THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

1910 - 1960

AN ESSAY TOWARDS A HISTORY

BY

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one time

James Forsyth Librarian

in the University of Queensland.

SYDNEY

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FOREWORD

This essay was prepared as an official history, commissioned of the Department of History and Political Science in the University of Queensland, to celebrate the University's Golden Jubilee.

In the event, it was decided not to proceed with publication and the author makes no claim accordingly that what follows constitutes in any sense an account acceptable to the University at that time or since, or that it bears any mark of approval on the part of the Department under whose aegis it is written.

In the original foreword to the work proper acknowledgement was made of the assistance given to the author by his many colleagues and friends within the University, but it has seemed better to remove any possible suggestion that they might be responsible in any sense for either the content or the style of this document.

Now, some five years or so after the sweat of writing, I deposit this, the only existing typescript, in the University of Queensland Library simply because it seems foolish to throw away the only record, however lacking in official sanction, of the University's first half-century.

I am not sure if it is quite the thing in an unpublished work, but I would like to dedicate this "no-book" to the memory of my late father, Emeritus Professor Walter Heywood Bryan, M.C., D.Sc., one of the original students of the University of Queensland and for thirty nine years a member of its academic staff, first to receive its degree of Master of Science and first to be awarded its Doctorate of Science.

Harrison Bryan,
Sydney,
1966.
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The Government woke one day
And planked the gold dust down;
They caught up the bus and they founded us,
And got an immortal crown.

The Queensland 'Varsity Students'
Song (1)

Queensland was almost the last of the Australian States to establish a University. Indeed, she shares with West Australia the rather dubious distinction of having made practically no effective provision for tertiary education throughout her whole history as an independent colony. In New South Wales and in Victoria, Universities were established almost together with Responsible Government; in Queensland, the foundation of the University commemorated the golden jubilee of this constitutional landmark.

To some extent, doubtless, this prolonged hesitation could be ascribed to commendable caution, for the early tribulations of the University of Tasmania bear witness to the danger of precipitate action, and the Universities of both Sydney and Melbourne experienced lean years and lowered standards in their first half century.

But, beyond this, it is quite necessary to note that Queenslanders have never been particularly prone to enthusiasm for any activity with cultural implications. The histories of the Public Library of Queensland, the National Art Gallery and the Conservatorium of Music, to quote only the most outstanding examples, follow a similar pattern to that of the University of Queensland and lead one to the inescapable conclusion that such institutions have been established in this State only through the continued enthusiasm and incredible patience of a relatively small section of the community.

The facts of life as far as the University of Queensland is concerned, seem to have been: first, a general apathy of the community towards, or even distrust of, any not strictly utilitarian pursuit; and, second, a determination by successive Governments to exercise, if only by implication, an unusual degree of paternalism over their creation.

1. The University has seen and experienced many changes in the course of its first fifty years, but a constant factor has been the existence of an active and vocal student body. It seems appropriate to preface at least some of the separate sections of this account with excerpts from the songs students have sung over the period.
The University has achieved considerable size and stature and that this has been made possible only by the considerable generosity of the Government of Queensland are matters for justifiable pride and gratitude on its part. But it would be wrong, while detailing the story of the University's rapid growth in the course of a mere half century, to lose sight of these two factors which have largely conditioned its existence.

It took thirty nine years of continuous public agitation, and something very close to a complete change of front on the part of the agitators, to have the University established at all. That its establishment was greeted with widespread enthusiasm, may even have been due almost as much to the latter as to the former.

What were the main arguments which had to be met by the proponents of the University idea? In the first place, obviously, there was the question of finance. In terms of the colony's existing needs a University was asserted to be a luxury. In the early days, for instance, railways claimed priority over practically all other developments. Indeed railways swallowed for many years a very large part of the colony's financial resources and strained its credit. They pre-empted a large part, too, of the time and energies of its elected representatives, since not only were railways vital to the rapid and effective exploitation of Queensland's huge area, they were also potent bargaining counters in colonial politics.

Increasing stability brought increasing interest in the future and increasing preoccupation with education as means of securing that future. But, understandably enough, it was primary education which caught the imagination and appealed to the understanding of legislators. This, it was asserted, must be within the reach of every child before time or funds could be spared for any tertiary refinements. Moreover, there was always a sizeable portion of the Queensland Parliament which thought, or at any rate thought it should say, that University education was and would remain the preserve of the rich.

The financial argument came to have less validity with increasing prosperity and with the realization of Queensland's considerable resources, but, on at least two occasions, it was sufficiently convincing to postpone the establishment of the University when the auspices otherwise were quite favourable.

The embarrassment of Brisbane's non-central location played its part, too. A University in Brisbane, or even the mere proposal of one, could be, and was, so easily represented as a further injustice to the North. Strangely enough, it was not infrequently argued, at the same time, that the very Northerners who would in this way be exploited in favour of "Queen Street", would find it little less expensive to send their children to Brisbane as to Sydney or Melbourne and would, in fact, continue to follow the latter course, since the education provided in the South could never be rivalled by any upstart institution in Brisbane.
The one objection which plagued most, and most continually, what we might well call the "academics", was that what was needed in Queensland was something of a much more practical nature than a University, something that would contribute obviously and directly to the welfare of the colony and the betterment of its citizens. People like John Murtagh Macrossan, for instance, who were vitally interested in education and who fought unceasingly for the extension of its benefits to all, could see no further than their own immediate struggle with what had been to them, as pioneers, an unfriendly environment. They considered our higher educational needs in purely practical terms of increased technical training, particularly in agriculture and mining. With little or no experience themselves of tertiary education, they were frankly unconvinced of the value of cultural studies, profoundly suspicious of oversmuch theoretical teaching and practically unacquainted with pure research and its virtues. That the name of John Murtagh Macrossan came to be associated with the University whose establishment he opposed is a measure of the ultimate success of his opponents in overcoming, or rather perhaps in circumventing, this major obstacle.

There is considerable evidence that the supporters of the University idea, basing their claim originally on general arguments of higher education and culture, came in time to realize the strength of the "utilitarian" opposition and deliberately emphasised the practical or technical aspects of their proposed University. One might be pardoned, indeed, for concluding that the University for which they clamoured ultimately was to be little more than a factory for the professions; with the higher things of life, if present at all, merely as an incidental and fortunate accompaniment.

In the final outcome, the University, as established, by no means abandoned the traditional pattern; though paying proper attention to pure science and establishing immediately one professional school, Engineering. The day was won, however, on a much greater emphasis on immediate practicality than this result would seem to demonstrate, and such an emphasis, understandably enough, is present strongly, both without and within the University today.

A University Act, so-called, appeared on the statute book of the new colony as early as 1870, only eleven years after its separation from New South Wales, but this did no more than authorize the conduct locally of examinations for the degrees of such British Universities as should approve. The Act stated as its aim the desirability of fostering "classical and scientific education", presumably in that order.

This first step towards our University was taken, like so many others subsequently, by Charles Lilley, to whose efforts perhaps more than to those of any other single person it owed its final appearance. In introducing the 1870 Bill, he claimed that only the unfortunate experience of other colonies and the inability of Queensland at that time to sustain the expense involved had prevented him moving immediately to the establishment of a local University. (2)

2. Queensland parliamentary debates (1870), 172.
Lilley, the first and perhaps the most enduring of the leading figures in the movement to secure a University of Queensland, was himself a graduate of University College, London.

The University was but one aspect of his preoccupation with education. To him, more than to any other single person, Queensland owes its free, compulsory and secular public education pattern. By one of Fate's practical jokes, he was prevented from achieving any of his educational aims while he was Premier and had to wait until his protege', Griffith, was in power, before, as Chairman of the Royal Commission of 1874, he was able to develop his ideas and see them put into practice, if only at the primary level. As to the University, he could draw some satisfaction perhaps from seeing Griffith, too, relegated to the wings long before this issue reached its successful culmination.

Almost as a sideline, Lilley took a prominent part in the establishment and early direction of the Brisbane Grammar School and, in addition, supported actively the various bodies devoted to adult education. Thus, at every level and in every capacity, he interested himself in education. It would be a mistake naturally to ascribe, even to Lilley, a completely high-souled devotion to this cause. If he was an educationalist he was also a politician, and not above using even this interest of his as a counter in the political game. It would be equally a mistake to condemn his concern with education as merely opportunistic. Certainly it has left its mark indelibly on this State.

The 1870 Act remained in force until repealed by the final Act of establishment in 1909, and not a few candidates struggled in this way with examinations at 12,000 miles distance, particularly with those conducted by the University of London. Even as late as 1910 the Governor, on whose shoulders, remarkably enough, devolved the administration of the scheme, was still handling London enrolments. (3)

In 1871 an interesting provision found its way into the Elections Act 1870-1, stating that, when the University of Queensland should be established and number one hundred graduates, it should be entitled to return a member to the Legislative Assembly. One is struck immediately by the use of the name of the colony in the title of the proposed University. This disregard of the precedent established in each of the two other Universities so far set up in the Australian colonies evidenced an early recognition of the need to placate extra-Brisbane opinion. It constituted an exercise in tact which has been followed carefully to the present day.

Perhaps, too, this measure can be seen as a further earnest of Lilley's intent; as also, in its attempt to follow the British pattern of the University constituency, of the traditional nature of his views.

By one of these quirks which lend interest to history, the only member seriously to oppose this particular clause was also the only other graduate in the House, George Thorn. It is fair to state, however, that his speech cast considerable doubt on whether he had even read the Bill, far less understood it. (4)

3. The procedure must have had its complications. On 18/3/1910, for instance we find a Mr. Gutzmacher wishing to alter the fifth subject for his matriculation from Modern European History to Heat, Light and Sound, an interesting substitution to have to transmit half around the world as the war clouds gathered over Europe. Governor's Official Despatches, Q'ld 21 (To. Sec. of State for the Colonies).

4. G.P.D.11 (1870) 173,
The first real milestone in Queensland's educational history came with the Royal Commission into education in 1874 and the Education Act of 1875 which arose out of it. The Commission, under the chairmanship of Lilley, found inter alia that "our secondary schools will never do the educational work of which they are capable until they become component parts of a system vitalized by the controlling influence of a University." (5) It recommended the immediate foundation of a University.

The Bill which was to become what has been called, inevitably, the Lilley Act, was introduced into the House on 23rd June, 1875, by the Liberal Attorney General, that rising young politician Samuel Griffith.

One of the most brilliant men ever produced by the colony, Samuel Walker Griffith was to become the first Minister for Education under the new Act. Later, as is well known, he was in succession Premier and Chief Justice of Queensland and first Chief Justice of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Constitution of which he took a leading part in drafting.

Griffith was a firm believer in the efficacy of education and, after a rather luke-warm start, soon became one of the most vigorous campaigners for a University in Queensland. The cynical might find it possible to establish a relationship between the varying strength of his espousal and the oscillation of his party's fortunes, but he was hardly the first, or the last, politician to be rather slower to implement in office the expensive measures he so vigorously supported whilst in opposition. All in all, however, none could deny the extent of his work towards a University over the years and, in particular, the vigour and value of his support, as senior statesman, in later life.

Nevertheless, on this early occasion he would go no further than to state that, in his opinion and that of the Government, it was premature to think of a local University in 1875 though "no doubt there will some day be a University established here" (6). The Education Bill contained no provision for a University, nor was any included in the final Act, despite the fact that, a year earlier, Adelaide had joined Sydney and Melbourne as the proud possessor of a University.

The Courier's comment is most apt. Deploring the "omission ... of any design on which to shape the central action of the future educational system in a University" it suggested that "like many good things, it is a question of money--; that is, of force ... Our young men and our young women do not ask for it, and why, then, should the Attorney-General seek to satisfy a want which does not assert itself? Where is the pressure? It does not exist except in the thought of those who are governed rather by abstract ideas than by a practical estimate of the real requirements of the case." (7).

Not until their "abstract ideas" could be related to "practical estimates of real requirements"; indeed, not until they learned carefully to conceal any suggestion of "abstract ideas" beneath a mass of imposing "practical estimates", would the University founders succeed in their aim.

By 1877, however, Griffith seems to have decided that it would no longer be premature to have a University and so introduced a Bill to provide it. By this time, too, he was making his real bid for leadership of the Liberal party and the University Bill may have been another in his series of moves to this end. Whatever the reason, his colleagues gave him but little support and the measure was dropped discreetly after its first reading.

Yet another quirk of fate, or perhaps no more than the remorseless operation of party politics, saw energetically opposing this still-born measure W.H. Groom, whose son, E. Littleton Groom, was to work tirelessly, and in the end successfully, for the establishment of the University.

Groom, senior, was a colourful figure. At this time, 1877, he had been already fifteen years in the Legislative Assembly and was long to remain there, as in society at large, a link between the growing prosperity of late Victorian Queensland and its pioneering beginnings. On this particular occasion he established firmly two of the basic arguments against a University; the increasing tendency to "Brisbanisation" and the certainty that, since no large private endowment would be attracted, the new institution would be a heavy drag on the taxpayer; or, as he rather more picturesquely phrased it, it "would have to be established with money extracted from the pockets of the poor." (8).

And now a strange lull occurred in the struggle. The ten years from 1877 to 1886 were possibly the most vigorous in Queensland's history. They saw a remarkable expansion of the colony's prosperity, a great upsurge in production, an increase of activity in almost every direction - except that of tertiary education. This was the age of McIlwraith and Griffith, the two big men of our colonial history and under their confident direction Queensland blossomed, as it were, overnight.

Yet neither McIlwraith who, though essentially a practical man was also, and perhaps for that very reason, well attuned to popular feeling, nor Griffith, who had declared his loyalties on the University question, so much as raised the issue. Perhaps the struggle for power, which was bitter and prolonged, was too absorbing and too critically balanced to allow Griffith to risk advocating what his opponent could represent as impractical intellectualism. Perhaps at this juncture the country itself was too interested in its own exciting material development to be roused to any enthusiasm for its educational or cultural needs.

Not until 1887, when Griffith had been in office for four years, did he venture to put out a delicate feeler in the Governor's opening speech. "My Government," said His Excellency, "have for some time had under their consideration the desirableness of taking preliminary action to establish a University". (9) Neither party took much notice of this somewhat non-committal utterance, but, later in the session, Griffith revealed the extent of extra-Parliamentary support by introducing a monster series of petitions, no less than sixty-six at one time, to make immediate provision for a University.

These petitions, which came from such diverse quarters as the Brisbane Municipal Council, sixteen other municipalities, twenty seven divisional boards, six religious denominations, the Queensland Bar, four Grammar Schools, the National Agricultural and Industrial Association and a number of University graduates, all resulted from a circular drawn up by Charles Lilley.

There was some debate on this occasion, the phrase "make provision for" being interpreted as inviting illegal commitment to expenditure should the House receive the petitions. As some tribute to Lilley's organization one member had "had the feeling for sometime that this University is somewhat being forced on the public".

8. Q.P.D. 23 (1877), 23
9. Q.P.D. 52 (1887), 5,
Our duty, he felt lay "in a more utilitarian way." (10)

But if Lilley was organizing his forces Griffith was marshalling his, too, and the Courier of 29th July carried a significant reference to what was clear to a change of front. Commenting on the Governor's speech, it said "It appears that the Government is favourably disposed to the system of university education carried out in the Western States of America...This system...is the outcome of the intense desire for practical knowledge among a practical and busy people where applied science had come to be regarded as the great lever by which all material progress was to be made,...devotion to abstract studies was hardly to be expected. These were thrust aside by the self-sufficient and iconoclastic Americans..."Pointing to the limitations for the older English Universities it say the American University as an institution dedicated to the completion of practical training...in effect...technical colleges...dealing with professions". If, said the Courier, "these are the lines upon which the Government proposes that the Queensland University shall be modelled they will shock many preconceived notions."

If true, this was a volte-face indeed from the previous insistence on traditional virtues. The Courier, in general, was no supporter of Griffith, but it seldom failed to applaud his real interest in education. It rose even to this occasion, overcame whatever shock it felt itself at this horrible vision of the power-house University and pointed out gravely to its readers "conditions here are very much what they were when Ohio and Michigan and Illinois made new departure." (11)

Whether or not the Courier had correctly reported this new policy and whether or not he gauged it still to be too revolutionary for his supporters, Griffith proceeded no further on this occasion. His Government, in any case, was defeated soon after at the general election. The seed had been sown, however, and answer made, if somewhat drastically, to the utilitarians,

Next year, while out of office, he kept the pot simmering with a further petition signed by Lilley and others and, the year after that, another at the hand of sixteen prominent educationalists. They were not the only petitioners, for one Albert Smith, a potter, clearly an admirer of Carlyle and disturbed at this growing agitation for tertiary education, besought Parliament in 1889 not to dissipate on a premature University the substance it could well divert to an adequate free library. This seems to emphasize all the more the community's almost complete apathy, at any rate at that time, towards things of the mind.

It was in 1889 that Griffith made his most considerable effort in the House to secure a local University. On 9th August, he moved the appointment of a Royal Commission into the desirability of establishing a University.

His speech on this occasion reads now as true "vintage Griffith", carefully reasoned, dispassionate and hardly calculated to arouse his listeners to a fervour of enthusiasm. Not even a Victorian orator however, could cavil at the loftiness of its peroration - "All arguments of expediency, example and utility and even of our own pride point in the direction that we should not be behind hand doing work which is recognized by all civilized nations as work that is essential to the highest progress of a nation." (12)

10. Q.P.D. 52 (1887), 118.
11. Courier. 25/7/87,
12. Q.P.D. 58 (1889), 1062.
Griffith took great care on this occasion to play down culture and general values and to emphasise the practical utility of his proposition. He earned the undying gratitude of long-suffering historians by, almost alone among his contemporaries, not referring to the University as the "coping stone" of the educational edifice.

But all his trouble to follow the "practical" line foreshadowed by the Courier the previous year was in vain. Morehead, the Premier, set the tone for the debate first by enquiring why Griffith had taken no action in 1883, when he had had at his control the nice full treasury left him by Conservative good management; and, second, by insisting that there was already a glut of University men in the colony, all unemployed and unemployable. "What we need," said the Premier, "is a good system of technical education". Can we blame Griffith for his testy interjection, "I know that, I pointed out the kind of University that would be established here". (13).

Other opposition followed the established lines, but one notable convert to the cause was W.H. Groom, whom a further twelve years in Parliament had apparently convinced on this point. By now he was claiming, incontestably if somewhat irritatingly, to be the "father of the House", and, in adding his parental support to the motion, thought that "we ought to affirm the principle which in my opinion ought to have been affirmed by the House years ago - that a University should be established in Queensland". (14) This rather surprising assertion he bolstered by assuring his hearers that he had said it all years before. Those with long enough memories to recall his vigorous opposition twelve years before, not to mention his active assistance in the de-thronement of Lilley, the champion of Free Education, in 1873, must have found this interesting listening.

The Courier thought Griffith's speech "the best ... during this session at all events ... (its..) argument very close and effective" and drew attention to his "careful marshalling of facts". His speech in reply, much more vigorous under the spur of Morehead's gibes, it thought "as telling as his opening speech". Significantly, the Courier explained at length that Griffith had "contended that a University was not necessarily a huge pile of buildings where men learned Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, wore trencher caps, and talked of "higher calchaw", but that it was a body of men and women who met to be instructed in the sciences, a knowledge of which would make them more useful members of the community, and enable them to intelligently assist in the development of the resources of the country". (15)

Griffith's motion was lost on a party vote, but the Courier had not finished. It had a point or two to emphasize to its readers. Though basically supporting the Conservative interest, it shared a fairly widespread dislike of the Premier and it does seem to have become genuinely obsessed with the University idea - its (American) version of the idea, that is. So we read: "The treatment of the University question in the Legislative Assembly on Friday last will go down to posterity as a notable instance of argument on one side and vote on the other," and then, with a really delicious mixture of metaphors, "the Leader of

13. ibid. 1068
14. ibid. 1071
15. Courier 10/8/89,
the Hovse (Morehead) put his worst foot foward (if any foot could be said to be worse than another) and if effect, let the cat out of the bag when at the outset of his speech he objected that the Leader of the Opposision had not brought forward this scheme when he was himself in office. The glaring irrelevance of this objection made it clear that a question which of all others should have been decided on non-party grounds was to be sacrificed to the exigencies of party". So much for point one, as to point two: "Now, however, that Sir S.W. Griffith's proposal has been in the meantime negatived, optimists may regard the event as really not retarding but as forwarding the interests of higher education in Queensland. Whatever proposal may be made in the future as to the establishment of a University, will not be on the lines of the schools of the Middle Ages, but in consonance with modern requirements". (16)

Griffith failed then in his only really whole-hearted bid in Parliament to secure a University; failed as perhaps he was destined to, with party feeling running as high as it did in the depression years of the late 80's and with, as the Courier so bitterly reported, so many "honourable members of Parliament who voted against, but spoke in favour of the immediate foundation of a university". (17)

Public interest had been stimulated, however, and, though the University flame was to burn perilously low at times, it never quite went out.

The year 1890 saw a further petition to Parliament, from four Catholic priests which highlighted the growing interest of the Churches in the projected University. At this time the University motion became a standing item on the agenda of many religious conferences and both the growing number of the clergy and the rapid extension of their responsibilities lent support to the urge to recruit local men and, if possible, University men to their number.

In a Queensland University the Churches saw their only answer to this double need and all denominations gave ready support to the growing movement.

Griffith's defeat in 1889 was not his last effort at the political level. In 1891 with all the confusion of the Shearers Strike and bearing still his share of the odium incurred by the "Unholy Alliance" with Millward, he appointed the Royal Commission he had sought vainly three years before.

The composition of the Commission alone left little doubt of the tenor of its findings. Sir Charles Lilley was chairman. To the original twenty-three members three more were later added and, of them all, only three failed to sign the final Report. Of the twenty three signatories, thirteen were graduates and no less than five were clergymen, including the two Archbishops. For the Government, there were Griffith himself, the Solicitor General (T.J. Byrnes), the Minister for Public Instruction (W.O. Hodgkinson) and G.W. Power, his Under-Secretary. There were included one Judge (Real), the headmasters of the two Grammar Schools (R.H. Roe from the Brisbane Grammar School and Donal Cameron

16. Courier. 13/8/89,
17. ibid.
from the Ipswich Grammar School, three doctors and six lawyers.

If it comes as no great surprise to find such a gathering recommending the immediate establishment of a University, it is perhaps no more astonishing that the Report was notable for a multiplicity of minority riders on questions of detail. It is important to note, however, that to this passage there was no dissent: "Merely literary instruction, highly desirable in itself, and therefore not to be neglected as contributing to the grace, enlightenment, and enjoyment of life, is not of such primary necessity in a newly settled country as the knowledge and practical arts which sustain existence and upon which life is really based. The University will give the highest instruction in all those scientific principles which are necessarily applied in the industrial arts. It will also furnish the more ornate literary culture for those who desire it". (18) This looks very like an attempt at compromise between the idealism of the 70's and the Courier's "utilitarianism".

The Commission envisaged five Faculties - Arts, Law, Sciences, Medicine and Applied Science and suggested the immediate association with the University of four professional institutions - a school of Mines, an Agricultural College, a Technical College and a Teachers Training College. By contrast with this developed plan and its deliberate inclusion of technology, the earlier Commission of 1874 had based its recommendation merely on:

"(i) Training of teachers and ... general cultural and educational influence on the colony.

(ii) Training of lawyers.

(iii) Training of doctors." (19)

Even allowing for the wider terms of reference of the earlier Commission, it is clear that Lilley and his followers were far more seized by 1890 with the need to meet in full and in detail the materialistic objections of their opponents.

The Report of the 1891 Commission was allowed to die a natural death. It rated a scant mention in the Governor's opening speech (20) and was commented on only briefly, and largely unintelligently, by a handful of speakers in the ensuing debate. It was never proceeded with. Whether its eclipse was due to the unsettled industrial situation, to the Government's financial embarrassments, to Griffith's real troubles with his irascible colleague or, as has been suggested, (21) to his own waning interest, may never be known, but it must have been a sad blow to Lilley.

Yet, just when the Parliamentary agitation seemed to have run its course it was succeeded by the most active manifestation of public interest yet seen. In 1893 the Queensland University Extension was founded. The Extension would provide, as it turned out, that continuity which the movement had lacked in the past and would keep the University idea, however tenuously, before the public until the University itself came into being sixteen years later.

18. Q.V. & P. 1891 (3), 820
19. ibid. 1875 (2), 122
20. Q.P.D. 44 (1891), 3,
It would be easy to sneer at this development; its title certainly seems somewhat pretentious when one investigates its actual activities. But merely to keep the University name alive would have been something. Mr. Hargreaves's extremely short course, strictly at the Adult Education level, on "Elements of Natural Science" solemnly followed by an examination and a certificate of somewhat doubtful value, was even more, since every one of the 200 who thronged the hall for his first lecture would be, even if only slightly, more receptive in the future to the University idea.

Certainly, tribute must be paid to the pertinacity of the promotors of University extension. Quite undeterred by dwindling numbers and an almost microscopic budget they kept hammering away year after year. Year after year some form of higher education was available to the citizenry of Brisbane and, in good years, of Ipswich and even smaller centres. When things were going well, Southern speakers were imported, "at great expense," to instruct the benighted Northerners; in leaner years the members of the Council themselves dispensed culture and learning, each in his own field, to audiences distressingly small in size.

The Extension began with a private meeting on 12th May, 1893, in the chambers of that well-known barrister John Laskey Woolcock and at the urging of E. Lyttleton Groom, whose father had recently emerged so surprisingly in Parliament as a supporter of Universities.

With due regard to constitutional process and perhaps, it has been hinted, to conceal the disappointingly small attendance, this initial gathering appointed a committee of five to prepare an agenda and arrange for a public meeting. Mr. Woolcock, however, had no intention of setting his sights low. "I hope," Mr. Groom's meticulous but execrably written minutes record him as saying, "it may form the nucleus of a Queensland University, and perhaps in time of a public consulting library". (22)

The Courier, repenting perhaps of its undue emphasis recently on practicality, thought "the lectures, too, should prove a centre of sweetness and light in this period of commercial life". (23)

On the 30th May the Queensland University Extension was duly launched at a "largely attended" public meeting (though the Courier noted that "nearly half of these present were ladies"). The Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Griffith) was prevailed upon to accept the Presidency, that indomitable old warrior, Sir Charles Lilley, was present to second the motion for action, Reginald Heber Roe became Vice President, Groom, Secretary, and Samuel Woods Brooks, (Another Parliamentary convert) Treasurer.

Griffith was a real catch for the movement and, initially, its greatest draw card. When, on 18th August, the first course of lectures began, it opened to a packed hall, largely, hinted the Courier, to hear Griffith, who was to make some introductory remarks; "this being a rarity nowadays". The Chief Justice took his connection with the University Extension very seriously. His attendance at the quite frequent meetings of its Standing Committee was notably punctilious and he could be relied upon at each annual meeting to deliver a really strong address, his judicial position not hindering him in the slightest from stinging attacks on the Government — any Government —

23. Courier 13/5/93,
for its inaction on the University front. On one such occasion, too, he was prevailed on to deliver a learned address on the problems of federalism. He remained President for thirteen years, retiring only on his accession to the Chief Justiceship of the 'Commonwealth.

The University of Sydney granted affiliation to the new movement and provided examiners and certificates for those who wished to demonstrate their grasp of the lectures given.

By 1897 the Extension had become more ambitious and sponsored classes for those preparing for the Sydney Matriculation; this at the instance primarily of F.W. Grove, who later succeeded Groom as the real force in the Extension. Negotiations too were entered upon with both Sydney and Melbourne for the privilege of conducting local examinations for courses for their degrees. These negotiations degenerated into long and tiresome wrangles but finally, in 1901, Melbourne agreed and it is on record that by 1907 all of four students actually had graduated in this way. Nor had Griffith been backward in urging the Extension's cause with the local legislature; by 1895 he was demanding a Government subsidy and urging strongly a Council for Education to correlate the Extension, the Board of Pharmacy and other activities of higher education and to take over the local conduct of the Junior Public examination, controlled at that time from Sydney.

The year 1897, which saw the emergence of an affiliated Students Movement, was important in other ways for the Extension. The subsidy Griffith had urged (£100 on a basis of £1 for each £1 received in student's fees) came to light and, in May, the Committee waited on the Minister for Public Instruction. In August it submitted to the Government a detailed plan which presented, in order of preference, three desirable developments:

(i) a University.
(ii) an Affiliated College.
(iii) a Council of Education.

This plan was supported by a deputation to the Premier T.J. Byrnes himself which came away elated with a promise of legislation and something close to a guarantee of success.

It is perhaps worth noting that of twelve objects for which a University foundation was requested, the deputation listed first, "training advanced students up to degree standard;" second, "the intellectual training of school teachers;" third, "scientific training for mining, engineering, surveying, agriculture, and higher technical education;" and only twelfth, "the general intellectual advancement of the colony by the presence; in it of a centre of knowledge." (24) It looked as if the lesson of the 70's had been well learned.

Byrnes who, as Solicitor General, had served on the 1891 Commission, did his best on the face of it, to be as good as his word. The Governor's Speech opening the session of 1898 promised a University Bill, and indeed such a Bill did reach the first reading stage. But the Courier's expression of "unfeigned satisfaction...that the long contention on this subject is, we hope, about to bear happy fruit" (25) was all too premature.

24. Queensland University Extension. Annual Report 5th (1897/8)
25. Courier. 27/7/98.
The debate on the Address in Reply dragged out a weary three weeks and in it solid opposition was voiced to the University proposal. The completion of primary education before starting on tertiary education was the standard objection; to which Byrnes made answer that the time would never come when the primary system would be perfect, and that, in fact, the two levels reacted on one another.

Thomas Glassey spoke for the newly arrived members of the Labor party: "The establishment of a University will merely benefit those who are in a position to give their children a higher education in some other part of the world, and unless the Hon. gentleman intends to place its advantages within the reach of the poorest children in the colony, the measure will not go through, so far as I am concerned, without strenuous opposition and severe criticism". (26)

W.H. Groom, now an incredible 36 years in the House, again emphasized the need for an institution on "the more modernized principles in America rather than those established in the other colonies." (27)

Tragedy struck, for far more, of course, than the University movement, but certainly for it, with the sudden death of Byrnes, only three weeks after the session opened. Without the ability and enthusiasm of the young Premier, his colleagues, though they tried to implement his wishes, were helpless to push a project against which there was opposed such a mixture of uninformed opposition and unintelligent apathy.

Dalrymple, the Minister for Public Instruction, brought in a second Bill in 1899. Unlike Byrnes' proposal, which had followed mainly the constitution of the University of Melbourne, this Bill was based on that of Sydney. It had a somewhat unhappy passage through the preliminaries and was withdrawn, with considerable relief to all concerned, at the Committee stage.

There were some interesting points associated with the introduction of this Bill. For instance, the Minister, not always noted for his discretion, in answering the "lack of private endowment" argument, practically promised to the University £100,000 from the huge death duties on the Tyson estate. This must have startled his colleagues on the Treasury benches who were already well-seized with the budget-balancing value of this unexpected manna. It was certainly not calculated to ensure their whole-hearted support for the Bill.

A solid gain, however, was the support of Labor. Dawson, officially leading the new party in the House, warmly endorsed the principle of the measure and criticised only the smallness of the proposed endowment, the autocratic nature of the governing body - and the exclusion, from the latter, of females!

It was left to the mercurial Lesina to produce perhaps the most remarkably expressed, if not strikingly original, opposition of the whole long struggle. "He would oppose" said he, "this Bill for a fad of a University as a further sop to Brisbane." Moreover, "nearly all Universities in the course of time became snobbish and cater only for the middle and upper classes." If that sentiment seems dated, the next, which had appeared for the first time in the previous year's debate, strikes a more modern note. "Could they not", said Mr. Lesina,

26. Q.P.D. 79 (1898), 33.
27. Ibid. 97.
"leave it to the Federal Government." He summed up his idea of a University as "filling minds of our youth with dead and gone philosophies and languages which are never spoken but in the heat of passion, and then only for the purpose of deceiving the public." Rather than a University he would have Parliament "provide places to learn mineralogy or agriculture." A mining school at a University he dismissed contemptuously with the vision of young Northerners trudging in "tall collars to Brisbane to listen to lectures from a learned Professor who does not know a pick-handle from a windlass." (28) Shed a tear for Mr. Lesina whose clairvoyance so succinctly encompassed the Murray Committee and its consequences, but did not extend to a School of Mining Engineering, operating its own mine, directed by a Professor who had been a practical mining engineer.

During the debate, Robert Philp, whose name later was to be associated on many occasions with the University, announced his conversion to the cause, but dissatisfaction was clearly mounting over the location of actual power in the new institution. The Courier spoke for the long-suffering supporters of the cause: "We have laboured so long for this University that we are reluctant to run the slightest risk of losing it by delay; yet we are unwilling to accept it with removable and serious defects embodied in its constitution." (29) After its withdrawal the Bill was submitted to the Council of the Extension who had criticized, among other items, the proscription of courses in Theology or Divinity. Their suggested amendments were included by Dalrymple in yet another Bill in 1900.

Griffith did his best for the 1900 Bill, and the Movement, with a very strong annual address - "If you tell me we cannot afford to have a University, I reply we cannot afford to be without one." But Dalrymple was fighting a losing battle with his own colleagues; perhaps even with the weakness of his own convictions; and this Bill died at the first reading. It was not unduly surprising, since it was listed eleventh out of thirteen measures previewed in the Governor's speech, yielding pride of place to dentists and fire brigades, doctors and marsupials. (30)

The Extension did not despair. As some counter to its disappointment in 1899, it had secured a further grant of £100 for the student classes and the indomitable Griffith waxed quite emotional in his 1901 address as he tried to spur poor Dalrymple to a further, Bruce-like, attempt. His efforts, however, were of no avail, since the University Bill did not appear in the Governor's speech, though fire brigades, dentists, and insolvents clung grimly on.

In July 1901, however, Philp, by now Premier, was serving his turn at receiving deputations from the Extension and promising yet another Bill, this time together with the land for a site - but no endowment!

Twelve months later he faced a second deputation. The Extension had been quick to seize on his incautious promise of a site but, in trying to pin him down, found itself involved in almost interminable bickering between the Municipal Council and the Government over alternative sites in Victoria Park, Yeronga and Dutton Park, each of which seemed to involve surrender of jealously.
guarded city parklands. Almost incidentally, however, the Premier renewed his promise of a Bill.

Lest any should be ignorant of the requirement of a University site, a correspondent of the evening newspaper explained: "One hundred acres would be a splendid equipment; forty acres for the University buildings proper (lecture rooms, examination halls, museums, medical school, laboratories and professors houses.) These would cover a dozen acres. Twenty-eight for parkland. Eleven acres each for Church of England, Methodist, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic Colleges and the remainder a recreation oval." (31) A University worried about containing building within the 250 acres of its major site at St. Lucia, and a teaching staff with no housing scheme, might have found, in 1960, food for thought in such a proposal.

Philip's successor, Morgan, had to see yet another site seeking deputation in October 1903, this time a joint effort of the Extension and the City Council, but Premier Morgan was making no rash promises, either of sites or of Bills.

The same year saw the central figure and rallying point of the Extension lost, with Griffith's resignation. This, coupled with that of Littleton Groom two years before, let to almost complete stagnation for the next three years or so; a stagnation that was matched by complete inaction on the Parliamentary front as far as the University was concerned.

In 1906, however, there was a sudden resurgence of interest, both in the House and as regards the public at large, which culminated in the convening of a University Congress to secure united action by all those interested in the movement. Griffith's successor as Chief Justice, Sir Pope A. Cooper who was later to be Chancellor of the University, presided. A University Bill was drawn up and the Congress resolved itself into the Queensland University Movement. The Proceedings of the Congress were forwarded solemnly to Premier Kidston.

The University Movement proved much more effectual than the Extension which, in practice, it superseded. In addition to sponsoring the standard adult education-type instruction, it engaged in vigorous propaganda by circular and by public lecture, and, rashly as some thought, even opened a fund to endow the projected University; nor was the £3,700 it had collected by 1909 to be sneered at fifty years ago.

The itinerant apostles of the Movement were seldom in danger of being mobbed by hysterical enthusiasts but, by dint of concentrating on a few simple issues, particularly the practical value of scientific and technical training, they were able to gain a sympathetic hearing. The Rockhampton Daily Record was voicing a widely-held sentiment when it reported that, at a meeting addressed by G.W. Power of the Movement, "there were a few expressions of regret because it was not proposed to make culture the central pivot of the curriculum...but nothing could be wiser than the decision of the Committee to leave classics on one side and devote attention to the physical sciences." (32)

In Parliament, too, 1906 saw the Movement on the crest of the wave with the success of a motion by James Tolmie "that, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that the Government should introduce a Bill to provide for the

31. Telegraph. 12/7/1902.
32. Rockhampton Daily Record. 6/3/1907
establishment of a University of Queensland." Tolmie's was a careful speech, very reminiscent of Griffith's in 1889. Step by step he traversed the well-beaten path, carefully skirting culture, but making a great play with the University's value to agriculture and mining, and its part in training teachers. Following the line of Griffith's Extension petitions very closely, however, he did make so bold as to refer to the general improvement in community tone that would follow the establishment of such a centre of intellectual activity.

As for cost, he calculated that 1½% of the existing vote for Education would set up the University very nicely. This he was sure honourable members would count a small cost for the fitting, not of a mere "copying stone" but, he preferred to say, of the very "keystone of the educational arch!"

Tolmie was no Griffith and certainly no Lilley and it is perhaps a little ironic that he should have succeeded where they had been so repeatedly rebuffed, but he had a House and a community to deal with that had been proselytized almost continually by these very men for thirty years or more and his task was immeasurably eased thereby.

At that it was hardly a crushing triumph, since to his 22 votes the opposition counted 19 in a thin House, the Noes including the Premier, who was to found the University with such a flourish a mere three years later.

But while all this was going on Mr. Kidston's Government had, almost unnoticed, reserved by statute portion of Victoria Park for University purposes, thus redeeming Philip's promise of five years before. The Minister for Lands, in introducing the enabling Bill, went on record as stating that it was the Government's view that the time would unquestionably come when it would be considered advisable to proceed further. This had been Griffith's position, almost indeed his very words, in 1875. It could hardly be regarded in 1906, as an immediately compromising statement! The Premier, however, despite his vote against Tolmie's motion, kindled hope in many a breast by his meaning utterance that there would be no University Bill that year, it being his Government's intention to attend first, to primary and secondary education. (33)

There was very little comment as to the actual site proposed; after all it had been debated freely for half a dozen years by the Extension. Nor was anyone really going to argue with the committal of the University to Brisbane, though the member for Carnarvon was prepared to do his duty by his electors and, perhaps even seriously, offered Stanthorpe as an alternative.

How genuine and how immediate Kidston really was in his intention there was no real chance to see for some time, since the years 1907 and 1908 were occupied almost exclusively in political manoeuvring as a result of the rise of the Labor party, which was now a force to be reckoned with in the making and maintenance of Governments. As had been known to happen before, the problem was solved by the strong man, Kidston in this case, leaving a party which he found to be still too weak to stand alone and uniting in opposition to it the combined strength of the other two factions.

Kidston, with Philip in support, finally faced the House anew in November 1906.

33. Q.P.D. 98 (1906), 1162.
1908 and the Governor’s speech opening the third session of Parliament devoted a full paragraph to the intention to found a University in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Queensland’s establishment as a separate colony. (34)

This was at least as close as a Government had ever come to committing itself and the members of the University Movement must scarce have dared to breathe a word lest anything should happen again at the last minute to dash their hopes.

But as the Address in Reply debate developed into a month-long attack on the new coalition their optimism was severely tested. The Government survived a motion of no confidence by one vote only and appealed immediately to the electorate, though not before the Minister for Education had made a valiant attempt to introduce the University Bill.

Kidston’s following was returned in strength and the new Parliament met on 2nd November. By now no one really doubted the Government’s intention to press on with the University. The only remaining fear was that procrastination beyond the celebratory date, 10th December, might provide an excuse for a change of heart.

In fact, the Bill was mentioned first in the Governor’s speech, being followed closely by a further measure directed rather more immediately to material welfare. This unfortunate sequence proved all too easy a trap for the junior member entrusted with moving the Address in Reply, and his somewhat anti-climactic utterances are worthy of record. “The University they hoped to establish,” Hansard records him as saying, “may be only a seed - it may be only a germ - it may not make much difference immediately to Queensland, but it will lay the foundations of one of the greatest assets we can have as a state. I also refer to the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill.” (35)

The long-awaited Bill was duly introduced and proceeded to a second reading on 9th November. W.H. Barnes, making his debut as Minister for Public Instruction, delivered a long, careful address. Turning quickly and with obvious relief from a few shaky platitudes on culture and general intellectual improvement, he assured the House that this was a practical Bill. Their University would produce none of Mr. Lesina’s feared snobs. Moreover, the Labor party should note that the sexes were given equal opportunity as regard both membership and control of the institution. An initial endowment of £10,000 for seven years was to be devoted to: One professor at £1,000 per year, three at £800, ten lecturers at £300-400 and the balance of £2,600 to “miscellaneous,” which, he indicated, would include attendants, registrars, caretakers, general expenses and a librarian. Presumably it also was to provide for a library - though this was not specifically stated.

So far so good; no surprises, no really contentious issues; and the House prepared to resolve itself into Committed, when it was startled to hear that a Government committee had recommended taking over Government House and grounds as the site of the new University and that this recommendation was to be acted on. Despite this revelation, the second reading passed without division and in a general atmosphere of self-congratulation.

34. Q.P.D. 103 (1909), 11.
35. Q.P.D. 104 (1909), 17.
Lennon, speaking for Labor, expressed strong support and was particularly pleased with the title "University of Queensland." Moreover, though he could not resist muttering of the "aggrandizement and ornament of Brisbane", he admitted the impossibility of any other location. He was anxious to see the University operate as a free institution and announced his intention of opposing only two clauses in Committee; one, that donors of £500 and over should be granted seats on the Council (the graduate Electorate) and the other that, after the first retirement of Senators, there would be no longer a Government nominated majority on the Senate (the governing body). As to the first, he spoke from his party's platform; as to the second, no one issue has more vexed the University of Queensland, if only by implication than this matter of the constitution of the Senate. We will meet it again.

The remarks of J.W. Blair, a future Chancellor, are of interest. He was regarded at that time as a particularly ill-used and resentful victim of the horse-trading that had made possible Kidston's second government. That he should give strong support for this Bill is a fair indication, one feels, of electoral sentiment.

Mr. Blair favoured entry to the University to be free; not only of fees but even of matriculation examinations, apparently, since these too involved fees. He was particularly pleased to note that this new institution would not be patterned on "older Universities (which) devoted too much time to the classics, dead languages and arts which after all do not tend to help us in the struggle of modern life". (36) Above all, he wanted the University immediately and intended to press for a six month's compulsion clause to force the Government's hand. He had a point there.

The Premier's speech was remarkable only, but truly remarkable there, for a metaphor all his own. "I do not think, he said, that any amount of higher education will make a leaden sword as good as a steel sword, but when you have the iron in the man, a higher education will sharpen it and make it available for the work of the world". (37)

There was virtually no organized opposition even in Committee. Lennon was placated by compromise and, though there were divisions, no amendments were carried against the framers of the Bill. The only stumbling block was the site question, which, of course, was quite extraneous to the Bill. It seemed not quite clear whether Kidston wanted honest criticism of the Committee's recommendation or not. According to Wyeth, the Government House proposal had been mooted by Lilley as long ago as 1889. (38) This may be so, but it certainly did not please the Brisbane members on this occasion. They insisted that their electors considered the Domain as virtually an extension of the Botanic Gardens. The day was saved, ironically enough, by a Government promise, still to be honoured, to construct a drive around the riverbank.

An interesting side-light on the question of the site appears in the despatches of Sir William Macgregor, the newly-appointed Governor. Sir William was an enthusiast for the University. He acted with vigour, as shall be seen, as its first Chancellor, but he did not like the idea of vacating Government House,

36. Q.P.D. 104 (1909), 100
37. ibid. 105.
38. Wyeth. op. cit. p.145.
Writing to the Colonial Secretary as late as April, 1910, he explained; "The Government of the State has set apart the present Government House in Brisbane for the purpose of the University, a measure that is certainly unpopular, as there are many historical associations connected with this building as Government House. The site is a very charming one for a Government House but not roomy enough for a University and the buildings are not suitable. A temporary abode for the Governor is being prepared elsewhere, pending the building of a new Government House, which is not likely to be complete under three years from now." (39)

Events speedily proved Sir William right about the restricted size of the site and the unsuitability of the existing building, but there is a feeling about the whole despatch that adds even more piquancy to the relevant, and perhaps revealing, words of yet another student song: "They bade the Governor pack his kit and off to Fernberg hie him."

The Governor had little else to say to the Colonial Secretary about the great adventure. What he did reveals pretty clearly his own views on the strong emphasis on practical utility that had carried the day, in Parliament at least. "As seems to be the case in the more modern universities," he reported in October 1910, "the entrance or matriculation examinations are to be comparatively easy... It is feared that it may be difficult for professional life to grasp the importance of a working acquaintance with the leading modern languages. The classics will not be largely patronized. It is intended to affiliate the technical schools and colleges to the University." (40)

His Excellency's comments were shrewd and demonstrated that he clearly understood the circumstances surrounding the adoption of the Act. Provision was made in it initially for the establishment of three Faculties: Arts, Science and Engineering. But there were also specifically included the granting of a Diploma in Education, a requirement to offer both evening and external classes and the possibility (for which read, clearly, desirability) of affiliating with the University the School of Mines at Charters Towers, the Agricultural College at Gatton, the Central Technical College and the Bacteriological Institute.

Arts might be one of the three foundation Faculties but the emphasis clearly was on professional training. Even as to Arts, continued reference in the Act to the teaching profession made it clear that this Faculty too was envisaged as mainly a professional school. Moreover, by the Act, any State educational institution (presumably a Teachers Training College) could be erected on the University domain.

40. ibid. 22/10/1910.
The University was defined as "consisting of a Senate, a Council and Graduate and Undergraduate Members." The Staff, being members of Council only if they happened to be graduates of the University of Queensland, were clearly envisaged as employees and not members.

The governing body of the University was to be "the Senate and the Council: Provided that until the Council is constituted the governing body of the University shall consist of the Senate only." Following the Sydney pattern, it was the senior partner in this government that was called the Senate, the term Council being retained for the graduate body. Initially the Senate, of twenty members, was to be nominated by the Governor in Council. After the constitution of the Council and until the graduate body numbered fifty, the Council was to elect five of the twenty. After the graduates numbered fifty, ten of the twenty senators were to be elected by the Council.

There were some interesting disqualifications from membership of the Senate. There was for instance, a restriction of three on the number of salaried officers of the University who could serve on the Senate at any one time, a salaried officer being defined as "Dean of a faculty, professor, lecturer or examiner." Nor could any Principal of a Secondary School or anyone engaged in preparing students for the University be a Senator; a prohibition which they shared with bankrupts, insolvents, felons and madmen.

On 19th December, 1909, the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of responsible government in Queensland, Government House was dedicated to University purposes and a plaque recording this translation was unveiled by Sir William Macgregor on the eastern wall of the building. With due ceremony he signed and presented to the people of Queensland, through their elected representatives, the University of Queensland Act, 1909. There were speeches, and an appropriate amount of military display, musical and otherwise. Lady Macgregor planted a tree.

The members of the Council of the Queensland University Extension entertained themselves at tea on the Government steamer "Lucinda" - a modest enough celebration in the circumstances. The Extension had been in existence seventeen years, and thirty-nine years had passed since the possibility of a University in Queensland had been seriously canvassed.

Queensland had grown up in the meantime. In 1909 her population was 600,000. This compared more than favourably with those of other States at the time when they had established their Universities. It was, indeed, near enough to three times that of any of New South Wales, Victoria or South Australia and four times that of Tasmania at the relevant dates.

A State with an annual revenue of more than £5 million should be able to find £10,000 a year for a University. No one could really say we had been precipitate but at least, we had our University.
CHAPTER II  EARLY STRUGGLES (1910-1918)

In Billy Macgregor's golden days,
Our 'Varsity was founded,
Wherein the cream of Queensland's youth
In knowledge might be grounded.
They bade the Governor pack his kit
And off to Fernberg hie him;
They called for tenders for a staff,
And put a Registrar in.

Our 'Varsity.

To the impatient, and there were many, it might well have seemed, as the Jubilee Year of Responsible Government slipped past, that the authorities considered their task accomplished with the University Act of 1909.

This was far from true, of course, since the real work of setting-up the University had yet to be undertaken. By January 1910 there were murmurings in the Press and interested parties began advancing significant claims to representation on the Senate of the new University "when it was constituted". To this end the Teachers Union applied pressure on the Minister for Education whom, in the time-honoured fashion, they had invited to their annual conference for this and other purposes. (41) Surveyors, Architects and Engineers too all expressed their anxiety to climb aboard the bandwagon, indeed to start the wagon itself on its triumphant progress. (42)

But they were gracious and somewhat leisurely years in the young State in this last lull before the European storm and, too, there was a delicate and unstable political situation to monopolize the attention of Government. In this matter of the new University, over which some now felt perhaps that they had allowed themselves to be unduly hustled, there were careful negotiations to be undertaken, conflicting interests to be resolved and only twenty seats on the new Senate for disposal by merit or patronage or by that judicious mixture of both, for which there was such ample precedent not only in Queensland but in British history. Then, too, there was the difficulty of the Governor, that formidable qualified and outspoken champion of the University, who disapproved nevertheless of vacating his residence for it.

All in all it was an exacting task and it was April before even the astute administration of the Education Department could produce an acceptable list of Senators.

On 16th April 1910 the Queensland Government Gazette carried a notice, dated two days previously, of the twenty persons to whose care, diligence and

41. Courier 5/1/1910,
42. ibid. 25/1/1910,
foresight the infant University was entrusted. (43)

These twenty men worked hard and largely intelligently at a task which was completely foreign to many of them. Some may have made little individual contribution to the University and their non-return to subsequent Senates may have been no more than a reflection of their lack of interest. Some, on the other hand, were to suffer unjustly from criticism directed at the Senate as a whole as a result of the actions of other Senators, and the brevity of their term of office was a misfortune to the University. Some few knew quite clearly in what direction they felt the University should be led and some of these remained in office long enough to give effect to their policies. In the short run, and in some respects throughout its first half century, it was of great importance to the University that the strongest members of the Senate were those who had close ties with the State Department of Education. But if this liaison was an immediate strength it was also a long term weakness, especially since the Senators concerned combined with it either no experience or no recent experience of Universities.

The following were the members of this first Senate:-

His Excellency Sir William MacGregor, G.C.M.G., C.B., M.D.
The Honourable A.H. Barlow, M.L.C.
The Honourable D.H. Dalrymple
The Honourable F. McDonnell, M.L.C.
The Honourable A.J. Thynne, M.L.C.
E.G.C. Barton, M.I.E.E.
L.G. Corrie, F.L.S., F.Q.I.A.
E.W.H. Fowles, M.A., L.L.M.
Sir David Hardie, Kt., M.D.
J.B. Henderson, F.C.S., F.I.C.
A.M. Hertzberg
E.G. Hirschfeld, M.D.

