

I. EXTRACT FROM THE THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

HIGHER EDUCATION.

NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY AND AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The New Zealand University, the body which has general control of higher education in New Zealand, was founded by the New Zealand University Acts of 1870, 1874, and 1875. In 1876 the University was recognized by Royal charter as entitled to grant the degrees of Bachelor and Master in Arts, and Bachelor and Doctor in Law, Medicine, and Music. The Amendment Act, of 1883, and the supplementary charter issued in December of the same year, added the degrees of Bachelor and Doctor of Science. Moreover in 1904, the University Degrees Act gave the University authority to confer degrees of Doctor of Literature, Master of Laws, Surgery, and Science, and Bachelor, Master, and Doctor of Veterinary Science, Dental Surgery, Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, Mining, and Metallurgical Engineering, Naval Architecture, Agriculture, Public Health, and Commerce. For these latter no further charter has been given, so that nominally they must be considered as having currency only in New Zealand.

The affairs of the University of New Zealand are controlled by a Senate, which, under the New Zealand University Amendment Act, 1902, consists of twenty-four members or Fellows—four elected by the Governor in Council; eight by the governing bodies of the four affiliated institutions, two by each; four, one each, by the Professorial Boards; and eight, two each, by the four District Courts of Convocation, consisting of the graduates belonging to the several University districts. The revenue of the University is derived chiefly from a statutory Government grant of £3,000 per annum, from examination and diploma fees, and from interest on money invested.

The University is an examining, not a teaching, body, and four teaching institutions are affiliated to it—the Auckland University College, Victoria College, Canterbury College, and Otago University. Of these four institutions the two first mentioned—Auckland University College and Victoria College—each receive an annual statutory grant of £4,000, supplemented during each of the last three years by grants of £1,200 and £1,500 respectively, while the two others—Canterbury College and Otago University—are endowed with reserves of land. The affairs of these University colleges, including the appointments of professors and lecturers, are entirely in the hands of their various Councils.

Each of the four affiliated University colleges specializes in certain directions, and to further this purpose Government makes to each an annual grant of £2,000. Otago University has attached to it Medical and Dental Schools and a School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering; Canterbury College has a School of Engineering (mechanical, electrical, and civil); the grant to Auckland University College is allocated for mining and commerce; while the grant to Victoria College is intended to enable it to specialize in law and science.

While the University colleges thus perform the actual teaching-work, the University exercises most important functions in regulating the scope of the degree examinations, in appointing examiners, in awarding scholarships, in conferring degrees, and in many other directions. At the outset it was the policy of the University Senate to appoint outside examiners for most of its degree examinations; generally speaking, this is still its policy, with the result that the University colleges, having their programme of work strictly defined by the statutes of the University, and having the work of their students examined in England and elsewhere, possess very little freedom in extending or modifying their curriculum.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

In addition to the four University colleges there are several institutions which, though not actually affiliated to the New Zealand University, are equally entitled to be considered professional in their scope and character.

The Canterbury Agricultural College is recognized as a School of Agriculture, and matriculated students of the College may, after a two years' course, followed by a further course of one year at a University college, qualify for the Degree of Bachelor of Agriculture upon passing the prescribed examination.

In several respects the four training colleges at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin—may be considered professional schools. Although not