

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Measures to be Introduced.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly—You will be asked to consider a measure providing for the appointment of a Commission to investigate and report on the revision of the boundaries of local government areas.

Legislation will be introduced for the purpose of simplifying the procedure in the Matrimonial Causes Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

My advisers have decided to ask your sanction to a Bill granting further land for University purposes. The University is in possession of funds generously given by the Hon. Sir Langdon Bonython, K.C.M.G., and Mr. T. E. Barr Smith, for building a great hall and a library, and land is urgently required to carry out these projects.

My advisers are considering the question of consolidating and amending the law relating to companies, and

growth of a university sets in motion all manner of direct and indirect currents of influence within a community. It means that the State is on the way to become sufficient for those of its problems which require intense thought and inquiry, and careful reverence for fact, and there are no problems of moment in the modern world which do not. It means that those problems are thought out in the form and in the place and content in which they occur. It means that the work is done for the community by working members of the community, rather than that results achieved elsewhere are borrowed and adopted. A university of its own confers on a country a sense of immediate responsibility for the service of its own higher interests and problems of development. Therefore, in a year which is regarded as marking new beginnings, a year of resolute enterprise and optimism, it is peculiarly fitting that a new stage in the history of the university should open out.

Mr. John Winthrop Hackett, speaking of his father with an attractive reticence and pride, used of him the proud words of Horace: "Exegi monumentum aere perennius"—"I have built a memorial more durable than bronze." It is well that the buildings which give enduring and material utterance to the founder's motives should rise in the year which opens a new century in the history of the State that he served.

WEST AUSTRALIAN 24.4.29

Fremantle University Extension Lectures.

The syllabus for the University extension lectures at Fremantle has been completed. The first lecture will be given on May 15, when Mr. C. Andrews, M.A., will speak on "Charles Dickens as an Educational Reformer." On June 19 Professor A. D. Ross, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., will lecture on "The Story of a Meteorite," and on July 17 Professor R. G. Cameron, M.A., will lecture on "Recent Research in Education." The final lecture will be given on August 21, when Mr. F. Alexander, M.A. (Oxon.), will speak on "Australia Since the War; an attempt to gather together the main threads of Australian economic and political development during the last decade." The lectures are free, and will be delivered in the Fremantle Town Hall.

THE NEW UNIVERSITY.

CEREMONY AT CRAWLEY.

HACKETT BUILDINGS.

TRIBUTES TO FOUNDER.

Yesterday at Crawley, in ideal surroundings, and in ideal autumn weather, the first great function of the Centenary year was most successfully performed. In the presence of a large gathering of university dignitaries, professors and students and of citizens interested in the progress of our young University, the Premier laid the foundation stone of the Winthrop Hall and Lady Moulden that of the Hackett Building, parts of the complex of buildings to be erected out of the proceeds of the late Sir Winthrop Hackett's bequest to the University.

Mr. Collier, in an address after the formal ceremony, paid a warm and generous tribute to the memory of the great benefactor and first chancellor of the University. Dr. Saw, the present Chancellor, explained the terms of the legacy which enabled the buildings to be erected and the use the University was making of the money left it.

A pleasing feature of the ceremony was the presence of Mr. John Winthrop Hackett, the only son of Sir Winthrop Hackett and Lady Moulden, who acquitted with distinction the task of "saying what my father would have said had he been here."

An historic scene was enacted in the University grounds on the bank of the Swan River at Crawley yesterday afternoon. The foundation stones of the Hackett Memorial Buildings were laid in the presence of a large concourse of people. These buildings will form the central pile in the stately and beautiful home that is being erected for the University of Western Australia. The Premier (Mr. P. Collier) laid the foundation stone of the Winthrop Hall and Lady Moulden laid that of the Hackett Building, the guild buildings for the use of the undergraduates. In the warm air of a calm autumn day the picture presented was full of interest. There were the spacious grounds of the University, with patches of virgin bush left standing, the walls of the buildings beginning to rise, the flaming gowns of members of the Senate and of the professorial staff, a mass of undergraduates in their gowns, the Union Jack and the Australian flag floating overhead, the blue hills in the distance, and the river flowing quietly by to the sea.

