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THE CHAIR OF ENGINEERING.

In relation to the appointment of Mr. R. W. Chapman, M.A., B.C.E. (Melbourne), to the Chair of Engineering at the Adelaide University, Professor Bragg said on Monday morning:—Prior to 1898 various subjects allied to engineering were taught at the University, and in that year teaching was organized and an engineering course was founded, open to students who had taken science degrees. A diploma in mining engineering and metallurgy was instituted, and Mr. Chapman, who since 1887 had been lecturer on mathematics and physics, was appointed to the lectureship in engineering. A few years later an agreement was drawn up between the University and the School of Mines whereby the two institutions agreed to act in concert in providing various courses in applied science. The mining and electrical engineering branches were placed under the University, and metallurgy and mechanical engineering were entrusted to the School of Mines. Mr. Chapman was placed in charge of the mining engineering and also appointed honorary lecturer in mining at the School of Mines. He has since given instruction to the students of both institutions. The courses have been extremely popular, and many students have taken one or other of the branches of applied science. Included in those have been some of the ablest men who have attended the institutions, and a large number of those who have won the University scholarships have taken up this practical side. At present about half the 70 students in the science course take the course in applied science. The latter course aims at a high standard, and compares favourably with that in the best institutions in other parts of the world. About 25 students have secured the diploma in applied science, and are working in various parts of Australia principally. The first man completed his four years' course in 1900, and many have obtained good positions. The University Council has been generous in its provision for the equipment of the laboratories of the engineering school, which possesses a 50-ton Riehle testing machine for strains and pressure on materials, besides cement testing and other appliances, and many valuable models. The electrical engineering laboratory contains a good collection of motors, dynamos, and other apparatus. Of course there is still abundant scope for further additions in connection with sciences covering such wide range. The Council of the School of Mines has also done its best to make for the success of its mechanical engineering and metallurgical classes by the provision of the best teaching and appliances. Mr. Chapman retains his connection with the School of Mines, as formerly. The applied science students are really students of both institutions, and attend the lectures indiscriminately. By the appointment of Mr. Chapman to the engineering professorship the standard of the Adelaide University as an engineering centre will be greatly raised in the eyes of all in Australia. There are Chairs of Engineering also at Melbourne, Sydney, and New Zealand Universities.

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HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY.

At the meeting of the Adelaide Hospital Board on Monday afternoon it was resolved to ask the Government to take steps to have a direct representative of the board on the University Council. To enable this course to be adopted, however, it will be necessary to amend the University Act. At present two members of the Hospital Board—the Hon. G. Brookman, M.L.C. (Chairman), and Dr. W. T. Hayward—are on the University Council.

FRANCE.

BORDERTOWN, April 4.—Mr. C. R. Hodge, registrar of the Adelaide University, addressed a gathering in the Bordertown Hall on Tuesday evening in connection with the University extension scheme, and pointed out that the authorities were prepared to make Bordertown a new centre for conducting examinations in general subjects and music. After Mr. Hodge had fully explained the scheme, the following committee was formed to arrange for and supervise all such local examinations:—Messrs. J. B. Makin, J. Kennedy, W. A. Johnson, W. Ballinger, A. L. Fry, and C. S. Wylie, Mesdames C. H. W. Weise, J. Hay, and J. Maynard, and the Revs. J. T. Huston, W. Hawke, and F. R. Frenen. The Rev. J. T. Huston was elected secretary of the committee. A vote of thanks was accorded the University authorities for interesting themselves in such a practical way in the welfare of country districts. At the meeting of the local branch of the Agricultural Bureau on March 30, it was decided to send Mr. T. Truman and T. Stanton as delegates to the conference to be held at Lucindale on April 11—A new industry is about to be started in the Tatiara. Mr. Cattermole, a practical brickmaker, who learned his trade in Hindmarsh kilns, has purchased Mr. T. Brown's estate, which lies within a mile of Bordertown, and intends building a kiln that will hold 18,000 bricks. He considers that the clay is of a good grade, and timber is obtainable in great quantity close at hand. He is confident he can turn out a first-grade article at minimum cost.

