire into closer relations, and will yield valuable suggestions for the consolidation of their trade interests. Mr. Chamberlain maintains that the unification of the Empire, which must come if it is to retain its existence and power in the future, can only begin with commercial reciprocity. Upon this ground, then, the congress may be of essential service in promoting a closer Imperial unity, and thus have far-reaching consequences beyond the interests of trade and commerce.

Already the Canadian delegates to the congress have raised the fiscal question. They have brought forward a resolution, carried by the Board of Trade and manufacturing associations in the Dominion, in favor of all-round preferential trade. As this will probably receive the support of the colonial representatives generally, and as it is known that some of the British Chambers of Commerce are favorable to it, it is not unlikely that the resolution will be endorsed by the congress, although we cannot, of course, build upon the chance of its success. The British public will, however, have in any case a valuable opportunity of seeing both sides of the question as it presents itself to leaders in the commercial world, and of realising as they have not done before the importance the States of Greater Britain attach to it. Two other questions of moment have been mentioned as likely to be brought before the congress—the decimal system of coinage and the metric system of weights and measures, with which it is closely allied, and the unification and codification of the laws relating to trade and commerce throughout the Empire. There is an acknowledged need for reforming the existing standards of money, weights, and measures, as the present systems are crude and chaotic beyond description. The agitation for reform has been going on for more than half a century without any practical effect beyond that of educating the public mind, and many think that it is hopeless to expect improvement. But a reference to the work accomplished by the Latin Union will dispel this pessimistic idea. Under the influence of the union a common system of money and weights and measures has been adopted by France, Italy, Greece, Spain, Roumania, and several other countries, and the beneficial effect upon trade and international intercourse has been manifest.

The question of the assimilation and codification of the laws affecting trade presents greater difficulty, especially on account of the existence of practically independent Legislatures in so many parts of the Empire. Probably the only way of accomplishing an object confessedly desirable would be the appointment of a body of legal and commercial experts to undertake the arduous work involved, it being arranged that the results of their labors should be afterwards submitted for acceptance to the Parliaments of Great Britain and the autonomous daughter States. No part of the Empire is more directly interested in the questions that will be considered by the congress than Australia, and everyone will be gratified if, as the result of its deliberations, means can be devised to strengthen the commercial bonds between the Commonwealth and the mother country. The serious falling off in the volume of British trade with Australia and the corresponding increase in the trade secured by foreign countries demands the serious attention of every well-wisher to the Imperial connection.