

# THE UNIVERSITY.

GIFT BY MR. JOHN MELROSE.

£10,000 FOR THE WAITE  
INSTITUTE.

At a special meeting of the Council of the University on Monday the chancellor read a letter from Mr. John Melrose, of Uloomoo, to the following effect:—"As it is my desire to help research in connection with problems of any and every nature associated with the land, my gift of £10,000 is a contribution towards the building of a chemical laboratory at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. My old friend, the late Peter Waite, evidently saw that in the near future applied science would be more necessary than it had been in the past. I want to help along the good start he gave to research work on the above lines."

The council accepted the gift with much gratification, and asked the chancellor to convey to Mr. Melrose its hearty thanks for his generous support of the national work now being undertaken at the Waite Institute.

The University has been assisted by many fine gifts for research in agriculture, but the great need at the institute has been a series of suitable buildings for laboratories, which is at present temporarily housed in outbuildings ill-adapted for the purpose. Mr. Melrose's gift now enables the council to proceed at once with the erection of the principal section of the chemical laboratories so urgently required, and thus provide accommodation for the main researches at present being undertaken and contemplated; these are, plant pathology, soil studies, including soil-borne diseases of cereals, pasture research, and plant genetics, including the production of new varieties resistant to disease. In addition to Mr. Melrose's donation other assistance will be received for the laboratories; the Empire Marketing Board is contributing £3,000 in relation to pasture research (including mineral deficiencies of pastures), and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has agreed to provide another £3,000 towards the building in relation to soil problems and pasture research.

The new building will be called the "John Melrose Laboratory."