The Chancellor (Dr. A. J. H. Saw, M.L.C.) asked Mr. Rodney H. Alsop, of Melbourne, the architect of the buildings, to present a trowel to the Premier, with which to lay the foundation stone of the Winthrop Hall.

Mr. Alsop, in doing so, said that as architect of the buildings and on behalf of those associated with him in designing and carrying out the work he had the honour of presenting the Premier with a trowel for the purpose of laying a foundation stone in honour of the great benefactor whose generous bequest had enabled the buildings to be erected.

Mr. Collier then declared the stone to be well and truly laid.

The stone bore the following inscription:

Let all who enter this hall do honour to the memory of Sir John Winthrop Hackett, K.C.M.G., LL.D., first Chancellor of this University, who entrusted his wealth to the University of Western Australia to build this hall and to further the advancement of learning and the ennoblement of life.

This stone was laid on April 23, 1929, by the Hon. Philip Collier, Premier of Western Australia. Athelstan Saw, M.A., M.D., Chancellor; Cecil Andrews, M.A., Pro-Chancellor; Hubert Whitfeld, B.A., B.E., Vice-Chancellor; Rodney H. Alsop and Conrad H. Sayce, architects; A. T. Brine and Sons, Limited, Builders.

The Premier's Address.

Mr. Collier, addressing the gathering, said: "It is something more than three years ago since I had the pleasure of declaring open the first permanent building of our new University. That was a most important occasion, marking as it did the commencement of a new intellectual life for the people of Western Australia. But our meeting to-day is not of less importance. We are laying the foundation stone of a building which in its splendid nobility and architecture, will be an ornament to the State of Western Australia. And, here, Dr. Saw, may I say, how for-

him that he, perhaps, played a greater part in moulding the life and character of our people than any other man. His deal from the very commencement of his public career was the establishment of a University in Western Australia. All of us who knew him remember the fights that he made in the Parliament of our country and through his newspapers to bring this State into line with the other States of Australia, so far as higher education was concerned. And owing, largely, to his untiring efforts we were able to carry through a Parliamentary Bill for an Act to establish a University. And so it commenced, I think, in 1913, and the number of students in that initial year was 184 and the Government subsidy, £13,500. Well, the University has grown with the progress of the State till to-day its students number 500 and the Government subsidy is £30,000. Those of us who go across to Irwin-street and see our little tin shanty—that is what members of the University used to call it when they approached me for increased subsidies—they always referred in rather scornful notes to 'our tin shanty'—well, I venture to say that though our beginnings were humble, that every man who was associated with our University in its little tin buildings in Irwin-street will be proud of that fact.

"It is a great and joyous fact that in this year, perhaps the greatest in the history of the State, when we are celebrating our one hundredth birthday, we are able, not to open these buildings, but to lay the foundation stones of buildings that are going to be a monument to the progress, development and character of those who were intimately associated with its beginnings. Dr. Saw, I desire to say how pleased I am to be with you to-day. I don't want you to take that, of course, as too much encouragement to you to come to me for more money. (Laughter.) But we are proud to be able to say that from the humblest and most obscure little country school right up to our University, education in Western Australia is free. (Hear, hear and applause.) It means, of course, a great drain upon the Treasury, but I hope that I have not been unmindful of the representations that have been made to me by the University authorities for increased money, when they have been able to urge that whilst the education vote for our primary school has been increased year by year, that not in the same ratio or proportion had the vote for the University been increased. If I have been able to overcome your difficulties in some small respect, Dr. Saw, I am only too pleased, and it is a great joy to me to be here and to ask those who are present to bear in mind the great character of the man who made it possible for us to participate in the laying of this foundation stone." (Loud applause.)

The Hackett Bequest.

Dr. Saw said: "I think it would be fitting to-day if I gave you some brief account of the wonderful bequest that the University received from the late Sir John Winthrop Hackett and what the University proposes to do with it. You will remember that