43. To judge at least from the two previous official histories of the University there is considerable doubt as to its official birthday. In *The University of Queensland 1910...1935*, Professor Michie said, "by agreement to the exclusion of two or three other colourable claimants, the 14th April 1910 is accepted as the birthday of the University and as the starting point of its era." This date, as we have seen, was that which actually headed the notice listing the first Senate in the issue of the *Gazette* which was itself dated 16th April. The other "colourable claimants" would include probably the date of assent to the original Act, 10th December, 1909; perhaps the date of the formal opening of the University on the 14th March 1911, or the solemn inauguration held on 6th June of the same year; or even that of the first meeting of the Senate, 22nd April 1910; but almost certainly not the 15th April 1910, the date hit upon by Professors Alcock and Stable in *The University of Queensland, 1910-1922* as "the date of appointment of the members of the first Senate".
They were an interesting selection. Apart from His Excellency, whose inclusion was an immense strength, there was J.D. Story, the Under-Secretary in the Department of Education, to establish a vital link with both the supply of students and the employment of graduates; and if some there were who saw him as a Government watchdog over their new creation, there were few who were prepared at that time to cavil at the desirability of such a functionary, at least at that stage, and none to deny his administrative talent.

The professions were represented by three practising doctors, two lawyers, and engineer and the Government Analyst. Four elder statesmen and a couple not so elderly were inevitable and indeed, in some cases, valuable acquisitions. For that band of brothers who had striven for so many years, there were Corrie and Fowles, Morrow and Power, John Laskey Woolock and Reginald Heber-Roe, all of whom had been prominent members of the University movement.

Once appointed the Senate wasted no time and within a week was setting about the business of creation. Education Minister Barnes opened their first meeting by expressing the hope that "the new University should be built upon the broadest possible lines" (44), and then, very properly, withdrew. His Excellency was solemnly elected Chancellor, and under the guiding hand of Story the basic committee framework through which all subsequent Senates have operated sprang into being.

Even this first meeting brought its crisis. It took the form of a notice of motion by Barlow, the most bearded of the elder statesmen, that "arrangements should be made ... whereby all university examinations may be held in local centres for any student without matriculation or personal attendance at the University".

There were two barrels to this discharge. The second, relating to personal attendance, was clearly in line with the Government's professed intention to create a Queensland rather than a Brisbane institution. Moreover, there was specific reference in the Act to the provision of some form of correspondence teaching. This could then be handled safely by negotiation. The first, however, aimed against any kind of selection by examination for University entrance, was much more tricky.

44. Courier 28/4/1910,
There had been preliminary rumblings in the Press of this desire for a "free for all" University. In a way it continued the old "practical" view that had dogged the steps of those who had sought to found the University, since it proceeded initially to attack the classics in particular as impractical and outmoded and from this to deplore any reliance on secondary education, as typified by them, as a matriculation requisite. To do this, the conclusion was drawn, would be to deny the possibility of University education to any but a favoured class in the community.

Thus was initiated a dissatisfaction with matriculation requirements which could be fairly said to have continued undiminished to the end of the University's half-century despite not infrequent amendments in detail of the requirements themselves.

There were other problems, of course, not the least of them the fact that the Senate had at their disposal neither any real funds nor any actual accommodation. Barnes, the Minister had assured them that £50,000 was on the 1909/10 estimates for University and Technical College buildings, and the statutory endowment of £10,000 was even more certain to materialize, but only from July 1st. In the meantime however, there were but £500 for preliminary expenses, the loan of a clerk and a typist from the Education Department, and a University building still firmly inhabited by the new Chancellor.

By the end of the year, however, matters could fairly be said to be under control and for this the Senators could take due credit. Under the unflagging direction of Sir William MacGregor they had met no less then fourteen times since the end of April.

Three weeks after their first meeting they had adopted detailed plans for the alteration of Government House and on the first of August they met in solemn conclave in their own panelled Senate Room. Sir William may well have contrasted to himself its pleasant but dignified appearance with the brash unsuitability of his present makeshift abode, but he refrained nobly from personal comment even when required to conduct debate on such details as the scope and character of the extra sanitary provision to be added to his former home.

By mid-May, too, they had set fees and established matriculation requirements. In the best traditions of enlightened employers they had established a superannuation scheme for their permanent employees, prior to employing any at all; though it might perhaps be noted that the scheme involved no contribution on their part. They had laid down terms of appointment for their Professors which branded these appointees *inter alia*, as "gentlemens".

For instance, a correspondent in the Courier (12/3/1910) wrote, "Personally, I would like to see the standard made such that an ordinary State School education would furnish sufficient competency to enter for the examination, and thus the University would be made what it should be, an institution for the people of Queensland as a whole, and not merely for the privileged few."

Wisely, the initial plans were based on 300 students, a figure not to be achieved for some years, but in this, as in other building details, the flood of students after the second World War was to cause considerable embarrassment. Perhaps it was a similar prescience that guided the installation, a quarter of a century later, of the incredibly generous toilet facilities for male staff in the Main Building at St. Lucia or the virtual surrounding of the Library Reading Room with a battery of these very audible facilities.
They had established pro forma Faculties in Law and Medicine to supplement the full, statutory Faculties of Arts, Science and Engineering.

In July they had elected a Registrar at £500 per annum, less 7½% contribution to the superannuation scheme, and in September they had appointed a Chief Clerk and a typist, the latter at £52 p.a., again less 5%. They had adopted too a crest and a motto; which latter must have been subsequently and surreptitiously altered since, in this original version, it read Crescendo laude.

The problem posed by Barlow, they had deferred as long as possible and finally disposed of by means of a compromise which allowed the external examination of those who bona fide were unable to attend the University, but who were eligible in every other way. Thus they had neatly preserved intact their brand new matriculation and at the same time had given earnest of their intention to obey the injunction laid on them by statute to provide facilities for correspondence teaching.

In these first few months too, they had managed, without any academic staff whatever, to conduct both Senior and Junior Public Examinations and to examine for the College of Pharmacy.

Finally, after a marathon five and a half hour meeting in December, they had selected their first four professors from a total of forty applicants. As the year died they wound up a really hectic first session by insuring for £500 their furniture, fittings and movables, and the books in the Library, which had come into existence with a generous gift in kind from the University of Melbourne.

The "Big Four", as the first professor inevitably were dubbed, did not take up their duties until February 1911 but, like their masters, they found little time to waste once they arrived. Gibson the Engineer and Steele the Chemist were both in Australia, but Michie of Classics and Priestley, who was to undertake Mathematics and Physics, had to come out from England and landed only on the 15th February. By the 21st they had reported on courses and staff; on the 13th of March they held their first Board meeting and on the following day they met their students. (47)

In the formative years of a University much depends on the personal qualities of the teaching staff. It is abundantly clear that the University of Queensland was extremely fortunate in securing for its first professors men of distinction and vision, of initiative and application, who cheerfully shouldered an immense burden of administrative detail in addition to teaching commitments which were themselves formidable enough. That it was an arduous task is clear enough from the record. Gibson alone survived to see the University's Golden Jubilee. He had resigned his Chair after a few years to return to professional work. Priestley died in 1932, tragically young, from a tumour on the brain. Steele, broken down in health retired after occupying his Chair, too, for more than twenty years, and lived only three more years. Michie died in office in 1946, still only sixty-four years old.

At the time of their appointment it seems to have been felt that of the four, Bertram Dillon Steele was perhaps the most outstanding. Certainly he had the most academic experience and, at 40, he was positively mature compared with his colleagues. Sir William Ramsay, the famous British Chemist, with whom Steele had worked in London, as well as sending a formal testimonial, wrote personally to the Senate - "Let me impress on you that Dr. Steele is one of the most talented chemists of the present day." In the same year that he had graduated B.Sc. from Melbourne, though admittedly he was then older than the normal run of

47. The very first lecture was delivered by Priestley, in Pure Mathematics.
graduates, (48) Steele had held an Acting Professorship at Adelaide. Overseas scholarships had taken him not only to London but also to Breslau and he had been on the staff at McGill as well as at the Herriot Watt College in Edinburgh. He came to Queensland from an Acting Professorship in Melbourne.

A top-rate chemist, Steele was to establish a school which early attracted public interest, and benefaction. During the First World War his services were utilized by the Imperial Government in the design and management of munition works in England and it was a real tribute to his continued professional work despite the crushing burden of administration when he was elected to the coveted Fellowship of the Royal Society. (49)

As a personality, he seems not to have been very colourful. He was interested in his students and his students found him interesting as a lecturer, particularly because his major emphasis was on principles, generalities and philosophies rather than on the meticulous details of experimental science. He was punctiliously courteous and took great care to do the right thing and yet, for perhaps that very reason, he never forged any particularly intimate bonds with the student body. Above all he took himself immensely seriously and had certainly no less than a proper regard for the dignity of his office and his attainments.

Perhaps even more important to the new University than Steele’s professional competence was the respect which this, and probably, also, his serious men, engendered in the members of those early and strictly amateur Senates. Even the dry pages of official records cannot conceal completely the inevitable difficulties that arose between the Board of Faculties on the one hand, and the Senate and its Executive Officers on the other. On Bertram Dillon Steele with his aplomb, his experience, and his reputation fell the immediate burden of explaining, at least in general terms, the respective areas of competence and operation of these two bodies; of suggesting where necessary supervision of the expenditure of public funds ended and interference with academic responsibility began. No easy task this, with a Chancellor of character, and of firmly held opinions, a Vice-Chancellor whose Balliol days were far, far away across a lifetime of schol'teaching, and an enthusiastic but almost completely inexperienced Senate. It was fortunate that in Steele there was a man whose very faults from a personal point of view possibly strengthened him for this task.

If the Professor of Chemistry was representative indeed of the new aristocracy of the intellect, a very harbinger of those scientific professions to which the Universities and the world at large would turn so increasingly as the century grew, the Professor of Classics was a perfect example of the ancient scholarly requirement of mens sana in corpore sano.

John Lundie Michie took up his chair at the age of 29; a great, rosy-cheeked, schoolboy whose apparent youth and incredible shyness concealed a first-rate mind, a surprising measure of administrative competence and a shrewd head for business.

48. He had practised as a pharmacist prior to undertaking his University studies.
49. The F.R.S. was awarded particularly for the design of a chemical balance which, apart from being the most accurate so far developed, employed quite a revolutionary new principle.
At Aberdeen and later at Cambridge he had taken all before him in the
classical field, starting ever slowly, quietly and without distinction and
surprising ultimately all but his tutors with his well-merited success. It
was on the grounds of the enthusiastic support of these very men that he was
preferred to older applicants who had already made their mark, both adminis-
tratively and in published work. At his Universities, too, he had used his huge
frame to good purpose in those field games that so particularly delight the
Scottish heart. A mighty thrower of the hammer and a weight-putter of dis-
tinction, he received a full blue for athletics at Cambridge; a fact which,
characteristically, he recorded as a diffident afterthought in his application
for the Queensland chair.

If Steele brought brilliance and renown immediately to the University,
Michie certainly became, over the years, the rock on which it stood, imparting
permanence by his agelessness, encouraging confidence while yet advising caution;
and inspiring, because he himself represented them, something of the traditional
University values and virtues in a community whose own inclinations and ex-
perience did not include over-receptiveness to matters of cultural or in-
tellectual attainment.

Michie never overcame his shyness. After thirty years he still perspired
freely with the effort of meeting even his own classes and suffered tortures
when speaking in public. Ever available to students for help and advice and
keenly interested in their problems and their development, he remained never-
theless respected rather than loved by them and to this his shyness certainly contributed.

Real affection for Michie came after the undergraduate years, as
former students and colleagues alike were admitted in increasing measure to
the slow-growing but deeply-founded friendship that is so often the gift of
the shy man. By the time of his death this affection was widespread.

As a lecturer, particularly with pass classes, he never seems to have
established completely the rapport that his humanity deserved. Unlike Steele
he seemed unable quite to submerge the complications of his subject and the
minutiae of his own knowledge in that inspired generality which appeals so
strongly to the undergraduate. And yet his lectures and his classes absorbed
all his academic efforts. He was never interested in publishing his work.

On the administrative side, Michie carried a very large burden, particularly
during the years of the First World War. His natural caution was well-suited
to the precarious life of the young University and he saw the Faculty of Arts
soundly established in a tradition of careful husbanding of resources, of con-
solidation of gains before proceeding to new ventures. It is true that, in his
later years, long decades of operation on a financial shoestring had rendered
him and many of his associates ill-fitted to cope with the problems of rapid
expansion. But it is just as certain that without the selfless and unstinted
service of Michie and his colleagues in the early days, the University would
not have survived in any real shape, if at all, to meet and ultimately to master
these very problems which so bedevilled their twilight in its service.
The most engagingly human member of the "Big Four" was Priestley, whose whimsicality carried him happily through Pure and Applied Mathematics and, despite the formidability of these subjects, to the very hearts of students. It was Priestley who really knew what went on in students' minds and to whom they turned for advice on general matters; Priestley who was invited to preside over student assemblies and who threw himself enthusiastically into the work of the Musical society, the Debating society and any other organization which contributed to the full student life; Priestley alone who was dubbed "Prof."

Priestley too had to bear his share of the administrative burden, solemnly inditing handwritten reports to whichever of his three colleagues was President of the Board of Faculties, and coping alone in his turn, and in his own fair hand, with all the problems of controlling a Faculty, in a much more personal and detailed way, per Department and indeed per student, then does a modern Dean.

But perhaps his greatest contribution was this individual flair of his for winning friends. His sympathetic appreciation of the student's personal problems and his ability to meet students on their own ground supplied a necessary cohesive force to what had to be, after all, a well-integrated little community of it was to survive the perils and the parsimony of its early years.

Gibson, the fourth member of the little group of pioneers, made a much less lasting impression on the young University, partly because of his short stay with it, but as much as anything else perhaps because of the immense contrast between him and his immediate successor.

Gibson, as the University knew him for its first seven years, was tall and dark, intense and outspoken and a man of the world in a different sense to the urbane Steele. Gibson had already had an active and interesting life as a professional engineer. He had lectured in the University of Sydney for seven years prior to his appointment, and had had service prior to this in the New South Wales Department of Public Works. Added to his professional talents, he possessed the ability to drive a hard bargain, to work strenuously, clear-sightedly, and perhaps a little ruthlessly for decided ends. Before coming to Australia he had spent a year in Shanghai and perhaps this had been responsible for the rich and colourful vocabulary that could be used to startling and even stunning effect on those who would stupidly and profanely dispute with a Professor of Engineering. (50)

Gibson was not a University man, he had no formal Degree and no time for the niceties of University administration or behaviour, yet the qualities which secured his appointment before others whose claims on paper seemed immeasurably superior were soon demonstrated. He persuaded the authorities to provide no less than £18,000 to equip his Engineering school - almost two years endowment for the whole University. Within a remarkably short time he had the whole amount spent and his purchases, including plant built to his own design, were housed in the first separate permanent building designed for University purposes. (51)

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50. One should hasten to say that this was not a talent that Gibson exploited against his colleagues or his students. He is recorded as having used it to good effect, however, with foremen and labourers engaged on the erection of his new building.

51. The new School was opened by the Chancellor on 13th June 1914. It is impossible to resist quoting the Courier's report: "Some things beggar description. Other things are beggared by description. The new Engineering School of the Queensland University is both. It beggars description and description beggars it"; (15/6/1914).
To the personal reputation of Steele there was added thereby to the credit of a brand new University the best equipped and most modern School of Engineering in the Commonwealth.

Gibson remained always essentially the professional engineer, with a healthy contempt for the red tape with which he felt even a young University to be over liberally supplied. Within a month of taking up his duties the Senate had to reject a proposal that the first lecturer in Engineering be appointed without going through the formality of advertising the position. (The fact that the gentleman concerned later survived this particular hurdle without any difficulty may prove something.) Then, too, as early as November 1913 he sought extra emoluments from the Professorial Board for a member of his staff on the grounds that "professional gentlemen in academic positions command higher salaries than those engaged on the purely scholastic and scientific side".

It must have come as no real surprise to the University when, after the first World War, he returned to professional life, where he enjoyed notable success. In the course of his short stay, however, he lent vigour to his School and to the University as a whole and certainly made his fair contribution to setting it up a secure footing.

To support these first four members of the Teaching Staff, there was an equally tiny administrative staff, but it too was not without distinction.

F.W.S. Cumbrae-Stewart, who came to the University as its first Registrar in 1914 was an imposing figure. Bald of head, ruddy of countenance, and with a full, fierce and waxed moustache to complete his military appearance, he must have resembled more a retired Indian Colonel than a University Registrar. He brought with him to Brisbane a B.A. and B.C.L. (Oxon.) and a Fellowship of the Library Association and, while still Registrar, was awarded the Oxford Doctorate of Civil Law, a very rare distinction, outside Great Britain. He also brought considerable presence, and this enhanced the dignity of the infant University.

Cumbrae-Stewart was probably extremely fortunate, as indeed was the University, that he had at his right-hand J.F. McCaffrey, who had been seconded initially from the Education Department to set the administration on its feet. The Senate very wisely had asked for his services to be retained and, as Chief Clerk under Cumbrae-Stewart, and as his successor in the Registrarship, he worked hard, intelligently and cheerfully to establish and maintain the administrative machine.

No account of the University, as has been said before, would be complete without reference to Walter Wyche, the Janitor. He was appointed in 1911 and his chunky figure and increasingly dour expression were known and remembered with affection by students for nearly forty years. His was the presence which could deter trespassers, close down a student dance promptly at midnight and invest with added dignity the academic processions which he led. In those early days his duties ranged from presiding over a dearly cherished and formidable array of appropriate forms in the Enquiry Office to adjusting hoods about the shoulders of graduands. Walter certainly contributed character to the University. (52)

52. It was a matter of great interest to students when Walter, who was a widower, married again quite late in life. When Betty Wyche was born in 1921 student admiration knew no bounds and the occasion was properly commemorated in verse and prose with good humoured joy and real affection.
To complete the first administrative staff there was Miss Olga de Tuetey, a typist who, like McCaffrey, was actually on the staff of the Education Department. Whatever views she may have had on her transfer, she finally cemented her relationship with the University by marrying Alcock, the first lecturer in History, who was appointed in 1913. (53)

The first lecturing year (1911) must have been a fantastic experience, not only for the 83 innocent students but perhaps even more for the three Professors with previous experience and particularly for the two young men from the cloistered calm of the ancient Universities.

Lectures of some kind began on schedule after a brief opening ceremony on 14th March, but the afternoon of the same day had to be given over to a further meeting of the Board of Faculties, which had discovered to its horror that it was required to provide second and third year classes immediately. Moreover, the Chancellor, who presided over these early meetings, had to be voted out on a proposal to differentiate between degrees given to day and to evening students, though within a week Gibson was insisting that this decision be modified in the case of Engineering.

Nothing could be too trivial for the Board; there was no one else to attend to anything. For instance, at its first meeting it decided the classification scheme to be employed in the library. In June it drew up the procedure for ordering equipment; in August it considered recognizing the first Student's Union; in October it resolved that separate common rooms were needed for the sexes and it wound up the year preparing the Detailed Estimates for 1912. Small wonder that, with these and a hundred other preoccupations, even the Pass Degree regulations were not decided till well into second term, and that the proposed matriculation statute, which was to cause such heartburning to Vice-Chancellor Roe, did not see the light till late in June.

It was the question of matriculation on which the Professors first found themselves standing practically alone. The Press, as we have seen already, had warned earlier that to establish a matriculation requiring subjects not adequately taught in the existing secondary schools would be to betray those who had fought so hard and so long for the people's University, and this line it now renewed. There were not lacking supporters for this view in Parliament and indeed in the Senate itself.

53. This was a union that delighted the early students, largely, one feels, because they did see it as knitting the University together. Mrs. Alcock's maiden name, of course, was exotic enough for comment. This explains an otherwise completely obscure reference in an early issue of the Queensland University Magazine:

"What is the difference between a labourer and Mr. Alcock? A labourer is engaged to chew tobacco and Mr. Alcock is engaged to chew tea."

54. There was an interesting sequel to this; apart from the delight a mere librarian takes in pointing out that "Mr. Dewey's system of indexing", which is so fashionable for his professorial colleagues to decry, was adopted by their predecessors, not his! In October 1911, Cholmeley, the first lecturer in Classics, was granted an additional £100 to his salary to assist the Registrar (who also doubled as Librarian) in cataloguing the library. In January 1912 the Senate demanded a report immediately on the operation of the "indexing system" and, at a special meeting, reprimanded Cholmeley for violating the purity of Dewey's system. This may seem amusing enough, but it is clear that it was not till March of that year that two copies of the 1911 edition of the Dewey classification were solemnly approved for purchase. It must, of course, have been months more before they arrived.
The most outspoken critic was the Honorable A.H. Barlow, with whose enthusiasm for absolutely unrestricted entry to the University, the Senate had had to struggle before even its staff arrived. Barlow had the advantage of being able to press in the Legislative Council the views that he was unable to persuade the Senate to adopt and, with somewhat doubtful propriety, initiated debate in this "other place" on a memorandum to the Senate by Roe, the Vice-Chancellor. But in his speech he went much further than a mere criticism of matriculation requirements and brought into the open the whole bothering question of the degree of independence that should be left to these irresponsible academics. His views are worth recording since we will find them repeated with variations for the ensuing half century.

Thus, he put his main point, "The matriculation requirements have been framed in my opinion too exclusively from the University point of view alone. The Faculties have apparently considered what will be the best type of student for them, what it is admirable ideally that everyone of their students should know ... but, our matriculation conditions should ... (since the Queensland population is so scattered and in so many small centres) prescribe as compulsory only that minimum of knowledge which is necessary for each student in order that he may profitably attend the courses of the Faculty which he selects".

Much more disturbingly he went on to say "the University in my opinion is rapidly becoming a University of Brisbane - a scholastic institution analogous to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. I may mention here that the legislatures of the Southern States have had to interfere more than once to clip the wings of the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne". He wanted no little Oxford in Brisbane and regretted that the Senate "to which I have the honour to belong" was ever instituted. "I wish", said this former Minister for Education, "the University had been placed under the control of the Secretary for Public Instruction." (55)

Issue was joined in the Council by Thynne, also a Senator; tempers were roused and mutual accusations of impropriety rang out across that sedate chamber, but Thynne, who was to become Chancellor later, carried the day with the Senate's official reply: "The matriculation standards of our graduates must be such as to ensure that they are properly prepared by the University for the business of their lives; and that they shall rank in their several grades with the graduates of the chartered and recognized Universities of the British Empire." (56) Carve with pride too the name of A.J. Thynne for who was Mr. Barlow, enquired the future Chancellor, or who was Vice-Chancellor Roe "who had been some forty to fifty years away from his University" and indeed who was he, Thynne, to question the "capacity and ability of the body of our professors and lecturers".

It was of course the classics in particular that were singled out, then as now, in such attacks, but included with them were all the modern languages other than English, one of which was required for every matriculant.

The Chancellor, who was also the Governor, seems to have been more worried by this second victim than by the first and made it his business to proclaim in public in each of his capacities and as often as possible, the vital necessity for the new scientists and engineers, whose importance he admitted, to be trained in at least one language other than their own, even if it was a little artificial to force them to be exposed to the classics.

55. Q.P.D. 110 (1911-12), 2941 56. ibid. 3002.
He had made these points with characteristic vigour at the Inauguration Ceremony and Michie and Steele, being given what would have been a glorious opportunity for less scrupulous men to forward their own interests, had nevertheless responded nobly to his call. Thus, Michie had openly deplored that "classical study had degenerated into a study of grammar" and that "with science becoming the aggressive factor in modern education there was a danger that the study of the humanities might be neglected." Steele too, representing this "aggressive factor," must have sadly disappointed the "practicalists" by insisting that "as to the value of the study of science ... the utilitarian advantages were merely incidental, and in order that science and technical work might be properly studied the learner should have a broad foundation on which to build". (57)

The first Senate had plenty to worry it apart from the disturbing independence of its Professors. There was, as a primary worry, the question of site. Government House, as its Vice-Regal occupant had foreseen, was quite hopeless. Apart from its functional inadequacy, the lack of room for expansion and the encroachment of the Technical College, the building itself was already in a sad way. It was riddled with white ants and far too expensive to maintain in good order.

By now there were at least three and possibly four other proposed University locations, each with its protagonists, and, at a special meeting in August 1911, the Chancellor announced to the Senate that he had actually visited sites at Herston and Yeronga and even one in a remote bush suburb called St. Lucia. The fourth possibility, urged by a pressure group in Parliament, was at Ipswich, but neither the town itself nor the votes of the railway workshops there were the political power they had been in the early history of Queensland and this proposal received short shift.

The first St. Lucia plan is interesting, if only for its generosity. It envisaged 600 acres, 240 for a Coronation Park, 200 for the University and 50 for a teaching hospital. It is sad to think that fifteen years in a decision cost the University the area of the Park. It is sadder still that for the same reason it lost forever any chance of having a teaching hospital on the University site.

Yeronga had been suggested to, and rejected by, the University Movement. In August 1911, the Premier had made what was understood to be a firm offer of this site and the Senate actually had accepted it, though with some reluctance. A year later Yeronga was abandoned finally and with considerable and apparent relief when the Premier refused to be hustled into actually handing over the land. At this same Senate meeting, it was decided to retain the area of Victoria Park which had been actually vested in the University by

57. Courier 15/3/1911.

One of the ironical points about the matriculation conflict at this time was that many of the existing 83 students had enrolled on the basis of an extremely lenient entrance examination, conducted prior to the Professors' arrival.
an Act that predated its foundation, and the ensuing fourteen years were
punctuated by negotiations with the Government and the Municipal Authorities to
enlarge and improve what was accepted as the University's future home.

Then, too, the Senate had early to take cognizance not only of strong
community pressure, but also of its own implication yielding to this pressure, in
the matter of extra-mural studies. By August of the first lecturing year the
first Director of Correspondence Studies was off to the United States to dis-
cover how such apparently un-University activities could be managed in association
with an institution of higher learning. The Government, for its part, increased
the annual endowment by £500 to cope with these added responsibilities.

The Directorship of Correspondence Studies and particularly its first
incumbent, T.E. Jones, seemed to have been regarded as fair game for odd and
not very rewarding jobs. It was Jones for instance, who was charged with the
issuing of suitable publicity paragraphs to the Press, but only, of course, after
careful scrutiny by the Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor.

Apart from its own correspondence teaching, the infant University early
interested itself in extension work, and in 1913 brought Albert Mansbridge to
Brisbane to preach the gospel of his Workers Educational Association.
A small start was made in 1913 on the traditional W.E.A. pattern; lectures and
discussion groups directed purely as a spare time occupation by University staff
members. Very soon, however, both the W.E.A. and the University began feeling
their way towards a remarkable venture in cooperation, the Joint Committee for
Tutorial Classes. Under this scheme the Government provided additional funds, in
part to allow the University to increase its lecturing staff in History and Economics,
thus enabling more time to be given to study groups; and in part to allow the
development of a proper W.E.A. organization, which would maintain as one of
its services an adequate circulating library. By 1916 this quaint but effective
arrangement was well on the way.

As to the first students themselves, though they might be few in number they
were determined not to let go by default any of those extra-curricular
activities which the founders had extolled as contributing largely to
University education. On the first convenient Saturday morning after
the beginning of second term, a "conference of delegates" resolved to
establish a body which, with gay insouciance, they called "the Association",
"the Representative Council" and "the Undergraduates Association" practically
in the same breath.

After taking counsel of the lecturing staff a draft constitution
was prepared and this was adopted by a "general meeting of Undergraduates"
on 22nd July 1911. Significantly, however, the constitution contained
the seeds of its own destruction by providing that "the Council elected
in 1912 should draw up suggestions for a new constitution." On 13th
April 1912, it was resolved unanimously to wind up this first "Union"
and replace it by two separate bodies.
The first of these, the Students Representative Council, was inaugurated on 14th April, "to act as an intermediary body between the Senate, the teaching staff or any other body on the one hand and the undergraduates on the other... control the publication of the University magazine, and ... take charge of all matters of interest to undergraduates as a body".

The second, the Union, did not see the light till 14th June when an enthusiastic meeting of Senators, staff and students resolved that "the objects of the Union be ... to provide a common meeting ground and social centre for members by debates or otherwise; and generally to secure the co-operation of the University members in furthering the interests of the University."

In October 1911 appeared the first issue of the Queensland University Magazine. Said its editor "There is a new force in Queensland and the world, a force which is to push its influence out in ever-widening circles and play a part in the development of humankind - the Queensland University ... Our composite life has yet been inarticulate, but by the laws of growth it cannot so remain, and these pages mark its first attempt to find a voice and give utterance to its soul." (58)

This first number set the pattern for the first twenty years of the magazine. Understandably it was not immensely adult and savoured much of the Senior Form. It was sometime before "Q.U.M." included open criticism of the University or its officials. It faithfully and often duly recorded the foundation and activities of a series of student clubs, published "notes" from the colleges and featured "improving" little articles on undergraduate life elsewhere, contributed by one or other of the Professors. Considerable attention was paid to "chatty" reports of geological excursions. The first issue gave space to two constant student pre-occupations, the Christian Union and the female undergraduate, "Lo!" sang an unknown author, "the undergradess is a goodly creation: behold! She knocketh the undergrad even into a cocked hat." (59)

The S.R.C. took itself very seriously. It displayed an early preoccupation with constitution making, commented on the absence of "receptacles for rubbish," solemnly considered a request from the "Society for the Suppression of Vice" to address the student body and assisted in the annual selection of the Rhodes Scholar.

58. Queensland University Magazine. I (1911 - 13), 3.

59. The editor of Galmahra, (Q.U.M.'s successor), in 1960 commented on this, with Jubilee sophistication: "The biblical echoes fooled nobody. Sex has reared its ugly head."
The Union was much more light-hearted. Under the presidency of Tivey, the lecturer in Engineering, and then Elton Mayo, who was to become Professor of Philosophy, it did its best initially to emulate the Oxford Union with fortnightly debates. Alas! the regular debates hardly survived till the War. They were lost to more absorbing matters such as the purchase of a piano for the Common Room (60) and concentration on social rather than intellectual pursuits. By 1913 the Union was coordinating the activities of several sporting clubs, a Women's Club, a Musical Society, and a Dramatic Society.

With all this activity by Senate, staff and students alike, the first years slipped past and April 1914 saw the first completely "homegrown" graduates. There had been degrees granted by the way, of course. Apart from Kidston's inaugural LL.D., for instance, (61) a special ceremony in August 1912 had seen degrees ad eundem gradum conferred on Lord Bryce and on Sir Samuel Griffith and in June 1913 Phillipa Kate Barkell completed with second class honours a degree which she had commenced elsewhere, to become the first graduate even part-trained at the University of Queensland (62).

But the graduation ceremony on 17th April 1914 was rightly felt to mark the first milestone on the University's road to fame. It must have been a matter not only for considerable pride but also for some relief and perhaps even a little astonishment to the "Big Four", who, even with the assistance of their lecturers, must have despaired often of producing graduates at all from their inadequate, makeshift building and their enthusiastic but inexperienced students.

60. The piano runs like a theme through the early history of the Union. As befitted a body with an initial capital of only £6 (of which £5 was devoted immediately to stationery) much effort was devoted to the selection of the instrument both as to quality and, more especially, as to price. A piano was finally purchased on terms in 1913. The last payment was not made until 1916, by which time there was need already for expensive repairs. In 1924 a Piano Replacement Fund was established. This was not drawn on until 1931 when, taking advantage of the Depression, the Union triumphantly traded in the original, much-battered instrument for £30, more than one third of its purchase price.

61. Guid luck tae Wullie! the first Of the noble honoris band! The LL.D. shows (as everyone knows) He Doctors the Laws of the Land!

The Queensland Varsity students song.

The University has been properly jealous of the reputation of its degrees. By 1960 only 38 degrees honoris causa had been conferred. No less than 10 of these 38 were associated with the Golden Jubilee itself and 3 with the Silver Jubilee in 1935. Of the remainder, 2 were conferred on Royalty and 1 on General MacArthur.

62. At the same ceremony there graduated, in the same way; J.E. Dakin, A.T. Desmond, W. Gates and R.C. Hamilton.
The need to celebrate the event seems to have been widely felt. The city fathers met it by offering to add one hundred and eleven acres to the "University Reserve" in Victoria Park, a noble gesture which gave the Chancellor a nice theme of "town and gown" for his graduation address. The Senate, under considerable pressure from the Board of Faculties, met it with a report on Public Examinations that proposed thoroughgoing reforms, including a separate, competitive matriculation examination after an extra (fifth) year at the Secondary School. (This has yet to eventuate.)

The student body met it by planning to hold a procession, which the Commissioner of Police promptly banned. This prohibition was provocative rather than effective and, though repeated or at least threatened at intervals over the ensuing half century, seems never to have been heeded much, except in times of national crisis.

The procession was limited on this first occasion to placarded cabs - though even in this form it offered plenty of opportunity, said the Courier, for "indulging in many of the fanciful pranks said to be dear to the heart of the under-grad, but of which hitherto Brisbane has had little actual experience". However, it soon became a University tradition. Yet another tradition in the making is hinted at in the Courier's account of the degree ceremony itself, where it seems the solemn procession was suitably accompanied, since, "on the way the male undergraduates chanted lively march tunes." Very soon the same paper would be retailing in detail the antics of undergraduates who turned the whole ceremony into a bear garden, a proceeding with which the University authorities have been troubled constantly ever since.

All in all it was, this first graduation, a time of considerable rejoicing, of mutual congratulation and, for the Senate, of demonstrating the broadening of its horizons. After an initial rebuff in 1911 and subsequent hesitation, punctuated by considerable prodding from pastoralists like Christison of Lammermoor, it had at last, the previous December, approached the Minister for Education to finance a Chair in Agriculture. Now, in June 1914, it resolved solemnly that the time was ripe for the establishment of a Medical School. A Faculty of Commerce, too, had been mooted and there was talk of the need for work in Veterinary Science.

The ambition of this programme is testimony not only to the far-sightedness of the Senate but also to the homogeneity of the University itself. The enthusiasm of students and staff alike had already demonstrated in a few short years that the true University spirit is not dependent upon magnificent endowment or upon ancient or even adequate buildings, though indeed it may find it easier to flourish in such environments. By 1914 there was already that which differentiated the University of Queensland from all other educational activities in the State, despite the efforts of some Parliamentarians, several Senators, and on occasion the Press, to subordinate it to the Department of Public Instruction,
One of the measurable factors influencing the growth of this spirit was the mushrooming of the residential colleges. Sponsored, on the common Australian pattern, largely by individual religious denominations, they had all but accompanied the University's foundation and ever afterwards have paralleled its growth. For men there were Emmanuel (established by the Presbyterian Church) and St. John's (Church of England) both of which enrolled students for first term 1912, and King's (Methodist), which opened in 1913. The Women's College (non-denominational) began in 1914. (63)

The residential proportion of full-time students at the University has always been high and this, as well as contributing to the true University spirit, has also played its part, together with the External Studies Department, in countering the suggestion that it is no more in practice than a University of Brisbane.

In July 1914, Sir William McGregor, on the eve of his departure for England, received an honorary doctorate from the hands of his own Vice-Chancellor and, after an appropriate Latin Oration from Professor Michie, spoke feelingly of the University's success and hopes.

But all this jubilation and optimism was sadly to be curtailed a month later as the storm burst in Europe and the University entered perforce on a state practically of suspended animation which was to last for four years. That it survived this sudden chilling of its growth is further testimony of its real and rapid development in its first few years.

To appreciate the effect of the war one needs to remember just what a tiny institution the University still was in 1914. The student body certainly had grown by 1914 to 231, but against the 1911 enrolment of 83, "itself considerably more than had been expected", there were but 63 new students in 1914 and only 46 attended the matriculation ceremony in March 1915. (64)

The teaching staff at the outbreak of the war totalled 32, including part-time and temporary appointments. To the "Big Four" had been added, in 1911, the "lesser Seven", the first lecturers. As a progressive young institution the University had bravely selected a woman as one of these; Hermione Ulrich, lecturer in Modern Languages; but the Christian institution of marriage soon disposed of the embarrassment that must have been caused a Registrar whose conditions of appointment to teaching staff positions referred exclusively and definitely to "gentlemen." Miss Ulrich very soon married Thomas Parnell, first lecturer in Physics, who was to become first Professor of his subject. The other five were Cholmeley, a somewhat eccentric classicist who was among the war casualties to the University, Henry Caselli Richards, first lecturer

63. In addition to those mentioned there were, by Jubilee Year: St. Leo's (Roman Catholic-men) founded 1917, Duchesne (Roman Catholic-women) 1937, Union College (non-denominational-men) 1947 and Cromwell (Congregational-men) 1954.

64. On this occasion the Courier explained to its readers who, apparently, would have been completely mystified otherwise, that "it is believed that the slight decrease is due to the indecision of some students to enter the University at the present period of history, which is necessarily attended with some uncertainty as to the future." (17/3/1915).
and later first Professor of Geology and Mineralogy, J.P., later Sir John Tivey, whose appointment to Electrical Engineering Gibson had been unable to secure without advertisement, E.O. Shann, who later went to the Chair of History in Adelaide and Elton Mayo, whose outstanding lectures in Philosophy and Psychology were reliable indications of the calibre which later received world recognition at Harvard.

Further additions and replacements up to 1914 who were to leave their mark on the University were J.J. Stable, who replaced Miss Ulrich in 1912 on her marriage and who later filled the first chair of English, and Henry Alcock, who succeeded Shann in 1914 and who was to become McCaughey Professor of History and Economics. To assist Steele, and later to succeed him, came, in 1911, L.S. Bagster, originally as a Demonstrator. (65) Parnell was jointed in 1912 by S.G. Lusby, who was to become one of the University's only two Assistant Professors. On the Engineering side, A.R. Munro in 1913 and C.N. Ross in 1914 began careers that were to see the University practically through its first half century. A.C.V Melbourne, temporary lecturer in History in 1913-14, later the first of that transitory group, the Associate Professors, rendered distinguished service before his untimely death in 1943. Biology was for its first nine years in the charge of T. Harvey Johnston who became briefly, in 1920, its first Professor. H.G. Denham lectured in Chemistry in the same period, ultimately becoming Assistant Professor, (66).

That from this small community of staff and students no less than one hundred and fifty-four saw active service during the War and a further twenty-two were engaged on munitions or other work is a proud record. Thirty-two volunteers failed to return and one other died later from the effects of his injuries.

The University was quick to afford every facility to students to serve. By Flying Minute the Senete resolved, as early as 14th August 1914, that no volunteer should forfeit credit for his year's work but that he should be granted a pass, providing he survived an "approved" examination at a later date. (67).

65. Bagster was sent overseas very soon after appointment to study the application of Chemistry to Industry. On his return in 1915, he established, under Steele's direction, the school of Applied Chemistry which had been made possible by a gift of £1,800 from the trustees of the late Walter and Eliza Hall.

66. In December 1959 not one of these mentioned so far was left on the staff, the senior member by appointment being T.G.H. Jones who joined the Chemistry Department in 1915 and ultimately succeeded Bagster on the chair.

67. One cannot help reflecting how many important decisions of the Senate have been arrived at by the intriguing device of the Flying Minute, or have been decided by the small Vacation Committee to which they early resolved to deliver an executive authority during the Long Vacation. This clearly is the ultimate in government by Committee!
The Senate understandably was not nearly so happy at losing its teaching staff. Steele and T.G.H. Jones were off to England and munitions work very early. Cholmley joined his regiment in Europe and died in Russia in 1919. Gibson’s services were requisitioned for war work and both Parnell and Melbourne enlisted. Others tried; Alcock, for instance, once the war’s duration effected a sufficient relaxation of the stringent medical examination. But by that time the crisis was past for the Empire, though not for the University, and the Senate felt justified in objecting vigorously to losing him, or Michie who had become liable for call-up.

No one could doubt the University’s patriotism. In addition to the services of its members and to the practical help given to war industry and research in its laboratories and workshops it did not fail to issue statements appropriate to the times, and the period. Indeed the first Senate went out of office with magnificent grandiloquence: "The Senate of the University of Queensland desire to place on record an expression of their gratitude for inestimable services rendered the Empire by the late Earl Kitchener, more particularly in the unparalleled achievement of creating the new armies in the field, and while profoundly conscious of the magnitude of the loss which the allied nations have suffered by the tragic death of Great Britain’s most trusted leader, assert their fullest confidence that the work which he began will reach its consummation in the triumph of the cause for which he died".

Faced with this, what could the incoming Senate do but resolve, if only by Flying Minute, "that, on this second anniversary of the declaration of a righteous war, the Senate of the University of Queensland records its inflexible determination to continue to a victorious end the struggle in maintenance of these ideals of liberty and justice which are common and sacred to the cause of the Allies." (68) Of perhaps more immediate application was its decision a month later "that the functions of the University should not be suspended under any conditions."

The retirement of the first Senate saw a determined and successful assertion by the staff of the need for academic opinion on this body. The University Act had provided for the initial Senate to be nominated in its entirety by the Governor in Council. It had also laid down that once the number of graduates (excluding those admitted ad eundem gradum) reached twenty-five, there could be constituted from their number the University Council, which would enjoy the right of electing five persons to the Senate, this number to be increased to ten once the Council numbered fifty members. Of the ten, no more than three could be members of the University staff.

The first of these magic milestones was reached at the 1914 graduation ceremony, but no action was taken by the Government and it was not until December 1915 that, the Minister having been informed that the graduate body numbered 57, the Council was constituted by notice in the Government Gazette.

68. A mild difficulty confronting the author of a work such as this present one is that of deciding whether collective nouns such as "Senate" should be treated in the singular or the plural. A study of the foregoing quotation and that immediately preceding it supports one in ignoring the problem completely.
The First Senate was dissolved on 17th June 1916 and the part election of their successors held on 30th of the same month. Since, however, the Government had released these dates on the 15th December previously, there was plenty of time for organization, for lobbying and for canvassing. The University staff displayed an energy on this occasion that was not so noticeable when, subsequently, issues were before them of considerable importance to the University's independent existence.

As early as March 1915, the Courier had foreshadowed the constitution of the Council and the resultant election, though, with masterly understatement, assuring its readers that "some little time however will elapse before the necessary machinery has been provided by the joint operations of the Governor in Council and the Senate for the election of Senators." (69) It was not until April 1916 that a Senate deputation sought to discover whether the Minister for Public Instruction intended to include among the Government appointees to the Senate such "indispensable" men as "for example Mr. Roe, Mr. Story, Dr. Shirley, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Woolcock and the Chief Justice ... some of whom had felt they should only be appointed in this way." The Minister admitted, under pressure and surely to no one's surprise, that Roe and Story would be nominated and also the Chief Justice "if the Council did not do the honour of electing him" (70) but also said that the Act implied that the Council election should precede the Government's nominations. Unfortunately, his cautious statement was taken by some as a firm declaration of intent.

By the last meeting of the retiring Senate, organization and excitement were at a considerable pitch and the Chief Justice, Sir Pope Cooper, who had succeeded MacGregor as Chancellor, expressed very strong opposition, on that occasion, to what was clearly an arrangement among the professions and the teaching staff for mutual support for a ticket of candidates. As he put it, "The Senate should be comprised of persons of the highest integrity and not of people who were ready to sell their votes." (71)

One cannot help sympathizing with the retiring members of the Senate who, said the Courier, "feel that they have had a strenuous and difficult task to accomplish in establishing the University, and getting it started on the right lines, and they feel that they are entitled to some little consideration or gratitude on the part of the community, and do not deserve to be thrust out suddenly into the cold." (72) One is, inevitably, somewhat less sympathetic to the strong views the same gentlemen were reported to hold on the "anomalous" representation of the staff on their own governing body. (73)

70. ibid. 18/4/1916
71. Ibid. 20/6/1916
72. Ibid. 22/6/1916
73. Roe, for instance, spoke at the first meeting of the University Council expressing the strong hope that no staff candidates would be returned. Alcock recorded later that it was this speech that really touched off staff indignation and prompted the whole idea of the joint ticket.
On the other hand, the British Medical Association, which was singled out for attack for supporting the "unity ticket", not only insisted that such a procedure was "perfectly justifiable, democratic and in fact necessary if the most representative Senate possible is to be elected," but also pointed out that, in common with other professional bodies, it had been asked earlier to nominate representatives to the University Council and so could hardly be blamed for inferring that the same idea might be applicable to the Senate.

In the event, organization triumphed inevitably, and the "ticket" was completely successful. Gibson, Michie and Priestly were elected, together with Archbishop Donaldson and Dr. Merrington representing the churches, and Dr. W.N. Robertson and Dr. E.S. Jackson the medical profession. The lawyers, originally, at least tentatively, a party to the project, but warned off apparently by the Chief Justice's violent objections, nevertheless returned Sir Pope Cooper and the Hon. A.J. Thynne, who were to be elected Chancellor and Vice Chancellor respectively. Besides these two, John Brownlie Henderson, the Government Analyst, was the only other member of the First Senate to survive the election.

The Government unfortunately moved too soon in announcing their nominees, despite the Minister's earlier statement and, apart from increasing the ecclesiastical element by balancing one Archbishop against the other and securing representation for the non-conformist groups, committed itself almost exclusively to political appointments. In this way there were dropped a number of distinguished and able men like J.L. Woolcock and practically all the members of the old University movement, including Vice Chancellor Rose. (74)

Nevertheless there was continuity enough, with J.D. Story preserving his chairmanship of the Administrative Committee which he had directed since its inception and of the Finance Committee to which he had succeeded in 1912, In 1960 he still occupied, with incredible vitality both of these key positions in the University structure.

The Second Senate had problems enough to deal with in just keeping the University alive but, to its great credit, it should be recorded that it also laid plans and prepared re-organization against the demands of a post-war world. Already in early 1916 its predecessor had resolved to consider action to be taken "in anticipation of the commercial industrial and scientific questions which must arise after the war", and the University had been represented at Prime Minister Hughes' conference from which ultimately developed the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

At the first meeting of the new, re-constituted Senate, Story gave notice of motion for the establishment of Faculties of Agriculture and Commerce and, in August 1916, a select committee was formed under his chairmanship to consider the whole question of agricultural education. The matter of commercial training was referred to the Board of Faculties. In December, too, the Board was requested to report on the steps necessary to institute University training in Dentistry.

Ironically enough the authors of the first jubilee history of the University, writing in 1936, opened their section on the Second Senate with the words "The Second Senate, like all the subsequent Senates, consisted of ten members appointed by the Governor in Council and ten members elected by the Council of the University". Within seven years an over-benevolent Government was to remedy this by increasing the proportion of their nominees!
Internal re-organization was planned as well and a new scheme of salary classifications devised that provided for Associate Professorships and increased the lecturer salary to a maximum of £500 per annum. In this it seems the Senate was no more than just ahead of popular pressure, since in October it received, for the first time, a deputation from the teaching staff on the question of status and emoluments. To this "florlorn hope" was explained that no improvement could be made until the Government saw fit to increase the annual endowment; an answer which the staff was to receive again many times in the next forty years.

Interestingly enough, although the new Senate met with markedly less frequency than its predecessor, it had trouble from the first with absentees and a vigorous statement of intent to implement the penal clauses of the Act on this matter caused a nice little stir in no less a place than the Legislative Assembly. Foolishly enough, it is clear, the Minister for Education had been a considerable sinner and in consequence had to endure the witheisms of his colleagues and the attacks of his opponents. The Senate still met, at this stage, at 2.30 p.m. and there may well have been truth in Minister Hardacre's complaint that the time was unsuitable. Indeed, a motion had been before the Senate in the name of W.N. Robertson since October 1916 to have meetings held in the evenings, but those of his associates who found it possible to attend in the afternoon seemingly displayed little enthusiasm for making a night of it.

The University was under fire in Parliament on another matter also by 1916. J.J. Stable in performing his duties with considerable assiduity and no little courage as District Censor had gone to the length of impounding an issue of the State Hansard. He was accused, accordingly, of what some years later would be termed "Fascist leanings" and Honorable Members, or some at least, objected vigorously to so much of the annual endowment of the University being dissipated in paying salaries to a staff which included that "rather dangerous individual for the future democracy of Queensland." (75)

Criticism of Stable was enough to deter the Minister from introducing a promised Bill to have the University's grant included automatically in the schedules of each State Budget, so that it has remained ever since open to detailed debate in Parliament.

Increasing experience of University life brought a more adult note to student organization. By 1916 there was noticeably more questioning of the infallibility of the Powers That Be.

A blunt instruction by the Board of Faculties that the Students Representative Council suspend the editor of the magazine brought the reply, "as the council has not been officially recognized by the Board in the past we do not see our way clear to comply with their instructions without further explanation from them."

75. Q.P.D. 128 (1917) 3310. The full story of Stable's confiscation of Hansard has yet to be told. But exciting and delicious pictures can be drawn of his athletic scaling of the corrugated iron fence surrounding the Government Printing Office, despite a vigorously phrased warning from the Printer that any such trespass would be resisted by armed force.
It was Michie who, with consummate tact, smoothed over this situation, but not before a strong editorial on University discipline appeared in the magazine. "It is to be hoped," pontificated the editors, "that the initial makeshift constitution of this University is not be fossilized into a be-all and an end-all. We want life, progress, internal coherence; a growing tradition of mutual trust, forbearance, reciprocal goodwill-things that go to make what eventually constitutes "good tone". One thing is quite certain - students of themselves can never inspire a worthwhile University tone: nor can a militant disciplinarianism on the part of the authorities. The only true resultant of such a cleavage would be a tone reminiscent of the pleasant recriminations of two lusty fishwives." (76)

All this was very healthy. It was good that students should realize their importance in and their responsibility to the University: "Roughly speaking our community consists of four bodies - Senate, council, staff and students - the latter being the raison d'être of all the others." It was good, too, that they should protest against petty school discipline. (77)

With 1918 came the last of the war years. It was clearly recognized as such at the time, and saw a conscious girding of the lions for the period of post-war reconstruction. A Senate Committee on University organization received a long and thoughtful report from the Board on the Board's own constitution. This drew attention to its double function; first of acting as an executive committee, for which the existing small group of four members was suitable; and secondly, of trying to correlate the work of Departments for which, in the face of the increasing subject ramifications of the University's it was no longer adequate, it saw no real solution other than the creation of new Chairs in the semi-independent Departments which had emerged since 1911. The Senate was sufficiently impressed to resolve immediately that provision be made in the budget for 1919 for increased academic salaries.

Despite these affairs of great moment the Board and the Senate continued to be preoccupied with relatively trivial matters. At the same meeting which considered Story's far-reaching and fundamental report on University organization, for instance, a vicious library fine of 33/- was solemnly debated in the Senate and clemently reduced to 5/-. The interminable question of white ants, too, was met at this meeting also by a resolution that the Public Works Department deal with each fresh outbreak as it occurred; though "Walter", the janitor, was still to make a monthly inquiry into the rampages of these voracious insects.

76. Queensland University Magazine. 5 (1916), (3) 6.

77. The chief object of their protests was Cumbrae-Stewart, the Registrar whom they pilloried as over-pompous and far too fond of exercising his authority in small matters:

When I became a Registrar,
  I curled my fair moustache,
  I told the little students that
  They must keep off the grass
And on the day they grant degrees
  I donned my robe of state,
And cast on noisy undergrads,
  A look of deadly hate.
The last meeting of the year saw the Sory report brought down and to the almost unmixed delight of the staff at least, approved in toto. One major recommendation was that the existing Senate should continue in office until February 1920 and that future Senates should operate in triennia, to conclude in the appropriate February. (78)

Of more intimate interest to the staff, however, was a new schedule of salaries and the creation of no less than four new Chairs; in Philosophy, Biology, Geology and Physics. For Mayo and Johnston, for Richards and particularly for Parnell, who had not yet returned from active service, this was a welcome development, since in each case they were elevated to these new dignities from their respective lectureships. All existing assistant lecturers, too, were promoted to full lectureships.

The only disturbing point, and this was seen very clearly in retrospect, was the imposition of time limits on all appointments. Even the new Professors were promoted subject to review at the conclusion of each seven years service. In this way did the Senate, with the most public-spirited intentions, set us the first of those impediments of "peculiarity" that were destined adversely to affect the attraction of overseas talent to the University.

Thus, with a salary Bill increased by 50%, with plans for new faculties and with a conscious appreciation of increased responsibilities, did the University of Queensland, a scant month after the Armistice, prepare to help build the New World.

