

3. VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE COUNCIL.

Visitor.—The Hon. the Minister of Education.

Members of Council.

Chairman.—P. Levi, Esq., M.A.

Appointed by Governor-General in Council—A. R. Atkinson, Esq., B.A., and D. M. Stout, Esq., M.D.
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 Elected by members of Education Board—F. W. O. Smith, Esq., and R. McCallum, Esq.
 Appointed by Wellington City Council—M. F. Luckie, Esq.
 Elected by teachers in secondary schools and technical high schools—J. H. Howell, Esq., B.A., B.Sc.
 Elected by governing bodies of secondary schools—T. Forsyth, Esq.
 Elected by the Professorial Board—E. J. Wilson, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., and T. A. Hunter, Esq., M.A., M.Sc.

Staff.

Professors.—Classics—J. Rankine Brown, M.A. English—H. Mackenzie, M.A. Modern Languages—E. J. Wilson, M.A., B.Sc. (Chairman). Philosophy—T. A. Hunter, M.A., M.Sc. History—F. P. Wilson, M.A. (Dean of Faculty of Arts). Economics—B. E. Murphy, M.A., LL.B., B.Com. Education—J. S. Tennant, M.A., B.Sc. Mathematics—D. M. Y. Sommerville, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., F.N.Z.Inst. Biology—H. B. Kirk, M.A., F.N.Z.I. (Dean of Faculty of Science). Physics—D. C. H. Florance, M.A., M.Sc. Chemistry—P. W. Robertson, M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D. Geology—C. A. Cotton, D.Sc., A.O.S.M., F.G.S. Law—J. Adamson, M.A., LL.B. (Dean of Faculty of Law), and J. M. E. Garrow, B.A., LL.B.
Registrar—G. G. S. Robison, M.A.
Librarian—B. H. Ward, B.A.

REPORT (ABRIDGED).

SIR,—

Pursuant to section 44 of the Victoria College Act, 1905, the Council presents the following report for the year 1923 :—

The work of the College has continued throughout the year to be carried on successfully.

The number of students attending lectures during the session of 1923 was greater than in any previous year. For the purpose of comparison the following table gives particulars of attendances during the last three years :—

					Men.	Women.	Total.
1923—Matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	476	206	682
Non-matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	29	56	85
					505	262	767
1922—Matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	460	192	652
Non-matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	32	44	76
					492	236	728
1921—Matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	419	194	613
Non-matriculated ..	..	..	..	..	59	70	129
					478	264	742

It will be noted that there is a total increase of thirty-nine students attending classes, and that the number of matriculated students taking full degree courses has increased by thirty.

The number of exempted students has also shown a remarkable increase, as shown below :—

					Men.	Women.	Total.
1923 ..	..	..	..	..	129	34	163
1922 ..	..	..	..	..	85	23	108
1921 ..	..	..	..	..	49	19	68

In this session three Junior University scholars, three University National scholars, and sixty-eight University bursars began their studies at this University College.

University Degrees and Scholarships.—In the University examinations held in November, 1923, 346 students passed sections of their Bachelor's degree, 35 obtained their Bachelor's degree in arts, 9 in science, 21 in law, and 3 in commerce; 2 obtained diplomas in education. At the same examinations 30 students obtained their Master's degrees; in arts, 19 (first-class honours 5, second-class honours 9); in science, 6 (first-class honours 3, second-class honours 2); in law, 5 (first-class honours 3, second-class honours 1).

Hostels.—The necessity of providing residential hostels for students is continually becoming more urgent. It is impossible for the Council to take any steps in this direction without financial assistance.

Special School of Agriculture.—As a consequence of Sir Walter Buchanan's munificent gift, the Council has appointed a Professor of Agriculture, and the appointee, Professor Peren, has now arrived in Wellington. It is most important that the department of agriculture should from the beginning be placed on a thoroughly sound basis, with proper provision for the necessary teachers, laboratories, and equipment. In order to do this the Council is compelled to rely on further financial grants from the Government, as Sir Walter Buchanan's gift, with the Government subsidy, forms a fund the income from which will provide little more than the professor's salary.

Day Teaching.—A scheme for gradually introducing day teaching in the College is being elaborated by the Professorial Board for submission to the Council.

Workers' Educational Association.—Twenty-one classes were inaugurated in this University district. Of these, twelve classes completed the full course, six completed three-quarter courses, and three completed half courses. Of these classes ten were held in Wellington, three at Wanganui, one at Feilding, three at Palmerston North, one at Levin, and three in the Buller district. The subjects of instruction were as follows: Economics (six), psychology (nine), sociology (one), literature (two), appreciation of music (one), chairmanship and public speaking (one), Spanish (one). 698 students enrolled in the various classes.