

Reg. December 4th . 08.

TWO DEPARTING SCIENTISTS.

STUDENTS' FAREWELL.

About 50 of the science students of the Adelaide University assembled at Ware's Exchange Hotel on Thursday evening at a farewell dinner tendered by them to Professor W. H. Bragg, M.A., F.R.S., and Dr. J. P. Madsen, B.Sc. Professor Bragg is leaving for the Leeds University, where he will take up the position of Professor of Physics, and Dr. Madsen is going to the Sydney University to be Professor of Electrical Engineering. Professor Chapman presided over a large attendance, which included Professor Rennie, Dr. Cook, and others. The arrangements were in the hands of a committee consisting of Messrs. Gray, Gill, and Moyes. The loyal toast was honoured.

Mr. Greenlees proposed "The University," and said he was sorry that the present occasion had arisen, for they all regretted the impending departure of their two guests. (Hear, hear.) When thinking of their University they should never forget the munificent bequests of the late Sir William Hughes and Sir Thomas Elder. They were proud of their graduates, who had always held their own with the students of other larger Universities. No body of students loved their University more than the Adelaide students. (Cheers.) The toast was honoured with the University war cry.

Mr. C. R. Hodge, the Registrar, in responding, said that looking around upon the gathering that night he noticed several men who had come back to their Alma Mater. There was Dr. Duffield, for instance. (Applause.) The success of

University depended upon the wisdom of its counsellors, and the personnel of its professors. Their University had been magnificently supported by private donations and bequests from men like Mr. Barr Smith and others. There was no doubt, too, that they would shortly have one of the best sports grounds in the State. He regretted that an occasion like the present had arisen. The influence for good Professor Bragg had had upon the University during the past 24 years could hardly be estimated. (Cheers.) His name was synonymous with everything that was noble, manly, and straightforward. (Cheers.) When they got good men they were taken from them. There was nothing shoddy about the University, and it had turned out some splendid men. Those who worked at the University did not work for money, but for the love of their work. (Cheers.)

Mr. L. W. Gill submitted "Our guests." Professor Bragg and Dr. Madsen were splendid men. They had always taken a deep interest in their scholars, even after they had left the University. They were sorry to lose them, but were pleased to know that they were going to such excellent positions. They could congratulate themselves that they were getting a man like Mr. Sharp to assist them. (Cheers.)

Professor Chapman presented Professor Bragg with a case of razors and Dr. Madsen with a tobacco jar from the students in token of their esteem. It would be difficult to realize what the Adelaide University would do without the services of Professor Bragg. He had fought his battles and won his scientific laurels at their University, and he seemed to be one of them. His ability as a physicist was well known, and he was referred to throughout the scientific world as "Bragg of Adelaide." They hoped he would make still greater discoveries in connection with his particular branch of work in England.

Professor Bragg, in reply, said that for nearly a quarter of a century he had been associated with the scientific school of the University, and the growth of the school during that time was sufficient reward for his colleagues and himself. He was pleased to have had a hand in the making of the school. He had had no idea of what the school would grow to when it was started. A science school was an important thing in the development of a country. It was possible to dispense with science to an extent in the early days of a new country; but as the country developed such an institution was needed more and more. There was not a branch of work in a State that was not dependent to a great extent upon scientific research, and the men who were trained in the science school were going to be some of the most important men in the country in the days to come. (Hear, hear.) Any one in a growing place like Australia would realize what a scientific man would be worth in the future. The school had grown into a vigorous institution, and he felt that it would never be feeble, and would be of great service to the country. He would always give them a hearty welcome should they visit him in England while completing their studies. (Cheers.) He had felt proud to have belonged to the Adelaide University, and to have had as students some of the young fellows he saw before him that night.

Dr. J. P. Madsen said that although he would be leaving them, he would not be going so far as Professor Bragg. It was with great regret that he responded to the toast, for although he had been at the University for only a short time, the various attachments formed were hard to break. The electrical school had been established only a few years, but some splendid men had been through it, who were now taking up responsible positions. Some of their men were now engaged on the new electric cars in Adelaide. (Cheers.) He realized now that he had made a mistake in putting some of them in the third class at examinations; they should all have been in the first class. (Cheers.)

Mr. M. Moyes gave "The science school." At present there were four professors, six lecturers, and 53 scholars in the school. Although Professor Bragg and Dr. Madsen were leaving them they still had good men left. (Hear, hear.) The engineering course was the hardest in the University, and there was, notwithstanding this fact, only one scholarship presented yearly—the Angas Engineering Scholarship—and that went to one man. There should be more scholarships. The science school was the most scattered school of the lot, and it would be a good idea if the students could meet once a year for a dinner. (Cheers.)

Professor Rennie said that with the exception of Professor Stirling he was the oldest member of the school at the University. He had seen the development of the Adelaide, Sydney, and Melbourne science schools. They were not behind in point of standard with the universities of the sister States, and the Adelaide students held their own on all occasions. The development of the school had been largely due to the earnest and consistent efforts of the two guests of the evening. (Cheers.)

Songs were given by Messrs. M. H. Moyes, L. W. McNamara, L. Gill, and Professor Chapman, a pianoforte solo by Mr. H. L. Brose, and a recitation by Mr. J. L. Deanev.