78. Only one other Senate has since had its "normal" term of office extended. This was the Fifteenth, which, due to retire in February 1959, was prolonged for twelve months.
CHAPTER III FORMATIVE YEARS (1919-1929)

And here's a toast to the blokes
Like Mayne and McCaughey and Beirne,
Darnell and the rest, all men of the best,
Who gave us their money to burn.

The Queensland 'Varsity Students' Song.

The pre-war years had lasted just long enough for the University to establish itself. The first big staff expansion, for instance, had come actually in 1914 when, for a few wonderful months, a lecturing staff of more than thirty had only to cope with less than 200, intra-mural students, of whom only 151 attended full-time.

The inter-war years by and large, were not nearly as exciting as the years of establishment. Post-war enrolments, even proportionally, comprised nothing approaching the flood that was nearly to submerge the University in 1946. Government interest and consequently public funds seemed to flag, and, even before the world depression ham-strung its activities, the infant University seemed to lose something of its buoyant enthusiasm. As we shall see, there was a sudden mushrooming of effect at the time of the Silver Jubilee, but even this seems to have failed of its initial promise. The pall of inadequate and unsuitable accommodation and the ignominy of being so closely tied to the Government's purse strings together slowed the University tempo.

The immediately post-war budget represented the University's first adventure in big business, no less than £21,000 being estimated as necessary to support its activities in 1919. In its last year of office the Second Senate displayed, indeed, considerable activity, as befitted the controlling body of an institution whose full-time students numbers increased practically overnight by some 50% (79)

With no corresponding increase in income in sight, however, there was little that could be done to cope with overcrowding or understaffing. The Senate might agree solemnly with the Board of Faculties that no more than 50 students should be lectured to at one time in the first-year Physics classes but, lacking any real increase in endowment, this could remain no more than the expression of an admirable sentiment.

79. It should be noted, however, that this increased student total represented only 20% more than the figure for 1914 the number of enrolments having risen over this period from 231 to only 263.
The year 1919 saw too that almost annual event, a deputation to the Premier on the question of a permanent site. The 1916 Bill vesting the Victoria Park area in the University had been still-born and, while the Premier on this later occasion saw no reason why it should not be re-introduced, it was to be a further three years before this took place.

As some rather doubtful measure of encouragement to the staff under these trying conditions the title of Assistant Professor was introduced. This, while carrying no increase in emoluments, did allow an accession of dignity to lecturers of long standing. It was not an over-used title.; Only Denham and Lusby ever were awarded it and it was abandoned with no regrets as soon as a more satisfactory alternative was possible.

There was, in that Bolshevik-haunted year, a mild excitement over the future of the Joint Committee for Tutorial Classes. An extremist element in the W.E.A. was reported in the Press as having said, "The University of Queensland, like almost all academic institutions throughout the world, is controlled by the class which is nourished on the proceeds of exploitation, by men who, even when equipped with much knowledge, or apparently progressive in their outlook, are nevertheless saturated with bourgeois ideas." This outburst, horrifying enough in itself to many Courier readers, must have evoked in the timid, bloody visions of revolution when it continued: "It is a vain hope to expect that any academic institution such as the University of Queensland will ever, under present conditions, either directly or indirectly, be the means of contributing towards the political education of the workers for the purpose of placing political power, and the ability to use it, within their grasp." (80)

The question of public relations, which had been toyed with in 1914, now was re-awakened, especially in the University Council, which has always been concerned particularly, if not especially effectively, with the relationships between the University and the Community. A.J. Thynne, the Vice-Chancellor, and Sir Robert Philp, the Warden, felt the time had come for the University to move out to the people and reinforce the good impression created by its splendid war record. The Vice-Chancellor was a little less enthusiastic in the Legislative Council, however, and, while stating properly that "he trusted the staff would remember always that their duty was not to inculcate any particular doctrines or theories, but to help everybody who came under their influence to come to their own conclusions," said also that "he did not think it was the place of the University to take part in public discussions of the day." (81)

In this way he did no more than point the difficulty in which successive Senates would always find themselves in the matter of public relations. In their laudable desire to present the most attractive public view possible of the University, they have supported and urged public "performances" by their staff and this, while

80. Courier 15/3/1919. In fact this turned out to be a storm in a teacup since the rank and file of the W.E.A., especially the effective members of the lecture groups, dissociated themselves firmly from these blood-curdling sentiments. The Courier had a splendid week of righteous indignation against the few who "desire to make use of State money and State-paid University men to carry on extremist propaganda" but a plain hint from the Government that the said "State money" was being jeopardized by their outspokenness soon brought the extremists to heel,

81. Courier. 20/8/1919,
the net result, in terms of hard cash through benefactions, has been pitiful on
the whole, has done much to keep the University alive in the public mind. On
the other hand, largely through fear of offending the University's paymasters,
they sought for many years to shackle their professors and lecturers, even as
private persons, to a political monopoly. Thus, the first terms of appointment
drawn up in 1910 included the remarkable clause "the Professor shall not take
part in political affairs otherwise than by the exercise of the franchise" and
this denial of one of the democratic rights was to remain standard for more than
thirty years with, on at least one occasion, most unfortunate results for the
University. Later, too, there would arise the problem of lecturers in such
subjects as Political Science and Constitutional Law feeling it their duty as
citizens publicly to pronounce from their expertise on actions of the Government
of the day. This the Senate would find embarrassing and, because embarrassing,
also, at least to some extent, irritating.

The immediate result of the Council's interest in public relations in 1919
was the creation by the Senate of a Public Lectures Committee whose activities
have remained a feature of University life, if not always an active one.

Gibson, the first one of the "Big Four" to go, left soon after returning
from his war-time service. He was replaced by Roger William Hercules Hawken,
whose resounding name and whose form "cadaverous and long" were to delight
student songsters for more than forty years. "Hanks", as he was known to
generations of students, soon set the seal of his own personality on Gibson's
school and contributed largely in this way to the strong family feeling ever
displayed by Queensland "greasers."

Another accession to staff should be remarked, not only for his talents
but because he set a precedent of the University "living off its own" which was
to gather strength with its reiteration, not always for the best, as Queensland
terms of appointment gradually assumed another of those idiosyncracies which
marked them for many years. This was the appointment of Walter Heywood Bryan,
one of the original students of 1911, whom the accident of alphabetic order
had made the very first B.Sc., of the new University. While abroad with the
A.I.F. he had taken out the first M.Sc. to be awarded and now after postgraduate work
at Cambridge he returned to lecture in the school of Geology and Mineralogy in which
he had taken his degree. Six years later he was to complete a unique treble by re­
ceiving the University's first Doctorate to be awarded on examination. Ultimately
he was to succeed to the Chair on Richards's death. (82)

There was some discussion in 1919 of the need for those elusive Faculties
of Agriculture and Commerce, but Medicine was already being urged in some quarters
as of more pressing import. (83) There was even a brief burst of enthusiasm in

82. Official slang is always interesting. Terms of appointment prior to Bryan's
had always referred to "gentlemen", his were the first and only ones ever
to refer to "persons" since, after a brief return to gentility, the
University soon sought refuge in the complete informality of "the lecturer"
or "the Professor"; sometimes the "successful applicant" or even, horribly,
"the appointee".

83. For instance, in the Legislative Assembly, (Q.P.D. 134 (1919-20), 2516)
where a member calculated that 111 Queenslanders would that year attend
medical schools in other states.
the Senate for the early establishment of a Conservatorium, which reads a little ironically today.

Actually, the University had interested itself from the first, if somewhat cautiously, in musical education and, since 1912, had been conducting public examinations in this field controlled by a joint scheme of the Australian Universities. In 1915 too, it had appointed a musical adviser, although the emergence of even a small separate Department of Music was to be long delayed.

A year which was punctuated with complaints of overcrowding concluded on a note of bounding optimism when it became known that the first sizable gift to the University was assured. Sir Samuel McCaughey, a wealthy Victorian grazier, had bequeathed to the University a sum large enough to yield something approaching £8,000 per year. To many it must have seemed that this was the turn of the tide and that a flood of benefaction of American dimensions would now benignly submerge and so largely support the University. Alas it was not to be!

The year 1920 brought a new Senate, the third of the University's existence and the second to be elected in part. This time no indignant Vice-Chancellors or offended Chief Justices complained of unethical lobbying, but the result was almost exactly the same. The three staff members elected, joined indeed six of their predecessors' seven elected colleagues from the Second Senate. Moreover, the seventh followed the same profession as his predecessor.

The new Senate was not diverted by the "McCaughey millions" but devoted itself initially, like the second Senate, to a certain amount of soul-searching. It appointed a Select Committee on Organization and Expansion, under the chairmanship, inevitably, of J.D. Story.

This second Story report, while cautiously suggesting Diplomas as first steps to full courses in Agriculture, Commerce and Education, and a lectureship in Law rather than a full Faculty, urged strongly the need for a Faculty of Medicine (including Dentistry). It pointed out, however, that it would be impossible to provide for this on the George Street site. As to the "full" development of existing Faculties, it calculated that Arts would require an all-round increase of 35% on present expenditure, Science 25% and Engineering 50%. The effect of the report was felt only gradually and it was not until the amending Act of 1922 that any real increase in endowment enabled a substantial expansion of activities.

But 1920 was notable for other reasons. It saw the first really organized "Commem." procession, a much more impressive performance than its feeble ancestor in 1914. The Courier gravely commended the spectacle and the Vice-Chancellor extended his congratulations to the students. Both were less happy with the complete uproar that occurred at the Degree ceremony, partly due to a successful strewing of the processional path with small detonators. Student ebullience was deemed finally to have transgressed the borders of propriety later in the year when the audience at His Majesty's theatre was thrown into panic by "aggressive rowdy and unruly" students who purported to be sounding an alarm against fire. Said the Courier: "The audience then realized that a 'rag' was in progress - that enlightened young men from a modern University were expressing their idea of humour in what is supposed to be a conventional manner." (84) Said the Board

84. Courier.
of Faculties when pronouncing sentence on the offenders; "The 'rag' is a tradition that need not be followed. It results, as on this occasion, in the excitement of the moment in contact which is childish and tastless (sic) and which may do great harm to the reputation and prospects especially of a new University such as this."

Even prior to this escapade, the Board had been instructed by the Senate to advise on future Degree ceremonies, in view of the students' misbehaviour, and had found it possible to suggest only two courses of action; either arrangements for more orderly behaviour of students or their total exclusion from all ceremonies. (85) Only a week or so before the 'rag' the Senate had noted this report and had further instructed the Board to offer the students "a certain amount of time...in return for which they would undertake to refrain from interrupting the remainder of the ceremony." The Senate must have felt righteous indignation at this further irresponsibility and only the public apology offered by the President of the Student Men's Club restored something like normal relations between the parties concerned.

All told their was certainly a new vigour in the undergraduate body in 1920. As well as the Procession and associated "Commem." frivolity, there was a spirit of efficiency in the Students Association. Its executive, the Students Representative Council, triumphantly defeated a motion aimed at its abolition, "the room being crowded to the utmost." The Magazine, for almost the first time, combined with a healthy criticism of authority a number of literary compositions of real merit over the names of E.H. Partridge, Jack Lindsay and P.R. ("Inky") Stephenson, each of whom was later to establish international eminence in this sphere.

The contribution of the Union to this new life was to stage a ball. In the organization of this, the first full-scale ball in the University's history, nothing, or at least much less than usual, was left to chance. The occasion was the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII). Even the Tramway Trust, whose antique, overcrowded vehicles were the constant butts of student humour, succumbed to the prevailing enthusiasm and arranged special trams on all lines at 1.00 a.m.

Throughout the whole University there was much speculation, in 1920, over what should be done with the McCaughey Bequest. It was only after very careful consideration that the decision was made to accumulate interest on the capital until the annual income was sufficient to provide those further Chairs within the existing Faculties which had been recommended by the Story Committee.

85. The Senate's actual resolution is well worth preserving for posterity. "Having in mind the basic considerations associated with the ceremony of conferring Degrees and having in view also the desirability or otherwise of meeting in a suitable way the spirit usually displayed by undergraduates on such occasions, the Board of Faculties be requested to consider and advise the Senate as to the best procedure to be followed in future."
A further hopeful pointer to increasing public support was seen in the gift of £10,000 by the British Red Cross Society to endow a Research Professorship in Medical Psychology. The first appointment, that of J.P. Lawson, was made in 1921. For many years the incumbent of this Chair was to be looked upon with considerable doubt, not untinged with envy, by colleagues with teaching and administrative preoccupations. It would be another twenty-five years or more before the University would endorse openly the importance of research to the extent of providing from its own resources similar senior research appointments practically free from teaching responsibilities.

Research had always been supported in theory by the University. Quite an amount had actually been carried out, despite the fact that the staff had more than enough to do from day to day to carry out their teaching functions. There had been some early backing too by outside bodies. The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust, for example, had endowed in 1915 a school of Applied Chemistry and, later, Fellowships in Economic Biology and in other fields. Moreover, already, in addition to research for purely military ends, public interest had been stimulated by University participation in the great campaign to defeat the prickly pear menace. In 1920 Professor Harvey Johnston was granted leave for almost three years to direct this battle, with the imposing title of Scientific Controller (Prickly Pear).

Disturbed by the dilemma comprised by the desirability of research on the one hand and, on the other, the danger of interrupting the teaching programme, the Board this year put up a modest scheme for what amounted to relief from teaching duties for one member of staff in any one year to engage in research. Perhaps somewhat to its surprise the Senate accepted this scheme. At least it committed the University to a principle.

A year which thus had seen something of achievement and much of promise closed with a reminder of one vital unit in the University's equipment which remained neglected and was to continue for many more years to be the "Cinderella" Department. In December the Senate noted a report from the Registrar in his capacity as Librarian. After ten years the Library numbered a mere 20,000 volumes and the main collection was shockingly accommodated in what was later found to be a rather small lecture room. There was, it was reported, no further space on the shelves, no room to construct any more, quite literally nowhere for the library staff to work, and no control over student or staff use of the library. There seemed to be also not only no prospect of improving this parlous situation, but even no hope.

The second teaching decade opened with what was to be a hard perennial. Mackay schoolteachers drew attention, with reason, to the incredibly bad climatic conditions under which the Public Examinations inevitably had to be held. There is no doubt that Queensland, and especially tropical Queensland, is not the place to concentrate on examination papers in the month of November. In 1921, however, as now, the Senate could do no more than regret the inclemencies of the climate, since end-of-the year examinations fitted so satisfactorily into the general organization of the community as a whole. Speaking of permanents, too, the Senate gravely considered in this year of grace the holding of a
University Week. Such a function would be in line with its declared policy of
more active public relations, but for one reason or another University Week
became the most postponed of all functions.

Already the Board of Faculties had been considering that geographical
decentralization, or perhaps multiplication of the University's activities
which is inevitable, and, even in 1921, the question of country colleges was
being debated actively.

The Teachers Union this year suggested the abolition of fees - pointing
out that the total cost of doing so would be no more than some £6,650 a year.
In a reasoned answer to this proposal the Finance Committee of the Senate
expressed the view that the University would be better served by the Government
providing the same sum in extra bursaries to encourage competition for
University education. The number of free Government scholarships to the
University had not been increased, it was noted, from the twenty established
in 1911.

Preliminary meetings took place in 1921 that were to result, the
following year, in the establishment of the Combined Advisory Committee, a
body on which are represented Senate, Staff, Students and Graduates..C.A.C.
seems for most of its life to have remained one of those Committees whose worth
and value are equaled only by their ineffectiveness. At annual Dinners and
on other appropriate occasions it has been hailed as a unique forum for the
discussion of matters pertaining to all sections of the University. Perhaps
because the individual sections concerned have devised more direct, or at least
more effective, methods of airing their grievances or making their suggestions,
it never seems to have realized its potential.

A significant innovation was the introduction of the new Governor,
Sir Matthew Nathan, as guest speaker at the Commemoration Ceremony.
Characteristically, if not necessarily significantly, Sir Matthew made a
trenchant criticism of the public examination system.

The Courier found the ceremony quiet, and the associated procession
"within the bounds of common sense and good taste" (86). Incidentally,
the same source reveals that the procession, in these early days, traversed
Alice, Edward, Charlotte, Eagle, Queen and George Streets - a sufficient trek,
one would have thought, to set limits of its own to student boisterousness.

The accent in 1921 was certainly on public relations. An active public
lecture programme revived memories of the old University extension, as burgesses
and their ladies came to be instructed in such topics as "The relation of
Geology to Scenery" and "The religion of the Ancient Greeks."

The student body made its own contribution to the publicity campaign.
The magazine, under the editorship of P.R. Stephenson, blossomed out with a
new colourful cover and a brand-new title. Galmahra, the name selected was
reported to be aboriginal for "a poet, seer, teacher or philosopher amongst
the tribes," as well as the proper name of Jacky-Jacky, faithful friend of
Edmund Kennedy, the ill-fated explorer of Northern Queensland.

It was a considerably more sophisticated magazine in its new form.
Lindsay, who had just graduated, celebrated his farewell to University life
with a cutting article on The Academic Mind. He was represented also by
five poems, in several of which both the language employed and the images evoked

86. Courier 30/4/1921.
were considerably uninhibited.

Faced once again with a strong hint of official displeasure, the Students Representative Council met and solemnly read over these offending contributions. One reflection they saw no reason why *The Academic Mind* should not remain, but "every member was of the opinion that the poems certainly were by no means fit to appear in the University magazine and if the circulation of these was allowed to proceed the result would be drastic to the University as a whole." In future, the Council resolved, a "lady" editor should scrutinize copy before *Galmahra* went to press. At the same time it noted, with thanks, the offer of Professors Michie and Mayo to "assist" in avoiding similar disagreeableness.

Editor Stephenson was not abashed. *Galmahra* barely mentioned the great censorship struggle. There is no evidence, indeed, that any one, even the "lady editor", ever interfered with him subsequently in any way. The magazine proceeded on its vigorous way claiming, with justice, a major role in educating public opinion. Sales were actively promoted outside the University. It continued, too, the policy of open comment on the activity, or inactivity as it felt, of the Senate. It was quick to applaud the report of Story's Committee on Organization and Expansion and urged that it be widely distributed. It was just as prompt to seize upon a hint, which might easily have been wellfounded, that the income from the McCaughey Bequest would simply be applied to reducing the statutory grant from the Government. "The Senate," said *Galmahra*, "will lose the last vestige of student respect if they acquiesce in this scandalous course of action."

Whether or not as a result of this activity on the part of students, the Senate, at the urging of the Administrative Committee, resolved that wider publicity should be given to Senate activities and this decision was applauded in the Press. No so, however, the Senate's parallel determination to continue to exclude the moulders of public opinion from their actual deliberations, "That is the kind of thing", fulminated the *Courier*, "which gives the public the impression - whether rightly or wrongly, it matters not - that the University is too secluded, too introspective, too conservative". (87)

The *Courier's* annoyance seems not even to have been soothed by the establishment, the same year, of the Diploma in Journalism, though it saw with pleasure the introduction of the Adult Matriculation Scheme, which relaxed admission requirements for persons of mature years.

The Senate was pleased to note, this year, that the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust had been delighted with reports of work done with their endowments. Later, as we shall see, the Trust was not so satisfied.

As 1921 came to its close, professorial matters preoccupied the University, Mayo, being anxious to keep up with developments in Psychology overseas, applied for a year's leave without pay, and this application was strongly supported by the Board. After much deliberation, the Senate granted leave with pay, less an allowance to a relieving lecturer. Before the end of the year, too, the long-awaited announcement was made of two new Chairs, in English and in History and Economics. It was thought that these would be followed later by further McCaughey Chairs.

87. *ibid.* 21/6/1921.
1922 was a big year for the University. The Senate's select committee of 1920 at last bore real fruit with an Amending Bill before Parliament to double the annual statutory grant, making it £20,000, and to grant a £1 for £1 subsidy up to £10,000 a year on monies donated for the purpose of scientific research. It was not until the 1923 budget that the increase was actually to take place, so that in fact it was the Fourth and subsequent Senates that benefited from this activity on the part of the Third.

Another Chair was approved in 1922, the Garrick Chair of Law, endowed from a gift of £10,000 by the Misses Garrick in memory of their father, Sir James. As we shall see, there can have been few positions in the University's history which have taken longer to fill.

Public relations continued to preoccupy the Senate and to satisfy the Press which now, and it might be said by no means too soon, drew attention to the need for, and perhaps the responsibility of, the community to support more actively the institution which was taking such pains to demonstrate its worth. "If the University of Queensland is to become an increasing source of strength to the State intellectually, morally and materially, it must get more liberal support from the Government, and a great deal more support, sympathy and appreciation from the general public." (88)

The same theme was pursued with characteristic vigour by a new Chancellor at a "New Look" graduation ceremony. The Chancellor was the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, and the ceremony, held on a much bigger scale than ever before, signalized both his accession to office and the "high pressure" salesmanship of the retiring Senate. Sir Matthew's installation as Chancellor in place of Sir Pope Cooper had taken place only after a long and tortuously diplomatic negotiation. The situation might have seemed to some to have its Gibeitian aspects, since one of the elected Senators had to resign to allow the Governor to be elected in his stead. Then the Chancellor had to resign to allow the Senate to elect his successor. There must have been not a few sighs of relief when the whole transaction was completed, and considerable thanksgiving that those irresponsible undergraduates had no vote or part in the proceedings.

In the strange circumstances imposed by statute on the University for the first half century of its existence, the office of Chancellor was often of considerable importance. With the Vice-Chancellor no more than an honorary officer of the Senate, and elected, moreover, from within its own personnel, the distribution of responsibility and control always varied to a greater or lesser degree from that found in Universities of a more traditional composition. A part-time honorary Vice-Chancellorship, at the electoral whim of a changing body like the Senate, did not seem calculated to contribute to continuity and strength in the conduct of the University's affairs.

Roe, the first Vice-Chancellor, although a Balliol man, had half a century of school teaching behind him and was, moreover, at the time of his election, State Inspector-General of Education. At least in theory this was an unhappy combination of offices to associate with a young University, especially one whose foundation and constitution in other ways at least opened it to the charge of undue and

88. Courier. 30/5/1922.
non-academic subservience to the State. A.J. Thynne, his successor, was a solicitor with a large practice to attend to, W.N. Robertson, who followed him, a doctor; more strength to the memory of these men who unselfishly devoted much but could not give all of their time to their University duties. The only possible solution to this particular problem, it seemed, was found in 1930 in the election to the Vice-Chancellorship of J.D. Story. Story, who had been for many years Under-Secretary in the Department of Education, then, as Public Service Commissioner, Head of the State Civil Service, was known at that time to be on the brink of retirement. He had exercised real and continuous control over the University practically since its inception, especially through his unchallenged Chairmanship of the Administrative and Finance Committees. His succession to the Vice-Chancellorship was eagerly accepted and maintained by the State, not only on account of his outstanding administrative and financial ability, or because he was hoped to possess the ear of Governments, but because there was just no other way to secure, unpaid, the continuous services of a talented administrator. In the event he remained in office until the age of ninety when, at last, an amendment of the Act established the position of full-time paid Vice-Chancellor, practically fifty years after the foundation of the University.

Successive Chancellors then, and especially in the pre-Story era, could be far more than the merely formal heads of the institution that their opposite numbers in Great Britain frequently and traditionally are. It must be said immediately that both Sir William MacGregor and Sir Matthew Nathan, the two Governor-Chancellors, certainly demonstrated their determination to take an active part in University affairs. The first Chancellor actually chaired early meetings of the Board of Faculties, negotiated personally with the Government on the site question and spoke openly, almost indiscreetly, against State intervention in the University. Sir Matthew Nathan, a man of considerable ability and notable charm, found somewhat fewer avenues open to him for direct participation, but never failed to give forthright public expression to the policy of the Senate, and at times to add to it his own strongly held views.

As well as securing a notable increase in Government support, the Third Senate must also have felt that it had settled the site question for good and all, since the University Site Act of 1922 at last vested those longsought 170 acres in Victoria Park in the University. Remarkably enough, in view of their past disagreements, this Act was actually promoted by a joint deputation of the Senate and the Municipal Council. By the end of the year the State Public Works Department had already begun work on a design of "a free Greek type, with a basement and colonnades, the columns to cover two stories." (89)

A certificate course in Commerce, to be expanded in the following year to one leading to a full Diploma, laid the foundations of a future Faculty of Commerce and was an appropriate accompaniment to the installation of the first

89. Courier. 29/4/24. One is reminded immediately of the portico of the Medical School, designed and executed by the same authority some decade or more after this time. Indeed it bears a distinct resemblance to a whole family of not particularly distinguished buildings which have risen in this way,
McCaughhey Professor of History and Economics. Both this Chair and the McCaughhey Chair of English went to the men on the spot, Henry Alcock in the first case, and Joseph Jeremiah Stable in the second, though both won selection in an open field.

Particularly after the retirement of Steele and the death of Priestley, Alcock and Stable tended more and more to share with Michie and Richards the administrative burden. As in Michie's case, it was unfortunate that so much of this should have been thrown upon them at this time, and that, accordingly, they should have formed their ideas in the days of a small and ill-endowed University. Even by the time of the Silver Jubilee they were tired men used to pinch-penny economies and small-scale planning. The hot-house growth of the late 1940's came far too late for them, and they were ill-equipped to cope with it. Alcock simply wore out his feeble constitution and died in office, Stable lived into retirement, but he all too soon faded quietly out.

As active young Professors, or Professors-elect, however, one of their first tasks was to produce, with something of a flourish, the *University of Queensland, 1910-1922*, which the Senate published in 1923 as perhaps setting the seal on its active publicity campaign. It is invaluable for those in search of a lucid and detailed account of the University's foundation and early growth.

Almost unnoticed there was initiated in this year a chain of events which was to lead to the establishment in 1936 of the long-sought Medical School. Dr. E.S. Meyers accepted in 1922 a position as Honorary Demonstrator in Anatomy to students of Dentistry at the State Dental Hospital, and thus commenced an association which would culminate in the Deanship of the Faculty of Medicine. Another figure of importance too in the foundation of the Medical Faculty, as in the life of the University as a whole, arrived in the person of Ernest Goddard, who succeeded Harvey Johnston as Professor of Biology.

As the Third Senate slipped almost unnoticed out of existence, the Press was not only clamouring for a Faculty of Medicine - "We need a good medical school, that is generally admitted" - but insisting further that "it must not be forgotten ... that the staple industries of Queensland are the breeding of stock and the cultivation of the ground, and until the University is able to provide adequate training for those whose lives will be spent in these industries, it cannot be said that our educational system is fulfilling its function of providing a knowledge of the things of practical value in daily life." (90)

In student domestic affairs 1922 was an important year, since it saw the establishment, after eleven years experiment, of the University of Queensland Union, the body which smugly was to control student affairs for the remainder of the half-century. At a combined meeting in July 1922 both the Students Association, represented by its executive, the Students Representative Council, and the University Union decided to go out of existence in favour of one organization which would combine their separate representative and social functions.

90. Courier. 19/12/1922.
From the old Union the new Union inherited a sadly failing piano, the control of a dozen different societies, and an interminable wrangle over the distribution amongst these of the telephone bill. From the Association and the S.R.C. it took over officially-recognized representation of the student body, especially on the newly established Combined Advisory Committee, and a debt of £97 incurred by the new-style magazine.

To these various responsibilities it was able to contribute immediately the blessing of the Senate, expressed among other ways by an annual grant of £50 to support Calmahra and the energy and enthusiasm of its first Secretary, R.L. Hall. In 1960 Sir Robert Hall would return to his old University as its official Guest for the celebration of the Golden Jubilee.

The Fourth Senate took office with what had come to be accepted as the normal lack of fuss in March 1923 (91). In many ways it marked a turning point in the University's fortunes. Not only was there the increased endowment and the improved position in the community, secured by the activities of the retiring Senate, but also the first rush of post-war excitement had abated. For the first time since 1916 and the last before 1942 there was a falling off in enrolments as the returned soldiers completed their courses. Moreover, what one might refer to as the normal distribution of students over Faculties recurred in this year, again with the disappearance of the post-war flush.

Just as would be the case after World War II, there had been in the years immediately following the Armistice, a disproportionate rise in the number of students doing Science and, to a less extent, Engineering, as opposed to those in Arts and, in later years, Commerce and Education. From 1923 to 1927, however, there was a steady decrease in enrolments in Science and Applied Science, while the Arts, Commerce and Education numbers actually rose by almost 50%.

Whatever the social implications of these trends, the result to the University amounted to a steadying of the cost per student, as more and more selected the fields for which there was no expensive equipment to provide and maintain.

Perhaps it was as well that the new Senate's task was to some extent eased, since it was faced immediately with staff problems. Mayo, who had sought a further year's leave, had finally been offered bluntly the alternatives of resumption or resignation and, having made already a name for himself in America, chose the latter. Then, too, as early as April the University of Queensland Staff Association, of which this appears to be the first official mention, was petitioning for an increase in academic salaries. This, incidentally, was an occupation in which the Association was to become well versed over the years, as it became clear that the Senate would ever be most reluctant to take the initiative in such matters. (92)

91. Already the active electorate had shrunk considerably within the full membership of the University Council. This was a far cry from the intensive organization of the 1915 election, but a demonstration of graduate apathy that was to become more marked as the years passed.

92. The cynic may be pleased to note an exception to this indifference. This was the occasion during the depression when the Senate, without any prompting, effected an alteration in all academic salaries, in the form of a reduction.
As if it were not enough to be importuned in this way by their employees, trouble arose over looseness in the wording of certain terms of appointment and a decision had to be made as to what percentage of an officer's time could be devoted to private practice, when the right to such additional income had been admitted. It was an important point to settle, since it seemed certain that the Garrick Chair would never attract a topflight lawyer without the right of Chamber practice. Even so it was decided to advertise the post at £800 a year as opposed to the standard starting salary of £600.

As to the Staff Association's plea, the Senate agreed that increases were needed, but felt that it could do no more than approach the Government for extra funds for this particular purpose.

From the student body also came repeated urging that the promise of 1922, with its amending Act, its vision of a permanent home for the University and its improved public relations should not be allowed to wither in 1923. Through Galmahra there was exercised pressure for a public appeal for funds to initiate actual building at Victoria Park and insistence that there should be no delay in the establishment of a true School of Law.

In Galmahra, too, there were serious criticisms of the whole policy and practice of the University. Tucker, relieving as Professor of Classics during a visit to England by Michie, wrote an article on The chief shortcomings of Australian universities. (93) In this he enchantingly criticised pre-occupation with a mass of pass students to the detriment of real attention to those seeking honours. He was sure that the only solution was completely separate provision for these two types of undergraduate. Formal lectures might suffice for the pass man but only the traditional tutor system would allow the proper nurturing of minds which showed real promise. "Expensive to maintain," asked Professor Tucker, "No doubt expense is entailed. But if you pretend to have a University, have one."

This article was matched, in the same issue of the Magazine, by one by F.W. Paterson, a Rhodes Scholar recently returned from Oxford. (94) Paterson vigorously attacked the formal lecture system and the provision of correspondence courses. He had reached the conclusion that the basic task of Universities was "mental culture" and their greatest danger over-attention to "education."

To compensate for these trials, there was another welcome and generous benefaction to gratify the Senate in 1923. Dr. J. O'Neill Mayne and his sister, of whom more will be heard later in this account, offered the University 693 acres of farmland at Moggil. This was accepted with pleasure "in view of the likelihood of a Chair of Agriculture being established", (95) as the Courier put it, and the same journal was moved bravely, one feels, if not with some foolhardiness, to commend the Senate's "masculine good sense" in this matter! As it said "The Queensland University has held to the firm road of practicality. Having competently provided for the Arts and Sciences as a whole, it has specialized in the applied science of Engineering. Now an even more important branch - a School of Agriculture - is coming into being." (96)

That "good sense" was not exclusively a masculine quality was admitted, presumably, by the inclusion of a woman in the Fourth Senate. Miss Freda Bage had come to the University in 1914 as first Principal of the Womens College, but she had not restricted her activities to administration and student welfare. A trained scientist, she had assisted, from the first, in the Department of Biology.

and had, indeed, taken charge of the Department in Harvey Johnston's absence. She was not only the first but the only woman Head of Department in the first forty-five years of the University's life. Now in 1923, she became the first woman Senator. She was to serve on the Senate until 1950. After her retirement from the position of Principal of the Women's College a grateful University conferred on her the Degree of Doctor of Laws, "honoris causa." Once again, she was the first woman to be so honoured. Apart from her personal abilities, Dr. Bage was recognized throughout the long term of her varied service as representing in a very real sense the contribution of women to the University. As such she gained the respect and affection of all.

What other preoccupations had University administrators in those hectic days of the Charleston and the long cigarette holder? That revolutionary device the automobile had at last impinged on the consciousness of the Senate and there was a grave debate on "Nuisance, Motor Cars". Then, too, there was the matter of keeping up with the latest visual aids to instruction and the Works Department was requested to have one of the lecture rooms in the main building "fitted up with a lantern and rollers".

Perhaps more seriously, one should note that a plan was actually approved, though not implemented, for a separate building for the University Library, and that Mr. Justice McCawley fired the first shot in a practically single-handed campaign in the Senate against Stable in particular, and the teaching of English in general. To the Board of Faculties came a suggestion, already vain in the face of the galloping specialization that prompted it, for a common first year for all Faculties.

The year 1924 opened in a spirit of optimism. Plans had been completed for Victoria Park and it was hoped that the Premier would make enough money available for there to be some point in setting the foundation stone in that very year, in August if possible. For 1924 had turned out to have celebratory significance — it was, in fact, the centenary of settlement at Moreton Bay.

Then, too, a very worrying situation with the Hall Trust had been successfully negotiated. The Trust, after its earlier enthusiasm, had threatened, late in 1923, to withdraw its support for the school of Applied Chemistry which "had not realized its expectations", but agreed now to defer action for a further five years.

There was a proposal also to set up a School of Anatomy in cooperation with the Brisbane General Hospital and the State Dental Hospital.

In other respects, things were far from satisfactory and a strong protest from the Board about the shocking condition of the Library was met by the Senate with an imposing resolution which amounted, in essence, to little more than a pious hope that somehow some part of the Registrar's time should be spared for the Library. At the same time it was agreed to approach the Carnegie Institution for financial support to provide the separate library building which was agreed to be vital. (97)

97. There occurs a delightful misprint in the official minuting of these resolutions relating to the Library. In its very creditable concern for the limited opportunity that evening students had to make use of this facility, the Senate decreed that "until otherwise determined, the Library be opened until 9a.m. (sic) on Tuesdays and Fridays!". It seems that this error was detected or perhaps not transmitted in the official instructions to staff, since there is no record either of complaints at all night sittings of any "bush lawyer" simply not coming to work on the two days concerned, on the grounds that the opening and closing times coincided.
The Board was anxious that the anomalous position of Assistant Professor should be discarded and that, in its place, there should be created a more genuine position, that of Associate Professor, which would carry increased remuneration. Nothing came of this proposal at that time.

Something much closer than ever before to a real clash between the Senate and the Board came with the pressing of Judge McCawley's private conviction about the importance of English in the curriculum. Three years previously he had succeeded in getting Stable instructed to report on the reorganization that would be required to bring English teaching in Queensland in line with a recently published report, The Teaching of English in England. In 1923 he had created a precedent by recording his vote against a particular book set for the Junior Public Examination in English. This year he tried, first, to have lectures by Australian authors included in the Arts Degree course. The Senate's resolution on this matter was to ask the Public Lectures Committee to sponsor lectures in this field. Next, at the following meeting of the Senate he moved that the Board be asked to report on whether any student should be allowed to graduate without a fair knowledge of English and Australian literature. To this, reply was made that a note would be included in the Handbook stressing the importance of English and offering advice as to reading. Finally, he persuaded the Senate to refer to the Board for further consideration the set books approved by the Board for both Junior and Senior English.

It was a difficult situation. No one could possibly object to Senators demonstrating interest in particular subjects, and presumably the Board would welcome informed comment. But it was the Board, after all, that was charged with responsibility for the actual teaching of subjects and any querying of details such as the book set for any particular examination would open the way to much more dangerous interference in its sphere of operations. In the event the Board stood firm and supported Stable. It was one of the few occasions on which the Senate as such has attempted to interfere in purely academic matters.

The applicants for the Garrick Chair of Law, having been kept in suspense for a considerable period, were told finally to try again, as the University continued to attempt to reach agreement with the legal profession about the establishment of a full Faculty. In October this agreement seemed nearer after a conference at which the Chancellor presided and exercised the full measure of his urbanity. It was decided, accordingly to re-advertise, this time at the very high figure of £1,000, together with the right of chamber practice.

At the last Senate meeting for the year the Budget was approved for 1925. It must have startled those who paused to think, since the anticipated expenditure totalled no less than £42,144, just twice that of 1919, the first big budget.

By 1925 the "Mad Twenties" had half run their course. There was no breath yet of the cold wind of economic depression. Rather was this to be a high point in the University's attempt to enlighten public opinion. For, this year, in the absence, unfortunately, of any national commemoration, but coinciding with the first inter-University sports meeting to be held in Brisbane, University Week was held at last. The members of the Combined Advisory Committee looked benignly on this first result of their combined advice.
The long-awaited Faculty of Agriculture made its appearance, at least on paper, in the form of Senate approval of a Statute to cover its inception.

This was a step forward, but a backward move was the reluctant acceptance of failure to reach agreement about Law. Instead of a full Faculty headed by a Professor, at the high salary last advertised, there was to be instead no more than a Chair within the Faculty of Arts. Moreover, after resolving that none of the previous applicants was acceptable, the Senate offered this position, at £800 per year for three years only, to F.W.S. Cumbrae-Stewart, the Registrar.

With Cumbrae-Stewart installed as Garrick Professor, the administrative hierarchy was adjusted sensibly and satisfactorily by moving everyone up one peg. McCaffrey became Registrar and J.D. Cramb, who had been with the University since 1912 and was to remain until 1952, became the first full-time Accountant. A more difficult problem was that of the Librarianship which, it was beginning to be felt, really required full-time professional attention.

In the event, there were so many calls on limited funds and perhaps by now so many of the Staff were accustomed to inadequate library facilities, that the situation was allowed to slide. The position of Librarian was established pro forma, to be filled when funds allowed. They did not allow for another thirteen years. Miss E.K. Mclver who had come to the Library as a typiste in 1918, was given now the title of Assistant Librarian and left to run the Library, in effect, for a total period of almost a quarter of a century. She retired in 1959. Cumbrae-Stewart carried on as Honorary Librarian for a few months after he gained his Chair. Then, in 1934, A.C.V. Melbourne was installed in the same unsatisfactory part-time fashion. The first full-time Librarian was not appointed till 1939.

Hawken was appointed Chairman of the Cross River Commission in 1925, to investigate an important aspect of Brisbane's development. The Courier welcomed this enlisting of scientific brain power, of which they felt much more advantage should have been taken in the past by local authorities: "If they had done so there would have been fewer blunders." (98) It is interesting to contrast this opinion with that expressed on occasion in other quarters. (99)

Sir Matthew Nathan, on the eve of his departure from the State and hence the Chancellorship, accepted with every appearance and expression of pleasure an honorary Doctorate from the University, for which he seemed genuinely to have developed an affection. In parting too, he did not hesitate to rebuke the Government for not enabling a start to be made on the new buildings at Victoria Park: "Of course these would be costly but it was more costly still to reduce the efficiency of the University by cramped housing preventing its growth." (100) Acute observer that he was, he also urged the need for a full-time Vice-Chancellorship.

98. Courier 27/4/25

99. Interesting, if not very elevating reading will be found, for instance in Hansard (Q.P.D. 218(1957-8),516) where an honorable member explains at length the futility of employing University and particularly Engineering "egg heads".

100. Courier 17/9/25,
For the Union, 1925 was notable for the establishment of the Student Benefactions Scheme. F.W. Robinson, who had joined the staff as lecturer in English and Modern Languages in 1922, conceived the idea of encouraging the alumni of the University to express their gratitude and feeling towards their alma mater by recording publicly all such gifts of whatever size and whether in money or in kind.

He envisaged a handsome, hand-made book in which donors would inscribe the details of their gift and which the Union, since this was to be exclusively a student-controlled scheme, would formally present to the Chancellor at each commemoration ceremony.

The Union accepted the scheme, the Senate endorsed it and there was an immediate and enthusiastic response from graduates and students alike. The book was beautifully made and was deposited in the University Library. (101)

The New Year brought a new Senate. The Honourable A.J. Thynne, who had been Vice-Chancellor ever since 1916, was unanimously elected Chancellor and Dr. W.N. Robertson, that kindly and courtly medico, took over the Vice-Chancellorship. A new face in the Senate was that of A.C.V. Melbourne, brilliant lecturer in History, and one of the only two non-professorial members of Staff ever elected to the Senate in the first fifty years of its existence.

Dental education moved a considerable step further towards full University status with the constitution of a Joint Board of Dental Studies to which the University, the Hospital and the State Medical Authorities were parties. Like most make shifts this arrangement was never completely satisfactory and, on at least one occasion as we shall see, the whole composite threatened to explode in the faces of the contracting parties; but it did work and, within its Heath Robinsonian limits, it filled the gap until the University was able to found its full Faculty of Dentistry.

After all the work that had gone to securing the Victoria Park site and after the retiring Chancellor's parting thrust at Government procrastination, it comes as something of a shock to find, within a year, discussion in the Senate again on an alternative site. This time, however, the circumstances were different. It had become known that a wealthy benefactor was prepared to give what seemed to be almost unlimited funds to effect the resumption by the City Council of an impressive area of St. Lucia. Moreover, it appeared that his offer would stand, even if the University rejected the area as a site, in which case the land could be used as a public park.

What has been aptly termed the "battle of the sites" now was engaged in earnest. To the conservative, St. Lucia seemed hopelessly remote and, to the cynical, likely to remain so, since, and they were justified by the event, they attached little weight to the possibility of a second bridge across the river to reduce travelling time from the city. Victoria Park, on the other hand, was cosily urban, adjacent to the Hospital, within reach of existing transport and, with its 170 acres, apparently more than adequate.

101. A Union Secretary whose minutes bear testimony to more than the usual difficulty in spelling correctly such much-used meeting terms as committee, amendment and omission was completely undone by "Doc. Robbie's" eloquence in presenting the scheme to Union Council. He recorded as a possible benefaction a statue of LAY 0 COON (sic).
To some, however, there was granted the vision of a really noble group of buildings rising on the ridge overlooking the sweep of the St. Lucia Reach. They saw more than two hundred acres of completely free land, untramelled by legal or moral requirements for park use. They saw the chance to plan spaciously and yet as an integrated whole not only for present requirements but well into the foreseeable future. They saw, at last, the chance for a real co-ordination of University activities, both academic and recreational, and the opportunity to provide the State and the city with the outward semblance as well as the inner quality of a University of which they could be proud.

As it turned out the dreamers were vindicated. There has been criticism enough of architectural features of the St. Lucia layout, and much of it seems sound, but no one can deny their impressiveness, or the way in which they have focussed public attention on the University; or indeed the justifiable pride taken in them by citizens of Brisbane and by the State as a whole. What the advocates of St. Lucia almost certainly could not foresee was the virtual annihilation of its remoteness, by increased use of motor transport and especially by the very rapid suburban development that took place around it, especially after World War II.

It was not an easy victory or a short struggle. The final decision for qualified acceptance of St. Lucia was by no means unanimous in the Senate and was arrived at only after long and serious discussion. The Chancellor made no secret of his preference for Victoria Park. In the Press, too, a lively controversy followed a letter by Steele claiming that students would object to travelling all the way to that remote suburb. One of the greatest protagonists for the new site clearly was Melbourne, who actively produced schemes for bridges, laid out imposing plans and worked unceasingly to persuade his Senatorial colleagues of the truth of his vision.

A potent factor in the choice, though understandably not mentioned in the controversy, was the unwisdom of rejecting what amounted to a £60,000 gift at a time when it had been practically decided to launch a public appeal to enable the University to continue its policy of development and expansion.

On the 10th December 1926 the Senate, at a special meeting attended by the Lord Mayor, accepted the site, though only by a majority of one, conditionally on the City making it reasonably accessible to day and evening students. Although the gift of title was actually made by the City Council, the appropriate resumptions of property had been rendered possible only by the generosity once again of Dr. James O'Neill Mayne and his sister. They were, till then, anonymous, donors of what amounted finally to £80,000, to cover the full cost of all the resumptions involved.

A further step towards an effective Faculty of Agriculture came in May 1926, when it was announced that a Chair of Agriculture, initially only for research, had been decided on. The Press, in applauding this further demonstration of support for their frequently-expressed views, urged a renewal of the enthusiastic public support for this venture which had characterized the early years of the University. In 1927 J.K. Murray was appointed first Professor of Agriculture.
At the Degree ceremony in 1926 attention was drawn to two matters; the first, that in conferring its first Doctorate by examination, the University could claim to have reached a degree of maturity; the second, that the University was still pitifully small and narrowly circumscribed to serve effectively the vast State. The University of Adelaide, set in a city of about the same population as Brisbane, but in a State with a fraction the people or the material resources of Queensland, had a student body three times the size, and a spread of teaching far in excess of that offered in the University of Queensland. It was a sobering thought.

The last years of the Twenties were spent in something like suspended animation by the University. Even by 1927 it was almost as if the Senate had been granted a preview of the economic desert which was to come. Although this year was not without event, these events, in terms of their importance in the University's growth, were no more than minor.

In April the University was honoured for the first time with a Royal visit and, in return, honoured the Royal Visitor, the then Duke of York, with a Doctorate of Laws. The student body performed as the citizenry had come to expect. Almost certainly there would have been disappointment had they not. The Courier said that "it was apparent from the outset that the undergraduates had no intention of allowing the function to develop into a solemn ceremony", (102) but His Royal Highness took it all in good part, and may even have felt embarrassed at having been provided with no more than the usual platitudes to supply in return.

The Board of Faculties decided that Students should continue to wear coats to Lectures and in the Library, but it is not recorded whether this decision applied also to the gowns which, by statute, all undergraduates should have donned as late as 1927, not only for lectures but even in the laboratories.

A graver problem was the mounting proportion of evening and external students. In this year no fewer than 318 of the 532 enrolments came into these categories and, of these, 174 or one third of the University's numbers were completely external. Late in the previous year the Correspondence Studies Department had been re-named the Department of External Studies and the Senate had resolved that it was highly desirable that every candidate for a Degree should have spent some portion of his time within the precincts of the University either as an evening, or preferably as a day student. Now, after sixteen years, the Director of this large Department was at last recommended for membership of the Faculty of Arts.

The question of superannuation for the teaching staff, met up to this time by compulsory insurance policies taken out solely at the member's own expense, was considered by the Senate for the first time this year. It was agreed that participation in the recently overhauled State Service Superannuation Scheme should be sought. After much argument, and despite the urging of the staff, it was decided early the following year not to subsidize in any way staff contributions to this scheme. Though, as was said at the time, the provision of funds would have been difficult, this decision was to set Queensland terms of appointment still further below those current in other Universities. As the first half century of the University's existence ran its course it was to become increasingly apparent that this would affect the recruiting of staff.

102. Courier. 2/5/1927
After being in office for only twelve months the Chancellor died. After an interesting disputed election, he was succeeded by the Hon. J.W. Blair, Chief Justice of the State.

The new Chancellor celebrated his elevation with an extremely forthright claim for assistance in a building programme to relieve overcrowding, and spoke of the urgent necessity for those long-sought professional Faculties. The Courier, with its penchant towards practicality, was delighted. "The Chancellor has ranged himself on the side of a big popular institution pulsating with life, eager to play its part in turning out citizens equipped for the various tasks and responsibilities of life, rather than men and women who have passed certain scholastic tests and acquired a veneer of classical and scientific knowledge." (103)

After further negotiations with the City Council over the access question, St. Lucia was formally accepted as "a site" for the University, but a most determined stand by the medical men on the Senate, particularly Dr. J. Lockhart Gibson, secured the retention of 10 acres of Victoria Park for a future Medical School. The Courier was furious and warned the Senate that the Government would never consider building both a main unit at St. Lucia and a Medical School at Herston.

From this distance in time, it seems that the paper may well have been right in insisting that every effort should be made to concentrate the whole University on one site, but by the time such a move was even vaguely possible, Dr. Mayne's 200 acres was clearly no longer adequate to provide for the teaching hospital so necessary to a Medical School. If this was inevitable, then thanks are due to the memory of those whose stubbornness retained the city site which alone made possible the Medical School. Certainly, the availability of this site was a potent factor in having the School established as early as 1936, at a time when the claim for a separate teaching hospital would have been laughed out of court.

The year 1928 was another quiet year. Further evidence of the University's age came with the first of the teaching staff to reach the age of 65. It was T.E. Jones the Director of External Studies and his age brought into the open the whole question of the inadequate, or indeed practically non-existent, superannuation scheme. In the absence of any retiring benefit to which the University had contributed, it was agreed that, while each case should be treated on its merits, instead of compulsory retirement at 65, an officer might be re-appointed annually until he reached 70.

An investigation into the whole scheme of pre-University education encouraged the Board, with the approval of the Senate, to suggest again in this year, the five years of secondary education which it had always felt to be necessary for those who intended seriously to proceed to the University. The whole course of the University's history is punctuated with proposals of this nature, which have frequently been commended by the State authorities, occasionally approved in principle, but never implemented.

103. Courier. 2/5/1927
In 1928 there was some suggestion that a second book, similar to the Book of Student Benefactors, be initiated to record non-student gifts. It remained a suggestion and even the parent scheme cannot be said completely to have fulfilled its promise. In part this has been due to the lack of effective publicity. Some of the reasons however, must be linked with the general lack of public support for the University. It is worth considering whether this apathy has not been due, at least in part, to the zealousness of Government in maintaining by statute the appearance of a close link between the University and the State system of education.

To insist with pride that the University is the keystone of the educational arch and to state publicly that University professors are on the public payroll, just like school teachers, does not seem calculated to encourage private support. People do not give money, however worthy the cause, if it is emphasized repeatedly to them that their taxes are being used already for the same purpose.

Surely no one could deny the romantic appeal of the subjects selected by the young University for research in the public interest. After the prickly-pear campaign there followed war on the fruit fly and the formal minutes of the Senate are enlivened by reference to a mysterious fruit-fly lure which it was hoped to develop. In 1929 attention was focused on the ripening of bananas, and much successful work was done on this problem.

But really it was still a small University. Though the Budget might be nudging the £50,000 mark and there might be solemn discussion of £½ million building programmes, the Senate could still give time for matters of extraordinarily little moment. (104)

The first graduates in Commerce received their awards in 1928, and the Senate considered a revolutionary proposal for a course in Public Administration, which, like all good things, came to those who were prepared to wait. In this case they had to wait a quarter of a century.

An important event was the delivery of the first endowed public lecture, the John Murtagh Macrossan Memorial Lecture. As lecturer the University was fortunate to secure the Right Honourable W.A. Holman. Over the years this lectureship brought to Brisbane a succession of brilliant speakers.

As the year closed there were still rumblings in the Press about the Victoria Park Medical School site and, in the Senate, at the instance of the Board, about the number of students living in the Greater Brisbane area, who through one excuse or another, enjoyed external status. This latter had always been a difficult problem. There had always been a feeling that the intention of the Act was that University education should not be denied to those who, by reason of their place of residence, could not enjoy the benefits of actual attendance at the University. In practice it had always seemed quite impossible not to include also those who were placed at a similar disadvantage by reason of health or of the particular nature of their occupation. But policing this extension had always been difficult. The distressing thing, of course, was that any such policing should be necessary, but there had always been more than enough of those who would seek what they considered the easy way to the advantages that accrued from possession of a degree.