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A special congregation of the Senate of the University was held in the Prince of Wales' Buildings on Monday afternoon for the purpose of conferring three degrees. Miss M. E. Patchell received the degree of Bachelor of Science, and Messrs. R. L. Davidson and R. O. Nadebaum were awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) presided and conferred the degrees.

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UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

A circular to the following effect is being sent out by the extension lecture committee of the University:—"For some years past repeated applications have been made to the University by country centres and institutes for courses of extension lectures, but it has only been possible to comply with a very few of the requests. An effort is now being made to supply, as far as is practicable, the wants of country towns, and for that purpose permanent University centres have been arranged in groups, and a list of available courses of lectures, with the dates upon which they may be given, has been prepared. The terms at which courses of lectures can be delivered are £3 3/ per lecture and the lecturer's travelling and personal expenses. As far as possible arrangements are left in the hands of the local committee, and all surplus funds are retained by them. Considering the great success which has attended the extension lectures in the city the committee are sanguine that with careful and systematic organization similar success will be achieved in the country centres, but much depends on the activity of the members of the local committees in the several groups. . . . The following are suggested as 'extension lecture centres':—Group I.—Port Pirie, Jamestown, Petersburg, Broken Hill. Broken Hill may be a distinct centre. Group II.—Moonta, Clare, Lanza, Balaklava, though not a centre, may be included. Group III.—Gawler, Burra, Kapunda, Riverton and Angaston, though not centres, may be included. Group IV.—Narracoorte, Mount Gambier, Millicent, Bordertown. Wolsely, though not a centre, may be included." On the other hand, the Public Library has ordered from London a powerful lecture lantern, with numerous slides, for the use of affiliated institutes under certain conditions.

MOUNT GAMBIER, April 8.—A meeting of ladies and gentlemen, convened by Mr. C. R. Hodge, registrar of the University of Adelaide, was held on Saturday night at the institute to discuss various matters connected with the University. Mr. Hodge pointed out, first of all, the necessity for the enlargement of the local University Committee, and it was reformed, to include 19 gentlemen and 8 ladies. Mr. F. H. Daniel to be Chairman and Mr. C. L. Spehr, LL.B., secretary. The question of University extension lectures was considered, and it was resolved to invite Professor Henderson to give a lecture here during the second vacation of the University, in August next, provided he has not been engaged by any other country centre.

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At a special congregation of the University of Adelaide, held in the theatre, Prince of Wales Buildings, on Monday afternoon, Miss Mary Emma Patchell, B.A., Honours, was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Science, and Messrs. Roy Laidlaw Davidson and Rudolph Oertel Nadebaum received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. The Chancellor presided and conferred the degrees.

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ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

Intending students are notified that the half-term will begin on Monday, April 15, and are requested to enter their names with the registrar, from whom all particulars may be obtained.

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UNIVERSITY LOCAL CENTRES.

MOUNT GAMBIER, April 8.—On Saturday evening a meeting of those interested in the scheme of supplying courses of extension lectures at local centres, and for the better working of the Mount Gambier local centre of the Adelaide University, was held in the institute, Mr. A. Loutit presiding over a fair attendance of leading residents. Mr. C. R. Hodge (registrar of the University), who was present, gave a brief address, dealing with the responsibility of all University local centres, which, he pointed out, represented the University in that town, and when examinations were being held, members were expected to follow the directions strictly in order that no hitch might occur. Mr. Hodge said that for some years past repeated applications had been made to the University by country centres and institutes for courses of extension lectures, but it had only been possible to comply with a few of the requests. An effort was now being made to supply, as far as practicable, the wants of the country towns, and for that purpose permanent University centres had been arranged in groups, and a list of available courses of lectures, with the dates upon which they might be given, had been prepared. As far as possible arrangements would be left in the hands of the local committees, and all surplus funds retained by them. The Mount Gambier group would include Millicent, Narracoorte, Bordertown, and probably Wolsely. After discussion as to the advisableness of strengthening the local centre by the appointment of additional members, it was resolved that all present should comprise the centre, together with several ladies and gentlemen, who were unable to attend that evening. It was decided that Professor Henderson be invited to deliver a course of his extension lectures at Mount Gambier in the second week in August. It was also decided that the committee should meet again in a fortnight to make a choice of Professor Henderson's lectures, to be supplied in the meantime by the registrar.