104. For instance, it noted this year that extensions to the Chemistry building would encroach on the small yard in which the janitor was accustomed to dry his washing. Solemnly it was resolved that the Registrar and he should select an alternative site, that he should be allowed the use of the University hand-cart to transport thither his laundry and that the extra time involved should be a charge against his working hours!
The Sixth Senate took office in the last year of the decade. From the first pronouncements of its Chancellor and the notable enthusiasm of the Press one would have thought that it was looking forward confidently to continued steady progress, if not to a new era of enlarged endowment and increased activity. There were already signs, for the observant, that this could be no more than whistling in the dark. However disaster, if that is what it would be, was still around the corner. There remained yet, as it turned out, this one year for the University to operate under what had been normal conditions for the preceding seven years.

This new Senate was interested less in putting its existing house in order than in drawing plans for future extensions to it. The select committee which it appointed thus broke with precedent by confining its attention to University development for the next ten years. It conformed completely, however, in choosing as its Chairman J.D. Story.

Influenced perhaps by voting in the recent Senate election, and certainly by a desire for its members to be accepted as part of the University, the Staff Association requested the Senate to have the Act amended to allow membership of the Council to be extended to those teaching staff who were appointed for not less than five years. This extension would not be achieved for another thirty years. (105)

The Degree Ceremony had become by now recognized as an occasion both for the Chancellor to make his annual plea for increased support for the University, and for the Press to declare its attitude for the year, by its comments on the students' procession. 1929 was no exception. Mr. Blair, "Jimmie" to the students(106) spoke of the graduation that day of the one thousand one hundred and twenty-sixth student, of the 25% increase in enrolments since 1927 and, after a significant pause, went on "personally, I should like to see our rate of endowment increased proportionally with the general vote for education". (107)

Far from this happening, he pointed out, the University's share had actually fallen since 1914-15 from 2.97% to 1.95%. An increase at least to this proportion would certainly be needed if the Senate was to carry out its planned tasks of inaugurating a building scheme on the new site, or extending the activities of the present Faculties, of establishing full Faculties in Law and Dentistry, and of at least investigating the requirements for a Faculty of Medicine.

105. The University of Queensland Act 1909 defined the University as consisting of "a Senate, a Council and Graduate and Undergraduate Members." The Amending Act of 1957 significantly altered this to "A Senate, A Council, the Academic Staff, and Graduate and Undergraduate Members". It also left the constitution of the Council in part to the discretion of the Senate which discretion was employed to extend to the Staff in 1959 the privilege they had requested, at intervals, over thirty years.

106. Except in the students' song 'Pour Bacchus' which, for the period of "Jimmie's" rule, opened liltingly, and ever lustily since it had always been a particular favourite:

"We're 'Varsity Students all,
The C.J. is our father,
We throng the Lecture Hall,
And love the ladies, rather!"

As to the Press, to judge from the Courier's comment, which deserves reproduction in full, 1929 was to be a good year: "For twenty years the University of Queensland has celebrated its day of Commemoration. Yesterday was a great day as its predecessors. Behind and beneath the froth and bubble of the frolicsome students, who are allowed much license on this one day of the year, was manifest in a spirit of solemn thanksgiving for the scholastic achievements that have been wrought in Queensland's Hall of Learning; a spirit of gratitude to those pioneers who made a University possible in the years that have gone before; and, above all, a spirit of deep, restrained satisfaction in the prospective triumphs of the years ahead, when a noble building will adorn the St. Lucia site on the banks of a equally noble river". (108)

There was, however, a hint, just a hint, of a difficulty that would arise regarding the procession. "It was whispered that some choice political skits were to be included but the police firmly but politely nipped these aspirations in the bud". Censorship of the procession, almost unknown in the earlier days, was to become a considerable bone of contention. On the University side it was carried out from about this time forward by the Senate's disciplinary officers. But, since Proctors did not make their official debut for another six years, this meant no more than a further task for that much abused figure, the President of the Board of Faculties. Later, in a spirit perhaps of unthinking over-cooperation, the active assistance of the Police Department was requested in this onerous task. The inevitable result was that the constabulary took over the whole proceedings. One effect of this was certainly that comment on State political affairs was severely scrutinized, though there was noticeably less concern for the finer feelings of members of the Commonwealth Parliament. The net result of this political censorship was that students concentrated their humour on the bawdy and the more than borderline, in which it seemed there was less interest by these censors. Certainly, the public came to expect no longer informed and intelligent lampooning of current issues, but rather a display of coarse humour, some of which certainly would never have been allowed on the stage.

In the late twenties the Union devoted much time to setting its house in order. In 1927, profiting from its experience of several years service as Treasurer by J.D. Cramb of the University administration, it established its first paid office, that of full-time Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1928 it conducted business at last from its own room and proceeded vigorously with such measures as erecting a full card index of all students, compiling a University chronicle, distributing a monthly circular to graduates and issuing the first Handbook of the Union. (109)

108. ibid.

109. Over the years this Handbook and its successors constituted an an absolutely indispensable aid to secretaries of the Union and those of the constituent and affiliated societies, since constitutional amendment was always by far the most favoured activity of Union Councils.
Not a little of this well-directed energy sprang from a series of competent and enthusiastic Presidents, one of whom was T.R. Groom. In 1960 The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman T.R. Groom, would have the pleasure of initiating, in the City Council, a motion congratulating the University on its Jubilee.

In the spirit of optimism that pervaded the Senate in 1929, Hawken was encouraged to produce a preliminary layout for St. Lucia, which stimulated the Board to impress on the Senate that both the Board itself and the several Faculties it represented would like to be consulted before a definite plan was accepted by the Senate for St. Lucia.

An intimation of the sad inadequacy of the George Street Site came with the reluctant decision to discontinue the subscriptions to several journals, and to dispose of the back files of others in view of lack of accommodation in the Library. This, too, despite the fact that four years previously it had taken over practically the whole of the ground floor of the Technical College Art building. A cynical solution to this particular problem was provided by one of the first of the Commonwealth Government's measures to meet the deteriorating economic situation. This was a considerable duty on the import of books from overseas. To its everlasting credit the Senate protested vigorously against this "tax on knowledge", but, within months, this particular measure would be regarded as quite paltry compared with the more general operation of the economic squeeze.

As its last act of the year, the Senate approved a tentative budget of more than £50,000. It would not reach this figure again before the Second World War. For the time being, at least, we had eaten the lotus.
CHAPTER FOUR

DEPRESSION AND RECOVERY. (1930-1934)

More health to the Varsity,
More pelf than sparsity.
So we'll the sooner be at home on Dr. Mayne's land.

The Arts Song.

By the time the 1930 academic year commenced it seemed clear that "sparsity" rather than "pelf" would be the dominant factor in the University's planning, at least for the present, and that, to complete the student phrase, "Dr. Mayne's land" at St. Lucia would remain untenanted for many a year. Yet it must be said that Senate and Staff alike did not flinch in this period of trial. From the beginning it was appreciated that, since purse strings undoubtedly would have to be tightened, so too would belts, and it was with no illusions that the University entered its third decade. But if there could be no immediate expansion of activities this did not preclude active planning for a rosier future. In June, for instance, the Vice-Chancellor attended a meeting of the Board of Faculties in connection with a Hospitals Commission then sitting. (110) We hoped that the Commission might report in favour of decentralizing hospital facilities in Brisbane. This re-awakened the question of a teaching hospital at St. Lucia, and so the whole possibility of a complete University on the one site.

In the same month, too, the title of the St. Lucia land was handed over formally to the Chancellor, Sir James Blair, at an "historic function" in the Lady Mayoress's Reception Room. Dr. Mayne, the munificent donor, revealed on this occasion that he had been prompted to make his offer by his student memories of Sydney University, with its "small ground space and no water frontage", Victoria. (111) Park had seemed to his sister and to him to demonstrate just the same advantages.

In July a select committee of the Senate urged the establishment of a Diploma in Dentistry but this, it was decided, would have to be deferred. So, too, would the Diploma in Public Administration, pending a definite approach to the University by the appropriate employing authorities. On the 8th August the Senate abandoned reluctantly any hope of proceeding further with the establishment of the Faculty of Law, "in view of the present financial position".

At the September Senate meeting it became known that the State Endowment for 1931 would be reduced by £3,872 and a select committee was given the dismal task of recommending "such modified expenditure allocations as will ensure a balanced budget for 1931, and at the same time enable the University to keep faith with the Students."

From the minutes of this meeting it is clear that by now it was most unusual for the Vice-Chancellor, or the Chancellor, to attend Board meetings. On this occasion, Dr. Robertson thanked the President for the courtesy of his invitation and withdrew immediately after this particular item was discussed. This was a far cry from Sir William McGregor's active chairmanship of the same body!

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111. Courier. 20/6/30.
By December a plan was drawn that involved cutting all the University's extension activities, for instance its sponsorship of the Workers Tutorial Classes. (112) For the first time in the University's existence, it was proposed to spend less in the coming year on books and periodicals for the University Library than on cleaning the buildings. The administrative staff had their working week extended from 39½ hours to 44 hours per week, and a practical embargo imposed on overtime. As to academic salaries, the Senate made a laudable attempt to maintain the standard of its staff by proposing no reduction. It was pointed out that originally these rates of pay had been equated with those applying to Senior Public Servants (113) but that, although the latter had been increased in the interim, academic salaries, in the absence of any increased endowment, had perforce remained basically unchanged. Since the staff had been placed thus at a disadvantage relative to their equivalents, there was less reason, it was suggested, to reduce their salaries in the present emergency. Unfortunately, circumstances were to prove, all too soon, too much for the logic of this argument.

The end of this year, too, saw the loss of the second of the "Big Four". Steele found it impossible to carry on any longer, and it says much for the generosity of the Senate that, in these straitened times, they were prepared to confer on him not only the title of Emeritus Professor but also an annual allowance of £400 in his retirement.

In December the basic wage fell a further 3/-.. The Senate approved the use of the St. Lucia site for unemployment relief works. It was a dismal Christmas.

The New Year, however, brought at least a gleam of new hope. Contrary to the Cassandra-like prophecies of practically all, it was clear by February that there would be no serious reductions in University enrolments. Indeed, as it turned out, they not only held their pre-depression figures, but increased steadily throughout this period of gloom. The Senate could well take heart from this maintenance of student strength. No doubt there was no simple explanation for it, but it seems reasonable to conclude at least that the community had become convinced of the worth of its young University. It was an expression of confidence that was much appreciated and greatly heartening in that time of trial.

Yet another such expression of confidence came before the Senate at its March meeting. From the Estate of the late John Darnell of Wynnum, the University was to receive £12,000 to endow the Chair in English and £5,000 for the University Library.

It was pleasant, and perhaps just as well, that the year had had such an optimistic beginning, since in July the Senate had to face a further decrease in income. Not only was there the 20% cut in the Government endowment, but reduced rates of interest on investments seemed certain to lop a further £4,320 a year from its meagre resources. All in all there would be only about three-quarters as much money in 1931 as in 1930, and then only by drawing substantially on the McCaughey Funds.

Since salaries, then as now, comprised a major item in the Budget, it was clear where the first of the new series of economies must be effected.

112. Fortunately, the Carnegie Corporation generously provided an emergency grant to maintain this service.

113. For instance, a professor received the same salary, in 1911, as an Under-Secretary,
The Finance Committee having met staff representatives, a series of reductions was agreed upon, ranging from 15 to 13 per cent. (114)

The Courier thought the "Commem" procession this year rather sub-standard — perhaps even students were depressed in 1931 — and, seemingly, the public agreed since it is reported that they pelted it with rotten eggs and tomatoes.

At the Degree Ceremony the Chancellor rightly and forthrightly drew attention to the danger of allowing the University to stagnate. "A mere frontier policy was to be deprecated. To meet the growing needs of the State it must expand — in adversity more than ever." His vigour was matched by Alcock who struck a new note in emphasising the community's responsibility to make more use of the University's product: "As it is Queensland exports too large a proportion of its best brains, and gets nothing in return but barren pride in the reputation her graduates gain elsewhere." It must have come as a refreshing change, if only to the Press reporters, to have a Degree Day address that did not harp, however justly, on the lack of financial support for the University. They must, one feels, have both welcomed and sympathised with the Chancellor's blunt "I am tired of making appeals." (115)

The Darnell bequest stimulated interest in the perennial and ever aggravating problem of permanent library accommodation and, in October, a committee which had been adjured to study such diverse models as the new Barr-Smith Library at the University of Adelaide and the Brisbane Boys College at Toowong, reported that a completely new building would cost between £18,000 and £20,000. It seemed a tremendous sum in 1931.

As one solution to the whole accommodation problem, Warwick offered, as had Stanthorpe and Ipswich before her, to house the University for which the capital city seemed not to be able to provide a suitable home.

It was a sad end to a year, which, despite the times, had started so well, when it became clear that yet a third of the original Professors was to be lost to the University, Priestley, who had had increasing trouble with a growth behind the eye, had obtained leave at the end of 1930 to go to England for specialist attention. He never really recovered his health, however, and died on the 26th February 1932. (116)

114. As the Courier correctly noted (6/7/1931) the intention, and indeed the actual phrasing, of the Senate resolution was that there would be percentage reductions calculated on the rates of salary paid prior to June 30th and operating on actual salaries paid after this date. The omission of the word "rate" from the official minutes of the Senate, however, startles one momentarily with the absolutely incredible vision of forty-one academics — by no means unworldly, at least in money matters, as they are traditionally represented — being willing, or even able, to return to their employers a sizable portion of the salary cheques they had already received.

115. Courier. 2/5/1931

116. Priestley's successor in the chair was E.F. Simmonds who had joined the staff as lecturer some years before.
Strangely enough, 1932, which saw the University still firmly in the grip of the economic depression, was ushered in, like its predecessor, with a large benefaction. This time it was the Forsyth gift of £10,000 to be used in the construction of that permanent library building which was admitted on all sides to be a paramount need. For various reasons which will appear later in the course of this narrative, the capital of this fund has never been drawn upon, but the University’s gratitude is recorded permanently in the official title of its Chief Library Officer; the James Forsyth Librarian. (117)

The Forsyth gift aside, however, it would seem that, at this time, the University and its troubles had much less attraction for responsible citizens than ever before. At any rate, there were, on this occasion, just sufficient nominations received as there were seats to be filled in the New Senate. There was, accordingly, no Senate election and the Seventh Senate took office with even less fuss than its predecessors.

The financial picture was no brighter for the new Senators than for the old. Indeed, since only four of them had not been members of the Sixth Senate, it must have seemed all too familiar. In their extremity they even hit upon the astute idea of asking to retain portion of the original Victoria Park Site for revenue producing purposes, or, alternatively, of claiming compensation from the Government, in return for surrendering it entirely!

With the consent of the various trustees it was arranged in August to transfer the title of McCaughey from the Chair of English to the Chair of Biology, thus making it possible to make use of the Darnell bequest without having to create a second endowed Chair in the one subject.

At the same meeting the Senate appointed a select committee to inquire into the possibility of co-ordinating medical, veterinary and agricultural research and cognate topics. As even further evidence too of its determination at least to plan, if not to implement, new activities, moves were initiated in September that would result finally in a Diploma Course in Architecture. Dental Education, too, received further impetus from the decision to institute a Diploma in Dental Science.

Nor were these the only evidences of industry on the part of both the Senate and the Board of Faculties despite the discouraging atmosphere.

117. It is curious to note that it was in this, the University’s darkest hour, that the only two benefactions specifically directed to the Library were received. It may not be too far-fetched to consider whether the Library did not attract this benevolent attitude as the symbol par excellence of the University idea, the one essential core which must be maintained and which would guarantee the continued existence of a University of some sort, even if increasing economic stringency forced the curtailment of practically all other activities. Whether this is so or not, it is certainly true that in times of relative University affluence, the Library has seemed but seldom to have caught the public imagination,
The Board, for instance, took up again the vexed problem of external studies. To its horror, it had discovered that no less than 46% of its student body would attend no lectures whatever in 1932 and that, indeed, no more than one in five was pursuing a full-time course. There were not wanting those who saw, as the only possible solution, the granting of no more than a diploma to external students, thus "removing the stigma from our pass degree." Earlier in the year, too, the Board had had to remind all external students that "lectures are copyright and the property of the person delivering them."

In October, the Senate, remarkably enough, itself brought up the question of instituting the grade of Associate Professor. The Board, however, considered that such appointments should be made sparingly in a small University and refused to consider the question of any particular individual's qualifications before the general principle was established on a firm basis. This seems such a startling reversal of the positions occupied by these two bodies on this question, ever since the University's foundation, that, clearly, some special explanation is called for.

It is to be found in the person of Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne, who certainly was one of the brightest members in many senses, of the early staff. A temporary lecturer as early as 1913, he had come on to the permanent staff of the Department of History and Economics once he was invalided out of the army. As we have seen, he had bid successfully for membership of the Senate in 1926 and had played an important part in the University's acceptance of the St. Lucia Site. In 1928 he had shown unusual initiative for those times in proceeding to London on a Laura Spelman Rockefeller Fellowship. Thence he returned in 1930 with a London Ph.D., the material for a most successful book on early Australian constitutional development, and an even stronger determination to leave his mark on the infant University. From December 1931 to April 1932 he visited China and Japan on a mission, sponsored by the Senate, to investigate Australia's trade relations with these countries. In 1932 he secured reelection to the Senate.

This then was the man whose brilliance, bonhomie, and restless initiative persuaded his senatorial colleagues that he should not be constrained within the narrow limits of a lectureship. It was an understandable attitude, and reflected credit on the Senate that it should wish to reward a man who had shed lustre on the University's name. The different attitude of the Board is just as understandable, and just as laudable. It simply insisted that it would be invidious to single out this individual, however deserving, from others who had served the University faithfully and well, if less spectacularly, for just as long. And there, of course, the matter rested, though it would not be long before a formula was evolved to give Melbourne his due without offending the principles of his senior colleagues.

"Pro Bono publico", "Mother of ten", and other eternal anonymities found the 1932 Student Procession, "offensive" and "obscene", and thought students were allowed indulgence for loutishness not to be tolerated from lesser young people. The Senate, too, was troubled about incidents at the Degree Ceremony. The students, themselves, should perhaps have been even more concerned at a chance remark by Premier Moore in the Legislative Assembly. Speaking of the broadening of University horizons, as evidenced by Melbourne's Far Eastern mission, which he warmly supported, Mr. More said that "It shows that the
University is not only interested in the teaching of children." It may have (118) been no more than an unfortunate turn of phrase, but it seems to set the University, once again, in its place as a kind of advanced High School, with considerable elements of the technical college thrown in.

Perhaps to refute this charge the Union decided to establish a newspaper. In 1932 the first weekly issues of Semper Floreat appeared. "Semper" was designed to replace Galmahra as a medium for reporting student activities and to supply a more frequent goad to combat apparent apathy, in Senate, staff or students.

Galmahra was to appear only annually in future and, though it took some years to abandon its other interests, to emerge as an anthology of student writing.

The degree of remoteness at which the St. Lucia project was considered to be, was indicated in full measure by the enthusiastic support given in the Press in 1932 to a suggestion by Story, as Public Service Commissioner, that this site be utilized, pro tem. for a farm school for youths.

The University's credit with the Press, was high on all counts at this time, and the Courier's last issue for the year carried an appreciative leader on "The University, its services and needs."

"Its standard is high, and it is taking the part in the intellectual life of the community, which a University ought to take. But it is far from being a complete University. Dr. Robertson says that diminished revenue, due mainly to reductions in interest, and in Government endowment, has necessitated financial adjustments within the University, thus curtailing Library and other activities and preventing the establishment of new faculties." (119)

This was all very nice but, little more than twelve months before, the same column had carried Alcock's Degree Ceremony address which gave a slightly different picture. "The University has struggled to maintain efficiency in spite of an inadequate and now falling income, insufficient and out of date accommodation, and an uneconomically heavy burden of teaching duties, upon a staff small in relation to its responsibilities." (120)

Whatever way one looked at it, 1933, the second year in office of the Seventh Senate, was most unpleasant and worrying. The proud pre-depression Budget of more than £50,000 had shrunk to a mere £39,215, and this only by drawing on almost £10,000 of Trust Funds. As some indication of how this contraction was effected, the basic non-salary library vote, which had struggled up to a record £1,568 in 1928, had now been stationary for three years at £835, though certainly year by year a real attempt had been made to supplement this by whatever could be scraped together. The whole staff, Academic, Administrative, Laboratory and Library totalled only 75, the lowest figure since 1928, and for the remainder of the half-century. Certainly the student population had continued to increase, slightly, but, as if to substantiate the gloomy prognostications of the Board, external enrolments outnumbered full time students, and there was a surprising decline in the numbers studying Science and Engineering.

118. Q.P.D. 162 (1932), 1194
119. Courier. 30/12/32.
120. ibid. 2/5/31,
It is symptomatic of a depression that was mental as well as economic that the minutes of the Senate for this year are restricted almost entirely to details of administration. Slight relief was provided by almost continuous argument with the various bodies with whom one or other of its makeshift arrangements for teaching or examining had been concerned.

No one Department gave rise to more concern at this time than the University Library. Inadequate staffing and incredibly poor accommodation had resulted in a most dangerous situation in which the Library's whole future as an integrated and independent function was cast in to jeopardy. In this year, for instance, no one could, at any rate no one did, complain when Mathematics splintered off from the main collection and when all current periodicals were pre-empted to the Staff Common Room. Since, the year before, access not only to the Periodical Room, but to the whole, practically unindexed bookstack had been closed to students, "though extraordinary and increasing losses of books", the Library could hardly be regarded at this time as offering any great inducement to student use.

Yet even here, in the midst of unnecessary preoccupation with cumbersome and expensive devices for proclaiming ownership over its Library's books, the Senate was guilty of no lack of vision, for it authorised suitable enquiries as to Library facilities in the Universities of Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, "especially in the direction of the assistance of an academic order available to students", and as to the qualifications deemed necessary in a Librarian entrusted with these duties. It was not unduly perturbed to be told bluntly that neither in Sydney nor in Melbourne was "library assistance of an academic order made available". (121)

The biggest upset of the year was a practically open rupture which developed overnight in the tripartite dental training scheme. In September the Senate noted that the Board of Faculties was "gravely concerned" to find that two students enrolled in the Diploma course, who had been failed in their year by the Joint Board of Dental Studies, had been granted a further examination by the Dental Board of Queensland, one of the parties to the Agreement. It was even more disturbing, of course, that the Dental Board had declared the students concerned to have passed in their second examination.

This action ignited a controversy which smouldered for years and resulted in the birth of the Faculty of Dentistry being attended with even more than the usual pains which it has seemed to be the University's lot to find accompanying endeavours to cooperate with the professions. It was itself, however, a spur to the Senate to press on the Government the need for adequate provision for dental training and so may have been ultimately, if inadvertently, beneficial.

121. The Library was to celebrate the University's Golden Jubilee (1960), among other ways, with its first full-time Readers' Advisory and Reference Service in the Main Library, though, of course, intermittent assistance of the kind envisaged by the Seventh Senate can be said to date from the appointment of a full-time qualified Librarian some twenty years previously,
One bright spot in a truly miserable year was an offer by the Masonic Lodge of its old Temple in Alice Street. This venerable and increasingly dilapidated building was to do sterling service as a temporary home for a whole series of Departments; Dentistry, Anatomy, and Engineering, in particular. The sadly non-functional accommodation that it provided over the next quarter of a century alone made it possible for the University to take advantage of the Silver Jubilee expansion and, later, to cope with the post-war deluge of students.

Public relations, too, gravely affected by the virtual cessation of extension work, were at least maintained by a new venture, first tentatively essayed in 1931 and now, in 1933, put on a systematic basis, namely the use of wireless to reach the community. In the same direction, too, it was found possible to form the Institute of Modern Languages on the basis of the old Tutorial Classes in this field. Through this organization, operated practically on a shoe-string, the University has offered, ever since, evening intramural classes in any modern language for which there is sufficient demand.

In contrast to the preceding year, 1934 was marked at least by hope if not by actual improvement. The economic situation as a whole had improved considerably and there seemed to be some grounds for believing that, before long, this improvement would be reflected in the University's endowment. It really did begin to look as if careful administration and wise finance was going to win through. It would be long before the University regained the youthful vitality of its earliest years, but at least it might be possible soon to stop contracting miserably upon itself.

Perhaps it was some reflection of this cautious optimism that the editor of Galmahra for once found no reason, in 1934, to fulminate against apathy. Indeed he considered that it had been "a most successful year for the student body and the University generally - interest and co-operation are abundant". (122)

Moreover, the retiring Senate in this, its final year of office, was well aware that its successor would be able to urge the University's Silver Jubilee upon the Government as a suitable occasion for commemoration.

In its own thinking, and in the discussions, formal and particularly informal, that its executive officers undertook with the Government as the year went on, there developed a three-point plan for this celebration.

Firstly, although the University itself had nothing like the resources to expand into a new field of teaching, it could at least establish a higher degree, which, by emphasizing its maturity, might capture the public imagination, at no cost to the taxpayer. For this purpose, the Doctorate of Letters seemed an appropriate award to institute.

Secondly, there seemed some reason to hope that the Government might find the necessary extra funds to permit the establishment of a new faculty. This was thought to be possible even in the face of continuing financial difficulties, since it would commemorate not only the University's Jubilee but also the foresight of a previous State Administration, of at least a similar political complexion, in establishing the University. There was, too, the close association

122. Galmahra. 7 (1934), (2) 4.

Not all students were as convinced of this cooperation or at any rate of its continuance. In a debate on the advisability of abolishing the procession one speaker opposed the motion on the grounds that "any liberty we relinquish will tighten the ropes about our necks!"
with the Jubilee of Separation. Although there were many who hoped that this might be the occasion to establish the Faculty of Law in its full panoply, it became clear that Dentistry, towards which already considerable progress had been made, would be considerably more attractive to the Government.

Thirdly, and this was a real boost to morale, there were not wanting hints that, if the accommodation position really was as calamitous as had been stated, at least some token amelioration of it could be managed. For this relief, clearly, much thanks! But the most suitable expression of thanks was not without its difficulties.

At the inauguration of the University an honorary L.L.D. had been bestowed upon the Premier, but this action had not gone uncriticised, both within and without the academic world. Accompanying its decision to repeat this procedure with Premier Forgan-Smith, the Seventh Senate was careful to set out its reasons in full:

"The bestowal of a similar honour ... on the Head of the Government on the occasion of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary would be an appropriate recognition by the Senate of the facilities afforded by the Government to the University in the intervening period; and although this Senate cannot dictate the policy of future Senates, the procedure followed on this occasion might be accepted as a general indication of University intention to associate such action only with the celebrations at the end of each twenty-five years."

Lest there should be any forgetting of the University's real needs at this period, Vice Chancellor Robertson celebrated his re-election by pointing out to the Press that, while the student population had very nearly trebled since 1923, the Budget estimates for 1934 represented an increase of less than 8% over the same period. (123) The day following this statement the Courier itself drew attention to the fact that the University of Adelaide employed a teaching staff of 129 as opposed to 55 at the University of Queensland and, in addition to having twice the number of students, boasted a Medical School and a Conservatorium. Moreover it enjoyed a Government endowment of £50,000 per year. Very correctly, the paper reminded its readers that "Even more valuable than an increase in State aid to the University of Queensland would be an increase in support through private gifts and endowments". (124)

Another link with the earliest days of the University was finally broken with the death of Steele, just prior to the Degree Ceremony. In respect to his memory the students abandoned their traditional buffoonery at the ceremony itself and cancelled their procession.

Sir James Blair made the most of the fortuitous silence in which his Degree Day address was thus received to give point to the negotiations already proceeding for the Jubilee. Opening with accommodation difficulties and singling out the Library for special mention, he paraded in order a whole series of objects appropriate to celebratory beneficence. Thus were listed the Diploma course in Architecture, already approved in principle by the Senate; the Dentistry question, with special mention of the first diplomates to be presented that very afternoon; the long-delayed Faculty of Law; and even, in case it caught a particular fancy, a Conservatorium.

123. Courier Mail 9/4/34.
124. ibid. 10/4/34,
A few days before the Degree ceremony the difficult question of the Associate Professorship had been settled at last in principle, at least, to the satisfaction of both the Board and Senate. The Board, having made its point against the appearance of discrimination in favour of particular individuals, it was approved that an official grade of Associate Professor be introduced, the incumbents to receive an extra £100 per year as soon as circumstances permitted. (125)

At the May meeting of the Senate it was announced that Melbourne had been appointed to this new grade and had assumed, at the same time, the office of Part-time Librarian, "as an earnest of the Senate's desire that the Library become a utility of first-rate importance to the University and the community." (126)

This year the Staff Association, apparently scenting also that better times were not quite so far ahead, petitioned the Senate for the restoration of the Depression salary cuts. This proved impossible of attainment as did the regaining of parity with the relative Public Service grades, but there was at least a nice Christmas box for all with £1 per week extra to Professors and ten shillings to their lessor colleagues, all retrospective to mid-year.

In September the Chancellor systematized in a memorandum a series of accommodation proposals in descending order of desirability and cost. At one end of the scale a complete transference to St. Lucia was estimated to cost, even at that date, more than £½ million. At the other end, the rock bottom minimum need was a new, functional library building at, perhaps, £27,000. In between were listed more intensive developments of the existing sitewhich are interesting in retrospect. For £171,000 it was estimated that there could be provision for two buildings, at the expense of demolishing old Government House. The first of these would be a really handsome Library, which would become a Research Centre for the City as a whole, gathering under its roof such activities as a Public Archive Office, the Oxley Library, the Library of the Royal Society, and substantial runs of State papers from the over-crowded Parliamentary Library. The Second building would house the Faculty of Arts and the University Administration. For only £75,000 it was thought one building could be provided, which could encompass, on a more modest scale, both the Library and the Arts - Administration complex.

There was not a great deal of doubt which, if any, of these proposals the Government would, or could, accept. Nor could their reluctance to embark on either of the ambitious intermediate schemes be criticised unduly if there was reason to believe that within the foreseeable future, they might proceed with the grand design for St. Lucia; that is, provided something really was done for the poor, struggling Library in the meantime.

125. It was decided at the same time, and with the same rider, to made a similar allowance to the President of the Board of Faculties. This particular suggestion, however, never found any real favour with the members of the Board and was quietly dropped.

126. A further resolution at this same meeting was that "the Library has definitely reached a stage where the limited system of cataloguing hitherto attempted should be extended, a fuller classification of material should be available and increased facilities commensurate with present views should be provided." A piece of irony that presents itself, perhaps most forcibly to a librarian, is that the very next meeting of Senate approved the cancellation of Gmelin's indispensable Handbuch, the standard reference aid in the field of Inorganic Chemistry.
With all the feeling of subdued optimism, with castles in the air becoming ever so less insubstantial, and with professors and clerks alike having at least a few Christmas pence to jingle in their pockets, the University could look back on the twenty five years that had elapsed since Sir William MacGregor presented the University of Queensland Act to the people of Queensland.

Without forgetting the grimness of the last few years, there was pride to be taken in the achievement for the first time of a student body over a thousand strong and the presentation, at the 1934 ceremony, of the fifteen hundredth graduate or postgraduate.

Of the very first teaching staff there were only Michie, the last of the "Big Four", Richards and Parnell left, but their colleagues were somewhat more numerous than in 1911. The teaching staff totalled 43 as opposed to 18 in that natal year, and there were now no less than 78 persons in the University employ, more than three times the number in the inaugural year.

Of the Senate, there had remained in office since 1910 only J.D. Story who had enjoyed sufficiently the confidence of successive Governments to be nominated six times, and James Brownlie Henderson who alone had survived every Senate election.

These men had seen the University's lusty youth, had shared its hopes and endured its fears. All but one would continue to serve throughout the long period of its adolescence, but only one would experience its spectacular growth to whatever maturity is expressed in sheer size, in breadth of teaching, and the occupation of a noble and evied site.
CHAPTER 5.

SILVER JUBILEE FLOURISH. (1935-1939)

Now, he belongs tae 'Varsity,
Queensland 'Varsity,
But he's not just an ordinary graduate,
With his honorary L.L.D.,
They embroidered a cap and a gown with gold
And found it fitted him,
So now that the Senate have made him the Chancellor
'Varsity belongs tae him.

Chancellor's Song (1944-1953)

The Right Honourable William Forgan Smith did not become Chancellor of the University until December 1944, indeed he did not even join the Senate till October 1943. But the period we are now about to examine was certainly his greatest hour as far as the University was concerned. Long, long before he became Chancellor he had exercised as Premier, such a closely benevolent interest in its development that, in a very real sense, the 'Varsity did indeed "belong tae him.'

That something would have been done by the Government to celebrate the University Jubilee seemed certain, and we have seen already the limit of the Senate's hopes in this direction, and gauged the extent of its real estimate of the probabilities. What actually happened certainly was beyond its wildest dreams and, though not all was due to the Government, and not all of that to the Premier, it seems highly probable that, if it had not been Forgan Smith who was riding on the crest of Labour's wave of popularity, the "great leap forward" would have been of much smaller dimensions.

The Press, on at least one occasion, ascribed the Premier's interest in the University to the traditional Scottish respect for education, and this may well have been a factor in the situation. Largely, however, one feels that he was activated by pride in the State and unwillingness to accept its inferiority, even as to Universities. Then, too, it was an immense good fortune that he was struck powerfully by the vision of St. Lucia. At a most opportune moment, rumour has it, he was given a preview of the general concept of the architects' actual plan. This impressed him greatly and, through all the financial difficulties and and the inevitable squabbles, he preserved intact the ambition this grand design had kindled. It was certainly his wish to go down in history as having played a large and decisive part in raising such a monument.

One should hasten to dispel the illusion that with the Jubilee Year all the University's troubles were over; that a change of season coincided with a change of heart. The Government atmosphere was speedily found to be most receptive, to reasonable proposals by the University and was known to be able to afford to be, but there was still plenty of need for the careful negotiations, the unremitting pressure, the tactical skill that the Senate and its officers had grown old in applying to the problems of University finance.

It should also be said, to some extent in the fact of statistical evidence, that the glorious promise of the new dawn which gradually revealed itself in the Jubilee Year was not completely realized. Nor was this due only to the outbreak of the Second World War. Even before 1939 there was evidence of a degree of bogging-down in the expansion programme; of an inability of men
and minds circumscribed by decades of parsimony, and particularly by a few
years of actual want, to adapt themselves completely to a new era. To this
extent, then, the promise of sudden, perhaps premature, adulthood degenerated
into a prolonged adolescence, from which only the post-war infusion of new
blood and new resources revived it.

What actually happened in 1935?

In February the Government guaranteed an extra £1,000 endowment to provide
a Chair in Dentistry and so made certain the establishment of the fourth Faculty.
But it would be some time before all the loose ends of disagreement about dental
education were tied up. Even an amendment to the Dental Act in this year did
not safeguard completely the graduates-to-be from unqualified competition, but
at least the way was clear.

It was fairly certain, even by this time, too, that the Premier would accept
the least expensive of the building proposals that the Chancellor had formulated
the preceding year. There seems to have been some reluctance to divulge any
details, however, and the Chancellor felt it necessary to make his re-election
the occasion for a characteristically vigorous statement of continuing problems.
"The University", he said, "is at the end of its financial resources." It had
managed to carry on, as he pointed out, only by cutting salaries and using
the interest on trust funds. "Though legally and administratively permissible,"
he went on, "this was much to be deplored educationally and financially. The
restoration of the £20,000 a year is now necessary to admit of even the present
 undertakings being carried on efficiently and of a modicum of expansion of them.
The Government therefore, should be approached on the subject at the opportune
time." (127)

It is interesting to note that the "modicum of expansion" he envisaged
included, at this stage, only such minor and relatively inexpensive developments
as the Associateship in Architecture, a postgraduate Diploma in Education, a
Fourth Year of Engineering in Mining and Metallurgy, perhaps a Sub-Faculty
of Music and, as the only new Faculty, Law, which already was part-established.(128)

Despite this uncertainty as to the Government's intentions, arrangements
proceeded for the celebration of the Jubilee from 27th April to 4th May. It was
hoped, correctly as turned out to be the case, that the foundation stone of the
new Library Building might comprise a central feature of this commemoration.

On the 3rd April, Cabinet approved the appointment of a Select Committee
to give preliminary advice on the establishment of Faculties of Medicine and
Veterinary Science and this was interpreted correctly as an indication of firm
intention on the Premier's part. Things were looking up!

The very next day, the Courier carried a report indicating that Forgan
Smith was in earnest about the new Faculties and would not let the absence of
appropriate accommodation necessarily delay their establishment. He also gave a

127. Courier Mail 30/3/35.

128. In addition the Senate resolved, but did not publicize its intention,
to re-organize External Studies on a much more academic basis, substituting
study guides for actual reports lectures, establishing study groups and
even providing library facilities. Much of this remained a pious hope,
however, till the major re-organization of this Department in 1950.
They also envisaged University "Departments" at Rockhampton and Townsville.
In 1960 this development, while measurably closer, was still to come.
broad hint that the 20% cut in the endowment might be restored in the next financial year. This was good news indeed and even better was to be its open reiteration by the Premier at the Jubilee Dinner a month later.

Next and perhaps in a way most heartening of the wonderful events of this wonderful year, was the decision of the Hon. T.C. Beirne, announced in the Press on the 13th April, to present £20,000 to enable the full establishment of the Faculty of Law. "T.C.", who had been Warden of the University Council since 1927, had intended originally to bequeath £10,000 for this purpose, but the excitement of Jubilee Year persuaded him not only to anticipate his demise but also to double his gift, thus giving a nice twist to the old treasurer's catch-cry "bis dat qui cito dat".

The Jubilee celebrations, a scant fortnight later might well have seemed a fitting culmination to the most exciting months in the University's history, but there was more to come.

By all accounts it was a good celebration. The foundation stone of the new Library Building was set without a hitch, the Premier insisting ("applause") that the question was not whether the community could afford the cost of such buildings but whether it could afford indefinitely to do without them. (129) There was a student re-union, held inevitably at the Bellevue (130), and this same venue was selected for a University Dinner. In addition, the Dramatic Society staged a Revue; the Macrossan lecture was delivered - one hopes to a sufficient audience - and the Procession and Degree Ceremony provided the usual material for controversy in the correspondence columns of the Press.

The Courier indeed commented on the restrained behaviour of students at the Ceremony: "Although they could not refrain from indulging in much good-humoured badinage when the Premier, resplendent in red robes and with a Trencher set firmly on his head, mounted the dais for admission by the Chancellor as a Doctor of Laws." (131) His Excellency the Governor was honoured also on this occasion and so, too, was John Lundie Michie, of whom Sir James so rightly said that "in honouring him with a Doctor's Degree, the University, which he has done so much to mould, is honouring itself."

129. Quite clearly, as it turned out, the State Commercial High School and College could not afford indefinitely to do without them, since it moved in to almost complete occupation of this particular building the day it was completed, to make its imposing Foundation Stone one of the more ironical of the University's monuments!

130. The Bellevue was, traditionally, the University Hotel, and has remained so as long as there has been a significant University population at George St. Its place has never been taken completely by any similar institution in the St. Lucia area, largely because of the splendid isolation of the University site from any such conveniences and/or dens of iniquity.

131. Courier Mail, 4/5/35. Student exuberance appeared however in the first issue of Whack-hol, a book of student songs, borderline jests and comment on University personages, which it became customary thereafter to issue in conjunction with each degree ceremony.
It might indeed have been thought the end of a perfect day, but on August 1st the Premier announced his Government's intention to build the University on its new site. The impressive sum of £300,000 plus a further £200,000 for furniture and equipment would be found over the next five years. Well might the Chancellor find it "difficult to describe the feelings of myself and the members of the Senate" at this unbelievable good fortune, and well might he commend "the Premier and his colleagues for making one of the most forward steps in the history of Education in this State." (132) It was not to be the end, by any means, of the struggle to secure a proper home for the University, but it was certainly the end of the beginning.

But why delay recounting the full measure of 1935's startling advances? In November the Premier again announced acceptance in principle of Faculties in both Medicine and Veterinary Science and that the Government would provide the necessary extra funds.

So much for the modest ambitions and the severely restrained optimism of the Senate; four new Faculties instead of the one for which they had hoped, the likelihood of restored endowment, the chance to advertise immediately six Chairs and five lectureships, a proper Library building at last, and completely overshadowing all, the undreamed of generosity of the St. Lucia promise. After the lean years this was almost too much. This, "annus mirabilis".

To cast its shadow on the Jubilee and the jubilation, the loss of two more of the original staff removed, at one blow, the first Administration. To begin with, it had been an Acting Registrar that had attended the Chancellor at the Degree ceremony, for McCaffrey had died suddenly on the 5th April.

McCaffrey had been a most successful Registrar. He had no academic pretensions and made none, but he was held in deserved esteem for his administrative efficiency and enjoyed the friendship of students and staff alike to a much greater extent than had Cumbrae Stewart. To succeed him the Senate appointed as Registrar C. Page Hanify, who was to serve almost until the Golden Jubilee.

Then, at the end of the year, Cumbrae Stewart himself vacated his Garrick Professorship, making way for a younger man and a new era with the Faculty that he had not been able to see established during his tenancy of the Chair. (134)

132. Courier Mail 1/8/35.

133. It was astonishing that this, perhaps the most exciting year in the University's history, passed practically unnoticed by the student body. The Union and its affiliated societies seem to have been very little moved by the Jubilee itself or by the events of the year. Galmahra for 1935 affected art paper and sub-titled itself "Jubilee Issue," but the editor admitted that it was two months late and only three quarters the size of the 1934 number. "Such a patent manifestation of lack of interest and support," he said, "certainly gives rise to speculation as to whether the contention that the student body has become an uninterested and diffuse force is not founded on fact," (Galmahra, 7 (1935), (3)3.)

134. Cumbrae-Stewart's successor was R. York-Hudges. He resigned in 1945 and was succeeded in turn by W.N.L. Harrison.
The momentum of 1935 carried on well into 1936. Thus, the first few meetings of the Senate were occupied with making the new appointments and digesting the implications of the Government's undreamed - of bounty. For, not only had an extra £10,000 been added to the annual endowment to cover the new Faculties of Medicine and Veterinary Science, the Premier had promised as well to assume financial responsibility for the Medical School and for other buildings needed.

As further indication of the Government's interest, it was known by September that the State Estimates allowed for the institution in 1937 of both a Degree Course in Surveying and those Diplomas in Architecture and Education towards which the University had been struggling so long and apparently so ineffectually. Indeed, when one came to look at the Government Estimates, it became clear that, for this year the State commitment was no less than £34,473, plus the expenditure on existing buildings and the promise of the Library, the Medical School, the new Dental Hospital, and St. Lucia. It made an impressive contrast to the depression years.

There was much optimism about the new Faculties. Helmore, the first Professor of Dentistry, was confident of fifty enrolments, and it seemed there would be seventy potential doctors to start the Medical School on its way. No such certainty attended Agriculture, which had never risen above twenty-three since the inception of the Faculty, and a discreet silence surrounded Veterinary Science, where H.R. Sedden, the first professor, could number only seven students. Small enrolments seemed to dog this Faculty, and the Second World War would cripple it.

Since the mid-twenties, H.C. Richards, the Professor of Geology, had been playing an increasingly important part both in the University and in the community at large. This was brought home, in 1936, when he returned from a year's tour of Universities in the Old World and particularly also, when, in August, he was present with a Carnegie Medal. As well as playing an important part in the organization and functioning of C.S.I.R.O., he had branched out widely into the field of Art and had made, in 1932, a Carnegie survey of Art Galleries and Museums in Australia and New Zealand.

Richards, in addition to his scientific ability and his administrative talent, was clearly a very good public relations man. In a University which was small enough still to be personified, in the public - as in the student-mind, in one man, it was Richards who assumed the mantle of Priestley and became "the Prof." He served several terms on the Senate, was for many years Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee, and, in addition to carrying the Presidency of the Board of Faculties for a record term, was elected Deputy Chancellor by the Senate, the only member of the Staff ever honoured in this way. His distinguished and varied service to the University is commemorated in the H.C. Richards Geology Building at St. Lucia. No other building on the site has been permanently associated in this way with any particular person.

Like Richards, Melbourne too was in the public eye early in 1936. Considerable publicity was given to his return from a second visit to the Far East over Christmas.
Almost unnoticed in Jubilee Year, Dr. Wand, the recently appointed Anglican Archbishop, who always took his senatorial duties very seriously, had castigated the University on the absence of any theological studies from its curriculum. Steady pressure to secure a School of Divinity, sternly resisted first by the Board of Faculties, resulted in 1936 in a firm proposal to introduce Biblical Literature as an Arts course.

It was soon found that the Premier had been as good as his word about St. Lucia. In September 1936 the Senate saw tentative plans, and was able to quiz Mr. Hennessy, the architect, on salient points. Some of the questions and answers both reveal the generous hopes of those days and underline the progressive reduction of them, that raising costs were to entail. For instance, when asked about the orientation of the building, the architect replied blandly that this was of little real importance since air-conditioning could be provided suitably throughout! Lecturers who cook in summer on the northern aspect of the Main Building and their colleagues who freeze in winter on the southern side may well feel that something has been lost from Mr. Hennessy's original plan. A sobering thought and one that would cause some distress in the future was that the preliminary estimates had doubled already the figure of £1 million guaranteed by the Premier.

Some months before, there had been a strange re-opening of the "battle of the sites". On this occasion it was the College authorities who protested that St. Lucia was too remote, that the Dental and Medical Schools would split the University, that in any case the project would cost much more than had been anticipated, and that, perhaps most important of all one cannot help feeling, they, the Colleges, had not been consulted in this matter of the site. The Premier stood firm, however, and indicated in no uncertain measure that any talk of alternative locations at this stage was foolish indeed.

In October came the welcome news that the Commonwealth Government would move tentatively into the University field by providing £30,000 as the first of five annual grants to encourage research. Queensland's share of the grant was to be £4,200. With this was to be instituted that impressive range of specific research projects which has remained a feature of the University ever since.

In his Christmas message to the Senate the Chancellor noted that Mr. Forgan Smith had reaffirmed his determination to provide funds for St. Lucia and that it had been possible further to restore staff salaries. As for the small committee chaired by Melbourne, whose specific task was to effect liaison with the Architects for St. Lucia, it reported that it "had been impressed by Mr. Hennessy's anxiety to comply with the requirements of the University." Truly this was the season of peace and goodwill. It was certainly not the time to remember that seventeen students who were only in the fourth and third years of the dental course had solemnly applied to the Dental Board for registration as dentists, to demonstrate the farcical inadequacy of the existing law. Nor would it have been appropriate to bring up the matter of the two live hens whose student-induced flight had outraged the proctors at the Degree Ceremony and the accompanying bedlam which had effectively drowned the Chancellor's address.

In Europe, 1937 saw the first indication that the uneasy postwar peace was cracking under the strain of totalitarian nationalism; with Hitler and Mussolini daily growing more aggressive and with trouble looming up too in the British
monarchy, it was not nearly as pleasant a year for Englishmen as its predecessor. For Queenslanders too, and in particular for the members of the Eighth Senate of the University, all was not quite as rosy as it had been in 1936.

The year still recorded notable and positive advances. Amid suitable rejoicings the foundation stone of the Main Buildings at St. Lucia was set firmly by Premier Forgan-Smith on Saturday 6th March, with the encouragement of the Chancellor, the assistance of Mr. J. Hennessy, the architect, and the blessing of Dr. J. O'Neill Mayne, the Donor. It was a suitably fine afternoon, and justly reported as being an occasion of great significance. When the tumult and the shouting died, the foundation stone itself presented a somewhat pathetic picture as it stood well-nigh indistinguishable on the vast empty hillside, but hopes were high that before many months had passed it would be merely another stone in the vast edifice that was to arise. (135)

On the 3rd June, too, the Honourable E. Hanlon, who was to succeed Forgan Smith as Premier, set the foundation stone of the new Medical School, in his capacity as Minister for Health and Home Affairs.

Barely was the mortar dry, however, on the St. Lucia stone when it became certain that there would be trouble over the virtual doubling of the original estimate for the building. By degrees, at a series of stormy meetings, the Senate wrestled with the problem of deciding whether half a loaf would be better than no bread, and if so how the loaf should be divided. There were three possible courses of action. Firstly, it could try too and, on Melbourne's urging, it did, persuade the premier to double his promised yearly quota of £100,000 and so keep to the five year project. This was soon found to be quite genuinely beyond the resources of the Government and was abandoned, thus reducing the choice to one or other of the second or third possibilities.

Secondly, then, it could accept a reduction in quality thus effecting the completion of the whole concept in the five years but on a markedly less luxurious or perhaps even less adequate scale. In the course of this argument the staff members of the Senate vigorously defended the original scale, and had to bear the charges of extravagance directed at them and their colleagues, particularly by nominated members of the Senate. The Courier, however, was probably voicing community feeling accurately when it opposed an emasculating of the original plan. Certainly there was a grandeur, or perhaps a grandiosity, about Hennessy's plans and elevations that made a powerful appeal to many. The Courier said "If no more than £100,000 per year can be provided for the new University, it will take at least 10 years in the building. Even if this cannot be shortened, it will be

135. After little more than twenty years this occasion has already attracted its own body of legend, which like all legends presumably has a substratum of truth. Rumour has it that the leading figures in the ceremony had celebrated the occasion in anticipation and that, as a result, the proceedings were somewhat more spirited than had been expected. Be that as it may, it seems too much to hope that the further story, that the Foundation Stone was set inadvertently in the wrong place, and had to be shifted overnight, is other than apochryphal.
better to adhere to a plan worthy of the City and adequate to its needs for many
generations than to start cutting it with the shears of parsimony and hurry. The
building of a new University offers the State and the City an opportunity of acquiring
an institution of which it can be proud for all time. It will be a sad waste of
money if something "temporary" were set up at St. Lucia in quicker time for shorter
cost." (136)

Finally, as the Courier urged, the Senate accepted the third choice,
faced firmly the inevitability of a longer building period than had been
anticipated, and hammered out a sequence of three stages which would cover
between 12 and 13 years and which, they fondly hoped, would cause the least
possible inconvenience in terms of the progressive transfer of actual teaching
and research to the new site. It was not an easy choice, nor was agreement
easily arrived at. In the debate it was said, for instance, that Story had
had the difficult task of advising the Premier "in another capacity" on the
question he now had to debate in the Senate. Such was the feeling
roused, so drastic some of the measures proposed - some going all the way to a complete
retreat from St. Lucia - that the Senator, whose compromise motion carried the
day, had to preface his remarks with an extremely blunt statement which has now
considerable significance. He pointed out that it was the Government not the
Senate that was building the new University and that the Senate had no option
but to trust the Government in this matter. Moreover, since the foundation
stone had actually been laid at St. Lucia the Senate was quite irrevocably
committed to the establishment of the University there and must suffer it in
the way in which those providing money saw fit.

That the Government would have trouble enough in honouring its promise
for £100,000 a year, let alone doubling it, had become clear already. Indeed,
as early as May, the Premier reported that the Loan Council had so drastically
reduced his estimates that no Loan Funds whatever would be available for the
building in 1937/38 or even in 1938/39. There was even a suggestion that the
Senate might lend the Government £95,000 from the capital of its trusts funds
to allow a start to be made. In the event, this loan was never taken up,
perhaps because Vice-Chancellor Story suggested bargaining with it for a higher
annual endowment, and, one way or another, the Premier managed to honour his
bond until the war made it impossible to carry on.

There was trouble with the Medical School, too. H.J. Wilkinson, the first
Professor of Anatomy, imported from Adelaide to set the school on its feet,
was faced with enormous responsibilities as Dean in getting the Faculty going
and, as the one man on the spot, in the detailed planning of the new building.
By May of 1937, he was already in trouble with the Senate for sanctioning
alterations to the building. At the first Faculty Meeting of the following year
he gave place as Dean to D.H.K. Lee, the first Professor of Physiology, having
found it impossible, as others after him, to reconcile the various conflicting
interests involved with the working of the School.

An anachronism that was at last corrected this year was the title of the
academic governing body. Ever since 1918 it had been clear that the title

136. Courier Mail, 13/7/37
"Board of Faculties" had become a misnomer, and on several occasions it had been proposed to substitute for it the more usual "Professorial Board." After 29 years this was at last effected and Alcock was duly installed as the first President of the Professorial Board. There were other distinct advances. In March yet another college had opened its doors. This was Ducheane, a Roman Catholic College for women, which was to function, prior to moving to St. Lucia in a series of very makeshift abodes. Initially it was accommodated with Stuartholme convent.

Early in the year the Courier had noted, once again, the lack of a continuous flow of private benefactions to the University. In March it calculated that Sydney, to Queensland's shame, had received over a million from this source. In September by contrast, it had the pleasure of reporting the Robertson bequest to Queensland of more than £20,000 for use by the Faculty of Agriculture.

By December, too, the Senate had sanctioned the introduction in 1938 of a Diploma course in Physiotherapy but, significantly, only on the distinct understanding that the course would be self-supporting financially. Even more significantly, a Senate committee had been appointed to consider ways and means of inducing benefactions.

1938 was the year of Munich, of peace with honour - and air-raid trenches in Hyde Park - the year that spelt the end of the uneasy peace to all but the most incorrigible of optimists. What kind of a year was it in Brisbane? What did it bring that is of moment to the history of the University? It brought, for certain, a perceptible slowing in the tempo that had been so increased by the wonderful events of 1935. It saw, it is true, work continued at St. Lucia, but only under uneasy conditions. It saw trouble in the new Faculty of Dentistry, and complete upset in the Faculty of Medicine. As some compensation it saw an acceptable, if only temporary, solution to the problem of the Vice-Chancellorship and the way opened to a solution of the problem of the Librarianship. It also saw a new Senate.

It was a bad omen that the year opened with a strike at St. Lucia. This was actually a legacy of the depression employment of relief workers on laying out the grounds. Apparently, the same men had been quietly diverted to preparing building foundations, and it occurred to others to claim that the work involved required the skill, and the wages of builder's labourers.

Hardly was this crisis met when F.E. Helmore, the first Professor of Dentistry, resigned and had to be replaced at short notice. There was trouble, too, over the new Physiotherapy course, which for some time seemed likely to attract only one student. In the end, and just in time, there were secured the necessary minimum ten enrolments.

The initiation of the Ninth Senate caused note to be taken of Sir James Blair's twelfth successive election as Chancellor. The Degree Ceremony was reported gleefully by the Courier as an occasion on which, by clever repartee and the presence induced by his years on the Bench, "Jimmy" more than held his own with, and indeed silenced ultimately, all student interjections. Certainly by this time he was looking forward to his annual tussle with these Irrepressibles. It was the more unfortunate that, by the time he was succeeded in his office, the students also were looking forward to it, whereas the new Chancellor was physically incapable, however willing he might be, of participating.

The first fruit of Melbourne's overseas visits was seen this year in the
inauguration of a series of lectures in oriental civilization by Mr. Ryonsuke Seita, a Japanese national. These lectures, which formed a most attractive portion of the history course, were to be interrupted very brusquely in 1942, when Seita joined his compatriots in internment for "the duration." (137)

Melbourne had also been putting in an amount of quiet work with the trustees of the Forsyth Bequest and, as a result, it began to look as if the vexed problem of a full-time Librarianship might be solved.

In March the Vacation Committee of the Senate had noted that the Premier had undertaken the full cost of constructing the Library on the St. Lucia site. Since the Forsyth bequest had been designed to cover this work, the Vacation Committee had authorized the Library Committee to devise an acceptable use for the income from the bequest, and to plan an appropriate variation in the use of the capital - both of these to be submitted, at a suitable time, to the Forsyth trustees. In May the Committee had presented its proposals, in July it was reported that Miss Philp, the surviving trustee, had expressed approval, and by September it was clear that it was proposed to employ the income from the Forsyth gift to sustain the first full-time Librarianship in the University's history.

Another important advance which makes its appearance almost unnoticed in the Senate Minutes was the establishment, through a gift made in 1935, of a Seismological Station in conjunction with the Department of Geology. From this modest beginning, the University would receive, in the years to come, an increasing measure of public interest and appreciation.

The death of William Nathaniel Robertson was followed by the election to the Vice-Chancellorship of John Douglas Story, I.S.O., a position which he would occupy unchallenged until the year 1960. Story, with the unrivalled experience of twenty-eight years on the Senate to guide him, retained also the Chairmanships of the Administrative and Finance Committees which had become, in effect, his prerogative over practically the whole of this period.

It was not long before his astuteness would be put to the test, since the very Senate meeting which saw his election received also two letters from the Premier which threatened a considerable rift in the lute. In the first there was expressed considerable disappointment at the miserable number of students enrolled for Veterinary Science, and the suggestion that perhaps only the first three years of the course should be undertaken in Queensland. This form of economy was to remain in high favour in Government circles for many years.

The second sounded a real warning against presuming that a declaration of principle on the Government's part involved the unlimited provision of funds. The Medical School, estimated originally to cost £22,000, appeared to be likely to swell to a monster £71,000 which, said the Premier, "aroused a feeling of disquiet that ... requests seem to exceed moderation."

There may well be a real connection between the expression of this sentiment and the discovery, almost immediately, that revision of the University Act was "in the wind". In September the students, often first to hear of such

137. Whatever the military virtue of this particular action, it had a sad aftermath. Seita was drowned, some years later, when the ship repatriating him to Japan was sunk. In the mid 1950's the Department of Customs was still collecting his belongings, which had been scattered throughout the University.
developments, were petitioning for the provision of a student Senator, should reconstitution of the Senate be involved in any amendment. This, too, was a demand that would recur.

Three further points complete the impression of this year. If student representation on the Senate would prove to be a "hardy annual", so too would the request, transmitted through the Combined Advisory Committee, that Wednesday afternoons, traditionally reserved for sport, should be kept clear, in fact, of lectures and laboratory periods. It proved to be impossible in 1938, it was laughable even to suggest it is 1959; yet, in principle, there has been always complete accord among all parties concerned on the admirable nature of such a measure. The week just was not, and never will be, long enough for the work to be done.

This attempt to preserve the "good old days", was matched by a first tentative try at meeting the "bad new" ones. Thomas Thatcher, who had succeeded T.E. Jones as Director of External Studies, instituted this year the first agency to arrange for student employment.

In addition to Helmore's replacement in the Chair of Dentistry by S.F. Lumb, two further changes in the professorial membership took place at the end of the year. W.M. Kyle, who was an early Queensland student, succeeded to Scott Fletcher's Chair of Philosophy and Lowson resigned the Research Chair of Medical Psychology.

It had not been nearly as encouraging a year, as 1937, and not even the mooting of courses in Physical Education at the end of the year, nor the hint that Commonwealth money might be found to support them, seemed able, to some Senators at least, to remove the feeling that the great Jubilee expansion had lost its momentum.

In this last year of peace, the tendencies which had become apparent in the preceding year or two of the University's history were more marked. In particular, a growing testiness on the Premier's part, especially over increased costs, affected the warmth of his relations with the Senate.

There was evidence of this changing attitude as early as February. On 22nd of that month the Courier Mail reported that the Government "would ask the University to co-operate in making a joint review of the organization, administration, and work of the W.E.A. and the University Tutorial Classes." This seems, however, to have been no more than window-dressing, since the Premier proceeded quite independently to appoint an investigating committee without waiting for any University representative.

The trouble lay in alleged use of the W.E.A. and perhaps of the Tutorial classes, which were conducted by University staff, to spread what was considered to amount to Communist propaganda.

Following the report of its committee, the Government decided, in September, to discontinue its subsidies to both functions. (138) In accordance with its traditional policy of support for extension work, the Senate resolved to consider moving into the Adult Education field. When this became known to the Premier, however, the Senate was severely snubbed. Adult Education it seemed was to be retained very firmly under Government control and the Senate's proposals were held to be "indicative of non-co-operation with the Government". It looked as if the honeymoon was over.

138. A report in the Courier Mail (6/9/39) claimed that "no evidence was
Lowson's resignation as Research Professor Medical Psychology had been seized upon as an opportunity to try to effect a more advantageous use of the Red Cross £10,000 on which the Chair rested, but after considerable negotiations it appeared that this was impossible.

Progress at St. Lucia seemed distressingly slow and the Senate, having had second thoughts on the sequence of transfer from George St, asked whether work could not be accelerated and especially whether Physics could not be included in Stage I. It had become clear by now, indeed it was openly reported in the Press in April, that even without Physics this stage alone would cost more than the half-million to which the Government stood committed. As a result the proposed £95,000 loan was mentioned again and a tentative agreement actually reached.

World events, however, were to override such small matters.

In 1938 the Chancellor had been able to talk down his tormentors at the Degree Ceremony; in this last year of peace he found it impossible. On can never tell what will appeal to the student mind. Sir James began his address with a quite formal apology for the Premier's absence from the function. Such was the outburst of cheers, and groans, reported the Courier that met this announcement, accompanied as it was by the throwing of coloured streamers, the playing of mouth organs, and the exploding of fireworks, that he did not attempt to compete. Perhaps student clairvoyance was sufficient to recognize the last opportunity for such frolics for nearly ten years.

Towards the end of the year it was announced that Government loans would be granted on easy terms to enable the Residential Colleges to move to St. Lucia. This was based on the assumption, which war and inflation would ridicule, that the cost of each College would be no more than £40,000.

In May, Richard Pennington was appointed first James Forsyth Librarian, with the status and salary of a lecturer. This was a step forward, indeed.

The outbreak of war on the third of September found the Senate, like the community at large, almost resigned to its inevitability. This time there were no fervent declarations of patriotism to record in Senate minutes; too many Senators had been through it all before. Rather was there sober acceptance of all the trials that war would bring; in particular, the postponement, at least, of that vision of a permanent home for the University, which had so unexpectedly five been vouchsafed only years before.

138. (Cont.)

adduced to indicate that a policy other than of strict neutrality in respect of sect, party or creed, was being observed in the conduct of the tutorial classes ... Unfortunately, however, in certain of the Association's other activities this policy has been departed from."
The eight months or of the "phony war" gave time, if time were wanted, for the University to gird its loins for the real conflict that was yet to come. It could call on somewhat more substantial resources than it had possessed in 1914.

In 1940 it boasted nine full Faculties and an enrolment of more than 1700 students, of whom less than 500 were completely external. This represented an increase in student numbers of almost exactly 70% in five years. A teaching staff of 80 contrasted favourable with the 41 employed in the abyss of Depression in 1931 and no less than 177 persons were on the University pay-roll. That that elusive calculation, the "Staff Student Ratio" had shown no improvement, but rather the reverse, over the period could be regarded, perhaps, as no more than the price of progress.

The death of Bagster early in 1940 was followed by the appointment to his Chemistry Chair of T.G.H. Jones, who was to be in 1960 the Senior surviving member of the Staff.

As a reaction against the pandemonium of the previous year, the Senate resolved that the Degree Ceremony should be "somewhat more formal", a decision which was heeded, according to the Courier Mail, by the student body, since "there was evident a more serious note, to which the most hilarious undergraduates were attuned." All things are relative, one supposes, but it is somewhat surprising in view of this grave commendation to find that the young gentlemen's sobriety did not inhibit them from releasing during the ceremony several grasshoppers, a number of pigeons and a bantam.

Following the Premier's earlier outburst on extravagance it came perhaps as no surprise, though still as a considerable shock, when the Senate was notified that the extra cost involved in constructing the Medical and Veterinary schools would be charged against the "St. Lucia half million". It was not until some years later that the Vice-Chancellor revealed that the "extras" in the case of the Medical School amounted to almost four times the original estimate of the full cost.

With the death of Miss Mayne, following that of Dr. Mayne the previous year, it became known that both had bequeathed the substantial residue of their estates for use in the work of the Faculty of Medicine. It was an appropriate accompaniment to their benefaction when the first twenty Queensland trained doctors received their Degrees in December.
Meanwhile, the war had taken a much more serious turn and the blitzkrieg in France stimulated a sudden burst of enthusiasm within the University for civil-defence training. In addition, the initiative of the Staff Association, the Senate was asked to consider the introduction of intensive short courses to equip students more rapidly for the war effort. Some interesting modifications of the existing courses were introduced, as time went on, to meet this second suggestion. As to the first, Parnell was able to report proudly in August that classes were underway in First Aid, Physical Fitness, Field Cooking and - sinister thought - Demolitions!

Soon the Senate was troubled, as had been its predecessor twenty-five years ago, by staff enlistments, and its patience warred with its admiration when Whitehouse, a highly qualified Lecturer in Geology, joined the A.I.F. as a private soldier; an action to which the Press gave some publicity.

A year which had opened with an offer by the Commonwealth Literary Fund to endow a course in Australian Literature - shades of Justice McCawley - ended with approval, in principle only, of the additional staff appointments in Bacteriology, Psychology and Modern Languages which even the existing student numbers demanded. Like its predecessors the Ninth Senate was determined not to be precluded from planning, even if circumstances beyond its control inhibited implementation.

No one could argue about the seriousness of the war in 1941, but, until December at least it remained remote, with "the boys" still in the Middle East, though there was much to be disturbed about in envisaging possible developments in the Pacific. However, there was the Eighth Division in Malaya and, of course, impregnable Singapore!

For the University, and the 10th Senate whose term it initiated, 1941 was a year of crisis; crisis all the more important if largely unrealized, or at least unmentioned. The year started with the Standing Committee of the Council enquiring what the University was doing for the war effort (139). It was noted that classes in First Aid, Field cooking and Physical Culture would probably continue, Not so the instruction in Demolitions - a dangerous sport to practise in any case among the termite ridden "temporary" buildings which the University had now occupied for thirty years.

The first Medical graduation had touched off two enquiries which now came before the Senate. First, with commendable promptness, a statute was drawn up to provide for post-graduate medical education, a development welcomed by the profession. Secondly, the whole medical curriculum came under fire, particularly from the British Medical Association. There was instituted what turned out to be an almost interminable series of investigations and reports as one section after another of the medical profession expressed its views on this vital matter in the ensuing ten years (140).

139. The Standing Committee had been established in 1939. It is elected concurrently with each Senate.

140. Another award made for the first time at this ceremony had been the Diploma in Physiotherapy. Like Surveying, the courses in Physiotherapy derived their strength and popularity almost entirely from one man. It was at the urging of Dr. H. Crawford that the Senate was persuaded to establish the Diploma and he became the first lecturer in the subject. Before his death in 1958 he had seen the Diploma in Physiotherapy supported by a Diploma in Occupational Therapy and, in 1955, the first degrees awarded in Applied Science in Physiotherapy.
In the Governor's speech at the opening of Parliament, mention was made of a measure "having for its object a greater co-operation of the Education Department with the University" (142). In October the Bill concerned, The National Education Co-ordination and University of Queensland Acts Amendment Bill came before the House. Introducing the Bill himself Premier Forgan Smith explained that its object was "the co-operation of all educational activities within the State from the Kindergarten to the University". (142) To effect this, as he had said, "a scheme must be evolved under which both the State and the University shall discharge jointly and in co-operation their national obligations in the interests of a sound educational policy".

The main device for ensuring this co-operation then turned out to be a re-constitution of the Senate which, in effect, guaranteed a majority of Government nominated as opposed to Council elected members. (143) Members from both sides of the House, including the then Leader of the Opposition, united in congratulating the Premier on the far-sighted nature of this proposal and the First Reading stage passed in a glow of mutual admiration. Six days later there was a dramatic change at the Debate on the Second Reading with Honourable Members discovering considerable objections in principle to the re-constitution of the Senate. What had happened in the interim to disturb the unprecedented legislative calm?

There had been vigorously and eloquently expressed in public fundamental opposition to the potential political control of the Senate and of the University, to which the proposed re-constitution opened the way. This championing of the University had come not from the Senate itself, nor from the academic staff, but from the students alone!

The position of the staff was peculiarly invidious. Since 1910 their freedom of speech on such matters had been shackled, as we have seen, by a requirement in their terms of appointment which precluded them from taking part in political affairs, other than by the exercise of the franchise. It must be said they had shown no great inclination over the years to contest this undemocratic restriction and now they were to suffer as a result. In the event, they felt themselves powerless to do more than meet and hear details of the Bill "in strictest confidence" from one of their members who was also a member of the Senate.

The Senate, as on a later occasion, took no cognizance whatever of the Bill while it was under discussion. The students, fettered by no restrictions of speech and at the same time, of course, quite unconcerned with the practical necessity of not alienating unduly the sole main source of University income, were able to join battle openly in defence of the vital principle of Academic Freedom.

141. Q.P.D. 177 (1941), 6.
142. ibid. 736
143. Under the 1909 Act the Senate, once the Council was established, consisted of ten persons nominated by the Governor in Council and ten elected by the Council. By the 1941 amendment this was altered to fourteen nominated by the Governor in Council, the Director-General of Education ex officio, the President of the Professorial Board ex officio and nine elected by the Council. As before, the maximum allowable number of staff members (including the President of the Board) was three.
Hopkins, President of the University Union, waited on the Premier with a dignified motion which had been supported 180 to 2 at a general meeting: "Although we appreciate the great work done for us by the Government, this Union of students of the University of Queensland protests strongly against the control over University affairs given to the Government by the Education Bill now before Parliament, such control consisting chiefly in the institution of a Government majority on the University Senate, and the power conferred on the Government, or any Minister of the Crown, to require from any member of the University Staff special duties or services on behalf of the Crown outside the University. We consider that these measures menace the right of the University to remain an unregulated voice."

A report of this meeting in the Courier Mail quoted Hopkins as saying that the Premier's final word was that "irrespective of what the students say or do it will go through the House in its present form". Subsequently he agreed that perhaps these were not the Premier's actual words but that the tenor of his conclusion was as reported.

Lack of early action and particularly lack of united action lost the day, of course. Opposition speakers in the House, once appraised of the implications of the measure, tried their best for at least compromise in the form of an increased Senate, but with the existing equal balance preserved. Perhaps the only result was to bring into the open the stark realities of the situation. The Premier set out the simple logic of his position. "Of the large sums of money involved in education, by far the greater amount is provided by the people of this State, and, consequently, to use a commercial phrase, the State, being the biggest shareholder in the University, is entitled to the chief voice in the appointment of Directors." (144)

What hope had an abstract but vital argument of principle against this? Nor was it of the slightest use for the Leader of the Opposition to couch in the most moderate terms his estimate of the potential danger of Government control of the Senate: "It may be detrimental and even dangerous to the cause of education if it is not wisely and properly administered." (145)

Angered and made stubborn by this unexpected last-minute opposition, the Premier, in the end, was moved to statements which in his cooler moments he may well have regretted. "I take this opportunity of saying again that the University Professors and Graduates owe a duty to Queensland. They must not regard themselves as a privileged community, having the right to be above the Law." Again, even (146) more drastic, in his final speech: "The real fact is that the State, controlling education up to matriculation to the University, is quite capable of controlling education right through the University without any Senate at all. If there is any argument about the Senate of the University, it should be on the question whether a Senate is required." (147)

144. ibid. 801
145. ibid. 805
146. ibid. 804
147. ibid. 831
So much for seven centuries of academic freedom, so much for State committed to war against totalitarianism. These were the unfortunate last stages of an unsavoury episode that reflected perhaps as little credit on some sections of the University as on the Government. As for the students who, of course, enjoyed themselves immensely; lobbying politicians, interjecting from the gallery of the House - and probably adding to the determination of members to bring such irresponsibles to heel - more strength to them for recognizing a basic principle and thereby demonstrating the very value of their University education.

The Press, though of course to do so accorded with its political leanings, gave prominence and strong support to the students' campaign, but could hardly be said to reflect accurately community opinion when the Queensland Teachers Union, no less, resolved at the same time that the University should be taken over by the Department of Public Instruction.

At the very time when these local, if vital, affairs were so preoccupying the University, events on a much larger scale were shaping themselves. Pearl Harbour in December brought the war firmly before Australia. To the University this meant the immediate internment of its Lecturer in Japanese, and hasty action to sort out and consign to the unfinished shell of St. Lucia valuable books and documents.

The closing meeting of the Senate found at least one optimistic member who foresaw that "we may find 1942 a year of dawning success and we may ultimately be able to look back on it as the turning point of the success for which the University stands and for which the Empire is in arms today."

His colleagues might have been pardoned perhaps for asking whether he was referring to the institution of the courses in Physical Education, for which the Commonwealth obligingly had now found the money. There seemed to be little else to put on the credit side as the University year closed.

1942 brought air-raid shelters to the University and also the National Security Regulations as administered by the Department of War Organization of Industry. Previously, the only control over enrolments had been that exercised by call-up for compulsory military service. Now controls were to operate in both directions. In the first place, the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry and Engineering and courses in the Physical Sciences were declared reserved occupations, as were the Biological Sciences in the second and later years. Enrolments in these and in final years in Honours courses in Mathematics, Economics and Languages not only involved exemption from military service, but also could not be changed at will. Entrance to the reserved Faculties, however, was to be on a quota basis, being determined by merit. In the second place, only students under 18 years of age and persons exempt from military service were to be permitted to enrol in unreserved courses. Intending students were adjured to enrol young and at least get in one year before call-up, in the unreserved courses, and to do likewise in the reserved courses, because of the national shortage of trained scientists, engineers and doctors, and because of the lesser hope of repeating years during war conditions.

At the same time the facilities of the Department of External Studies were thrown widely open to all servicemen, whether Queensland students or not.
Sadly, but inevitably, the sickly infant Veterinary Science was strangled by the war. In March 1942 it was found that of the only two students in their final year one was enlisting; the only fourth year was awaiting his call-up as was one of the three in third year. There was only one first year student. Accepting the inevitable, the Senate decided to restrict work to the fourth and fifth years only and to direct all new enrolments to Science.

At the same time, compulsory call-up annihilated at one blow the Third, Fourth, and Fifth and Sixth years of Architecture. In sympathy with these and other impediments to continuous work, the Senate approved a special war-time Statute exempting servicemen or reserved occupation students, "for the duration and up to one year thereafter", from strict compliance with the rules governing progression through courses.

The Degree of B.Sc (Engineering) was instituted for students who completed successfully the first three years of Engineering prior to enlistment and call-up and a special "wartime" matriculation offered almost unlimited credit for subjects passed elsewhere at any time.

With considerable strength of character the Senate objected vigorously and successfully to a bureaucratic instruction artificially to maintain Veterinary Science, even in the virtual absence of students, because it was listed as a reserved course. No sooner had this protest succeeded than the American Army moved into occupation of the brand new Veterinary Science Building. It was the last the University would ever see of it.

St. Lucia, too, was requisitioned for use by General Sir Thomas Blamey as Army Headquarters, and new accommodation had to be found both for the Hospital Board, who had installed kitchen equipment against a possible emergency, and for the storage of University books and records and of paintings from the National Art Gallery.

In October Forgan Smith resigned the Premiership, but not before the University had received a firm suggestion that it should undertake a full review of its activities. Story, caught once again with both a left and a right hand, had prepared a series of proposals, said the Premier, "as my liaison officer." They embraced the four heads: Education, Scholarships, Research and Employment, and the Premier was moved to comment both that the University was not as permeating and enriching an influence as it should be, and that its doors were not as open as formerly to the under £500 per year income group.

The death knell to Veterinary Science appeared to come with the reluctant decision to send the sole remaining fourth year student to Sydney, at the University's expense, to complete his course. As a slight counterbalance to this loss came the first co-operative undertaking with C.S.I.R.O., Radio Research.

In November, Mr. Dedman, the Member for War Organization of Industry, prognosticated new developments for 1943, including Commonwealth Scholarships in the reserved courses, and the establishment of small quotas in hitherto unreserved faculties, geared probably to a three year bond. He hinted that the States might well offer similar scholarships, and announced the appointment of a Universities Commission headed by Professor R.C. Mills to settle details of the proposed scheme.
By December the Commission was settling details with a vengeance. The University was instructed bluntly that there was to be no categorical failing of students who had been preserved carefully from call-up. This was war organization indeed with the University as just another industry contributing to national survival. It was an interesting thought that this kind of direction could be issued to the University even without representation of the directing authority on the Senate. Perhaps there really had been some reason for students' fuss the previous year about the potential evils of Government domination of that body.

Life was real and earnest in 1943, with the Senate offering facilities for investigations into mosquito control for the forces and the Army moving into occupation of that all-accommodating old derelict, the former Masonic Temple in Alice Street. It was a worrying time, domestically, because of the sudden decrease in the University's fee income. As a result of this an alarming and increasing deficit was accumulating year by year. It was estimated that, by December of this year, the University would be in debt to the tune of some £13,000 or more. The great jubilee expansion has skyrocketed the budget and for the first time, in 1942, expenditure had topped £100,000. Only the income and what amounted to some of the remaining capital of the great bequests, already eaten into during the Depression, had enabled both ends to meet. Indeed, at this stage, bequest funds provided 2/5 of the total income; as much, as a matter of fact, as was found by the State Government in the way of endowment and supplementary grants for running expenses.

Much of the difficulty was felt to lie in the under-endowing of the expensive new professional Faculties, which, the Senate felt, should have been founded on £10,000 per year each, rather than the £5,000 actually provided. In the five years, 1935 to 1940, no less than £23,214 had been drawn from the dwindling reserve funds to meet the deficit incurred in these Faculties.

In 1943, indeed, only the advance payment of the first quarter of the annual endowment enabled the University to meet its bills for March. In July, to the great relief of all, an additional £5,000 was granted by the Government and a further £5,000 seemed reasonably certain to tide the University over the second half year.

The Universities Commission's final programme for 1943 was met with mixed feelings. On the one hand, some financial assistance and an amount of reservation was extended beyond the Faculties originally reserved to cover Arts, Law, Economics and Commerce. On the other, this relaxation was matched by a rigorous pruning of the quotas, particularly for Medicine. The Commission's proposal to reduce the Medical intake for Queensland to 40 was resisted strenuously by the Senate and became the subject of much unfavourable comment in the Press. The quota was increased finally to 60.

As had been hoped, the State Government initiated this year a modest scheme of social service Fellowships, with the aim of providing for post-war health services. Early in 1943, the Senate and the University suffered a considerable loss in the untimely death of that restless soul A.C.V. Melbourne. This was a sad and disturbing blow.
The whole structure of the war-time University was threatened soon after by the action of two applicants for enrolment who had been rejected in accordance with quota requirements. Encouraged by similar moves in other States, the students concerned proposed to sue the University for refusing to enrol them in terms of the provisions of the Act.

A majority judgement of the High Court of Australia decided, in a test case on the subject, that the sections of National Security Regulations on which the whole system of directed enrolment depended were invalid. Within a week one of the two potential Queensland litigants had been enrolled and had attended her first lecture. The University announced immediately that other disappointed applicants would also be enrolled if they so desired.

In effect, as it turned out, the situation was hardly changed, since, as the Commonwealth Minister pointed out, first, Commonwealth subsidy would be paid only in respect of the "quota" originally decided on and, secondly, mere University attendance would not carry exemption from national service. Indeed, the manpower organization very soon swept into its net those few extra students that the University enrolled for a short time as a result of this court decision.

Those students who did manage to get to the University in 1943 seemed determined to be as comfortable as possible during their stay there. A Union Committee reported on the "lecture system" and requested a combined meeting of staff and students to discuss its recommendations. These included, inter alia, the use of printed lecture notes, voluntary attendance at lectures and the abandonment of lecturing on summer afternoons. More seriously perhaps, Professor Mills himself attended a meeting of the Union which resolved to submit detailed proposals to the Universities Commission on manpower, subsidies, methods of selection for entrance to Universities and even decentralization. The Union thought, in this last connection, that the Commission "should oppose all attempts of Universities to establish external University colleges, until adequate facilities are available to support them."

At its Annual General Meeting in 1943 the Union received a report from the Combined Advisory Committee on educational methods and adopted detailed proposals of the National Union of Australian University Students that the Universities Commission should undertake a detailed survey of Australian Universities, their present operation and future needs.

All these proceedings instanced a growing awareness of University problems and a seriousness of outlook that perhaps accounted in part for the absence, in 1943, of any issue of Galmahra despite the fact that, in 1942, it had asserted boldly, for the first time, that it was "a publication exclusively of students of the University of Queensland...published annually by the University of Queensland Union". (148)

148. From the days of Stephenson and Lindsay until 1938 Galmahra's title page had carefully informed the reader that "the opinions expressed in this magazine are entirely personal, and may or may not correspond to those held by any individual or organization within the University." From 1939 to 1941 it had been satisfied simply to claim that it was "published annually by the University of Queensland Union."
In keeping with its traditional policy of planning ahead for better times, the Senate had not neglected to utilize these war years to prepare for peace. The University review sponsored by the retiring Premier yielded its first fruits in August of 1943, in a verbal report by the Scholarships Procedure Committee on that fundamental problem, matriculation, and its relationship to the secondary school leaving examination. This report followed the lines established by previous investigations and prefigured later ones. It had just as little chance as they of being implemented.

A most heartening enquiry from the Universities Commission revealed that, already, the Commonwealth Government was considering the implications of Post-war Reconstruction, especially as they impinged on the accommodation problem in Universities. With considerable verve, the Senate approved a submission by the Vice Chancellor, covering the completion of both stages of the original plan for St. Lucia, including modifications and additions dictated by recent experience; accommodation in the interim period, especially if the student intake was greatly increased; and, last but not least, staffing to cope with this expected post-war rush.

It is worth noting that the Professorial Board favoured concentrating wholly on completing the St. Lucia buildings and taking the most drastic action to ensure an immediate en bloc transfer to the new site, on the cessation of hostilities. It seems probable that this would have been the most satisfactory plan and perhaps it could have been pursued with more vigour. In the event, far too much Commonwealth money had to be poured into unsightly "temporary" accommodation at George Street and elsewhere, every nail of which spelt more delay in achieving the permanent home. By 1960, St. Lucia, originally to have been completed in five years, would have been a-building, actively, for more than fifteen years, and might well then have been still a decade from completion. Oh, for the years that the locusts had eaten!

In October the retired Premier was nominated to a vacancy on the Senate; and very promptly elected to the Administrative Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Building and Grounds Committee. He also took his seat on the St. Lucia Works Board.

One of the interesting phenomena of the post-war years would be the emergence of this new Senator and Chancellor-to-be as a champion of that University independence which his own legislation might well be thought to have placed in jeopardy. The 1941 Act had not been proclaimed immediately on its passage, its implementation being reserved for less uncertain times. Now, as if to celebrate the translation of its progenitor from a mere "shareholder" to one of the "Board of Directors", to use his own phrase, it was announced that the next Senate would be constituted in 1944 after the new pattern.

There certainly was a growing feeling as Christmas approached that it might well be the last one of the war and the Senate was much preoccupied with ways and means of providing for the anticipated post-war influx of students. Already, however, whatever hopes had been entertained of completing St. Lucia in time clearly had been abandoned, since, while the Works Board was enjoined to secure more land for the final site, especially for increased college accommodation, there was much talk already of the huts which had been erected by the armed services in the Domain. There would be a whole generation of students whose main impression of University life would be of these cheerless and uninspired erections and of the fibro-cement excrescences which were to despoil the laws and destroy the dignity of
As it turned out, there was a certain amount of premature optimism about the end of the war. The University had two more years of war conditions to face, but no-one could say the planning for the post-war world was premature. It reflects, indeed, great credit on all concerned that it should have been initiated so soon and, all things considered, implemented so smoothly. That it had not been too soon in late 1943 to consider accommodation problems for the next three years, was attested when it was noted in 1944 that the number of entries for the Senior Public Examination had increased by 50% over the previous year. Even without the possible influx of ex-servicemen, the University would have more than enough potential students.

To face these problems there was a new Senate, the eleventh of the University's existence and the first to be constituted under the 1941 Amending Act. In addition to the re-constitution of the Senate, it should be noted that in sundry other ways statutory requirement had been attached to the practice which had grown up of close co-operation with the State education authorities. The Director-General, permanent head of the Department of Public Instruction, became ex offico a member of the Senate and by the same token, Chairman of the Academic Standing Committee, a body with considerable revisory power over academic matters.

There was also constituted a Board of Post Primary Studies, again with the Director General as Chairman, which included representatives of the Department of Public Instruction, the University, and the Secondary Schools. Its duties as laid down in the Act referred, all too indeterminately, to making recommendations to "the Minister and the Senate" on matters concerning secondary education and preparation for matriculation to the University.

A new office created by the new Act was that of Deputy Chancellor, and to fill it there was the political father of the legislation himself, W. Forgan Smith. It was thought at the time, and has never since been contradicted, that much of the thinking behind the new conditions under which the University was now to operate could be attributed to J.D. Story, in his capacity as government adviser on educational matters if not as Vice-Chancellor. Certainly no one was in a better position than he to estimate the necessity for the closest co-operation between the University and the Education authorities of the State. For the better part of half a century he had had a foot in each camp.

The new Senate had first to face the financial situation, and resolved, at its very first meeting, that when normal conditions were established it would be necessary to approach the Government for a special grant "to restore and maintain equipment and to restore and maintain the Library." Like its predecessors, too, it was all too eager to plan new developments. At the same time that it set out to prepare for the rehabilitation of ex-service men and women, it was instructing the Board to enquire into the possibility of courses in Public Administration, considering work in Sugar Technology and worrying about the future of Veterinary Science.
August saw an exhaustive review by the Board of re-settlement problems and a detailed explanation of the main features of the proposed Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. Colin Clark, that ebullient economist, ventured a prediction of future enrolments. He foresaw a possible 3765 students in 1948, more than twice the 1789 of 1944. As it turned out, he was unduly modest in his estimate.

In September, a postgraduate degree in Education was approved in principle and, in November, the academic staff were released at last from their political gag. The Senate had taken action on this latter largely on the urging of the Standing Committee of the Council but it must, even as must the Standing Committee, have been influenced by a considerable amount of unfavourable Press publicity given to the matter that year. Although the matter of the "muzzled" professors had simmered ever since the events surrounding the passage of the 1941 legislation, it was the 1944 State election campaign that brought it into the open. Seized on as another stick with which to beat the Labour Party, which was thought to be tottering to its fall in Forgan Smith's absence, "Is our University free" became a considerable election cry, both for Queensland People's Party candidates and for the conservative Courier Mail: "The Courier Mail repeats that if the regulation is held to prohibit Professors of the University from expressing their personal views publicly in speech or writing on any public question which may be engaging political parties in controversy, then this is an unwarrantable restraint on freedom of opinions which no University should tolerate." (149) It is perhaps a pity that this opinion had not been expressed thirty-four years before, when the restriction was first imposed. Perhaps the reason lay, to some extent, in the words the same paper had used only two days before: "The cause of freedom of expression has been abandoned in this State at the very place where it should be most stoutly defended." (150) Certainly there is no record of any real public protest against the ban by those on whom it was imposed. Perhaps then the staff had only themselves to blame, that this tardy repeal even now was to apply only "in respect of future appointments."

Much time was devoted to the problem of Veterinary Science and, to a lesser extent, Agriculture. Discouraged by the paltry enrolments of the pre-war years in Veterinary Science, there were many, even on the Senate, who thought it best to cut the University's losses, abandon all idea of a teaching Faculty, at any rate beyond the first two years, and work more towards a postgraduate Diploma and Research School.

The last Senate meeting of the year endorsed a suggestion by Goddard that the Degree Ceremony as a formal, domestic gathering be separated from a Public Commemoration of Benefactors. This would not only keep the undergraduates quiet, but also would provide a more effective public platform for the University.

149. Courier Mail 30.3.44.
150. Courier Mail 28.3.44.
The same meeting elected Forgan Smith to the Chancellorship in place of Sir James Blair, whose death had just prevented him from completing his eighteenth successive year in this office. The Senate took the unprecedented step of electing Richards Deputy Chancellor, thus paying tribute not only to his personal qualities, but also to the sterling service rendered the University by its teaching staff.

If it had been disappointing to many that the end of 1944 found the nation still engaged in war, nothing could stop the flood of optimism that followed victory in Europe. With Japan alone of our enemies left in the field, no one believed that the war could last until another Christmas. To those who could remember the First World War, this was 1918 over again. It could only be a matter of months. In a way, of course, this was the most impractical optimism, since no-one could have foreseen Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and an invasion of Japan, as was admitted later, would have been a long and bloody business. Nevertheless, the same illogic which had survived Dunkirk and all the years of defeat proved correct again, and September saw the end of formal hostilities.

To those in the Universities worrying about the ex-service influx, and with some prevision of how efficiently and speedily demobilization would take place, the months of 1945 must have seemed all too short. It was to be touch and go whether there would be lecture rooms and laboratories enough or staff enough in time to meet in 1946 a student body the size of which could only be guessed. A major decision which faced the Board and the Senate was whether, in the circumstances, the policy of restricted enrolment, of the practical virtues of which the staff had become all too well aware during the past three years, should be adopted in place of the University's traditional "open door."

Politically, of course, there was immense pressure in favour of unrestricted entry. To many, however, and to Stable in particular, there was, to set against this, first the certainty that extra accommodation even if it could be provided in time, would be over-taxing to inefficiency; secondly, the complete abandonment of anything approaching a personal relationship between the lecturer and the members of his enormous classes; thirdly, the conviction that it was a waste of staff time, and of all the associated accommodation and administration costs, to try to bring second-rate student material up to degree standard. This was not a problem that would be peculiar to Queensland, or even to Australia. Competition for university education was an established fact already in Great Britain and would become the universal practice there within a short time.

Stable even brought his misgivings before the Senate, but his motion was defeated and, although the Courier Mail did express the hope that unrestricted enrolment would not adversely affect the ex-servicemen students, it seems clear that the community, if it thought about it at all, which is doubtful, would have held to the view that any process of selection would have smacked too much of an "interference with democratic rights". Not only had we been fighting against this very kind of interference but, worse still, we had had actually to subject ourselves to a measure of it to secure its final defeat. Manpower regulations, clothing and petrol rationing, queueing for buses all these must go once victory was achieved. (151).

151. Strangely enough, this very year saw recorded one of the very few cases ever of an enrolment being rejected. This was from a boy less than 16 years old. On the recommendation of the Board, the Senate decided apparently that precociousness alone was not sufficient qualification for University entrance.
It is a matter for considerable congratulation that the University, its staff and administration did manage to cope, as we will see, with the vast numbers that resulted from this decision. But many would say that they coped no more than "in a way" and there may be some reason to wonder whether the coping did not have its effect on standards, and did not bring the University firmly back into the public mind as just the last in a series of schools - a misconception with which it had been grappling, with mixed success, for more than thirty years, and which dogs it still.

One of the most worrying things about this year of last-minute planning was the complete impossibility of knowing exactly what the future held in the way of student numbers. Thus, as late as October, the Board, which had been working on the basis of an anticipated 400 first year students - an estimate felt to be generous indeed - had to accept the fact that there would be probably at least 600 ex-servicemen alone enrolling for the first time. It was like trying to hold back the sea to plan staffing for such a rising flood.

Then too, in the matter of equipment, even without a student body of this dimension, practically all the University's present stock was hopelessly antiquated and worn-out by generations of heavy-handed students. An investigation into microscope needs revealed a requirement of at least 375 at £50-60 each; this alone would take almost half the statutory annual endowment.

The only factor that made the staff situation even worth considering was the welcome news that the Commonwealth through its Reconstruction Training Scheme would meet two-thirds of the cost of all the new appointments required to meet the influx of servicemen. But there was more to it, of course, than just the number of new lecturers. A long overdue rise in Public Service salaries reminded the Staff Association, and it in turn reminded the Senate, of the degree of lack of co-ordination that now appeared between the rates of pay in the two professions.

It was just another worry for administrators who had to face already a record estimated expenditure of £132,743; £20,000 in excess of the estimated income, a situation which it was proposed to meet by stripping the last reserves of income from the McCaughey funds. Never again would there be this bulwark to fall back upon.

One hopeful sign of the restoration of normal conditions was the evacuation of St. Lucia by the Army in May, but the Senate had accepted already that difficulties of manpower and materials, even if not of funds, would preclude completion of the new home in the immediate post-war period. It decided to press instead for temporary accommodation in the Domain.

Quite apart from accommodation for teaching and research there was of course the matter of living quarters for the vastly increased numbers of undergraduates. It is much to the credit of the Union that as early as 1945 it was endeavouring to establish with its own funds a hostel for men students to supplement the resources of the colleges.

At the one and only separate ceremony for the Commemoration of Benefactors ever held (152), General Douglas MacArthur received by proxy an Honorary Doctorate

152. Immediately on its celebration, the Board recommended a return to the old "one ceremony" system, though both it and the Senate would have nostalgic yearnings on occasion to repeat the experiment.
of Laws. Two days later the inaugural exhibition was held of the John Darnell Fine Art Collection, which had been quietly accumulated as a result of the Darnell bequest, helped largely by a considerable gift from Dr. J.V. Duhig, Honorary Professor of Pathology.

At the Degree Ceremony in April the new Chancellor in his first public appearance advocated "complete freedom for University teaching staff and students to seek truth in discussion and research". Further, he pointed to the high responsibility of the University in that "it must never lose its human outlook. If a University were merely a means of training men and women in the various professions then technical colleges would do the work." (153). These were admirable sentiments in a Chancellor. There may have been some present who looked back to the days and the words of the 1941 Amendment Act debates, and wondered.

This speech of Forgan Smith's was recalled some months later in a leading article in the Courier Mail. "Many Queenslanders," said the paper on that occasion, "have a disappointed feeling that their University, after thirty-three years, approximates more to a technical college than to Mr. Forgan Smith's description of a centre of liberal learning, and vigorous, free, intellectual activity." (154). Whether it was correct or not in claiming that this situation was regarded generally as disappointing, it seems significant that it could even assert that such an estimate was made at that time of the University's functioning.

The article in question made pointed reference to the supposed retention of the "professors' gag", which prompted an official statement from Vice-Chancellor Story that this ban had been lifted the preceding November. He stated: "Members of the Staff of the University now have equal rights with other citizens - they have no more and no less". (155). This would seem to indicate a wider relaxation than had been expressed by the resolution which actually terminated the proscription. The resolution had seemed to refer only to future appointees. Perhaps a lingering doubt on this point accounts for the newspaper's inability to persuade any of five members of staff approached to make any comment on the Vice-Chancellor's statement.

The closing months of the last war year found the Board drawing attention to the deplorable lack of any effective superannuation for the teaching staff, and even raising the possibility of a scheme of study leave. It brought to the Senate also a further enormous report on medical training, this time particularly with respect to the clinical years, and urged immediate appointments to the Chairs of Medicine, Surgery and Pathology.

In addition to its hopes and fears about the Domain, the Senate had persuaded the authorities of the need to extend both the Engineering and Chemistry buildings and to erect a large "temporary" building, also for Chemistry, on one of the few remaining patches of lawn. As if in mute reproach, it would raise its fibro-cement drabness cheek-by-jowl with that handsome building somewhat ironically titled the "New Library Building", which had been occupied, since its construction, by the State Commercial High School.

Right up to the last minute, preparations were still being made for the year to which many looked forward with considerable apprehension. Practically on Christmas Eve the Vacation Committee of the Senate was mulling over the applications.

154. ibid. 20/6/45.
155. ibid. 21/6/45.
for 15 new positions on the staff.

Even before the ex-service influx, the University had attained quite a respectable size in terms of student population. In this last year of controlled enrolment, the magic figure of 2,000 was passed for the first time, though only 761 students were in full-time attendance. Next year would see this latter figure almost exactly doubled and the 4,000 total would be reached as early as 1948.

At the Degree Ceremony in 1944 the two thousand and sixty third award was conferred. Only thirteen years later the total would have risen to 11,270.
CHAPTER 7

POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION (1946-1950)

A toast to ourselves - why not,
So here's to our hearts' endeavour!
A cheer for the fair, the sweet debonair,
The undergradasses for ever:

The Queensland 'Varsity Students' Song.

The restoration in 1946 of uncontrolled admission to the University marked more than just a return to the status quo ante bellum. A flood of new students, a great proportion of them of mature years and of more earnest purpose than the normal undergraduate, brought with it an inescapable need to reconsider the whole function and operation of the University. By mere pressure of numbers the adolescent University was forced, practically at one stride, to assume the responsibilities of adulthood.

As one surveys the immediate post-war years, one cannot fail to be impressed by the invigorating spirit that swept the University. Planning to meet demands that multiplied overnight was undertaken with increasing confidence and skill, and with growing measure of cheerfulness. That most of it had to take the form of expedients and makeshifts was unfortunate, but at least that was the kind of planning in which long experience had rendered the Senate and its officers expert. Moreover, however extempore the solution to a particular problem, there was the certainty that something big and worth-while was growing day by day. The deluge of applications for university courses under the Commonwealth Reconstructions Training Scheme demonstrated an appreciation of the University's value and a confidence in its capabilities on a scale never before experienced.

Certainly there were heart-breaking difficulties and apprehensions as, time after time, the University's responsibilities threatened to out-run its resources. Indeed the whole of the post-war period can be, and in this account is, divided neatly by a series of financial crises. But the general trend was undeniably ever onward. Not for the post-war University the tragedy of continual retreat that had marred the early thirties or the desperate war-time attempts to preserve the Jubilee gains, or even the slow and erratic progress of the twenties. Instead there was a confident upsurge, a determination almost to "live dangerously," and to press on with bold expansion, in the confident hope that somehow funds would be forthcoming to support it.

Particularly there was the feeling that the national function of Universities had been so demonstrated as to render inevitable that financial provision at Commonwealth level which was essential to continued progress. Nor was this a false optimism, though its materialization was perilously long delayed.

A sad result of this sudden change in the University climate was that, with the ruthlessness that so frequently accompanies such transformations, it swept away the last remaining links with the old University. In particular, it was too much, too late, for those senior members of staff who had served the University for so long. In the space of three short years death overtook six Professors,
and the remaining two of the original lecturers. It was sad but inevitable. Overworked and underpaid for most of their lives and with no adequate pension to look forward to, they were suddenly faced, at the close of their careers, with the difficulties of the post-war University. Quite apart from their advancing years, they were in no condition to meet the avalanche of change that threatened to overwhelm the University they had known for so long.

Let us now trace the course of events leading to the financial crisis of 1950, and its solution by the first large-scale offer of Commonwealth assistance.

The immediately post-war year proved to be quite as exhausting as the University had feared. The Board, which had planned initially for 400 first year students, and then had feared that perhaps there might be up to 600 ex-servicemen alone, found itself confronted, in the event, with more than 1,000 first years and a total of 1021 ex-servicemen. To Michie, Parnell and Richards, lecturing in 1911 to 50 day and 30 evening students, all told, and to Bryan and Thatcher as two of the fifty, a University with more than 3,000 students, nearly 1500 of them in full-time attendance, would have seemed a little unreal. Yet they were to experience it in 1946.

And unreal it was in many ways, with public appeals for the billeting of students and University officers posted to keep "squatters" out of the eleven dreadful wooden huts in the Domain, that had been secured finally from the Commonwealth Government. In its determination to maintain the "open door" for enrolments, the Senate was ruthless in its pursuit of accommodation, and the University commenced, on schedule, in such oddly assorted premises as service huts in Victoria Park and the Seamen's Hall in Turbot Street. The Vice-Chancellor paid tribute in the Senate to the work of both academic and administrative staffs in arranging for the University to open on time without a single enrolment being refused. It certainly was a real achievement.

Poor Michie hardly knew this lusty giant that sprang, overnight as it were, from the body of his University. Ill-health kept him away practically all the year until he died in June. He had been a Senator for 12 years, President of the Board for 6 years and had served for more than 20 years as Dean of the Faculty of Arts. A prize commemorates his name, but the University itself is his best memorial. (156)

The mushroom growth in enrolments had a treble effect on the University budget. Fees suddenly assumed a much greater importance, providing more than 35% of total revenue. At the same time, the Commonwealth's subsidy of £2 for each £1 paid in fees by full-time students boosted its contribution to a sizeable 18%. Finally, the overall sky-rocketing of running expenses - the estimated total expenditure was more than £197,000 - demonstrated the miserable extent of benefactions. From a war-time contribution of two fifths of the Budget, they had shrunk to 4%.

156. He was succeeded in the Chair by C.G. Cooper.
The situation in the Medical course still gave cause for concern and, after much soul-searching, it was decided to proceed with full-time Chairs in Surgery, Medicine and Pathology, from the commencement of 1947. For this purpose a total of £6,000 extra endowment was sought from the State Government. As always, report and debate on medical matters were somewhat colourful and the Senate, for this reason, may well have been the less impressed to hear that clinical teaching was made possible at that time only by "the altruism of the medical profession and the tolerance of the Brisbane and South Coast Hospitals Board." (157)

In a real endeavour to face up to the confused situation in Agriculture and Veterinary Science, the Faculty of Agriculture submitted a long report suggesting three full Chairs, two of them in Veterinary Science, and closer co-operation with the State Agricultural High School and College at Gatton. Of these suggestions only that for the institution of a full Chair in Agriculture, and that because of income from bequests, was found to be feasible immediately.

The departure of Pennington, the first full-time Librarian, resulted in another of the uneasy temporary arrangements of which, it had been hoped, his appointment had spelt the end. After several false starts a successor to Pennington was secured, but even he was to remain in office but a short time. It would not be until 1950 that any real stability would be effected in the administration of that vital, but sadly neglected, department, the Library.

A concerted effort by the Staff, in 1946, supported by at least a section of the Senate, resulted in much discussion, if no action, on the thorny question of staff superannuation and the State Actuary was called in to advise.

As perhaps some compensation for this disappointment, nine senior members of the academic staff were given a pleasant Christmas box with the institution, at last, of a real grade of Associate Professor, to support the title to which only A.C.V. Melbourne previously had attained.

It had been an exhausting year for all, but productive in good measure of that gratifying result which does not always accrue from hard work. At the same time there had been much less of the comic relief that seemed always to accompany the University's operations in pre-war days. Much of this sobriety flowed, doubtless, from the earnest, perhaps over-earnest, preoccupation of ex-service with their careers. There was no Procession in 1946 and absolutely no frivolity at the first full-scale degree ceremony since 1939. (158)

157. Since the inception of the Faculty the major subjects, apart from Anatomy and Physiology, had been handled largely by honorary or part-time staff. The University owes a considerable debt to these men, since without them the Faculty of Medicine could not have functioned. Dr. J.V. Duhig acted as Honorary Professor of Pathology from 1937 to 1946, and Sir Raphael Cilento as Honorary Professor of Social and Tropical Medicine from 1938 to 1946. Duhig was succeeded in 1947 by A.J. Canny, the first full-time Professor of Pathology. The chair of Medicine was filled half-time by Dr. later Sir Alexander Murphy until the appointment of J.H. Tyrer as Mayne Professor of Medicine in 1952. Surgery, in the same way, was directed by Dr. N.G. Sutton as half-time Professor. Sutton later succeeded to the full-time Mayne Chair of Surgery. The remaining Chair, that of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, was still occupied half-time in Jubilee year by Dr. G.W. Shedden Adam.

158. At this ceremony the first two Bachelors in Surveying were among those who received their degrees. Surveying had been included in Engineering since 1918, but a full degree course had not eventuated for 27 years. Throughout practically the whole of this period the course had been conducted by F.W. James, who remained lecturer in Surveying until his retirement in 1955.
It was left to the Chancellor to be caught unawares by a Press photographer wearing his trencher in reverse, thus bringing the long back of the crown over his forehead and tiling the flat top rakishly skyward. "Does this indicate", queried a Courier Mail reader, "some revolutionary changes in our University education?, and indicate that in future the University is to cater for the "low brow"? Certainly no "high brow" could comfortably wear his mortar board in this manner." (159)

A new Senate, the twelfth, taking office in 1947, found a University that continued to grow with unabated vigour, but which, at the same time, seemed to be regaining its sense of humour.

As to vigorous growth, at a monster matriculation ceremony in the City Hall 1321 "freshers" made their bow to the Chancellor, more than 1200 of them ex-servicemen. Total enrolments climbed a further 25% above 1946 to what seemed then to be a staggering 3811, more than 1800 of them full-time students.

As for the sense of humour, in one of the most successful "rags" in the University's history, Engineering students diverted hundreds of early morning motorists from the ageing Victoria Bridge and slowed trams to a crawl with notices emphasizing its decrepitude. As a joke it had an adult flavour that seemed to indicate that the ex-servicemen were settling back to normal, and it was all the more effective for being allowed to pass completely unacknowledged except in an extra verse of the Engineers' song at the Degree ceremony. There was a military flavour, too, in the organization of a most successful Procession, the first since 1939.

A sober note in many of the floats emphasized student appreciation of the University's problems.

Not all the energy of the post-war undergraduates went in these more light-hearted pursuits. By 1947 there was a flavour of adult efficiency and more than a touch of "big business" about the Union. The hostel that had been mooted in 1945 completed its first year's operations under the able Honorary Wardenship of Dr. M.F. Hickey, lecturer in Anatomy. Union Council resolved to grant £50 and all the profits from the "Commem." Ball to help establish a circulating library for external students.

For the first time for a quarter of a century Calmahr featured serious articles by students on the problems of University education.

As was the case after the First World War it had become clear by now that a majority of the servicemen-students would favour the sciences and the medical professions and an analysis by the Vice Chancellor showed that "Arts type" courses claimed only 39.5% of students this year as opposed to 65.3% in 1937.

The superannuation argument, by now a firm bone of contention between the Senate and its teaching staff, seemed to be settled finally in favour of the latter, with Senate approval for at least new appointments to be covered by the standard Federated Superannuation Scheme for Universities. For existing staff an amount of 1% of total salary paid over the period of service was to be available as a pension.

Mere Senate approval, however, meant nothing without the funds to implement it. An approach to the Government next year found it unsympathetic and no further action was taken. To many staff members at the time it seemed that the Senate had never been convinced fully of the need to offer substantially equal benefits to its staff to those available in the Universities with which it much compete for recruiting purposes.

159. Courier Mail. 19/6/46
Richards's death and that of Hawken in 1947 hastened the end of an era and left Parnell alone of the original staff. (160)

In August the Vice Chancellor proposed the drawing up of a five year plan to cover the period commencing 1948, at which date the statutory endowment of £40,000 came up for revision, in terms of the 1941 Act. An invitation to the staff to offer suggestions for such a plan was enthusiastically accepted and produced proposals covering the introduction of no less than twenty nine new courses.

So effectively had the University persuaded itself of the unreality of moving into St. Lucia immediately after the War that the way was open for Premier Hanlon this year to "let out" portion of the unfinished Main Building to the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, which was anxious to establish a regional laboratory in Brisbane. At the same time, he announced that the completion of buildings already commenced, and the provision of the long-sought bridge across the river, would be proceeded with "as soon as the tension eases concerning housing."

Not surprisingly, the Senate moved quickly, if perhaps a little tardily, to forestall any further "squatters" and announced immediately that it proposed to make use of the remainder of the buildings, in 1948, even in their unfinished state.

The dramatic enlargement of the University since the war, stimulated more than the usual public interest and, at this period, the Press not only devoted more space to University news but even went so far as to regret that normally it was only in Commemoration Week that the University came before the public eye. The Courier Mail even felt that the University Staff "had a duty to enter into the affairs of the country, not necessarily as participants, but more as advisors, as issue-raisers, independent commentators." (161)

The same paper campaigned vigorously for the full-reestablishment of Veterinary Science and censured not only the Government for being tardy in providing the necessary funds but also the pastoral industries, which had stated bluntly through the United Graziers Association that they paid taxes enough already to absolve them from any direct financial obligation to this struggling Faculty.

At the end of the year the Premier asked for assistance in his Government's policy of decentralizing education. Specifically, he suggested the extension of external studies facilities to non-Arts courses, and the approval of educational institutions outside Brisbane for teaching at University level. This was just the kind of degradation of University work about which the first meeting of the Board of Faculties had expressed its fears thirty-six years before.

The year 1948 was particularly sad for members of the staff. Goddard died at Heron Island, where he had been planning the establishment of a marine biological station. Later in the year the University lost Parnell, (162) the last of the pioneer staff, and Alcock, never robust and for his last few years a mere shadow.

160. W.H. Bryan, who followed Richards in the chair, resigned in 1959 and was succeeded by A.F. Wilson.

161. Courier Mail. 10/5/47.

162. In succession to Goddard the Senate appointed W. Stephenson, and to in succession Parnell, H.C. Webster.
The complete this sad necrology, Thomas Thatcher, the Director of External Studies, died. Thatcher had always gone to great pains to get to know his far-flung students and on his death they all contributed to the establishment in his memory of that circulating library for External Students for which he had pressed, unsuccessfully, throughout his entire term as Director.

Further to the Senate's announcement the previous year, Physical Education was moved into St. Lucia. Unfortunately, the only rooms suitable for its activities were those designed as Student Common Rooms. Partly as a result of their temporary alienation as gymasia the student population at St. Lucia was to be condemned to very second-rate amenities for more than a decade. At the very end of the year Physical Education was joined by the Main Library which moved into the as yet very incomplete portion of its building.

Soon St. Lucia was to ring with the sound of hammers and the nerve-jarring chaos of pneumatic drills as the Co-ordinator General for Public Works gradually gave effect to Mr. Hanlon's promise to honour his predecessor's undertaking.

In May the Combined Advisory Committee was hoping that building might be accelerated to allow its opening ceremony to be performed by His Majesty the King during his proposed Commonwealth tour. Princess Margaret, it was thought as optimism mounted, might be persuaded to set the foundation stone of the new Women's College.

In July the Co-ordinator-General, Mr. J.R. Kemp, himself a member of the Senate, conducted his colleagues over the Main and Chemistry buildings, that they might see for themselves what had already swallowed more than the original half-million promised by Premier Forgan Smith just thirteen years before. The Vice-Chancellor was still optimistic enough to envisage a total cost of no more than 1½ million, and the Sunday Mail sadly deprecated the fact that it might be a whole three years more before all Departments were housed finally at St. Lucia.

That the new buildings would be needed soon enough was evidenced by the enrolment figures which this year topped the 4,300 mark; no less than 2800 students were now using the makeshift accommodation that had been scratched together in the City. To cope with this further increase the budget, too, had to be expanded and the estimates of expenditure for the year climbed towards a dizzy £300,000.

Clearly it was time that something was done about the statutory endowment. Since 1941 it had stood at a mere £40,000 per year; together with some supplementary grants it made a certain annual income of only £47,500. Even with the Commonwealth's grant for this year estimated at £52,000, and with £93,000 from fees, the University could only just meet its salary bill and no more.

For several years, as a result, the Vice-Chancellor had had to budget for a substantial deficit and present the bill hopefully to the State Government.

Accordingly, in September a select committee of the Senate considered both an appropriate increase in the endowment and the developments which it felt were necessary if the University were to maintain its position.

Scanning the Five-Year Plan submitted by the Board, a distinction was drawn between Highly Desirable, Desirable and Commendable New Activities. Even the most rigorous pruning yielded a formidable list of Highly Desirable developments, estimated to cost an extra £36,500 per year, not counting any additional accommodation required.

163. One sad discovery about the brand new Main Building was that, by some oversight, no provision had been made in it for cleaning rooms or for any washroom facilities for the army of cleaners it would require.
Full Faculties, and Chairs in each case, were needed clearly in Education and Architecture, as was the re-establishment in full of Veterinary Science, including the Chair once filled by Seddon. Goddard's death had emphasized the need to separate Botany and Zoology, out of the original single Department of Biology. A Chair in Zoology was needed clearly now to balance the Chair of Botany filled some months before by the promotion of D.A. Herbert. Similarly the appointment of J. Lawery, after Hawken's death, to a Chair labelled Civil Engineering had been intended to be only the first stage of a considerable specialization. The second manifestation of this was a Chair of Electrical Engineering to which S.A. Prentice was appointed. Alcock's death, too, pointed to a splitting of History and Economics and indeed applications had been called already for a Chair in History alone. (164) A Chair in Economics was highly desirable. Further new schools, courses or lectureships strongly urged were Asiatic Studies, Inorganic Chemistry, Social Studies, Home Science, Naval Architecture, Public Administration, Geography, Ancient History, and Mining Engineering.

To support such a programme an amended basic endowment was suggested of £100,000 per year for the next seven years, together with such additional amounts as would be required to meet expanded services or new developments.

Apart from the desire to expand teaching fields, there was growing dissatisfaction with the amount of research that was possible with the existing teaching load. Ever since 1937 the C.S.I.R.O. had been making grants for this purpose, which had grown by 1948 to the very respectable figure of £12,300 per year, to which could be added a further £3,590 from private sources. Now the State Committee for C.S.I.R.O., comprised largely of University men, urged better facilities for research, based particularly on the improvement of the Staff/Student ratio by way of extra State Government endowment.

The Board, given the difficult task of responding to the Premier's plea for decentralization, brought forward a five-point plan, embracing study circles in country towns, a Pre-University Year to round off secondary education, and by way of extending the scope of external studies without lowering degree standards, instituting Certificates, obtainable by correspondence, in Arts, Law and Agriculture.

From the Board came also a strong recommendation for study leave - since this was proposed to be granted in the eighth and not the seventh year, the Board's sense of at least etymological propriety dissuaded it from employing the normal term "sabbatical".

The Press, caught by the post-war fever, continued to comment freely in 1948 on the University and its problems. In particular, it was still obsessed with grave if rather tardily developed, fears that it was degenerating into a technical college. For instance, fired by a sally of Colin Clark's against over-specialization, the Courier Mail pondered - "are Universities developing this tendency because of increasing pressure on them to serve as centres of higher technical instruction rather than as centres of learning?" (165)

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164. The successful applicant was G. Greenwood who took up his duties in 1949.
In a Communist-haunted year, the same paper was able to report gleefully that the Students Radical Club had approved "a motion to goal or deport communists who caused industrial unrest." It seemed that the Club had determined on this action, as the Courier Mail put it, "to show the public the University was not a hot-bed of Communism, as some believed." (166)

A colourful figure was lost to the University at the end of 1948. Charles Schlindler, one of the foundation students of 1911, who had maintained an unbroken connection with the University for 37 years, retired from his position of Associate Professor of Modern Languages. An Alsatian by birth, his distinctive form and long red moustache had delighted students of French for more than twenty-five years, as also had his completely individual rendering of English pronunciation.

At the Medical degree ceremony the 268th graduate made his bow. This and the conferring of the first M.D. signified a considerable achievement for only twelve years of active operation. It was noted that no less then 535 students were now studying in the Faculty of Medicine and the Vice-Chancellor was moved to emphasize that by 1950, when the post-war enrolment reached the clinical years, there would no longer be even adequate facilities for training at the General Hospital.

The Union continued to expand its activities in 1948. At the Annual General Meeting it was noted that an ambitious scheme for "toneoling" and selling copies of lecture notes was in full operation, that a book exchange had been established and that the Union, from its own resources, was conducting two large refectories.

All these activities took money. By 1948, the Union subscription, included automatically by the University in the fees charged all students, had risen to £2/2/-, as compared with the 2/6 per head levied in 1911. Half the total, however, was being added to a St. Lucia Building and Furnishing Fund.

1949, the last year of the 12th Senate, was "St. Lucia year", During the long vacation the Faculty of Arts had moved in to join the Library, Physical Education and the C.S.I.R.O. In May Premier Hanlon officially opened the new buildings, and a most appropriate Honorary Mastership of Engineering was confirmed on the Co-ordinator-General, Mr. Kemp. In the course of his remarks the Premier looked forward confidently, if rather prematurely, to University Colleges in Rockhampton and Townsville. By 1960 these still would not have eventuated. In December, work had proceeded so well on the Chemistry and Geology buildings that it was possible to promise that 1950 would see Law, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Geology also transferred and Electrical Engineering functioning in the first of the St. Lucia workshops. Moreover a temporary solution was at last found to the problem of C.S.I.R.O.'s occupation. It was arranged that it should take over the old Chemistry quarters at George Street once they were vacated, pending the erecting of its own building at St. Lucia.

A move of this dimension clearly would amount to a transference of the whole centre of gravity; indeed the Vice-Chancellor calculated that 2,000 students, at least two thirds of all those enrolled for day and evening courses, would spend part of their time there. It was a symbolic "coming into its own" on the part of the University which caught the public imagination and, as a result, the University enjoyed this year a good Press. In particular, the papers warned the community against trying to maintain in parsimony a University whose scale these huge new buildings had suddenly and dramatically brought to their attention.

166. Ibid. 23/4/48. It is an interesting point that Communism which is frequently held to "breed" in Universities is also located there, inevitably, in "hot-beds". 
A leading article in the *Courier Mail* as early as April was devoted to this theme - "Queensland is growing in wealth and importance but its University continues to live on a shoestring." As a result, it noted "deficiencies that stand out sharply against the record of older and richer seats of learning, and they will continue until the University is adequately financed. Worse than that they will grow and their growth will be accelerated rather than retarded by the move to St. Lucia." With more than usual perception of the University's role in a rapidly growing community it pointed out further: "There has not been the money to permit of quick, bold expansion, yet that, most of all is what the University needs if it is to fulfill its purpose." (167)

A particular phrase in this article - "it is most of all a community institution" provoked a correspondent to reply, in effect, "would that it were"! As he said; "with so many politicians and public servants on the Senate, a great number of people regard the University as a Department of the Government." (168) However crudely put, this did seem to offer at least one reason for the general community apathy towards the University which the newspaper was deploring. Nor was it of much use for the paper to protest, however truthfully, "most people seem to believe that the University is purely a State Government Department. It is not, although the Government nominates a majority of the 25 University Senate Members and provided nearly £100,000 last year towards expenses." (169)

The State contribution was to be even greater in 1949 and the unreal nature of the statutory endowment was emphasised by the University having to ask for more than £92,000 extra, almost twice the endowment itself. Matters were moving clearly towards a crisis.

External Studies, without a Director since Thatcher's death, was the subject of a detailed investigation early in the year and, in December, it was announced that the whole basis of its operations was to be changed.

An endeavour was to be made to introduce more reality in what had proved to be a most successful and much sought after facility. The traditional device of simply "reporting" internal lectures and distributing the result to external students was to be abandoned. In place of this a fully qualified staff of lecturers was to be appointed to conduct their own courses in parallel with the internal courses. Much attention was to be paid to study guides and tutorial assistance, to written assignment work and to the provision of library facilities.

Associate Professor Ringrose who had established the first courses in Education more than ten years previously was appointed Director of the re-organized Department.

The two new Faculties of Architecture and Education became realities this year with the appointment of the first Professors, R.P. Cummings and F.J. Schonell respectively. Engineering received a further fillip with the decision to establish a full Chair in Mining, to which F.T.M. White was appointed.

167. *Courier Mail*. 8/4/49
168. ibid. 13/4/49.
169. ibid. 4/5/49
Much appreciated support for this new specialization had come from the Chamber of Mines which had guaranteed £2,000 per year for five years, and the Government had promised to provide any supplement necessary to maintain the full Chair. (170)

A welcome further development was the institution of a Course in Sugar Technology sponsored by the Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations. Yet another proposal which had considerable appeal was the establishment of a course in Medical Science aimed particularly at training technologists. Despite its promise this particular venture was to be short-lived, almost as short-lived in fact as the Diploma course in Naval Architecture, which just managed to train one diplomate before it died from lack of support.

With all these new ventures it seemed as if it would not be possible fully to re-establish Veterinary Science before 1951.

Two years previously the Senate had approved the establishment of a University of Queensland Press with the avowed aim ultimately of engaging in all aspects of publication. Late in 1948 a proposal had come forward for the institution of a University Bookshop as an activity of the Press. In 1949 the shop opened its doors.

The superannuation argument continued its tortuous course from committee to committee - even to a deputation to the Premier - as the staff held obstinately to the need for a scheme that offered the maximum ease of movement among Universities and the Government remained unconvinced that it should offer any different, and more especially any better, facilities than those available to State public servants.

After its brief resumption the title of Associate Professor was abandoned finally for all but the existing appointments, there being substituted for it the two separate titles of Chief Lecturer and Research Professor. Interestingly enough, in making this decision, the Senate agreed with the Board that such appointments (i.e. Associate Professorships) were "justifiable only in small Universities". Seventeen years before the Board had resisted the attempt to promote Melbourne to this grade on the grounds that "especially in a small University such appointments should be made sparingly."

That the University was no longer a "small" institution was further demonstrated by the decision to establish the Research Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with all that it implied in the way of availability of equipment and facilities for advanced research.

Students were in the news in 1949. There was instituted for the first time an orientation course to try and minimise the bewilderment of new students' first days at the University. Student union officials, Deans of Faculties, members of the Administration; all were conscripted into attempting to make the new clients feel at home. As part of these plans, there was a considerable expansion of student health service, and oriented "freshers", in addition to being harangued and directed, were x-rayed and Mantoux-tested, jabbed and prodded with great vigour by their medical student colleagues.

170. The fourth of the Chairs which were established following Hawken's death.

Mechanical Engineering, was filled by M. Shaw.
As to its domestic affairs, the student body came to a momentous decision in 1949. Overcome at last by the fantastic proclivity of successive Union councils to proliferate constitutional amendments, the Union adopted a constitution which practically defied amendment. Henceforth there would be no Annual General meetings of the Union. Delegates to the Union Council would be elected by secret ballot at the commencement of each year and would be expected to conduct the Union's business largely without direction. Constitutional amendment could be affected only by referendum of the student body.

However successful in other respects, this new departure certainly had the effect of stabilizing the constitution, since the latter remained completely unamended for the succeeding nine years.

In continuance of the policy of active assistance to students exemplified by the Orientation course, the Combined Advisory Committee was recommending, by November, the institution of a permanent Guidance Service. As to student numbers, the post-war flood was at last abating; the first whole course reconstruction trainees graduated in May and, though there was a slight increase overall, the total enrolment stopped just short of 4,400, a figure it would not reach for six years. Once more too, the proportion of Externals was rising and, this year, amounted to almost 30% of the total.

The last Senate meeting for the year, the last of the outgoing Senate, was held, commemoratively, at St. Lucia. To Senators, and to the Press alike, it marked a notable turning point in the University's life. There would be Senate meetings still at George St., and it would be long before there would be any real point in speculating about the final use of our dignified, if somewhat decrepit, original home. For years to come, the "temporary" partitions that had multiplied over the years would be torn down and re-erected time and again as those who remained behind expanded successively into the quarters of those who moved to St. Lucia. New Departments, too, would find temporary refuge within its ageing walls, but the days of its greatness were numbered, and with them the last vestiges of the old small University of pre-war days.

The thirteenth Senate took office in 1950 in an atmosphere of mounting crisis. Although student numbers had stabilized, the effect of the Five Year plan was just beginning to be felt, financially, and an inflationary economy had kept running costs rising rapidly.

The Finance Committee's budget in May estimated expenditure at no less than £431,000, an increase of almost one third on the previous year. Such figures made a basic endowment of less than £50,000 absurd and the deficit on the year's operations, which it could only be hoped the State would meet, no less than £190,486.

In all this gloomy picture there was but one bright spot. The Commonwealth Government announced that it proposed to conduct an enquiry into Australian Universities. The enquiry would seek to establish both a short range plan and a long range policy whereby the Commonwealth could assist the Universities. From Queensland's point of view, at least, it was a matter simply of whether the Commonwealth would provide enough in time.
To the Commonwealth Committee of Enquiry the Vice Chancellor made the salient points of the University's desperation. Fee income was expected to provide, in 1950, only 19% of revenue. Against this decreasing support from fees could be balanced the increasing contribution of the State Government, not only as a proportion of the University's budget, but also as a percentage of the consolidated revenue of the State. Discounting a nasty slip back during the depression, this percentage had risen from .13% in 1922 to .38% in 1949. In addition, up to June 30th, 1949, the St. Lucia project had cost the Government £769,663.

The Vice-Chancellor had proposed originally to request from the Committee approximately £156,000 for 1950 and, thereafter, an amount equal to the difference between the annual estimates and that sum calculated at 1939 values. The University's claim was made, finally, for £100,000 for 1950 in addition to the £50,000 to be anticipated as the last C.R.T.S. payment and a sum of £150,000 thereafter each year for five years, together, of course, with possible extra and special grants. This calculation was based on the confident hope that any increased Commonwealth grant would be matched £1 for £1 by the State in an increased endowment.

That assistance of some such degree was vitally needed was emphasized when it became known that the University had actually to raise a loan from the Government to meet its May and June commitments.

Reluctantly, but with a strong hint of the probable basis of Commonwealth help to drive it on, the Senate Vacation Committee decided in December to recommend all-round fee increases of almost 100%. Apart from West Australia, Queensland's fees would still be the lowest in Australia, except in Medicine.

There were other worries at this time, not the least of them a considerable concern about high failure rates, particularly in the early years of courses. The Board was enjoined to take this matter seriously under consideration. Some at least might have seen some connection between what seemed an alarming decrease in student success and a resurgence of the rowdism that had once typified the Degree Ceremony. Although no adverse comment appeared in the Press, both Senate and Board were much disturbed on this account this year; the Board, in particular, insisting that students had dishonoured an undertaking they had given in 1944 and had adhered to reasonably well, to restrain the more extreme of their number.

The procession, too, which the Courier Mail saw as an "hilarious burlesque of current events" (172), came in for severe censure in the Senate.

With some regret the Board advised the Senate to restrict entrance to the Degree Ceremony to final-year students only.

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171. At this time, in fact, Queensland's fees were easily the lowest of any Australian University - except, of course, West Australia - in every field except Medicine. A complete Arts course could still be pursued for a total of £88.4.0, as opposed to £149.5.00 at Sydney. In Engineering the figures were even more startling - £92.8.0 as against £200. A year before this the Senate had accepted the fact that it would be quite equitable to raise fees in Medicine, Dentistry and Physiotherapy by 50% and to double the remainder. The State Government had been appraised of this fact.

172. Courier Mail, 6.5.50.
Perhaps, on the student side, the return to "normal" conditions at the ceremony had been no more than a reaction to the Board's own attempt to set the clock back similarly with regard to student dress. In 1949, at the urging of the Faculty of Arts the wartime relaxation in favour of shorts and open-necked shirts had been rescinded. In 1950 it was announced that, once again, full academic dress was compulsory for all day students. Ah me! what illusions we poor mortals cherish! By 1950 even lecturers were abandoning the traditional gown; had done so long before, indeed, outside the Faculty of Arts. Hopes of re-imposing such a rule in Queensland's summer and in the freer atmosphere of the post-war world were doomed to certain and early disappointment.

The great St. Lucia transfer took place on schedule, including the evacuation of C.S.I.R.O., and more than 700 students settled down to a life of commuting and they shuttled between Chemistry, and later Geology, at St. Lucia and Physics and Zoology at George Street. To some unfortunates the progression would be triangular, as the Dentists took in as well the Dental Hospital at Turbot Street; or even polygonal, for Medicos who must visit also the Physiology School in William Street, the Anatomy Department in its army huts in Victoria Park, and the main Medical School at Herston.

It cannot be said that, on the whole, it had been possible to create much of the traditional University calm for students of the post-war University and it is far from surprising that St. Lucia—in its early days exercised but little attraction even for students whose courses were conducted completely there.

For those in full-time attendance, there was the clatter of the jack hammer, constant dust and even impressive occasional explosions to drive them home after morning lectures, or to the Public Library instead of their own Reading Rooms. For those who visited St. Lucia only for an hour or even a day at a time, it was little more than a bus terminus, hardly worth lingering in even to drink a convivial coffee in the drabness of the temporary "commonrooms", or in the overcrowded and unattractive refectory, all too reminiscent of service mess halls.

Galmahra for 1950 abandoned the claim to be "produced exclusively by students." Indeed it acknowledged two guest writers. Perhaps this introduction of outside talent constituted a portent and perhaps another was the omission of the standard statement "published annually by the University of Queensland Union." Certainly it was the last issue for ten years.

That else is there to report of this last year of "go it alone" with no more than token Commonwealth support? For a start, the new External Studies system had swung into action and study circles had crept tentatively into being at Ipswich Townsville and Rockhampton, with local tutors in English Expression and Philosophy. New blood in the Faculty of Arts had brought a change to a full fourth year of work in the Honours Schools.

The arrival of T.K. Ewer who, as Professor of Animal Husbandry, was the first Professor at the Veterinary Science School since 1943, had been greeted with loud applause by the Press and had cast some doubts already on the need to think in terms of final year courses at Gatton.
As had happened before, the permanent building erected for the Faculty of Veterinary Science before the War, its expense a continual worry to the then Premier, had now been lost to the University and operations had to be re-commenced in a series of wooden buildings sprawled along the hillside in its lee. They were, as the Courier Mail said, "a welcome makeshift", no more.

In this year too, the Board had brought hopefully to the Senate proposals for a staff housing scheme. These had been killed by the financial crisis. The library, however, had a Librarian once more.

This period of five short years since the conclusion of hostilities had wrought almost incredible changes in the University. Although only two new faculties had been established, the only additions since 1935, twelve new Chairs had been created and three of the old general Chairs abandoned. The teaching staff had risen from 79 to 189 and the University's 1950 payroll listed 541 employees, as opposed to 188 in 1944. As to student numbers; the peak year had represented an increase of more than 150% over 1944 and, in that peak year, there had been three times as many students in full time attendance as in the last year of war-time controls. Compared with the Jubilee Year which, after all, had been only 15 years before, the University was in all respects just about six times its former size.
CHAPTER EIGHT

MOUNTING CRISIS (1951-1956)

God bless the Senators all -
They're doing their best - don't shoot 'em!
May the Government grant 'em a Government grant,
To solace their senectutem.

The Queensland 'Varsity Students
Song.

The first five post-war years had been certainly the most exciting in the University's history. In this period it had managed to acquit itself with great credit in the task of coping with the enormous influx of demobilized servicemen and women. In addition, it had expanded rapidly both the breadth and the depth of its teaching and research. At long last it had made a real start on moving into a home of its own which, by very grandness of design and magnificence of setting, raised it at one bound to international level. Finally, these immense developments, made possible as they had been only by the continued generosity of the Government of Queensland, had at last brought the University to the notice of the community it served.

No one within the University was prepared, however, to concede that in any of these matters a sufficient degree of finality had been achieved to allow of any relaxation. The University administration, confident in its ability to handle continued expansion; the teaching staff, much stronger in numbers and invigorated by an infusion of new blood; both were anxious to drive on towards the completion of the Five-Year Plan and the early achievement of what was now a clear, if not openly admitted, aim; State self-sufficiency in tertiary education.

The extent of this eager enthusiasm made it all the more disappointing when sky-rocketing costs virtually stifled any real expansion in the second half of the first post-war decade. The momentum of the Five Year Plan carried on into 1951 but, by 1952, the University had entered on another of these virtually static periods to which it had become all too accustomed in its short life. It is significant of a new appreciation of the national value of Universities that this period of frustration was not allowed to stretch on as it had in the twenties and thirties. By 1956 it was clear that the Commonwealth, in whose hands lay the only hope of financial salvation, was preparing to accept a real measure of responsibility. The following year brought the Murray Committee and the dawn of real hope.

Moreover, although the tempo of expansion had to be slowed during these five years, 1952-5, there was still, unlike the years of really pinch-penny economy, enough money to meet existing commitments and to maintain the increased services which had come with the post-war boom. If it was, in the Vice-Chancellor's phrase, a static situation, at least it could hardly be termed stagnation.

One feature of this period which must be noted is the emergence after forty years of a vocal teaching staff. Much larger in number than before the war and with a growing proportion of younger men with outside experience, the staff found itself, in this inflationary period, taking ever more active steps to bring to the notice of its employers the need to maintain salaries and conditions of service at a level at least comparable with those existing in other Universities.
It was perhaps no more than in keeping with the Australian pattern of labour relations that the University of Queensland Staff Association should blossom from its pre-war timidity - its restriction almost to the limitations of a social club - to something approaching an industrial union. One should hasten to say, however, that the Association's record makes it clear that its members have never been actuated solely by their understandable concern to secure reasonable remuneration for their services. Even in their repeated claims for higher salaries, their long and seemingly fruitless pursuit of the chimera of superannuation, they asserted, confidently and with sincerity, a real concern for the welfare of the University. The Senate, on its part, accepted the view expressed repeatedly by the Association that failure to pay salaries and extend benefits on the same scale as the southern Universities and as "competing" institutions such as C.S.I.R.O. would have an adverse effect on recruiting and so contribute seriously to the University's detriment.

Nor were the Association's activities restricted to bargaining - if "bargaining" be quite the term for such unilateral action as it undertook - on terms of employment. It concerned itself actively also, for instance, with the statutory framework within which the University operated and it emerged, during the period under discussion, as a true and fearless champion of the principle of academic freedom, the negation of which spells doom to any true University.

The hoped-for increase in Commonwealth assistance materialized in 1951 in the form of a basic grant calculated on the number of full-time students, together with a subsidy of £1 for every £3 received from all other sources. In the case of smaller Universities the base figure attracted a special loading, but Queensland, which had suffered always from being "big" in student numbers but "small" in income, did not receive this loading.

In effect, the maximum grant worked out at £125,043 for each of the years 1951, 1952 and 1953. This was secured only as a result of steep increases in fees and an agreement by the State Government substantially to enlarge its extra-statutory grant to the University. In all, the estimated income for the year 1951 amounted to a little more than £576,000 of which only about £203,000 would come from sources other than the Commonwealth Government and State Treasuries. Little wonder that, as it had done before, the Senate decided to establish a Committee to consider possible sources of benefaction.

Dr. Forgan Smith, long a sufferer from the illness which had necessitated his retirement from politics, was loth to accept in 1951 re-election to the Chancellorship, but was persuaded to continue by a Senate which foresaw continued and increasing demands on the State Labor Government.

The Senate also took heed of precedent in initiating yet another revision of matriculation requirements, and Ringrose undertook the final responsibility for what was to become an enormous and much-discussed document.

More dramatic was the University's lease of an abandoned silver-lead mine for practical work in connection with the newly-established Department of Mining Engineering. This venture proved a great success, not only as to its immediate purpose, but also in the attraction of community attention and, perhaps even more importantly, Commonwealth funds.

Staff claims for a superannuation scheme, which had been the subject of considerable discussion in the previous period, were highlighted again this year by a request from the Staff Association for a more generous gratuity for its members.
on retirement "in view of the inability of the Senate to establish the super-
annuation schemes submitted by the Association." For a number of years past the
Senate had been in the habit of making ex gratia payments to retiring members of
Staff and this had become accepted as being, in some way, a recompense for the
fact that, during a member's term of office, the University made no contribution
whatever towards his ultimate retirement.

Perhaps to some extent as a result of this Staff action in 1951, the Senate
the following year systematized this arrangement. As approved, a member, on retiring
from the University's service, received as gratuity one week's salary for each year
of service, from a minimum of 13 to a maximum of 39 weeks. This was to be matched
by an equal payment regarded as the equivalent of long-service leave. In many ways
the gratuity comprised a generous recognition of long service, but Staff objections
to it seemed to possess considerable validity.

There were two major disqualifications to the scheme as the staff saw it. In the first place, gratuity was conditional on retirement. A lecturer might
serve for twenty years and then accept a senior position at another University, in
which case he would receive only the equivalent of long service leave. Secondly,
the Senate accepted no obligation whatever to members who left the University
service, for whatever reason, within 13 years, or to dependents, if a member
died in office within the same period.

A University which perhaps already was looking to the Commonwealth as its
major future source of funds was reminded, in the Legislative Assembly, that no
less than 124 students were being assisted by State bursaries. The Minister for
Education drew attention to the State money being swallowed up in St. Lucia.
"We do not object to making money available to the University - it has to be done",
said Mr. Devries, "but I feel that the captains of industry, if they might be
referred to in that way, could appreciate to a greater extent than they do just
what part the University has played in their advancement in life." Significantly,
too, he added, "One of the conditions under which Queensland could share the
full benefit of the Commonwealth Grant was that it should find ways and means
of its own of helping this Government to contribute three times the amount that
would be given by the Commonwealth." (173)

The Courier Mail had drawn attention already to this requirement in the
Commonwealth agreement and had emphasized, too, the obligation on private citizens
to support their University. It even thought that "this may guard the University
from drifting into a position of increasing dependance on the Commonwealth.
Nevertheless it is inevitable that University policy will have to take more
direction from the Commonwealth". (174) As to this last point, the paper seems to
have taken a somewhat unnecessarily gloomy view. As things were to turn out in
the next few years, it was against the State Government, as it had been in 1941,
that the University would have to guard its academic freedom.

173. Q.P.D. 202 (1951-2), 1168
A signal event, perhaps the most effective way of bringing home to sister institutions in other States, the growth of the University was the convening in Brisbane of the 1951 Congress of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.

A Member of Staff reading a Paper to the History section of the Congress was criticised severely in Parliament for observing that "the Queensland Government... was in a better position than any other to stifle criticism of Gerrymandering, and vote rigging." (175)

This, had the University but realized it, was the writing on the wall. It was the first in a series of unfortunate clashes that was to culminate in the events of 1957.

A happier event was the provision of modern sensitive equipment for the Seismological Station attached to the Department of Geology. Designed specifically to measure microseismic disturbances associated with the formation and approach of cyclones, this equipment was but one more result of the generosity to the University of his Grace Archbishop Duhig.

Generally speaking, there was a good Press this year, with favourable reporting of public statements by Veterinary Scientists, Agriculturists and Educationalists. One blot on the University's escutcheon however, took the form of an offensive criticism, in the student newspaper Semper Floreat, of Sir Edmund Herring, the Director General of Recruiting; a criticism which came all too soon after the announcement of poor enlistments in the University Regiment.

By far the most disquieting news, however, was that work at St. Lucia had so slowed that it was estimated that the new Physics Building would require five more years to complete. Even this had its connection with recruiting, since it was alleged that the hold-up, resulting from brick and cement shortage, was traceable to priority work on defence projects.

Whatever the truth of this particular matter, the year closed with an almost emotional Press appeal to Queenslanders to finish building the University. "It comes seldom to a community to make for itself a complete University... The Government is willing enough. It has been generous all along. The University Senate is anxious to have the building completed. The real lack is in public appreciation of what the new University means and in some show of generous interest by people who could afford to help it." (176)

There is no evidence that this appeal produced any more result than its many predecessors. Perhaps some of the reasons may be found in the continued suggestion that the University was closely linked with, if not subservient to, the State Administration. Thus, almost at the same time as the Courier Mail was launching its appeal, an honourable member on the Government side, himself later a member of the University Senate, was recorded as saying in the House:

"I am not going to plead as justification for control the fact that the Government provide the greatest measure of finance, but I do suggest that the Government are beholden to the interests of the community, that they have the right to see that the interests of the community are preserved. Not only that, but they have an obligation to see that the funds they provide are protected, and spent judiciously." (177)

175. Courier Mail, 30/5/51
176. Courier Mail, 26/11/51.
177. Q.P.D. 202 (1951-2), 1171
The year 1952, the last of the Thirteenth Senate, saw a very definite deceleration of development. With the Commonwealth contribution pegged at £125,000 the University could do no more than attempt to persuade the State Government to find funds in excess of the amount needed to attract this sum. Even to maintain current activities in a period of rising costs required a general increase in the budget of yearly £150,000 and, consequently, an increase in the funds provided by the State Government to more than £400,000. This was much more than the £40,000 or so, to which alone by statute it stood committed.

In the impossibility of initiating new developments, much time was devoted to investigating the operation of existing ones. The Ringrose Report was fairly launched on its shuttling motion from committee to committee. Most of its more revolutionary proposals were shorn from it inevitably in the process. On its major premise of too low a matriculation standard, had been founded three basic recommendations. First, there was the long-advocated differentiation between the Secondary School leaving examination, and the matriculation test. Second, the "leaving" examination should be based on secondary preparation in broad general education. Third, the total length of time in the secondary school should be extended, for aspirants to University education, from the present four years to an immediate five and an ultimate six; this last by lowering the secondary entrance age to twelve plus.

There was much opposition expressed to the Fifth, "pre-University", year between the leaving and matriculation examinations, and, finally, little was left of the report other than an injunction to the Professorial Board to consider a revised matriculation.

The University Council, too, had become obsessed by this time with the problem of the student failure rate and recommended a dual approach to its improvement; first, the appointment of a student guidance officer and, secondly, a course for the teaching staff on methods of instruction. This latter recommendation being endorsed by the Senate, was implemented later; except that, to the extreme annoyance of some members of staff who had themselves been students only recently, it was inferred that only junior members of staff were in need of such assistance!

In an endeavour to co-ordinate requests for new staff, the Senate appointed a Stabilizing Committee on Staff and Ancillaries. With superb lack of concern for any paronomasiac implications, this committee was headed by Professor Stable. The Board, somewhat nettled by this extra committee, which they felt to have been imposed on them, secured its replacement, later in the year, by a Standing Committee of the Board, which developed as a valuable steering committee especially on staffing matters.

A major preoccupation of the Stabilizing Committee and its successor was a Three Year Plan which was to be drawn up to cover the expected second triennium of Commonwealth assistance 1954-6.

As an essay in optimism the Senate expressed the view that these three years should see the completion both of the Physics Building and the Main Library. This latter had still not eventuated in 1960, though it is fair to point out that its place had been taken many times by other, doubtless worthy, projects.
A wonderful storm in a tea-cup, to the delight of the Press, occurred over the use of University sporting areas for organized Sunday sport, and the University Recreation Areas Committee - a body normally referred to, in accordance with a current preoccupation for mnemonically initialized institutions, as U.R.A.C. - had the difficult task of walking the tight rope of student necessity over the abyss of popular disapproval, as voiced in particular by the Heads of some of the University's constituent Colleges.

As a first real venture in appealing, for State-wide support, the appointment was announced, late in the year, of a Comptroller of Publicity who would present to the State a moving film in colour of University activities.

Nor was 1952 to end without yet another of those comprehensive investigations into the function and implications of University education, with which Senates have been preoccupied over the years, especially in times of relatively slow development. A private Senator secured the appointment of a committee of enquiry "into all phases of University activities which affect a. curricula b. facilities c. staff." A nice vacation task.

The Fourteenth Senate took office in 1953 in the gloomy certainty that the Commonwealth's £125,000, barely adequate in 1951, would prove hopelessly too little two years later. There was also the extreme probability that the State Government would not view with joy a request for more than £600,000. In the event, the situation was to be saved, just in time, by the Commonwealth, under pressure, increasing its grants, in Queensland's case to almost £100,000. It was far too much last-minute and close-to-the-wind to be comfortable. Salaries were still sky-rocketing, too, with the general increase in price levels. That is, they were sky-rocketing in the larger Universities and Queensland, while accepting the need to match conditions elsewhere if she was to secure staff, could see no way financially of effecting such a matching. Clearly, there was need, as the Vice-Chancellor had pointed out three years before, for a nationwide standardization, and stabilization of this item, which alone swallowed up 65% of the University's income.

To offset somewhat this financial gloom, a campaign to collect unpaid fees had yielded no less than £10,000. Not so long before, this amount would have represented a full year's income for the University!

There was a rumour afoot in 1953 that the State Government would be prepared to consider amending the University Act and, since it had been clear for years that amendment was required, the Senate and other interested parties set to work to draw up the desired improvements. There would be some who, in 1957, would regret bitterly ever having stirred up such a hornet's nest.

The Staff Association took this matter most seriously and, within months, had presented to the Senate a comprehensive list of proposals. These provided primarily for additional staff members of the Senate but in this, as in the other items considered, it was held that the University would be the gainer thereby. In particular, of course, the Association took the line that it would be fundamental to the establishment of the University's self-respect and to a fuller acceptance by the world community of Universities, if the unhappy implications of a nominated majority on the Senate could be removed forever from the realms of possibility. Interestingly enough, the Association also proposed a Senator elected directly by the Undergraduate body.
A certain amount of unease had been expressed the previous year about the high cost per student of the reestablished Veterinary School and the Senate, in 1953, constituted the Agriculture and Veterinary Science Facilities Committee to give the same close attention to the problems of these two faculties as did that sorely harassed body, the Medical Facilities Committee to their sister study. (178).

Research, the financial responsibility for which had been taken over by the University from the Commonwealth in 1951, was claiming by now urgent attention. Although the University had found more than £18,000 for this purpose in 1952 and although this had been supplemented from outside sources to the extent of a further £9,553, the total sum devoted to research was felt to be an unreasonably small proportion of a budget approaching the £24 million mark. Research, it was decided, should have its own three year plan.

Scarce noticed in the Press during 1952, the University came back into its own this year with full reports on a variety of topics. An injunction to build cheap "back-yard" seismographs marched with the report of a "vintage" undergraduate "rag". Perhaps more than any of its predecessors of equal success, it reached the accepted level of Commem. week humour - as exemplified particularly in the Procession and certainly had the newspapers in two minds. It involved painting a "zebra" crossing, and thus providing a pedestrian right-of-way, across a city street to what was alleged to be a house of ill-fame. (179).

An interim account by the Vice-Chancellor of the peregrinations of the University film was accompanied by the calculation that bequest income now provided a miserable 2.672% of the budget.

The Press featured, in 1952, the arrival at the University of the first Asian students to study under the Colombo Plan and commended the Senate on its prompt appointment of a select committee to advise on all aspects of this new and exciting venture in international co-operation.

On several occasions throughout the year good space was given to accounts of research in progress and particular note was taken of the appointment of the first Mayne Professor of Medicine.

In a way it was fortunate that the University had been so much in the news since, when, in this year, an open attack was made by the Attorney-General in Parliament on a member of the lecturing staff, the issue was brought squarely and promptly before the public.

The lecturer concerned had ventured to offer written advice, in his private capacity, against a Government Bill, the Newspaper Bill, then before the House. In a bitter attack the Attorney-General stated that the document concerned "revealed startling ignorance of some rudimentary legal principles...The degree of ignorance was so disturbing in the case of a law lecturer as to warrant a review of his capabilities by the proper authority." Then, inevitably, he continued, "The Government may have to look into the question whether it is justified in paying large amounts in this connection". (180).

178. Since Everard's arrival in 1950 teaching and research in Veterinary Science had expanded considerably beyond the pre-war curriculum and a second Chair had been created, in Veterinary Preventive Medicine, to which J. Francis was appointed.

179. An establishment of this genre had always figured large in student legend and song. It is featured still therein, managed as ever by a certain, ageless, "Mr. Black."

180. Courier Mail 7/10/53.
The University's response to this attack was not without interest. The lecturer's colleagues in the Department of Law immediately supported his right to state his private opinions in public, whether or not they agreed with them personally. The Staff Association promptly published a defence of academic freedom. The student body invited the lecturer concerned to explain his position to them and the Law Students Society denied that law students had found any hint of subversive propaganda in any of his University lectures. The Vice-Chancellor prepared a report for the Senate.

It may have seemed no more than a storm in a teacup. Indeed, so geographically scattered had the University become, that some members of staff had hardly realized that anything was amiss before it was all over. On the advice of the University solicitor, the Senate took no action in the matter - though it was understood that the Vice-Chancellor might tender a little "fatherly" advice - and the lecturer concerned only remained with the University, but survived the ordeal of successive promotions. To many, however, it was another in a series of significant expressions of increasing testiness on the part of the Government paymasters. To some, without, of course, the Senate's responsibility for securing adequate funds from this same source, it seemed even that another opportunity had been lost. The time, it was felt, was more than ripe for a firm statement by the University through its governing body that its independance, precious to democracy, could be safeguarded only by a complete absence of any such blackmailing tactics to stifle freedom of expression by its lecturing staff.

The announcement of G.H. Russell as successor to Stable, who had retired from the Darnell Chair of English was followed, pathetically soon after, by Stable's death. Another heavy loss, too, was that of the Chancellor in September.

Forgan Smith had had a striking career. A member of Parliament at 28, he had been Premier of the State at only 45, and had created a record term in office for an Australian Labour Premier before retiring. In his time he had been a very good friend to the University. The pity was that his strong support, especially his personal contribution to the Jubilee expansion and his sponsoring of the St. Lucia project, should have been countered by his insistence, in 1941, on undermining the University's academic credit by establishing a nominated majority on the Senate.

These sadnesses and the bitterness of the Newspaper Bill aside, 1953, had clearly been a more satisfying year than its predecessor. This was reflected in the decision to establish a Chair in French, the first non-endowed Chair since 1951, and in the commencement at last of actual building by the Colleges on the St. Lucia site.

In February 1954 the Senate Vacation Executive Committee met in an atmosphere of tension. A strong move by the Staff Association for increased salaries had to be balanced against the first stage of the Three Year Plan, the pegging of the Commonwealth Grant at £163,000, and for the first time since 1949, the imminence of rising enrolments.
From Vice-Chancellor Roberts of the University of Sydney came an urgent request for a long-range enquiry to precede the definitive Commonwealth Act in 1955, which, it was hoped, would establish a new formula for aid to Universities. Neither he nor any other Vice Chancellor wanted to repeat the conditions of 1949, when they had been asked to provide detailed information practically overnight. As to the building programme, already lagging badly behind schedule, latest estimates placed the requirements for completing the original conception at £2½ million, plus a further £1¼ million for buildings not envisaged in 1938.

Reluctantly, the Board urged the Senate that, in the University's own interests, salary increases should precede the implementation of the Three Year Plan. Perhaps symptomatically, the very title was altered to Five Year Plan, though this was done at the urging of the Vice-Chancellors' Committee.

As some relief from these gloomy and all too accustomed calculations of financial stringency came the merest hint that His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh might pay the University a brief visit during Her Majesty the Queen's stay in Brisbane.

Prince Philip's visit, which took place on 17th March 1954, was a notable event. With typical informality the Royal Guest passed breezily through the crowds that had collected despite, or even perhaps because of, the secrecy with which officialdom chose to surround his visit. A delightful picture in the University Gazette portrays him cheerily pacing the cloisters in company with the newly-inducted Chancellor, Dr. Otto Hirschfeld. In default of a Great Hall the Main Reading Room of the Library was pressed into service to accommodate his meeting with student representatives. Later he inspected briefly the Geology Department and took his departure finally, only after long outstaying his scheduled visit. It was a successful and extremely happy occasion.

The election of the new Chancellor, Dr. Otto Sadler Hirschfeld, in place of Dr. Forgan Smith had emphasized again the University's growth towards maturity. Dr. Hirschfeld was himself a graduate of the University of Queensland who, since graduation, had risen to a position of eminence in the medical profession. He had been for some years a part-time lecturer in the University. In his all too short tenure of office as Chancellor he was to prove extremely popular with the students, not only because of his real interest in their problems, but by reason also of his more than ample bodily dimensions. Students, like cartoonists, relish a physical characteristic on which to base their humour.

Presenting his budget this year for almost £1 million the Chairman of the Finance Committee expressed his "purely personal views". "He was deeply concerned", he said "that in the International exchange of Universities the only University of a proud, prosperous and progressive State like Queensland should not be posted as a low-wage University".

Later, introducing the case to be presented for increased Commonwealth aid, Mr. Story stated that it was time to cease being mendicants. Indeed, the University should take a firm and united line on their national indispensability, which well deserved Commonwealth support. He pointed out that, as long ago as June the previous year, this University had suggested substituting for the present complex calculation a simple grant based on £1 by the Commonwealth for every £3 from other
sources, with no ceiling to the total. Now, with continual inflation to contend with, it seemed as if the minimum basis would need to be £1 for £1.10.0 again unpegged.

A long-awaited measure of assistance to the Administration was the institution in 1954, of the office of Deputy Registrar. An office entirely new in its responsibilities, created at the same time, was that of Warden of Overseas Students. That there was need for such an officer to attend to the needs of this growing body was indicated by the total of nearly 100 Asian students at the University. Coming from 14 separate countries, they comprised already one in every twenty seven internal students. This year saw, too, J.C. Mahoney appointed the first Professor of French and approval given for a Chair in Psychology. The first occupant of this Chair was D.W. McElwain. (181)

A firm recommendation on research came to the Senate at last from its select committee. The committee found that 4% of the annual budget should be devoted to this end, a figure which the Senate found impossible to accept. In 1953 Research had accounted for 2.1% of the total expenditure.

In the absence of any real money for building the best that could be done at St. Lucia in addition to completing the Physics Building was to make more intensive use of the existing accommodation. To this end an ingenious modification of the central tower, originally designed optimistically, if not very functionally, as a carillon, was to make possible the accommodation of the complete Faculty of Architecture. Portion of the temporary accommodation for Physical Education also would have to be taken over to house the growing Department of Geography and, to ease further congestion in the Main Building, the Fryer Memorial Library of Australian Literature would move into a room in the Main Library. All these makeshifts, though satisfactory up to a point, demonstrated all too clearly the sad fact that the Main Building at any rate was already far too small. Nor was this unduly surprising in view of the enormous development of the University since 1935; a development far exceeding the most careful prognostications of that time. St. Lucia had cost already, the Vice-Chancellor reported, nearly £1 million, three times as much as that first optimistic estimate in 1935 on which the Government's original undertaking had been based.

One interesting discovery made by Honorable Members perusing the State Estimates this year was an item of no less than £67,700 for the long-sought bridge from West End to St. Lucia. A question to the Premier, however, produced the classic understatement that "it is not possible at present to estimate when the bridge will be completed and opened for traffic." (182)

In October the Government appointed a Select Committee into salary classification for University staff, subsidies, fees and other matters. Inter alia, the Committee noted that Government assistance, State and Federal, to the University had risen from a total of £58,765 in 1944/5 to £641,852 for the current year.

181. Simmonds retired from the Chair of Mathematics this year and was succeeded, the following year, by C.S. Davis.

The Vice-Chancellor submitted a memorandum to this Committee in which he claimed that, in a general way, the University had fulfilled completely its mandate to make provision for the obtaining of a liberal and practical education in the several pursuits and professions of life in Queensland.

With especial reference to the years of greatest development (1948-51) he affirmed that the University had risen in status as a teaching institution to equivalence with its much older sisters in Sydney and Melbourne.

Beyond this, however, Mr. Story pointed, with justice, to Queensland's considerable achievement in creating and organizing within the space of less than half a century a teaching University equal in status to the leading Universities of the British Commonwealth.

For the first time open reference was made to the "making of the State self-contained in the teaching and training of youth generally for pursuits and professions requiring teaching and training at the tertiary level."

It was a proud record and it was just and timely that it should be stated in full. The tragedy may well be that argument at all was needed, that the University had to justify its very existence, apart altogether from substantiating its case for particular increases in funds.

One significant thread of argument throughout the whole submission was the claim that this University should not be equated with "small" or "second rate" institutions and that, in Australia, it should rank as far as the treatment of its problems was concerned, with the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne. Certainly in number of students and particularly in its spread of courses it had by this time irrefutable claims to such consideration.

One facet of this argument concerned academic salaries and the Senate at this time accepted openly the principle of parity with the large Universities. As the Staff Association continued to point out, not only was it necessary to provide conditions of service equal to those in competing institutions, but beyond this there had to be additional advantages to attract to Queensland people who would otherwise prefer the older, larger institutions with larger staffs, a better spread of responsibility, increased facilities for research, adequate libraries and all the other advantages that accrue with age.

It would seem that the Vice-Chancellor's catalogue of achievement was not without its effect since, in 1955, the Senate was able to consider an estimated expenditure of more than £982,000 in the light of an assurance that the State grant would amount to £615,000; this being the sum necessary to attract a Commonwealth grant of approximately £192,000. At the very meeting, however, which adopted the budget it was noted that salaries in southern universities had leap-frogged already beyond the point to which Queensland had just laboriously struggled. With this constant reminder of soaring costs it came as no real surprise to find the Senate eschewing any real attempt at expansion or development this year.

Instead, much time was devoted to students, present and future, their source of supply and their success or otherwise. A conference was convened at which the University and the secondary schools pooled their problems and from this was to spring a University-Secondary Schools Co-ordinating Committee. A Student Guidance service was instituted on a part-time basis, with the avowed intention, when circumstances permitted, of appointing a full time Guidance Officer. Research was stimulated into teaching methods, a new film was made and, in these and other ways, the University attempted both to attract more and better students, and to give
greater assistance towards their successful graduation.

A further attempt to secure housing assistance for staff members perished this year on the sword of an opinion by the University solicitor that such a project would be beyond the University's legal powers. But, if staff had to find their own housing, a pleasing note in the same field was that the University had now, through its six affiliated colleges, the highest residential student population of any Australian University.

It was student news again that brought the University back into the Press after a somewhat lean year or so. As usual, it was the frivolity associated with Commemoration week. Not satisfied with painting the hands of the General Post Office clock white, students raised the skull and crossbones over the City Hall. A most successful impersonation of a visiting film star completely disorganized the elaborate preparations made by a city theatre for a gala evening in her honour.

The year was not without some signs of progress. Applications were called at last for a senior lecturer to conduct those courses in Public Administration, whose introduction had been mooted first nearly forty years before. The rapid growth of the University Library, thanks to increasingly generous grants for purchasing books and periodicals, itself a pleasing development, was having its effect by now on the accommodation problem. An equally satisfactory move was the provision this year, just in time, of a mezzanine level in the main bookstack to house the flood of new material.

Just as 1951, the first of the years of crisis, carried over, so to speak, the momentum of the post-war boom, so did 1956 operate as a kind of prefiguration of the "Murray renaissance."

For in 1956, a new Commonwealth Act increased that Government's contribution to the University to more than £250,000, almost a quarter of the first million pound budget. To this was added more than £660,000 from the State Government.

One result of this increased income was seen in the establishment of two further Chairs, one in Social and Preventive Medicine and one in Parasitology. To these were appointed D. Gordon and J.F.R. Sprent respectively. The Chair in Parasitology, the first of its kind in Australia, was endowed in part by a gift of £12,500 from the Commonwealth Bank. A new major building commitment, too, in the form of the Biological Sciences Block, gave further hope that the completion of the first great semi-circular complex of buildings was in sight. The one element in the original plan still lacking was the Great Hall. It has always offered a ticklish problem. There were to be balanced, both by the University and by the Government who would have to find the funds, on the one hand the desirability of completing the first grand building design, and of reaping all the advantages of such an appearance of final achievement, as well as the use of the building itself. On the other hand both authorities were keenly aware of the limitations of funds and the need to concentrate on the provision of much needed teaching and research accommodation.

Moreover, a third complication was the growing acceptance on all sides of the need to do something positive about student amenities. The lack of a suitable Union building was seen as an important inhibition to the development of a true University community at St. Lucia. This lack was emphasized, paradoxically enough, by the gradual establishment of the Colleges at St. Lucia, and the realization of how much more a University it was becoming thereby.
A deputation to the Premier the previous year had the final result in 1956 of Government acceptance of the Great Hall as a legitimate portion of its undertaking to build St. Lucia, but coupled with this went a fairly clear indication of the priority that might be allotted it in construction.

All this was now the responsibility of the Fifteenth Senate, the last to be selected under the provisions of the 1941 Act and only the second in the first fifty years of the University's history to have its life extended by Government decree.

The Senate's first task was to smooth over the difficult situation that had arisen with the Government over the recent salary negotiations. Its second, much more pleasant, was to accept as a gift certain assets of the former Acclimatization Society, including a useful area of farmland at Redland Bay.

Almost its last task for this year was to recommend to the Government the second all-round increase in fees since 1911. The actual increases had been mooted as early as 1954, but both University and Government had been loth, as ever, to appear to set barriers in the way of tertiary education. Since it was calculated at the same time, however, that no less than 90% of all day students and 13% of evening students enjoyed Commonwealth Scholarships, State Government Fellowships, and other benefits, which exempted them personally from the payment of fees, this concern was correspondingly lessened.

Increased vigour in University life, made possible by increased funds, attracted increased Press comment and the columns of 1956 Brisbane newspapers devoted much space to reporting research developments in particular. The interest of the Physics Department in radio atmospheric noises, and especially the department's association with the forthcoming International Geophysical Year was reported (183); so too, were conferences, timed to enjoy Queensland's winter sunshine, of the Australian Veterinary Association and of the newly-formed Academy of Science.

As always too, increased activity attracted an increased flow of benefactions and the Press could report not only its own gift of 25,000 shares in Queensland Press Limited, but also more than £10,000 from the Rural Credits Development Fund of the Commonwealth Bank, this latter in addition to the gift specifically to the Chair in Parasitology.

It also could, and did, report statements by members of staff, and the almost inevitable reaction to them in some circles. In July a lecturer in Politics sounded a warning against the danger of Government interference in Universities as an almost inescapable concomitant of direct financial relations with them.

183. H.C. Webster, Professor of Physics, acted throughout the International Geophysical Year as Convener of the Australian Committee. For his services in this respect he was awarded, on the recommendation of the Commonwealth Government, the C.M.G.
In October a letter signed by three members of the same School criticised the operation of a Government Department. This brought a blunt admonition from the State Treasurer that lecturers "should keep their noses out of politics". When an Opposition speaker suggested that, on the contrary, the University lecturer had the same responsibility as any other citizen to keep his nose "in" politics, the Treasurer replied "Yes, but I do not think he is entitled to be on the payroll of the community and associate his professional position with public controversy." (184)

Interestingly enough, he thought it nearly time a state of affairs which allowed such action should be altered "because that is where little dictators come from; that is where they are bred." (185)

Once again, it was the Staff Association that hastened to the University's defence against this attack, by publishing a statement of the principle of academic freedom. "The preservation of academic freedom is vital to the community and the University alike. In supporting this principle, on behalf of the University and those who teach within it, we affirm our belief in the importance of the long-established and widely recognized tradition of University freedom in teaching, enquiry and public comment." (186)

It was as well that the principle was enunciated by someone; the University would need to draw all too soon on the full strength of that tradition in defence of its academic self-respect.

184. Courier Mail, 10/10/56.
185. ibid, 17/10/56.
186. ibid, 23/10/56.
YEARS OF DECISION (1957-1959)

Queensland University
Pass the torch eternal; Burst the bars:
Semper floreat the 'Varsity!
Thus men climb the stars.

Queensland 'Varsity Students' Song.

The "mid fifties" had seen inflation practically strangle the University's still vigorous urge to expand. Unlike the chill draught of depression twenty years before, however, inflation was itself heady wine and, through all the five years or so when rising costs outstripped our rising income, there was still apparent a confident enthusiasm for progress. Whenever opportunity had offered, this enthusiasm had burst through; a Chair here, a new Course there, Three Year Plans, Five Year Plans; for, although there was the constant danger of reduced real income, this lacked the deadly accompaniment of a steadily diminishing nominal income, which had characterized the depression years.

Moreover, there was enough of a real future assured to make hope for the remainder something more than wishful thinking. The University of the Fifties was no improverished infant huddled in unsuitable and decaying premises, but a lusty adult claiming parity with institutions twice its age, and already in part occupation of a noble site and impressive permanent buildings.

For these reasons, though there was worry enough for administrators in trying to make ends meet and to wheedle increasing grants out of the State Treasury; worry enough too for academics in coping once again with soaring enrolments without sufficient increases in staff, there was nothing approaching despair. There was not even the deep despondency that the University had shared with the whole community in the Depression years.

There was, however, one other real cause for concern and this the more insidious since, in a way, its danger was felt by many to be potential rather than actual. The increasing incidence of attacks by members of the State Government on lecturers who expressed their views in public, lent support to the fear that the close financial relations between Government and University and the existence of a Government-nominated majority on the Senate might cast serious doubts on the University's independence of action.

Some of the statements made in Parliament since 1951 had bordered very closely on the assumption that the University should be subservient to Government policy. In growing measure they recalled the more extreme language of the debates of 1941. It was bad enough that this should be so and recognized as such locally, but evidence was not lacking that the position even had been commented on unfavourably in other Universities and that, if allowed to persist, it would impede seriously that very acceptance of this University by the national and international comity of Universities which it so proudly claimed.

Certainly the position of the Senate was one of extraordinary delicacy. With the University dependant for its very existence on the generosity of a Government whose own nominees could, by their majority, control Senate policy, there was not only difficulty, but perhaps even danger in attempting to force...
any declaration of principle. Even more worrying perhaps was the fact that even making such calculations cast, by imputation, a slur on the integrity of the nominated members. Whereas in the fifteen years of the Senate's operation under the 1941 Act there had been no occasion when there had been the slightest suggestion of any nominated Senator acting as other than a conscientious and independent member. Indeed nominated members had made a very considerable contribution to the working of the Senate and its committees and to the development of the University. Moreover, on every occasion that a new Senate had been selected, the Government had chosen at least a portion of its nominees from the ranks of the Church, and from other spheres in no way dependant directly on Government bounty. Such nominees could be presumed to be as untrammeled in their loyalties as any elected member. Successive Governments had also taken care, to nominate a proportion of senior public servants. In this way the Senate had benefited greatly from the experience of trained administrators and from their intimate knowledge of the State Departments with which the University had frequently to associate in the course of its relations, as of its agricultural, engineering, educational and other teaching and research.

But there remained that nagging and almost insulting doubt, and fifteen years with no evidence of State control in this way did nothing to dispel the concern felt by many at the mere existence of the possibility. Some there were, indeed, who said that great care had been taken not to raise matters which would have forced Senators to declare their fundamental loyalties, and some there were who felt that what they termed this avoidance of important issues had contributed in no small measure to the difficulty of the situation.

1957, the year that was to test the University's principles, opened with the somewhat astonishing revelation that, almost unnoticed, student enrolments had rocketed to well above those of the greatest days of the post-war boom. From a peak of 4395 in 1949, 2060 of whom were in full-time attendance, student numbers had fallen to 3735 and 1633 respectively in 1953. Now they had climbed suddenly to 5615, of whom 2298 were day students. This was no surprise, of course, to the University, which had seen the swelling "bulge" in the number of Junior Public candidates, but to the Press a growth of almost 50% in the four years was startling enough. Since, over the same period the teaching staff had increased in size by less than 25%, there would be some large first-year classes to look forward to in the basic subjects.

It was shortly after the beginning of term that a long-threatening storm broke. At long last there was introduced into the Legislative Assembly the Bill to amend the University Acts for which the University had been pressing ever since 1952. The Bill contained much that the various interested parties were glad to see. For instance, it made provision for a full-time paid Vice-Chancellor and left a measure of discretion to the Senate at last as to the constitution of the Council. There were amendments too, to the constitution of the Senate itself. Overall its size was increased from 25 to 27 persons by the inclusion ex officio of the Vice-Chancellor and by the granting of a single direct representative to the teaching staff. The number of Senators elected by the Council remained unaltered at nine and the nominated members at fourteen. Since, in addition to the fourteen, the Director-General of Education was ex officio a member, the nominated majority was still substantial.
But the disappointment over this failure to achieve "respectability" in the eyes of sister institutions, with more traditionally constituted governing bodies, was as nothing compared with the reaction to another clause in the new Bill which had slipped in unsought by either Senate or Staff. This provided for a Board of Appeal to consider staff appointments, promotions and punishments. The Appeal Board, following the normal Public Service pattern, was to be constituted ad hoc, of an appellant's representative, a representative of the Senate and an independent chairman, nominated by the Governor in Council.

Whatever the immediate motivation of the Government, it could well be believed that in general its intention was simply to extend the normal provisions and protections of the Public Service System to the University. But there was an immediate and vigorous reaction by the Staff Association which, as it happened, had debated the provision of some such machinery some months before. On that occasion an overwhelming majority had voted against the principle of an appeal board, since it felt that public service conditions were simply inapplicable to the University, especially in view of its constant and necessary recruitment of new staff from overseas and interstate. Never in its wildest dreams, of course, had the Association envisaged such a Board being open to Government control through the nomination of the chairman. However intentioned, this provision was felt to be a direct and fatal attack on the University's independence.

Every avenue of approach to the Government was followed by the staff in an endeavour to secure the withdrawal of this clause. The public, and so the Association, had been apprised of the measure through the daily Press only the morning of the day that the State Labor Caucus was to consider its introduction into the House. Every member of Caucus was contacted immediately by letter. The Premier was asked to receive a staff deputation, and though he refused, the Minister for Education was persuaded to meet one.

The Courier Mail printed in full and unamended a careful statement of the Association's objections to the measure.* When the most punctilious approach to Parliament failed to prevent the passage of the legislative, 3,500 citizens were approached personally to support a protest meeting and nearly 2,500 attended such a meeting in the City Hall under the chairmanship of the Lord Mayor, himself a graduate of the University.

It was, in short, an intense, efficient and effective campaign and though, inevitably, it failed in its immediate purpose, it brought home to the community, as never before, the fundamental issue of academic independence and the strength of feeling of those who would enjoy it in the public interest.

In the debates associated with the passage of the Bill it became all too apparent that, however benevolent the intention of the Government, it saw nothing objectionable in the principle of a Government controlled Board, and that it resented bitterly the staff's criticism of what it regarded as its right to dominate the University. The debates even more than the Bill itself aroused the most serious concern that direct control of the University would be exercised whenever it suited the Government.

Though this was sad and seemed to some to be almost tragic for the University the struggle itself had quite extraordinarily beneficial results. The vigorous, united and convincing attitude of the staff certainly created a much more favourable public impression of their responsibility and stimulated thought and discussion on the University to an extent previously unattained.
Another very pleasing feature of the campaign was the active support given by the students. At their invitation members of the staff made clear both the immediate issues and the fundamental principles at stake. Deciding of their own volition to support the University in its hour of need, the united efforts of several thousand students soon overshadowed the staff campaign. Their most notable achievement was a door-to-door canvas of the whole city seeking signatures to a monster petition requesting the Administrator of the State to delay proclamation of the Act. In extend and organization it was both ambitious and successful, and this too impressed the public, while, at the same time, it united the University as never before. Throughout the whole controversy although eight of the nine elected members publicly declared their opposition to the Appeals Board clause, the Senate as such remained silent. This very silence seemed to many the most telling evidence of the danger to the University's independence.

Nor was the only support for the staff's efforts drawn from within the State. Sister staff associations and organizations of all kinds, from Trade Unions to Associations of Graduates sent messages of support. At the public protest meeting, the panel of speakers, included, as well as the senior member of the Queensland Staff and the President of the students Union, the President of the Staff Association of every one of the Universities and University colleges in the eastern States.

It was an impressive demonstration of united support for a principle, particularly on the part of present members of the Queensland staff in whose personal favour, the Appeal Board, if instituted, may well have operated.

As the Chancellor was to say some months later of this hectic period: "This, while disturbing at the time did much to knit the University together and present it to the public in a favourable light."

There was a widespread feeling, in fact, that, even though the campaign had failed to prevent the proclamation of the Act, the University had won a notable victory for its self-respect.

As it turned out, what the Chancellor called the "iniquitous" Appeal Board clause was not to be imposed on the University. In the complicated state of Queensland politics at the time, the University's campaign was just one, even if the last and soperhaps the deciding one, of a number of weapons used by the Labor Party to destroy its own unity. An instruction from the Queensland Central Executive of the Labor Party to the Premier to withdraw certain objectionable legislation, including this section of the University Act, being defied, there followed, in dramatic succession; his expulsion from the Party, a general election resulting in the first non-Labor Government in Queensland for twenty-five years, and the prompt repeal by it of the Appeal Board provision in the Act.

It should not be thought that the staff confined their objection to the Act merely to this clause for, to the Select Committee finally convened by the Senate to consider the legislation once proclaimed, they brought their fundamental argument against a nominee majority on the Senate, they repeated their sponsorship of a student-elected Senator and they took grave exception to a provision requiring the terms and conditions of appointment of the new Vice-Chancellor to be subject to Government approval. Objection to these clauses proved fruitless, though in many ways their threat to the University's liberty was at least as real as that implied by the Appeals Board.

But this excitement was only the beginning of a most eventful year. Even before these local events had tended to pre-occupy the University, the Prime
Minister had made his momentous announcement of the appointment of a full-dress Committee of Enquiry into the present and future of Australian Universities, and had associated with it, significantly, the name of Sir Keith Murray, the chairman of the United Kingdom University Grants Committee. This was splendid news and the University of Queensland set to work to produce what the Committee agreed later was a most impressive and convincing statement of its responsibilities, its plans, its hopes, and its needs.

In short, the University, whose tentative budget for the year totalled almost £1½ million, estimated that, for the years 1958-64, it would need more than £815,000 extra to cover the maintenance and improvement of its many services. As to its buildings, it estimated that £4½ million more would be needed to complete the project in its entirety.

Before Christmas it was known that the Committee's recommendations included emergency grants to Queensland of £135,000 for 1958, rising to £270,000 in 1960. In addition there would be a subsidy of £750,000 for buildings, on the condition that it was met £1 for £1 by the State. Of course there was criticism of these provisions and of the report on which they were based. It would have been unfortunate had there not been any. But, in general, it meant simply the difference between continued stagnation, or at least snail's-rate progress, and the chance to provide the vigorous expanding University that the State required and deserved. It was the chance for renaissance.

Enrolments for 1957 not only comprised a record but also included sufficient features of interest to arouse considerable Press comment. For instance, it was found that there were now 500 Asian students; more than one in every ten internal students. The first student with aboriginal blood to enter the University commenced an Arts course, and was promptly adopted by the Students union, which established a trust fund to meet her fees.

There were staff changes, too. Wilkinson, first Professor of Anatomy retired so did Page-Hanify, who had been Registrar since McCaffrey's death in 1935. (187) In May, Ringrose, the Director of External studies, who had introduced the Diploma Course in Education in 1936, and who had been one of the only two non-Professorial staff members ever to serve on the Senate, died suddenly and, within a few weeks, he was followed by the Chancellor, Dr. Hirschfeld. The worry of this critical year in the University's history had taken its toll. Meeting the new Senate the year before, the late Chancellor had drawn attention to the fact that no less than 12 of its members were Queensland graduates. If would have pleased him to know that one of these, Mr. Later Sir Albert Axon, was to succeed him.

There was an anniversary that went almost unnoticed this year. On the 6th March 1957, it was just twenty years since the foundation stone had been set at St. Lucia. Students, however, who had come back into the news with the Appeal Board stayed there during Commemoration Week. The Law entrance to the Main Building was found to have been bricked up overnight and a very realistic snowstorm fluttered down from the great City Hall dome to submerge completely the dais at a most dignified point of the Degree Ceremony. As to the Procession, this was postponed, out of respect to the late Professor Ringrose.

187. To succeed Page Hanify the Senate appointed C.J. Connell who had come to the University as Deputy Registrar in 1954.
What a year it had been! From its initial crisis to its ultimate optimism and with all its event and all its sadness it was a year to remember. Recent as it is in our history, it seems to be marked clearly as a turning point; the year in which the University rediscovered the unity of pre-war days and demonstrated a new maturity.

It was with new heart that the University faced the first year of Commonwealth Emergency assistance. True, it would be some months before the State Government would accept in full the financial obligations which would enable complete enjoyment of the national offer. In the matter of salaries, for instance, there was a repetition of what had been the University's experience year after year. Practically all the other Australian Universities were able almost immediately to advertise the new positions made possible by the "Murray" assistance at the new salary rates recommended in the Report, and so to select the cream of the applicants, before Queensland was in a position to move. Certainly there was much to be said for Education Minister Pizzey's feeling that it would have been better if all Universities in Australia had acted uniformly in this matter. To many a jaundiced Head of Department, however, seeing the best applicants for his vacant lectureships lured elsewhere, it must have seemed that, in effect, the Universities had all acted uniformly, all except Queensland.

Nevertheless there was no fear that in the end the University would not be able to implement the wide range of developments on which the Murray Committee had looked, in general, with considerable favour. Some of the castles would have to remain a little longer in the air but their ultimate translation into reality was assured.

It was appropriate that, at this stage of re-born enthusiasm, the University should be honoured with its third Royal Visitor; the second in its nine short years at St. Lucia. Her Majesty the Queen Mother graced the University for a few all too brief hours on the 20th February, meeting, as part of a comprehensive tour, student representatives in the Library Reading Room and koala bears in the Main Entrance Hall. Both the fauna and the buildings in which they were accommodated appeared to arouse Her Majesty's keen interest.

A 14% increase in enrolments brought once again more than 1000 new students in 1958. Already the colleges which had opened at St. Lucia were being pressed for space. To the original number had been added two more since Duchesne opened its doors in the "Forties". A hostel for men students commenced under the auspices of the Union had established itself by now as Union College and had bought premises in Wickham Terrace as a preliminary to moving onto a final site at St. Lucia. The Congregational Church also had sponsored Cromwell College, which, though established too late to obtain a site actually in the University grounds, had been the first to build at St. Lucia. It had managed to purchase land almost adjacent to the University, to which, having erected its building, it had deeded the site thus becoming, in full measure, a constituent college.

If the twentieth anniversary of St. Lucia's foundation had evoked but little comment, the Press was well alive to the significance of the twenty-first. Mr. Story, who had been Vice-Chancellor for twenty of the twenty-one years, reported that £2 million had been spent to date on the project; four times the original estimate. Thanks to the Commonwealth, no less than £1½ million more
would be poured into it in the next three years. The money was to go towards buildings for Biochemistry, Engineering, Anatomy, Biology and additions to Chemistry. In addition, to universal satisfaction, a start would be made on a Union Building worthy of the site. Omissions from the list were the Great Hall and the completion of the Library.

As to the Great Hall, it was hoped that the State Government might consider building it as a gesture during the State's Centenary year. Instead, however, as it turned out, major alterations and additions were to be made to the grossly over-crowded State Library. The University could hardly object to priority being given to this much-needed improvement.

The University Library, strangely enough, had not attracted much attention from the Murray Committee. One reason may well have been that the monumental design of the central reading room creates an air of spaciousness, which, unfortunately, is not borne out when investigation is made of its actual capacity, or that of the other areas of the building. By the end of the year the Library would be dangerously near the point of complete saturation, having long passed the stage of inefficient overcrowding. On the other hand, it was at least housed, however badly, in a permanent building and so perhaps could hardly claim precedence over those teaching Departments which were still functioning in makeshift premises at Yeerongpilly, Victoria Park and elsewhere.

Considerable disappointment was voiced, especially by the students, when it was revealed that, in order to extract the maximum benefit from limited funds for building, the freestone veneer which contributes so much to the handsome and dignified appearance of the St. Lucia buildings would have to be discontinued. Said Semper Floreat, this decision to construct all future buildings in brick would "give the impression of a degree factory, an antiseptic educational assembly line. How magnificently appropriate!"

Lecturers facing classes of up to 300 at a sitting probably felt considerable sympathy for these sentiments, but the University was learning that some cliches are all too appropriate. The previous year it had indignantly and successfully rejected Premier Gair's claim that "he who pays the piper calls the tune", but this did not blind it, on the present occasion, to the need to "cut its coat according to its cloth."

The only new Chair actually filled in 1958 was that of Geography, to which R.H. Greenwood was appointed, but as early as April applications had been called for 27 posts, including another new chair, in Public Law (188). By the end of the year, the Chancellor could announce that a total of no less than 65 additional positions had been advertised during the year.

A course which had long been mooted was approved at last this year. The University had actually examined in Pharmacy in its first year of existence, though only on behalf of another institution. Now a full degree course was to be instituted immediately. It must be reported that it was in connection with this precipitate decision that one of the few open rifts is recorded between the Senate and the Board.

188. No appointment was actually made till late 1959 and the new Professor H.R. Anderson, took up his duties in 1960.
Since the tribulations of the early professors, although there had been difficulties between the two bodies, the Board had always maintained successfully its right to full consultation on all academic matters. On this occasion it appeared that the Board's recommendations had been altered substantially by the Senate without further reference. The Board recorded accordingly that it viewed "with profound disquiet the means by which these decisions were reached, and the neglect of the principle of discussion with the academic staff on academic matter." It was the first open conflict since the days of Mr. Justice McCawley's struggle with Stable.

Since the controversy over the Appeal Board two years before, considerable thought and discussion had been undertaken in both Senate and Board on whether it would be possible in any way to improve the detail of staff selection procedures while maintaining inviolate the Senate's privilege of final choice on the careful recommendation of the Board. A formula was arrived at finally which formalized the existing practise of extending the maximum possible consideration to any local applicants for positions, while at the same time taking the greatest care to secure what amounted to a series of independent and unbiased judgements on all candidates.

The increasing tempo of building made imperative now a decision as to the extent to which it was possible or desirable to concentrate all activities on one site. The inclusion of Veterinary Science in the St. Lucia concept, for instance, seemed to many to be a very constructive move. It had been, in a way, a pleasant surprise, since Seddon, the first professor, had always thought it most unlikely and indeed unsuitable. No doubt the decision was affected by the loss of the permanent building at Yeerongpilly, but it also reflected, in general, a changed attitude on the part of the re-constituted faculty, and in particular an energetic development for practical purposes of the property at Moggil which had been given by the Maynes thirty years before and had been, in the meantime, largely untouched.

Now there was the problem of how much, if any, of the teaching and research associated primarily with the Faculty of Medicine should be housed at St. Lucia. There was a clearly drawn issue here. On the one side there was much to be said for a completely self-contained Medical School remaining in close proximity to the major hospital, where always there would have to remain at least the core of exclusively medical subjects. On the other hand, there was a wealth of argument in favour of uniting as much of the University as possible on its major site.

If many of the arguments on the St. Lucia side were imponderables, it was at least as certain that all medical students would have to come to St. Lucia in any case for their early basic science training, as it was that they would have to spend their later years at Herston.

In the event, and only after long discussion, the Board recommended for St. Lucia; Pathology, Bacteriology, Anatomy, Biochemistry and Physiology; leaving at Herston only the subjects studied in the clinical years. Said the Board, whatever decision was made "will determine for all time whether the University will finally become geographically united. If the present opportunity to achieve this is lost it will probably never occur again."
Swelling enrolments emphasized again, inevitably, the problem of the student failure rate. This had been investigated carefully in 1951 and again in 1953. One of the results of the earlier surveys had been a part-time guidance service. This year it was possible to appoint a full-time Student Counsellor. In addition, the Faculty of Education undertook: an authoritative survey of 1957 failures, a course of six lectures for the academic staff in methods of teaching and examining, a course of three lectures on study methods, an intensive review of examining practice and a survey of the system of supplementary examinations.

Extension activities were able to be intensified also, and a considerable increase in the number of public lectures was paralleled by a remarkable improvement in attendances, largely as a result of more careful organization.

In November, the University of Queensland Acts Amendment Act was proclaimed and arrangements were initiated for the selection of the first paid Vice-Chancellor. Mr. Story agreed to carry on for the tenure of the existing Senate. One of the Senate's first acts under the new legislation was to admit all full-time members of the teaching staff to membership of the University Council, a privilege which both they and the Council itself on their behalf had sought for almost half a century.

In December the Premier appealed for more public support for the University. He was speaking at the official opening of new research facilities at the Veterinary School farm. Although his appeal was timely and much needed, it was a sign of the University's increasing success in this direction that the very equipment whose installation he was commemorating had been presented in part by the United Graziers Association, a body which, not so long before, had rejected out of hand the suggestion that its members should contribute to the establishment of this very faculty.

Somewhat earlier the Government had announced that the Fifteenth Senate would be continued in office for an additional year to facilitate the celebration of the University's Jubilee (189) and the continuance of the large expansion programme it had initiated.

1959, the University's fiftieth year, was basically a year of planning. Even as the "Murray" programme swung into its second year, work was well advanced on preparing a case for Commonwealth assistance for the second triennium, 1961-3.

On the building side there were still departments unprovided for or provided for only in part in the first triennium. The complex of Engineering buildings had reached only its first stage. No provision had been made as yet for a separate building for Agriculture or for Physical Education, whose temporary tenancy of valuable space in the Main Building had lasted now for more than eleven years. The Main Building by now was practically at bursting point, and the only real solution seemed to lie in separate accommodation for the University Administration.

189. The Senate had already decided, however, to celebrate the Jubilee in 1960 and commemorate fifty years of active existence, rather than the Jubilee of the original legislative Act of Foundation.
As to the Great Hall, it had now become clear that the Government, any Government, would be extremely loth to erect this relatively "useless" building and, before many months, the Chancellor announced that a public appeal for funds for this building would be launched in Jubilee Year.

Then, too, there was the Library. Its squat shape a standing reminder of the unfinished state even of the first building on which work had been commenced 22 years before, it was now hopelessly jammed with books and could no longer provide seats for those who wished to read in it. Drastic reduction of the amount of space allowed to each reader and a ruthless reduction of traffic aisles provided a temporary solution to one portion of the problem and the ingenious insertion in succession of two mezzanine floors had provided accommodation for an additional 160,000 books. These were but temporary palliatives, however, and, as the Golden Jubilee approached, this truncated, overcrowded half of a building remained as a further mute reproach to the University which, to celebrate its Silver Jubilee had set, at George Street, the foundation stone for a new library, (destined never to be occupied for its designed purpose,) with the glib assurance that "there is no more important building attached to a University than the Library."

Nor were the only problems on the St. Lucia site. Even with the decision to make the major shift to St. Lucia, there was urgent need to re-model and extend the Medical School Building, designed and built to the ideas and estimates of more than twenty years before.

Apart from buildings, staff and facilities had to be calculated, not only for new developments, but also simply to cope with the growing number of students. The seemingly fantastic predictions made for the benefit of Sir Keith Murray and his colleagues were proving to be remarkably accurate. For 1958, the prediction had been 6,600, the actual figure 6718. In 1959 the predicted enrolment of 7300 had again been slightly exceeded by an actual 7444. The anticipation for 1960 was 8100 and, by 1965, more than 12,000.

Even to maintain the present unsatisfactory staff-student ratio, a substantial staff increase would be needed. To attempt to improve it yielded figures of alarming proportions. The most careful pruning could not reduce below 83 the essential extra staff needed for 1960. Not until the post-war boom, thirty-five years after the University's establishment, had the total staff reached this figure. For 1961-63 it was considered that, over and above these, another 270 would be required - to give a total academic staff of almost 750 by 1963, more than 3 times that of 1953.

There were other plans too, which embraced areas even beyond the capital city. In May the State Cabinet approved a University recommendation for the establishment of a teaching centre in Townsville. The long-promised country colleges suddenly became probabilities instead of mere conjectures.

The year 1959, which marked the fiftieth Anniversary of the University Act marked also, of course, the centenary of Responsible Government in Queensland and, to the importance of the occasion, the State was privileged to play host to Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra of Kent.
In the course of a visit to the University which was all too short, despite her own insistence on prolonging it well beyond its scheduled duration, the Princess accepted an Honorary Degree and unveiled a commemorative plaque in the new Union Building. Not even the fact that the Degree Ceremony had to take place, because of the all-too-obvious lack of a Great Hall, in a glorified circus-tent in the Great Court, could detract from the success and happiness of her visit—nor was it marred by the unfortunate fact that work on the Union building had been suspended for weeks due to the default of the contractor concerned.

Apart from this delightful interlude, the University was "on show" to the public for a full week—that same elusive University Week which had dodged in and out of Council and Senate agenda for twenty five years—as a contribution to the celebration of the State's centenary. Among other notable events, His Excellency the Governor Sir Henry Abel Smith donned the robes of office of University Visitor at a ceremony in the Senate Room.

Research, which had been investigated and reported on four years finally came into its own in 1959 with a statement in the Senate by the Vice-Chancellor that it had reached such a volume that it could no longer be regarded as a sideline. In a Press interview he looked forward confidently to a research programme costing £1 million a year.

The extent and variety of the work already in progress was highlighted by the awarding to the Physics Department of an American Air Force contract for £11,000 for space research, and by the initiation of mineral dressing investigations at the University mine.

A year in which the University was graced by the visit of a Royal Lady, appropriately saw both the Women's College and Duchesne, the Roman Catholic Women's College, officially open, on successive days their permanent homes at St. Lucia, and was marked, too, by the appointment of the first woman in the University's history to be a Research Professor.

The announcement of a second Chair in English and the appointment of a second professor in Physiology indicated new developments in teaching and research in 1959. At the same time, the consideration of a five-year course for Dentistry and the planned introduction of a completely re-arranged curriculum for Medicine bore witness to the constant need to adjust even long-established courses to the new patterns of ever-expanding knowledge.

It was an event of considerable importance when, at the Degree Ceremony, the first 23 Asian students to graduate made their bows to the Chancellor. The Asian students' appreciation of Queensland's hospitality was expressed in the celebration of a Centenary Festival of Nations. In this same year, there was a revival of interest in an appeal for an International House in which overseas students could live on equal terms with their Australian colleagues.

190. A.K. Thomson, who had been on the lecturing staff since 1940, was appointed in 1960 to the second chair in English. The first (Darnell) chair had been vacated in 1957 by the resignation of G.H. Russell. In 1958 A.C. Cawley was appointed Darnell professor in his place.

W.V. Macfarlane had succeeded Lee in the chair of Physiology in 1949. On Macfarlane's resignation in 1958 R.W. Hawker was appointed in his place and O.E. Butz-Olsen was promoted to the new Chair of General Physiology.
Melbourne Cup time 1959 brought to Brisbane the newly constituted Australian Universities Commission under the chairmanship of Sir Leslie Martin. To it was presented formally an impressive submission covering the University's plans.

In a supplementary statement the Vice-Chancellor drew attention to the fact that the University of Queensland had increased in size by 88% in the last 5 years, a rate of growth unparalleled in Australia. As the Chancellor pointed out in his Christmas message to the Senate, already this infant University exceeded in size all Universities in the United Kingdom with the exception of Oxford, Cambridge, and London and within a year or so would have overtaken the first two.

Of this last year of our first half century it remains only to add that both the Chancellor and also His Grace Archbishop Duhig, who had been a member of the Senate since 1915, were honoured by the Queen with knighthoods. Both insisted that in accepting this honour they were but representatives of the University they had served for so many years.

The University had come a long way from a December day in 1909 when Mr. Speaker accepted the University of Queensland Act from the hands of Her Majesty's representative, and the members of the University Extension celebrated the realization of their dream over tea in the old Lucinda. It was a long, long way from August 1st 1910 when the first twenty Senators sat down to wonder how to set about creating a University. It was a long way, too, from March 14th 1911 and four young professors facing eighty three students, many of whom they suspected were their seniors in years.

St. Lucia with its noble sweep of buildings, its spacious playing fields and its six residential colleges might seem to have but little connection with the somewhat battered little old building at the end of George Street. An institution with more than 7400 Students, and a teaching staff of hundreds, with eleven Facilities and 44 teaching Departments, and with an income approaching £2 million a year might seem to present only the most remote resemblance to the early University.

And yet the astonishing thing was that all this had happened well within a man's life span. True, there were no longer any of the very first staff, but Thomas Gilbert Henry Jones, who had come to the University as a young lecturer only four years after its opening, now occupied the Chair of Chemistry.

More dramatically still, on the eve of its Golden Jubilee, the University was still under the direction of John Douglas Story who, as Under-Secretary to the Department of Education, had played a large part in its actual establishment, and had served continuously on the Senate for the whole of its half century of existence.
CHAPTER TEN

GOLDEN JUBILEE (1960)

And this is law that I'll maintain
Until my dying day, sir,
That whatsoever Profs. may reign,
Our 'Varsity shall stay, sir!
For what care we though Profs. do flee
And lecturer do frown, sir?
Why WE'RE the University,
Of Queensland we're the crown, sir.

Our 'Varsity

The title of this chapter might tend to suggest that the year 1960 or at least some part of it was abandoned to riotous celebration by the University of its first fifty years. At the risk of disappointing readers, it must be recorded that this did not occur. While there was certainly an amount of modest commemoration of a further milestone of achievement there was also much openly expressed and inwardly felt sober appreciation of the University's many problems.

Apart from this need and the realization of it to temper mere rejoicing, even in the face of the astonishing evidence of fifty years growth, it so happened that 1960 itself was full of incident as far as the University was concerned. To many of its officers, indeed, the Jubilee celebrations, while meaningful enough in themselves, were but an interlude. To some they must have seemed even an extra burden, in a year when the "normal" post-war problems of immense student numbers, insufficient staff, doubtfully adequate finance and completely over-crowded accommodation seemed especially troublesome. Perhaps it even added meaning to the celebrations to see them in this way against the background of the day to day struggle to make ends meet that is characteristic of today's University.

As the Chancellor said in the course of his end of the year message, 1960 was a year of consolidation and negotiation for the Senate "a year of consolidation in that we have been actively engaged in using to best advantage the resources made available as a result of the Murray Report and particularly in completing our building programme for the triennium." There had been especial need for consolidation since, as he pointed out, "the new funds available in 1960 have been barely sufficient to maintain the existing staff-student ratio:" In the circumstances, it "had not been possible to undertake additional new ventures."

But this was the post-war University and a brake on expansion did not mean stagnation. And so it was a year, for the Senate, of negotiation also, negotiation with the Australian Universities Commission, with the State Government, with the student Union and with the Staff Association. It was a year devoted to the active consideration of ways and means of improving the University within its present limits and of planning for its future transcending of them.

It was a new year in a new half century for the University and it was fitting that it should be ushered in by a new Senate, the sixteenth of the University's existence and the first to be constituted under the University of Queensland Acts Amendment Act of 1957. For the first time there was specific representation on the governing body of all the elements of the University's membership. The Council retained its right to elect nine Senators. The Staff Association exercised for the first time the privilege of returning a member of the staff to the Senate.
The Governor in Council included among his nominees a Senator chosen by the executive of the University of Queensland Union from a panel of names submitted to it.

This new constitution of the Senate, it is fair to state, did not meet with whole-hearted approval. While delighted at being directly represented, the staff, through their Association, regretted that their contribution to the good government of the University should still be restricted to a maximum of four in a Senate of twenty seven. In particular they objected to the Council having its freedom of choice restricted by being forbidden to elect more than two staff members among their nine Senators.

The Union, too, felt that their representation, though more direct than previously, still fell far short of that freedom to elect their own Senator which they had claimed.

Staff, students and graduates alike expressed open disappointment that opportunity had not been taken of amending the relative proportions of nominees and elected Senators. There was some feeling that this was particularly unfortunate on the part of a Government whose awareness of the importance of demonstrating academic freedom had been underlined by its prompt rejection of the Appeal Board clauses of the 1957 Bill.

With the new Senate came also a new Vice-Chancellor. Mr. Story had served in this capacity for so long that there was only a handful of staff and Senate who could remember his predecessor. Now, in conscious acceptance of the changed requirements of a vastly changed University, he handed on the cares of office to Professor F.J. Schonell, who had come to the University ten years before as its first Professor of Education. Deserved tribute was paid on all sides to the qualities of ability, single-mindedness and self-sacrifice that had marked the retiring Vice-Chancellor's long years of honorary service to the University. His term as Vice-Chancellor stretched back twenty-two years to the pre-war University, but his service on the Senate covered an unbroken fifty years! It was quite unthinkable that he should not be nominated to the Senate again, for the sixteen time, by the thirty-third State Government he had seen in office in his lifetime. At the urging of the Senate he retained, too, his chairmanship of the Finance Committee, an office which he had occupied unchallenged since 1912.

The appointment of a full-time Vice-Chancellor and the selection for this office of a scholar of renown who was also an experienced administrator most appropriately marked a coming of age on the University's part which many might have said was more than due in view of its coming of size in recent years. It was clearly no longer possible or even desirable, as Mr. Story himself said, to carry on in the old way, utilizing the part-time services of Honorary Vice-Chancellors.

And yet the University had owed much to its part-time Vice-Chancellors. Probably no one had worked harder than Roe to secure the establishment of the University and his selection as Vice-Chancellor by the first Senate was almost certainly inevitable. But even Roe, enthusiastic as he was, had found it difficult to add University duties as a part-time activity to his already busy life. Moreover, it must be said that, even at such an early stage in the University's life, he demonstrated the misfortune and even danger of entrusting
such a key position to someone no longer completely attuned to academic thought. Decades of school-teaching and, more recently, the Inspector Generalship of the State's almost exclusively primary education system had dimmed his memories of Balliol. By the time Alcock arrived in 1914 Roe was solemnly lecturing newly arrived members of staff on the need to concentrate on good old-fashioned rote learning. Students, he thought, could not be expected to read, either within or beyond their subjects, not because of the absence of library resources (this was all too sadly true) but because the climate was too torrid for such intellectual exercise!

Roe did not survive, as a Senator, the exciting election of 1915 and as Vice-Chancellor he was succeeded by the Honourable A.J. Thynne. Thynne had had no University background at all. Nevertheless he had defended the infant University with spirit in the Legislative Council when it came under attack from a Senatorial colleague and had not balked at rebuking Vice-Chancellor Roe for appearing to suggest that the University might well be taken further under the wing of the Department of Public Instruction. But Thynne was a city solicitor with a demanding practice - he was much better fitted, indeed, for the Chancellorship to which he later succeeded than for the Vice-Chancellorship. Once again then, the University in its formative years was denied the careful day to day attention of an experienced and sympathetic personal head.

After Thynne there followed Dr. W.N. Robertson, who alone of all the honorary Vice-Chancellors had had recent experience of University life. But again Robertson could devote no more than passing attention to the University. Even during the hectic excitement of the great Silver Jubilee expansion he was only Vice-Chancellor outside consultation hours and much direction and policy making went by default to strong minded Chancellors one the one hand and to the permanent administrative staff on the other.

In the resolution of this difficulty the unique position of J.P. Story had provided an eagerly accepted opportunity. Here was the senior public servant of the State nearing retirement but still active and more than able to administer. He was tied to the University by the strongest bonds of long service and by an interest which could only be described as paternal in view of his actions as Secretary for Education at the time of its foundation.

It was already clear by 1938, on the one hand that the University could expand rapidly under vigorous direction and, on the other, that its expansion would tend terrifyingly to out-run its financial resources. How fortunate indeed that there was to hand a capable administrator, a shrewd financier and one with the ear of Governments withal. How doubly fortunate that such a man was in a position, and willing, to work full-time on an honorary basis. How unfortunate, perhaps, that the Senate was unable or unwilling to look beyond this apparently satisfactory and very gratifyingly economical solution to their problem.
No voice, or certainly no effective voice, was raised to warn of the difficulties and, as it was to turn out, the danger involved in linking the University firmly with the State Government. Apart from his personal associations which were continued after his retirement from the Public Service, Mr. Story made no secret of his conviction that the true role of the University could be carried out only by close integration with the Department of Education. In the outcome this policy on the part of its Executive Head rendered the University extremely vulnerable to the assumption, at least, of State domination. Realization of this vulnerability would tend to cloud appreciation of Story's unrivalled achievements in finance and administration.

By the Golden Jubilee, in any event, the University was clearly beyond the control even of such highly-talented non-University administrators. Their contribution however, and especially that of J.D. Story, was recorded indelibly in the record of the University's enormous expansion over the half century, and particularly in the continued solvency that had accompanied this mushrooms growth.

Professor Schonell took up office as Vice-Chancellor on 1st March 1960. Already it was clear that his first year would be both arduous and eventful.

When the report of the Murray Committee had been accepted by the Commonwealth Government and particularly once the State Government had guaranteed to find the extra funds to match increased Commonwealth grants, there had not been wanting those who felt that the University's needs had been not only amply met but generously and even lavishly over-supplied. Now, in 1960, in the third year of the emergency triennium, it was all too clear that once again the University was facing financial crisis. Student numbers had exceeded even the estimates made by the Murray Committee; in 1960 they stood at 8700 as opposed to an expectation of 8100. To meet these numbers, to do little more than maintain the inadequate staff-student ratio which had so horrified the Murray Committee, and to allow merely a modest expansion of activities were estimated by the Professorial Board to require at least 83 teaching and demonstrating staff above those of the previous year. More than 50 of these appointments, the Board felt, would be necessary merely to keep the University from slipping any further behind in meeting its purely undergraduate teaching commitments.

Nor did mounting costs lie only in staff. Keen competition by other Universities with similar population pressures, and better conditions of employment, underlined the need once again to increase academic salaries, especially in view of the prompt action taken by such competing professions as the senior Public Service and the C.S.I.R.O. to raise salaries proportional to the new margins award brought down by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in the case of the metal working industries.

Moreover Universities of the size and with the responsibilities of the University of Queensland could no longer afford to ignore the need for such astronomically expensive items of apparatus as digital computers and electron microscopes.
As if these were not enough, the Senate was firmly committed to commence operations in Townsville in 1961 and had at least to consider the claims of Rockhampton and Toowoomba for the second University College in the approved scheme of partial decentralization.

With all these added charges on the budget even the most rigorous pruning of the estimates of expenditure for 1960 still saw them rise by more than £315,000 above those for 1959, to the huge sum of £2,200,000. Of this total more than £976,000 would have to come by direct subvention from a State Government that was still only compelled by statute to find a mere £40,000 a year for the University. If acceded to, this would represent an increase of almost 20% over the corresponding grant for 1959.

The Treasury, with demands enough on it in a year of falling returns to primary industry, sternly indicated a grant limit some £90,000 below the figure requested. By the time the Senate could consider ways and means of reducing its estimates the gap had been further widened by proposed salary increases and by the first incidence of a revised Public Service superannuation scheme. The apparent deficit stood finally at £126,000, a sum which the total annual expenditure of the University had not reached until 1945, thirty five years after its foundation.

And so the whole dismal business of pruning had to be repeated. The list of urgently required new staff had to be reduced to a further list of immediately necessary new staff. More than £84,000 was lopped from the already severely scrutinized estimates submitted by Departments and the most desperately ingenious devices were resorted to, to bridge the final gap.

Twist and turn as it might to avoid it, the Senate was forced, once again, for the second time in five years, to countenance a rise in student fees, though it was able to postpone its incidence until second term. Though increased by up to 33\% fees would still be less in every case than those in some other Universities with the exception, of course, of West Australia. In not a few courses they would still be the lowest in Australia.

Thus did the University shrug itself into the financial strait jacket of another year.

The very considerable increase in the academic staff in the late fifties and the urgent need to recruit almost double the 1958 total by 1965 emphasized, in Jubilee Year, both the need to overhaul the staff's relationship with the governing body and the urgent necessity of providing conditions of employment that were at least comparable with those in other Universities. The whole course of the year was marked, as the Chancellor was to report, by a series of negotiations between the Senate and the Staff Association on these matters, with the new Vice-Chancellor playing a most important part.

A vital machinery development was the establishment by the Senate of a joint Senate - Staff committee to make recommendations to the Senate on matters relating to salaries. By this means full and informal discussion was soon found to be of mutual benefit to both parties in providing an informed basis for Senate discussion of this largest single item in its budget.
Next to salaries the dominant factor in attracting staff was certainly the provision of an adequate superannuation scheme. For thirty years the Staff Association had been representing to the Senate that the absence of such a scheme in Queensland placed the University at an immense disadvantage compared with its fellows elsewhere in Australia.

This disadvantage was emphasized in 1960 by the action of the State Government in considerably improving the superannuation provision for the Public Service of Queensland. While this vastly better scheme was generously made available to all University employees there was considerable dissatisfaction with the lack of mobility imposed by tying University academic staff to a public service facility.

During 1960 a further Joint Senate-Staff Committee under the personal chairmanship of the Chancellor devoted much time to persuading the Senate, and through it the State Government, of the desirability of introducing a scheme patterned on the British Federated Superannuation Scheme for Universities. Such a scheme, being based on the joint payment by staff members and Senate of the premiums on insurance policies, would offer no obstacle to transfer as among Australian and all British Universities.

Months of negotiation, including the successful countering of an adverse report by an expert Government-appointed Committee, were to be crowned with final success in March 1961.

One of the most difficult problems during these negotiations was posed by the understandable desire of Association representatives to secure some real recognition for members who had already completed considerable terms of service to the University. Even after the introduction of the basic scheme there still remained unsatisfactory points of this nature to be settled, but success on the major matter appeared to many thinking members of Senate and Staff alike to constitute the greatest single advance in the University's fifty years of life in the matter of attracting staff of the high calibre its responsibilities were coming increasingly to demand.

Quite apart, however, from the attraction of new staff, on which the very continuing life of the University could be held to depend, the Senate had always been aware that only from a contented staff would there flow that output of distinguished teaching and dedicated research on which the University's reputation depended. This contentment was affected not only by the large matters of salaries and superannuation but also by what might be termed the "fringe benefits," study leave, a staff club and assistance in purchasing houses, to name the most important.

Attention has already been drawn to the fact that, during the late fifties, the Staff Association had found itself concentrating more and more exclusively on the "trade union" aspect of its aims and objects. It was probably inevitable that there should have been this increasing emphasis on what might well appear to be the more self-interested side of its activities. Nor was such a development necessarily opposed, either immediately or ultimately, to the best interests of the University. It was well that the Senate, preoccupied with the multifarious details of an explosively developing situation, should have had an organized body to remind it of the need continually to bear in mind both the little things as well as the big that would secure and retain a competent and interested staff. It was well,
too, that hundreds of new members of staff, many gaining their first experience of University life, should feel reassured that their personal interests would not be lost sight of.

Nevertheless it cannot be denied that this most recent decade of the University's half century could well be seen by the casual observer to have been characterized by a long, unending and at times almost bitter, struggle between the employed, represented by the Association, on the one hand and their employers, the Senate, on the other.

Extremes of feeling were present, and on occasion were aired as one partner or another became over-exasperated. Perhaps those in the most difficult position were the members of staff elected to the Senate by the University Council. Not specifically representatives, and certainly not delegates, of the staff, they nevertheless had repeatedly the thankless task of bringing forward in the Senate points relating to staff conditions. In doing so they cast suspicion inevitably on their motives in other matters and so considerably reduced the effectiveness of their contribution to Senate business as a whole.

On the other hand, they often had the equally unenviable task of reporting to an irate Association their lack of success in securing some long overdue advantage for their colleagues. No infrequently in doing so they were possessed, of, but could not reveal, confidential information relating to the University's finances and to other matters.

The appointment of an openly representative Staff Senator cleared the air in many ways, especially as the member elected, Professor Anderson, was possessed of personal qualities of a high order which soon gained the respect of many Senators.

Beyond such general moves as the appointment of joint committees, 1960 saw a real attempt, particularly by the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor, to establish a new basis of agreement between Senate and staff and to initiate a return to the feeling of real partnership in a worth-while enterprise which had so characterized the old, small University. Undoubtedly the Vice-Chancellor's way was made the easier by his decade of experience on the teaching staff. As the year wore on, there was evidence that he had achieved considerable success in this matter.

Nor did success attend only on concessions, although in sum and in promise these were real enough. The qualifying period for study leave was reduced from seven to six years, with special provision for short leave for senior staff at more regular intervals. At the same time allowances to facilitate travel on study leave by married men were considerably increased. In the matter of assisting new-arrived members of staff in particular to purchase or erect houses, a representative committee made considerable progress towards the drawing up of a scheme of University guarantee for loans in excess of the maximum allowed by the normal lending agencies. A project for a Staff House at St. Lucia had been included in the University's submission to the Australian Universities Commission. At the instance of the Vice-Chancellor the Commission agreed to increase its drastically reduced allocation for this purpose.
In accordance with the Murray Committee's recommendations concerning the need for improved intra-University liaison, Staff News was established to keep all members of staff informed of the decisions of the Senate and the Professorial Board.

In these and other ways did the new deal for the University appear.

The real strength of a University may well be held to lie in the men and women who are associated in its functions of teaching, research and learning. Nevertheless, to the man in the street, the mere architectural shell within which these activities are carried on conveys a much more impressive idea of their scope. By 1960 the University had been actively a-building at St. Lucia for 22 years, admittedly including the war and the post war reconstruction period. It was just a quarter of a century since the Government of Queensland had undertaken to construct the University on its new home over five years. How close was the project to completion? By 1950 the centre of gravity of the University had certainly shifted to St. Lucia. The succeeding ten years and especially the Murray building plan had seen the balance heavily weighted in favour of St. Lucia. And yet at the close of 1960, after the £1.5 million of the emergency programme had been added to the £2,000,000 spent previously, it was still possible to see at least £5½ million of buildings still to come.

The Murray millions, on the other hand, had actually initiated elements in the St. Lucia complex that had not figured in the original conception. The rising Veterinary Science building promised a degree of integration of this Faculty with the remainder of the University that had been difficult to achieve in its isolated and substandard accommodation at Yerongpilly. The Anatomy building and the first stage of the Medical Sciences block, given priority over the completion of Engineering and other sections of the original plan, insured against the Medical side of the University becoming completely detached from the parent body.

Of the buildings that had been envisaged in 1935, Biological Sciences, Engineering and the Union all neared completion of their first stages as Jubilee year ran its course. It was symptomatic of the enlarged scale of operations that, at the same time, the already substantial bulk of Chemistry had to receive a vast accretion.

As building at St. Lucia moved out of the first semi-circle, what one might call the Hennessy Group, no attempt was made to adhere to the traditionally based architecture of the original buildings. Thus the Medical Sciences block and the Union, sketching the outline of a second arc of building, struck a contemporary note divorced from the general plan both in appearance and orientation. Inevitably, the original rigid layout was beginning to straggle.

By the end of the year, too, there were two further groups of buildings which could only be described as functional. Behind the main complex there seemed suddenly to appear the large Civil Engineering laboratories and, dominating them, the extremely unprepossessing bulk of the High Voltage Laboratory. On the other side, the first stage of a Physical Education building raised its angular starkness between the Main Building and the river.

There were not wanting critics to deplore the clear tendency towards dispersion and, to counter this, much thought was given by the Senate to the best means of retaining the essential coherence of the original site-plan. This finally resulted, on the strong advice of the Universities Commission, in the
appointment of a consultant architect. As to increasing catholicity in outside appearance, it was accepted, with at least some regrets by some people, that shortage of funds would prohibit the continuance of the monumental style. This being so, the policy that seemed to be emerging was to treat each new building as an independent unit, leaving to the consulting architect the responsibility of guarding against too radical a departure from the overall harmony of the site.

A most important development was the growth of the College buildings. By the end of 1960 all the constituent colleges with the exception of Union College had at least a foothold at St. Lucia. The wide open spaces of "Dr. Mayne's land" were suddenly discovered to be well and truly occupied.

In the University's submission to the Australian Universities Commission a series of building projects had been listed for urgent attention. The Commission's report, brought down in November 1960, recommended a total of 2.2 millions for Queensland as opposed to the 3.5 millions sought. For the 1961-3 triennium, providing the State Government matched the Commonwealth pound for pound, funds would be found to complete Biological Sciences, Anatomy and Veterinary Science; to carry Medical Sciences and Engineering a stage closer towards completion and to provide much needed extensions to the Medical School at Herston. Chemistry, was to be extended yet again. Completely new projects to be initiated included a First Year Science block, a multi-story Humanities block, and a Staff House. Casualties, on the other hand, were the Administration building and the vertical extension of the Main Library.

The substitution of the Humanities Block for the Administration building was the Commission's contribution to the gross over-crowding of the Main Building. It was difficult, however, to see what constructive purpose was served by refusing to enlarge the existing Library building as provided for in the original plans, particularly since no real alternative was offered. The problem centered on the expensive nature of any addition to the monumentally designed Main Building. The original architects had envisaged it as a long, two-story edifice broken by three raised portions; a central tower, a Great Hall at the western end and a five floor library at the eastern end.

Accepting reluctantly the impossibility of building a monumental Great Hall, the University at first proposed a multi-story Humanities Block in its place. Even this was felt by the Commission to involve unduly expensive construction. Instead they proposed a separate building in a more economic style near the Library. Without the elevated western extremity aesthetic balance clearly no longer required an expensive upward extension of the Library. There seems even to have been some thought in the Commission's mind of evacuating the Library, too, to a separate building.

With some courage, in view of past failures in seeking Community support, the Senate resolved to launch a public appeal to build a modified Great Hall in a new location in front of the Main Building. Thanks to most efficient organization and to a spirit of enterprise quite unusual in the history of the University's public relations, the appeal was a conspicuous success, securing £150,000, exclusive of Government or other subsidies.
It is hard to overestimate the value of this demonstration of what could
be achieved by a determined approach to the public. There had been, over the
years, a steady trickle of donations in money and kind to the University, but
Queensland could still count easily the really large benefactors. Since the
McCaughey gift at the close of the First World War there had been very few to
measure their generosity against that of the Maynes or, more recently, that of
Sir Edwin Tooth, to select two of the more notable. On the other hand, it can
hardly be claimed that consistent, strenuous or organized efforts had been made
by the University to increase benefactions.

One might feel inclined to suggest that much of the worries associated
with real and potential threats to the University’s independence might be
dissipated by continuing and strengthening the community interest fostered in
Jubilee Year. It would almost certainly be impossible nowadays to secure
sufficient endowment income to make any substantial difference to the University’s
claims on the generosity of the State Government. Continued evidence of real
community support, however, would doubly strengthen the University’s position;
First, because it might provide an element of increased selfrespect in negotiations
with the Government, and secondly, because the Government could hardly fail to
react sympathetically towards an institution in which the community had whole-
hardly demonstrated its interest.

One of the traditional forms of public relations, the public lectures
programme, was considerably expanded during Jubilee year. In the past, public
lectures had not, on the whole, aroused much enthusiasm among Queenslanders. In
the early years, young, active members of staff had carried on the idea of the
extension lectures that had preceded the University’s establishment. This they
had done through the Wider Educational Association and other organisations and
also, from time to time, as a direct University activity. But public lectures
and especially country tours had been early victims of contracting University
income and, even when the University embarked on its rapid post-war development,
it had hardly taken them seriously. Distinguished visiting speakers delivering
the few endowed lectures had frequently spoken, to the University’s shame, to
microscopic audiences.

An exception to the general rule had been always the Commonwealth Literary
Fund lectures, partly because of a reasonably “captive” audience in the University
classes themselves and in the senior forms of secondary schools, but largely
because of the careful organization applied to them by the University Department
concerned.

In the late Fifties a revitalized Public Lectures Committee employed the
same methods to publicize the whole programme of public lectures, and very
gratifyingly large audiences were attracted both to St. Lucia and to various
country centres. In 1960, to celebrate the Jubilee, no less than 130 separate
lectures were delivered in 40 country centres. A highly successful series was
held at St. Lucia, including, for the first time for many years, inaugural
lectures by newly appointed professors.
Nor did the University meet its public only in the lecture hall. For some time a regular feature session Notes from the University of Queensland had been tucked away inconspicuously into the A.B.C.'s Brisbane programme. (191) Individual members of staff, however, had played an increasing part in radio presentations, especially to schools.

In 1960 the University made its debut on television. A regular series telecast directly from the University brought the work of individual departments before the public and, while no telecasts were made of the Jubilee celebrations themselves, the opening of the Great Hall appeal created University history by being "simulcast" over radio and television at the same time.

The actual celebration of the Jubilee did not reach as large a public but may well have had a considerably beneficial effect on its selected audience. It was unfortunate that the weather cast something of a dampener over a series of open air functions at the University and at Parliament House. Nevertheless the Jubilee was commemorated in a series of dignified and successful ceremonies. The University's Official Guest for the celebrations was Sir Robert Hall, Economic Advisor to Her Majesty's Government, a former Rhodes Scholar and a distinguished graduate of the University. In addition, no less than Universities were represented by official delegates and a further sent messages of greeting and congratulation.

At an official ceremony of welcome to the delegates, messages of goodwill were read from Her Majesty the Queen, from Her Majesty the Queen Mother as Chancellor of the University of London and from Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, an honorary graduate of the University. At this same ceremony Sir Robert Hall delivered an oration.

The main function comprised a Presentation of Addresses from sister Universities and a Confering of Honorary Degrees. In moving and colourful pageant, delegates from Universities as old as Bologna and as new as Monash, from countries as widely separated as Belgium and Canada, Great Britain and the United States of America, Yugoslavia and India, conveyed to the Chancellor the greetings of their institutions and acknowledged the rightful membership of the University of Queensland in the great fraternity of Universities of the world.

Honorary degrees were conferred on His Excellency the Governor of Queensland and upon the Honourable Frank Nicklin, Premier of the State, thus expressing at one time the University's loyalty to the Throne and its gratitude to the Government and people of the State it serves. Distinguished visitors to the celebrations were similarly honoured, Sir Charles Blackburn, veteran Chancellor of the University of Sydney; Sir Earle Page, Chancellor of the University of New England; Sir George Paton, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne and Chairman of the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee; Sir Leslie Martin, Chairman of the Australian Universities Commission and Sir Alex Reid, Chancellor of the University of Western Australia.

191. Since this dramatic presentation burst on an astonished public only at 10 p.m. every fourth Friday night there seems some doubt whether it was likely ever to shatter listening records.
Of its own membership the University selected Herbert George Watkin, Deputy Chancellor of the University, one of its own graduates and State Director General of Education; and Professor Thomas Gilbert Henry Jones, Professor of Chemistry and senior member of the University Staff.

The Chancellor, Sir Albert Axon, was unfortunately prevented from taking as active a part in the celebrations as he had hoped since he was convalescing from a serious illness. He was able to preside, however, at the main ceremony. Speaking for the Chancellor on this occasion, Dr. Watkin expressed the University's thanks to the Government and people of Queensland whose support alone had enabled its survival and its growth to its present size. He also noted that only encouragement by sister institutions and acceptance by them of our fellowship had made possible Queensland's rise to true University stature. The degree conferred on Professor Jones he recorded not only as a richly deserved honour for a lifetime devoted to the University but as some expression of the University's thanks to a legion of devoted servants, academic and administrative, over the years; from Michie, Priestly, Gibson, and Steele down to the hundreds that were numbered on the present teaching staff and from F.W.S. Cumbrae Stewart and Walter Wyche, janitor, to their multitudinous successors.

Perhaps the most splendid occasion was the Jubilee Banquet at which the Senate and professors of the University joined with the delegates from sister Universities and with a large number of citizens prominent in the professional and business worlds. Under the chairmanship of the Chancellor and in the presence of His Excellency the Governor, as official Visitor, the University's achievements were numbered and its future pledged with no dissent.

All in all the ceremonies comprised a proper and well-conducted celebration of an important milestone in the life of a young University. (192)

Consolidation, which the Chancellor saw as the key-note of 1960, did not deprive the University of items of interest for the press. Indeed the new Vice-Chancellor instituted a weekly press conference that kept the University steadily in the news.

For instance, there was news value in the promotion of two Research Professors, D. Hill and F.H. Lahey, to full professorial status. In fact there was double value, since one of them, Research Professor Dorothy Hill, thus became at one and the same time the first woman graduate of the University to attain professorial rank and the first woman to be appointed by the University to that status.

But research itself was big news. Although it claimed only 3.4% of the total University budget (almost the same as the cleaning bill) it was largely subsidized by outside bodies. All told, in 1960, it absorbed £150,000, kept 110 full and part-time staff occupied, and comprised almost 500 separate projects.

192. They were distinguished, indeed, by an almost complete absence of the comic-opera errors which so frequently creep in to mar the dignity of amateur ceremonial. It is true indeed that a clerical error caused some distinguished graduands to be admitted inadvertently to degrees other than those whose robes they proudly wore. Perhaps in this the University did no more than adopt the Chinese custom of deliberately allowing some slight blemish, lest one should embarrass one's guests by demonstrating an unsurpassable perfection.
There was hardly a Department which did not have active research in progress during Jubilee Year and some of the projects involved were so demonstrably close to the national interest as to catch the public eye. The Atomic Energy Commission sponsored research by the Department of Mining Engineering and the United States Air Force renewed its contract with the Physics Department for space research. The Mechanical Engineers continued their work to improve cane-milling and the Civil Engineers studied on scale models the problems of various Queensland harbours.

Research is not the preserve of the scientist and in 1960 the History Department was found to have no less than six major books currently in progress, the English Department to be undertaking intensive phonetic and speech surveys, and so throughout the whole gamut of fifty or more separate Departments.

Perhaps the most spectacular of all evidences of research interest was the installation during the year of the 1,000,000 volt transformer equipment for testing in the field of high voltage engineering. It even resigned the University to providing the huge, uninteresting shed to house this apparatus, when it heard that its Electrical Engineering Department clearly led Australia in this field.

On the teaching side consolidation implied a virtual absence of new developments, but all things are relative and the minor advances of 1960 would have comprised major changes not so very long before in the University's history.

The first University courses in Pharmacy attracted embarrassingly large enrolments and poor, battered old George Street came into its own once again, as the mouldering laboratories that had been abandoned in succession by Chemistry and Zoology were re-equipped for a last service to the University.

In 1960, too, Queensland became the first Australian University to introduce Insurance as a full degree subject. An exotic note was added by the announcement that a lecturer was to be appointed on the History and Culture of India and Pakistan.

In February the retiring Vice-Chancellor foreshadowed the introduction of courses in Child Health and in Speech Therapy. By the end of the year his successor could announce the appointment of Dr. G. Rendle-Short as first Professor of Child Health.

Two major course re-organizations were mooted in Jubilee Year. In July the Professorial Board finally decided to recommend the lengthening of the Dentistry course from four to five years in view of the impossibility of cramming all the training of a competent practitioner into the shorter period. For years past the faculty had been forced to work on a four-year-plus basis by skimping vacations, and so had got completely out of step with the remainder of the University.

One of the most senior of the University's interests, Music, was under serious discussion, too. For many years only a small Department of Music had been maintained. It had been, indeed, only within the last five years that a Senior Lecturer had been appointed. Now a comprehensive report was submitted to the Professorial Board on the present operations and on the hopes and fears of the Department. To the astonishment of at least some members of the Board it was found that the lecturing staff of two, although they conducted four University Music subjects and the associated practical work, spent by far the largest portion of their time conducting well nigh continuous public examinations throughout the
year on behalf of the Australian Music Examinations Board. It was the view of the Department that these onerous non-University duties, involving upward of 15,000 candidates each year, should be transformed to some other authority, perhaps to the State Conservatorium of Music. On the University side, a degree and indeed a degree with honours, could well replace the existing diploma and Music should take its proper place in a future Faculty of Fine Arts. The Music Department had no desire to remain at George Street, insignificant and overlooked and bound for ever to the drudgery of A.M.E.B. duties. It desired to take its place academically and geographically at St. Lucia, where it could contribute properly, not only to the Faculties of Arts and Education whose students already took its courses, but also to the proper unfolding of the University spirit.

Clearly the direction of University development was still to spread ever more broadly across the field of knowledge. As some example of the varied requirements these multiplying disciplines made upon their exponents, the same year that saw the Mechanical Engineers recorded as measuring a cylinder to 16 micro inches, saw the Zoologists coping with the sizable problem of extracting and mounting the skeleton of an elephant which chose conveniently to die within Queensland's borders.

For twenty-five years or more the University had been quietly carrying on the tradition of early extension work through its Institute of Modern Languages. In 1960 the Institute offered courses at different levels in Chinese, Japanese, Hindi, Malay, Bahasa Indonesian, Classical and Modern Greek, Dutch, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese, Rumanian, Scientific Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

As the new Union building rapidly took shape, with all its intriguing harem-like screening, the public and indeed some members of the University itself made the astonishing discovery that the Union itself was big business. With a basic membership of more than 8,000 students, supplemented by staff and former students, it operated a budget of more than per year and employed no less than full-time staff. On its Council and on the executive committees of its constituent or affiliated clubs it provided a valuable opportunity for men and women to gain experience of administration, debate and the exercise of responsibility.

Senior members of staff, if pressed, would probably hazard the opinion that students as such had changed but little over the years - "though of course there were more of them". By 1960, however, there was evidence that it was not by any means the same kind of student body as it had been fifty or even twenty-five years before.

There were, for instance, more than 300 Asian students enrolled for day and evening courses. There were also more women students and more proportionally to the total than ever before. No less than 2,586 young ladies were engaged in endeavouring to "clasp the eel of science by the tail," and the last bulwarks of masculinity were threatened again, if only for the second time in the University's existence, by the enrolment of one female among the 381 Engineers.
Apart from its responsibilities in the administration of the Union building and in general concern for student interests within the University, the Union, in its new-found maturity, had become involved in other areas of student life. In 1960 it conducted a survey of student accommodation, influenced among other factors by the horrifying discovery that only 14 of a sample of 94 householders interviewed would be prepared to take Asian students as boarders.

A valiant effort to revive a tradition came with the issue for the first time since 1950 of a number of Galmahra. The editor drew attention to the all too obvious differences in format between this issue and those of 1950 and preceding years. He also enjoined his readers to note the overwhelming mass of advertisement that threatened to submerge the copy. He made no apology for this but simply pointed to the requirement of Union Council that ends be at least made to meet. "Otherwise," as he said, "a tradition that originated in 1911 with the student body itself might again be rudely halted by the yokel arguments of some mercenary committee". It looked as if "big business" had only been achieved by the Union at some sacrifice.

Failure rates, which had hardly slipped out of the news since the Murray Report, appeared briefly in the local press in March and flared up again the next month when the University decided to enforce the regulations which prohibited students who failed year after year from attempting to continue their courses. As a headline "90 students told to quit Varsity" may have sold an extra copy or so of the Telegraph for the 11th April, but sensation-seekers would have been disappointed to read further that at least half of the offenders had appealed against their expulsion and might well be allowed to continue.

Those students still in statu pupillari, did not allow Jubilee Year to go unmarked. "Commem. week" was accompanied by at least the normal complement of undergraduate comment, witty and otherwise. Someone released two dozen huge cane-toads in a city theatre - those dreadful students; someone blackened the dials of 150 parking meters - those dreadful students again; someone painted a zebra crossing outside St. Leo's college, defaced the Observatory, and dabbed slogans on the World War 1 tank preserved in the Museum grounds - really these students are beyond a joke!

Perhaps there was no point in two students solemnly fishing in the fountains in King George Square; perhaps the four who played bridge without a break for eighty hours to claim a world record were just stupid exhibitionists - but at least one of them made his bow to the Chancellor three hours after the marathon ended and received the degree that crowned several years of hard work.

At 6 p.m. on the 29th April (Degree Day) the City Hall clock struck 17 times, at 7 p.m. it struck 18 and thereafter abandoned itself to a mad orgy of tintinabulation - it was merely an electrical fault and not those dreadful students again, but who will ever believe that?

The proctors, understandably enough, expected the noisiest degree ceremony ever. To their growing perturbation and final incredulity the ceremony proceeded in almost uninterrupted silence. When it was all over the citizens had enjoyed their first quiet ceremony since the war. Perhaps "enjoyed" is something of an overstatement. Who knows how many of those who had been loudest in their denunciation of student "larrkinism" did not feel a sneaking regret at student decorum on this occasion. Some must have experienced a considerable sense of loss, if only the loss of opportunity to parade, in criticism, their own virtue.
Potential as well as actual students were in the news, too, in 1960. In May the Government launched a full-scale enquiry into secondary education. In January the Education Department announced the results of the first Junior Public Examination it had ever conducted. The University instituted this examination in 1910 and had controlled it for fifty years. Fortunately the University's punched card machines were still available for the collection of results, since 11,809 candidates had sat for 31 subjects in 167 centres, submitting a total of 50,000 papers.

Outside the parent University in Brisbane work proceeded apace on building the first University College at Townsville. At both Rockhampton and Toowoomba there were more than stirrings of interest in following Townsville's example.

In March the Senate referred to the Professorial Board a definite proposal from Rockhampton and later the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor and the President of the Board journeyed north for preliminary discussions. At Toowoomba, impetus was given to the University movement by a bequest to the University of a valuable Range property.

As to Townsville it was fantastic how the project mushroomed beyond its modest beginnings. As the Chancellor noted, as late as May the Senate had envisaged the "Centre" commencing with first year classes in only Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geology and Engineering. By the end of the year it was clear that it would open in 1961 with first year courses in nine Faculties, and that in all probability it would proceed to second year subjects in 1962. Sir Albert went on to point out that Townsville "may have in its first year an enrolment larger than we had in Brisbane during the first eight years of our existence and larger than the other University colleges at Canberra and Armidale had for many years after their establishments".

This considerable development was made possible only by the enthusiasm of the University movement in Townsville and by the clearly-expressed determination of several sections of the mother University not to have anything at Townsville which savoured too much of the second-rate. The Standing Committee of the Council, for instance, took the initiative in ensuring that this new University facility should be entitled a "University College" and not a "University Centre." The decision was made, too, to establish, however modestly, a true library in the college staffed by an experienced professional librarian and not just to provide a collection of books looked after by a Secretary in her spare time. In this matter the appropriate committee of the Professorial Board accepted the strong recommendation of the University Librarian that a properly staffed and equipped library could contribute strongly to the development of true University life in the new college.

The intense interest in Townsville and the moves in other large cities lent emphasis to a decision by the Professorial Board in April to appoint a Committee to consider the long-term development of University education in Queensland. In a letter circulated to Heads of Departments, accompanying the inevitable questionnaire, there was more than a hint by the President of the Board that the University might well become reconciled to a huge final growth — perhaps even up to 25,000 students.
Clearly this was a problem that would involve policy decisions at State Government level. The evidence of demography might well suggest a second metropolitan University for the future but it would be a bold, perhaps a foolhardy, Government that would appear thus to ignore the clamour for increased decentralization. However, even to delay a decision on this matter a year or so would seem to guarantee that the University of Queensland would have in Brisbane the largest student body of any Australian University. If enrolment figures followed the predicted trend then already in the first year of the second half century Queensland would have more students than any English University other than London and even counting only day students would be larger than most.

Quite apart from the rise in student numbers as a result of normal population increase, and especially as a consequence of the "postwar bulge", it seemed clear by 1960 that proportionately more Queenslanders sought University education for their children than did their fellows in the southern states. The Sunday Mail, basing its calculations on the report of the Australian Universities Commission, stated that, in 1961, one Queenslander in every 152 would be taking a University course as opposed to one in 155 in New South Wales and 1 in 235 in Victoria. By 1963, the paper said, the relative figures were expected to be 1 in 122, 1 in 140 and 1 in 200. By 1966 proportionately half as many Queensland again as New South Welshman (1 in 88 as opposed to 1 in 120) and twice as many as Victorians (1 in 165) would be at the University. (193).

Very welcome news at the end of the year was that the number of Commonwealth scholarships for first entrants to the University would be increased to 566. For years the University had complained about the impractically low number of scholarships offered. In fact, the number had remained stationary at 416 for eight years, during which time the University's student population had risen from 3850 to 7444. That the 1960 increase would not go amiss was indicated by the fact that 2240 applications for scholarships had been received by the University by November 30th.

All this immediate clamour for University education meant that the Professorial Board as well as considering long-term developments had also to plan for 1961. Like Sisyphus rolling his boulder endlessly up the mountain side, the Standing Committee had to make anew its case for the extra staff that extra students would demand and try not to be too discouraged by the thought that Departments still had not received by any means all the extra appointments they had urgently requested for 1960.

So nicely detailed were the Standing Committee's calculations that the Board was able to inform the Senate that no more, and certainly no less, than 102 2/3 extra bodies would be required for 1961, of which exactly 77 2/3 would be needed just to hold the existing staff-student ratio.

The Professorial Board found time also in 1960 to review its own constitution, and took advantage of the Jubilee celebrations to seek the advice of representatives of older Universities. There were two major problems, especially in view of the structures of the Murray Committee concerning better intra-University liaison. One was the difficult position of Departments headed by staff members of non-Professorial rank, the other was the anomalous situation

of the University Library. In general, the Board's conclusions were that it should not widen its membership to include any non-Professorial Heads of Department. A reasonably clear implication was that it should be the aim of the University not to erect Departments without at least planning chairs to be associated with them. In this the Board did no more than echo the resolution of its predecessors in 1918.

In the case of the Librarian, the Board recommended that this officer should be of Professorial status, and, as such a member of the Board; a position which, it noted, existed in the majority of other Australian Universities. Finding itself unable to implement the Board's recommendations in full, the Senate nevertheless approved that the Librarian be regarded as of professorial rank, for library purposes only, and that he be admitted to associate membership of the Board. In this way the Library came to be recognized, after fifty years, as of sufficient importance in the University's programme to be represented in its highest academic councils. Thus, at last, was substance added to the ringing phrases with which the indispensable nature of the Library had been hailed over the years.

The Library's growth over the last decade had been quite startling. In December 1949 it had comprised a mediocre collection of 99,808 volumes. The non-salary grant provided for its support that year had totalled £6,355, and only 5179 volumes had been added to the collections. No more than 900 periodicals were currently received. The fulltime staff totalled 13. By the close of Jubilee Year the total stock had risen to 221,998 volumes of which no less than 24,823 were added during 1960. The number of current periodicals had grown to 7155 titles. The staff had increased to 50. Non-salary expenditure for the same year was £54,560.

It had taken the Library more than ten years from its establishment to accumulate the same number of books as were catalogued into its mushrooming collection in 1960. Growth of this size and at this rate had been possible only as a result of the generosity of the Senate in finding sums for library purposes consistently in excess of those provided in other similar Universities. At the end of the University's first half-century its Library was far from outstanding but it was considerably closer to being adequate than at any time previously. Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the whole situation was the increasingly intensive use of the Library by students and staff alike; a use which taxed severely both the overworked staff and the series of largely over-crowded buildings which housed the Library's thirty-five service points throughout the University.

In an attempt to meet these increasing demands the Library Committee in 1959 and 1960 set aside substantial special funds in two categories. The first was employed to build up multiple copies of much used reference books, particularly in the Main Library. The second involved a definite effort to strengthen the Library's resources for research by securing back runs of many of the more important periodicals.

Library business by 1960 had become big business. Adding to the actual Library Vote the amount involved in library salaries gave a total of more than £103,000, so that more than 1/- in every £1 of the University's expenditure was devoted to its Library. It was a far cry from the original provision of £2,600 envisaged by the fathers of the 1909 Act for the "miscellaneous" expenses of the new University including "attendants, registrars, caretakers, general expenses and a librarian."
CHAPTER ELEVEN

EPILOGUE

WHEREAS it is desirable to promote sound learning, to encourage original research and invention, and to provide the means of obtaining a liberal and practical education in the several pursuits and professions of life in Queensland...

The University of Queensland Act of 1909.

What kind of a University was this that celebrated its Golden Jubilee?

It was, most importantly, an association of 8,700 students; 3489 of them pursuing courses full-time, 2684 attending part-time in the evening and 2527 enrolled for external studies. By far the greatest number of all these students, 5828 of them, were studying, and perhaps hoping, for no more than a primary degree, and 2071 more were seeking only certificates or undergraduate diplomas. 387, no less, were enrolled as miscellaneous students pursuing subjects for which, due largely to lack of initial academic qualifications, they could hope to receive no credit towards a degree. As some leaven, however, to this mass, 399 others were engaged in postgraduate studies; 88 for postgraduate honours, 130 for Masters degrees, a gratifying 92 for the recently introduced Ph.D., and 3 for higher doctorates. Moreover, a substantial number of the potential Bachelors would emerge with Honours degrees at their first graduation, either, as in Arts, by the pursuit of special courses or, as in Engineering, by the demonstration of outstanding ability in their pass degree work.

2586 of all these students were new enrolments, completing in 1960 their first years work at University level. 1159 of them had initiated their courses full-time.

Where did the 8700 come from? Just half were from Brisbane: 4310 of them, but no fewer than 2597 of the 6173 internal students came from sufficiently far away from the capital city to be living away from home. 847 of these were in residence in one or other of the eight constituent colleges, the remainder in "digs". 397 of the non-Brisbane students were from Asian countries.

Attending to the appetite for learning of these 8700 kept a teaching staff of 416 persons fully occupied; 37 professors, 38 readers, 74 senior lecturers, 161 lecturers and 106 demonstrators or junior lecturers. Moreover there were vacancies approved but not yet filled for 2 further professors, 3 readers, 11 senior lecturers, 44 lecturers and 14 demonstrators. Thus the total budgeted academic staff was 490.

To provide the administrative machinery needed to keep such a vast engine of education running smoothly required an auxiliary staff of 753. Included among these were, 313 research and laboratory staff, 50 members of the library staff, a vast army of clerks and typists and a regiment of 86 cleaners.

The University's work was conducted in lecture rooms, studies, seminar rooms, workshops and laboratories spread practically over the whole face of the State in buildings which, with the equipment they housed, constituted a capital asset of many millions. In Brisbane, in addition to the vast complex at St. Lucia there were major installations at Herston (the Medical School); at Turbot Street, in the heart of the city, (the Dental School); at William Street (the Physiology
School) and, at Yerongpilly (the Veterinary Science School), and a remainder on
the original site at George Street.

Outside the capital city there were the University College buildings,
rising day by day at Townsville. There was also a seismograph station at Charters
Towers, and a scientific laboratory on Heron Island on the Great Barrier Reef.
In seven large towns, at Maryborough, Atherton, Innisfail, Ingham, Toowoomba,
Rockhampton and Cairns, there were maintained or projected unit reference
libraries, the Ringrose Memorial libraries, provided for the use mainly of external
students but open for reference purposes to all citizens.

Each day through the mails, by rail and air, there passed out to the
2527 external students and to 50 Colombo Plan Scholarship holders in South East
Asian countries, vast masses of printed notes, course outlines, guides to study,
corrected assignments, advice, criticism and assistance. Over the whole face of
the state, to New Guinea, to the South Seas and to other states there was a
constant movement of books and periodicals to and from the Thomas Thatcher
Memorial Library.'

For those students fortunate enough to be pursuing their courses at
St. Lucia, (and by 1960 practically every internal student was spending at least
part of his time there,) there were facilities that were the envy of many an older
and more richly endowed University.

To begin with there was the noble sweep of the site itself, living
testimony to the generosity of the Maynes and the foresight of those early
Senators who had committed the University to such a "remote bush suburb".
In the lecture rooms and laboratories, particularly in the newer buildings,
students and staff could work in congenial surroundings with the aid of the
most modern equipment.

For those hours not pre-empted for actual attendance at lectures or
practical classes or for study in the Main Library or in any of the Library's
10 branches on the site, there were splendidly equipped playing fields,
rowing on the river, wide lawns and shady trees under which to sit and talk
and think - or maybe just sit. For their successors there would be the
Physical Education Centre and the lavish splendour of the new Union, both
rapidly nearing completion.

Perhaps all this was but the outward appearance of a University.
In its fifty-first year, what real claim had the University of Queensland
to membership of that splendid comity of Universities of the free world?
How far had it really justified the faith of those who had struggled so
long and fought so hard for its establishment?

In a thoughtful editorial, the leading daily newspaper of the State
posed the same questions and set out to provide its own answers. Said the
Courier Mail: "It is easy to measure the growth of the University by
citing such figures and by comparing the vast stretch of its buildings at
St. Lucia still being added to, with the first home it had at the end of
George Street. It is more difficult to evaluate the contribution it has
made to the intellectual and cultural life of the State."
Every profession in Queensland has drawn increasingly on men and women who graduated through the University. Many of its graduates have attained eminence in the public life of the State. Filling of University chairs and lectureships over the years has brought to Queensland men and women of high attainments in various branches of knowledge and learning who made their homes here and added to the State's intellectual capital. The University has extended the horizon of more than a generation of Queenslanders, discovered the talents of many and widened opportunities for using them." (194)

These are fine phrases and demonstrably true, but do they tell the full story? The preamble to the 1909 Act had listed three reasons for the University's establishment - the promotion of sound learning, the encouragement of original research and the gaining of a liberal and practical education in the various professions and pursuits of life in Queensland. Since, unlike other fundamental sections of the Act, these aims had survived, unamended, the two major reviews of the University's statutory foundation, in 1941 and 1957, it can be reasonably assumed that they reflected still, in 1960, the basic raison d'etre of the University. To what extent had they been achieved in its first half century?

It seemed clear that the gaining of a practical professional education had constituted the major aim, and in achieving this portion of the third of its statutory objects, as the Courier Mail had noted, the University had enjoyed considerable success. No-where else in Australia and in very few other places in the British Commonwealth had a potential student greater choice in the profession for which he wished to be trained. Over its first half century a clear aim of the University's administrators, and one which had received the support of successive Governments, had been to "make the state self-sufficient in respect to tertiary education" - for which read, in effect, "self sufficient as regards professional training." To this end the University and the State had not baulked at the introduction of the more expensive professional faculties, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science, at a very early stage in the University's development. Indeed one of them, Veterinary Science, had clearly been established prematurely.

The University certainly could claim to have been quite successful in producing in ever-increasing numbers young men and women with at least the rudiments of professional training. In this, clearly, it had been implementing the spirit which, in the end had governed its establishment. It had been urged in the last analysis as a practical University for training young Queenslanders for the practical business of every day life. Success in this aspect of a University's intention is certainly laudable and of immense value and may even go well beyond what could be achieved by a purely technical institution established as a branch of a State-controlled system of education. Does it, of itself, make a University great? Does it indeed stamp it with the hall-mark of a genuine University?

194. Courier Mail. 23/5/60.
What of the other two professed aims of the University of Queensland?

A strong research programme is the only way in which a University can guarantee to advance the sum-total of human knowledge. This, indeed, a great University must pursue if it is to deserve its title. Only in the last years of its first half-century had the Senate seriously considered research as an end in itself. Certainly it had had difficulty enough in coping with enormous demands for professional education and undoubtedly, with limited funds priorities had had to be established and adhered to. The University could hardly be blamed perhaps for having adhered to a pattern which clearly found favour with the authorities who provided its income. Multiplying faculties, widening the fields of teaching, maintaining non-selective entry; these had taken priority over research. In some schools, despite crushing teaching loads, Australian and even world reputations had been established over the years, but these had been the exceptions. (195)

It was comforting to see that, as the first half-century closed, there was an obvious determination to build up the research side of the University. Specific research appointments, especially those of two full Professors and one Associate, the building up of demonstrating staff to provide research assistance, the encouragement of recent graduates to stay and do research while holding Tutorships or Junior lectureships, the specific use of Library money for research material; all these indicated a change, but only a recent change, in emphasis.

What of the "promotion of sound learning," what indeed of the gaining of a "liberal" as well as a practical education? What in short of the addition to formal courses of that something extra that differentiates the true University from the high-level school? How successful had the University been in achieving this?

Here again there were evidences as the first half-century ended that thought and experiment were being directed to this liberal objective. But here again, too, the record could hardly claim to be brilliant over the whole period. If actual, personal attendance at the University itself counted for anything in this matter, then clearly there had been and were still thousands of its graduates who could not claim to have received a genuine University education. For external students since 1950, but only since then, there had been the almost personal attention of a separate, academic staff, the supplementation of formal lecture notes by guides to study, correction of assignments, and other media of criticism and advice. There had been a special and rapidly growing library service, regular.

195. It is important to bear in mind this distinction between the inactivity of the Senate, and the considerable if sporadic interest of Staff themselves in research. Put quite bluntly, the Senate, for the first forty years of the University's existence, had given little positive assistance to research, although it was quite prepared to testify to its desirability and never failed to give due credit to those of its officers who did engage in it. All the Senate required was that research should cost the University as little as possible, and nothing for preference. At least a part of the Senate had a further preference, that research be applied rather than pure and, if possible, applied specifically to the problems encountered by State Departments. Despite this somewhat unenthusiastic support, the publications of Harvey Johnston and the Doctorates earned soon after Richards, Walkom and Jones showed that from the very beginning there was the will and the ability to conduct research over a wide field.
country tours by lecturing staff and the establishment of a pattern of University
centres and tutor groups. There had been, in recent years, vacation schools at
the University with all sorts of encouragement to attend.

But the vacation schools brought in only two hundred or so of the 2,500
students in any one year. Only one in three or four external students even tried
to make use of the Thatcher Library. Metropolitan students, moreover, still
essayed every possible subterfuge to be enrolled as external students. The
inescapable conclusion was that external studies were regarded by many only as a
way, and an easy way, to professional qualification. There was little evidence
here of a deliberate seeking for the intangibles of a "liberal education" and
less evidence of their discovery.

It should not be thought that external studies only were deficient in
this regard. A further 1/3, almost of the University's enrolment comprised
evening students. Again there was every evidence that, by and large, they gained
little if anything more, at least in an extra-curricular sense, from their
attendance at the University than their colleagues the external students.

Library attendance figures alone clearly indicated that evening students
in general were unwilling to devote more time to the University than their formal
lectures demanded. Perhaps it was impossible for them to do so in view of their
family circumstances. Perhaps then it should have been accepted that, even if they
could pass formal examinations, they could not receive in this way a liberal
education.

Finally, for the internal student proper there was ever the bug-bear
of specialization. Even for the pass student, at least in the technical faculties,
the rapidly expanding mass of knowledge was requiring, paradoxically, that his
University course be ever more narrowly constricted; that he know "more and more
about less and less." In view of the shortness of time available, too, he was
committed more and more merely to learning his subject rather than "reading"
it in the traditional University sense of thinking and arguing about it.

As a particular aspect of this specialization there was clearly in the
University of Queensland the increasing danger of a dichotomy into Arts and non-
Arts (or Science and non-Science depending on which side of the fence one sat).
The University had taken some positive action against this. The Faculty of
Medicine, for example, had introduced a "general unit" into its first year; a
kind of pot-pourri of History, Psychology and Statistics. More importantly
perhaps, the Professorial Board had won its battle to centralize the University
as much as was humanly possible at St. Lucia. But the way was still not clear for
any real introduction of liberal values into the great incubator for the professions
that the University threatened increasingly to become.

These problems were by no means peculiar to the University of Queensland.
What was peculiar to it was its statutory relationship with the State Government.
A grave danger to its reputation and to its claim for status would seem to lie
in any possible conjunction in a critic's mind between this apparently close link
with Government and what might be considered undue emphasis on one side only of its
activities. It was to no little extent an important culmination to its first
fifty years that it should have triumphantly asserted its independence while at
the same time steadily increasing the attention it paid to research.

All in all, perhaps, the University at its Jubilee might not have disappoin-
ted, though it might well have astonished, those who had had the vision to strive
for its establishment eighty years before; men like Charles Lilley, Samuel Griffit
John Laskey Woolcock, E. Littleton Groom and other less in the public eye.

It might even have been easier for these men to see and understand this
young giant, than it would have been for Priestley, Michie, Gibson and Steele
who had started it on its career, or for Stable and Richards and Alcock who
with them had nursed it through its troubles of infancy and through the long,
long years when development was halted by finance. As to J.D. Story, that
constant factor in the University's life, perhaps it was the truest measure
of a man's ability that after fifty years of the closest association with the
University he was still applying the same measure of acumen and skill to a
budget of more than £2,000,000 that he had devoted to its first year's income
of just £10,000.

In the history of Universities as such, a half-century, any half-century,
may seem at first sight to count for little. But the half-century through which
the University of Queensland had existed could lay some claim to special
importance even in world history. An era which had seen the first experiences
on a truly world scale of war and economic depression could hardly be regarded
as normal. Moreover this half-century had been characterized also by a
dramatic awakening to the national need for tertiary education and by an
equally startling alteration in the emphasis of such education. It had not
been an easy period in which to found a University and even less easy to
ensure its development at a sufficiently rapid rate. Nevertheless there had
been astonishing successes in those cases where there were found spirits brave
enough to essay such a foundation and to guide such a development.

The University of Queensland could take legitimate pride in having
in this brief span leaped to world stature in terms at least of size and
subject coverage. It could note with satisfaction, too, the presence on
its staff of a number of scholars who had achieved acclaim beyond the borders
of the State, and indeed in the international sphere.

Perhaps on other grounds it had some distance yet to go to achieve
that peculiar distinction that marks a University, but at least it was
beginning to be aware of the problems involved.

Even this tempered pride could be the better based on the knowledge
that, having survived numerous challenges, actual and potential over its
first fifty years, the University could now claim the independence of action
without which it would have no right whatever to the proud title it bears.
APPENDIX

OFFICERS AND FORMER OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Chancellors of the University.

1910-1915  His Excellency Sir William Macgregor, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., LL.D., M.D.
1922-1926  His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan, P.C., G.C.M.G., LL.D.
1926-1927  The Honourable Andrew Joseph Thynne.
1944-1953  The Hon. William Forgan Smith, LL.D.

Deputy Chancellors of the University.

1944-1944  The Honourable William Forgan Smith, LL.D.
1944-1946  Professor Henry Caselli Richards, D.Sc.,
1946-1952  Aloc Douglas McGill, Q.C., B.A.

Vice-Chancellors of the University.

1910-1916  Regina Heber Roe, M.A.
1916-1926  The Honourable Andrew Joseph Thynne.
1938-1960  John Douglas Story, I.S.O.,
1960-      Frederick Joyce Schonell, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt.

Members of the Senate.

1939-1941  Edward Denis Ahern, M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S.
1929-1944  Professor Henry Alcock, M.A.
1923-1950  Miss F. Bage, O.B.E., M.Sc., LL.D.
1932-1935  Theo John Bale, B.A.,
1910-1915  The Hon. Andrew Henry Barlow.
1951-      Thomas Maurice Barry, Q.C., B.A.
1910-1916  Edward Gustavus Campbell Barton, M.I.E.E.
1956-      Norman Joseph Behan, M.B., B.S.
1923-1935 Frederick Bennett, B.Sc.
1915-1916 Sir James William Blair, K.C.M.G.
1926-1944
1924-1925 The Hon. Mr. Justice Frank Tenison Brennan.
1935-1938 James Bristock Brigden, M.A.
1920-1940 Robert Joseph Carroll.
1935-1946 Professor Sir Raphael West Cilento, M.D.
1953-1956
1946-1949 The Hon. F.A. Cooper.
1912-1922 Sir Pope Alexander Cooper, K.C.M.G., M.A.
1916-1919 Walter Russell Crampton.
1910-1912 The Hon. David Hay Dalrymple.
1937-1938 Robert Johnstone Donaldson, D.S.O., B.C.E.
1941-1944
1916-1921 The Most Reverend St. Clair George Alfred Donaldson, M.A., D.D.,
1925-1935 Lewis David Edwards, M.A., Ph.D.
1938-1951
1944-1950 Clarence George Fallon.
1919-1921 The Hon. John Arthur Flhelly.
1910-1916 The Hon. Edwin Wesley Howard Fowles, M.A., LL.M.
1957- Douglas Were Fraser, A.S.A.A., A.A.U.Q.
1946- Abraham Fryberg, M.B.E., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.T.M.
1916-1919 Professor Alexander James Gibson, M.B., A.M.I.C.E.
1926-1929 The Rt. Reverend James Gibson, M.A., D.D.
1935-1935
1920-1935 John Lockhart Gibson, M.D., F.R.A.C.S.
1953- Professor Gordon Greenwood, M.A., Ph.D.
1944-1949 Robert Campbell Hamilton, B.A.
1921-1932 John Stanislaus Hanlon.
1940-1943
1916-1919 The Hon. Herbert Freemont Hardacre.
1910-1916 Sir David Hardie, Kt., M.D.
1944-1952 Henry James Harvey.
1938- Reverend Mervyn Henderson, M.A.
1910-1916 Adolphus Marcus Hertzberg.
1916-1917 The Hon. Albert Hinchcliffe.
1910-1914 Eugen Hirschfeld, M.D.
1919-1924 The Hon. John Huxham.
1916-1920 Ernest Sandford Jackson, M.B., Ch.M.
1937-1954 John Henry Jones, M.A.
1920-1937 Thomas Llewellyn Jones.
1920-1923 Harry William Lee.
1944-1951 Richard Leggat.
1927-1935 William Mandeville Ellis L'Estrange.
1920-1932 William Field Lloyd.
1910-1916 Wilton Wood Russell Love, M.B., Ch.M.
1910-1915 Sir William MacGregor, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., LL.D., M.D.
1938-1947 The Reverend Allen MacDonald MacKillop, B.A., B.D.
1919-1925 The Hon. Mr. Justice Thomas William McCawley.
1915-1916 Aeneas John McDonnell, M.D.
1910-1922 The Hon. Frank McDonnell.
1935-1952 Alec Douglas McGill, Q.C., B.A.
1932-1936 Bernard Joseph McKenna.
1954- Clarence John McPherson, M.V.O.
1926-1929) Professor Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne, M.A., Ph.D.
1932-1943) The Reverend Ernest Northcroft Merrington, M.A., Ph.D.
1916-1923) Professor John Lundie Michie, M.A., LL.D.
1926-1932)
1910-1916 William Alexander Morrow, M.A.
1941-1944) Andrew Purdie Muir, B.A., LL.M.
1951-1953)
1951- Jack Mulholland, M.E., M.Sc., M.I.E.
1948-1956 Richard Lawrence Murray.
1922-1926 Sir Matthew Nathan, P.C., G.C.M.G., LL.D.
1932-1935) Professor Thomas Parnell, M.A.
1938-1944)
1956- Cecil Emil Petersen, A.C.I.S., A.A.U.Q.
1950-1959 Clarice Margaret Piddington, B.A.
1910-1910 George Washington Power, M.A., LL.M.
1916-1920) Professor Henry James Priestley, M.A.
1923-1926)
1929-1935) The Reverend William Christopher Radcliffe, B.A.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Judicial Honors</th>
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<tr>
<td>1926-1932</td>
<td>Professor Henry Caselli Richards, D.Sc.</td>
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<td>1943-1947</td>
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<td>1947-1956</td>
<td>Associate-Professor Edward Colin Davenport Ringrose, B.A., B.Sc., B.Ed.</td>
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<td>1956-</td>
<td>Henry Emmanuel Roberts, M.A.</td>
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<td>1953-</td>
<td>James Alexander Robinson, D.S.O., B.A.</td>
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<td>1910-1916</td>
<td>Reginald Heber Roe, M.A.</td>
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<td>1916-1920</td>
<td>The Reverend George Edward Rowe</td>
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<td>1938-1938</td>
<td>Eustace Russell, M.D., F.R.C.P.</td>
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<td>1916-1920</td>
<td>The Hon. Thomas Joseph Ryan, B.A.</td>
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<td>1956-</td>
<td>Frederick Joyce Schonell, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt.</td>
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<td>1922-1933</td>
<td>The Most Reverend Gerald Sharp, M.A., D.D.</td>
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<td>1943-1953</td>
<td>The Hon. William Forgan Smith, LL.D.</td>
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<td>1944-1951</td>
<td>Professor Jeremiah Joseph Stable, M.A., LL.D.</td>
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<td>1923-1950</td>
<td>The Hon. Mr. Justice Edwin John Droughton Stanley, B.A.</td>
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<td>1919-1926</td>
<td>Professor Bertram Dillon Steele, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.I.C.</td>
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<td>1910-</td>
<td>John Douglas Story, I.S.O.</td>
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<td>1956-</td>
<td>William Alan Thompson Summerville, D.Sc.</td>
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<td>1910-1916</td>
<td>John James Walsh, B.A.</td>
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<td>1944-1946</td>
<td>The Honourable Sir William Flood Webb, C.J.</td>
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<td>1947-1953</td>
<td>Montgomery White, M.Sc., Ph.D.</td>
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<td>1910-1916</td>
<td>The Hon. Mr. Justice John Laskey Woolcock, B.A.</td>
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<td>1915-1915)</td>
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<td>1916-1920)</td>
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**Wardens of the Council:**

- 1916-1922: Sir Robert Philip, K.C.M.G.
- 1922-1927: William Mandeville Ellis L'Estrange.
- 1940-1955: The Hon. Neal Macrossan, M.A.
- 1956-: Sir Alan Mansfield, K.C.M.G., LL.B.
Presidents of the Professorial Board.

1911-1915 Professor B.D. Steele, D.Sc., F.I.C., F.R.S.
1915-1917 Professor A.L. Gibson, M.E., Assoc.M.Inst.C.E.
1917-1922 Professor J.L. Michie, M.A., LL.D.
1922-1925 Professor H.J. Priestley, M.A.
1925-1932 Professor H.C. Richards, D.Sc.
1932-1938 Professor H. Alcock, M.A.
1938-1944 Professor T. Parnell, M.A.
1944-1951 Professor J.J. Stable, M.A., LL.D.

Professors Emeritus.

Elected--
1931 Bertram Dillon Steele, D.Sc., F.I.C., F.R.S., died 1934.
1955 Eugene Francis Simonds, M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D.

Former Professors.

Appointed--
1910 Chemistry-Bertram Dillon Steele, D.Sc., F.I.C., F.R.S., resigned 1931.
1920 Biology-Thomas Harvey Johnston, D.Sc., resigned 1922.
1921 Medical Psychology (Research) - James Prain Lowson, M.A., M.D., resigned 1938.
Chemistry—Lancelot Salisbury Bagster, D.Sc., died 1940.


Pathology and Bacteriology (Honorary)—James Vincent Joseph Duhig, M.B., F.R.A.C.P., resigned 1946.


English—George Harrison Russell, M.A., Ph.D., resigned 1957.

**Former Associate Professors.**

**Appointed—**

1934  History—Alexander Clifford Vernon Melbourne, M.A., Ph.D., died 1943.


1947  Botany—Albert Cayzer, B.Sc., retired 1951.


1947  Modern Languages (French)—Charles Schindler, M.A., retired 1948.


**Former Lecturers of Ten Years' Standing.**

**Appointed—**


1914  Herbert James Priest, B.A., B.Sc. (Acting Professor, 1919), died 1930.


1921  Bevillé Hugh Molesworth, M.A., resigned 1937.
 Travis Rimmer, M.Sc., died 1938.
 Hannibal Gustav Tommerup, B.A., retired 1940.
 Alfred James Hoole, B.D.Sc., resigned 1946.
 Ian Daveney Fowler, B.E., B.Sc., resigned 1953.

**Directors of External Studies.**

1938 Thomas Thatcher, B.A., died 1948.
1958 Frank Jackson Olsen, B.Sc., M.Ed., Ph.D.

**Registrars.**

Appointed--
1926 Joseph Francis McCaffrey, died 1935.

**Librarians.**

Appointed--
1950 Harrison Bryan, M.A.


AlHERN, Edward Denis, p.171.

ALCOCK, Henry. Birthday of University, p.22 n. 33; lecturer in History, marries Olga de Tuetey, p.30; succeeds E.O. Shann, becomes McCaughey Professor of History & Economics, p.38; tries to enlist, p.39; on electioneering for Senate, p.40 n. 73; appointed McCaughey professor, graduation ceremony, p.74; President of Professorial Board, p.88; dies, p.111; separation of Economics & History, p.113; report on R.H. Roe's advice to new staff, p.149; possible attitude to 1960 University, p.170; p.171; p.175 (2).

ANDERSON, Harry Ross. Appointed Professor of Public Law, p.141 n. 188; Staff representative on Senate, p.153.


AXON, Sir Albert Edwin. Succeeds Dr. Hirschfeld as Chancellor, p.139; ill during Jubilee year, p.158; opening of University college at Townsville, p.162; p.171 (2).

BAGS, Anna Frederica. Principal of Women's College, member of Biology Department, p.57; first woman head of Department, member of Senate, honorary doctorate, p.58; p.171.

BAGSTER, Lancelot Salisbury. Demonstrator, finally succeeds Steele, p.38; goes overseas, p.38 n. 65; dies, p.92; p.176.


BARKELL, Phillipa Kate. Completes part-Queensland degree, p.35.

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BARTON, Edward Gustavus Campbell. Member of Senate, p.22; p.171.

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