

Evaluation of Blind Aids in U.S.

Professor L. Kay has returned from 18 months' study leave, during which he was engaged with his team from Canterbury in establishing criteria and practical teaching and user skills at numerous rehabilitation centres for the blind throughout the world for the evaluation of the binaural sensory aid developed at the University.

The project study, carried out mainly in the United States, involved two Government departments, three major private agencies for the blind, ten rehabilitation centres spread from Australia to the United Kingdom, some 30 orientation and mobility specialists and about 120 blind people. The project was funded, for the major part, at Boston College, a Jesuit university, by The Seeing Eye Inc., which made grants totalling \$250,000.

Before blind people can be trained to use the sensory aid it is necessary first to train teachers. These were drawn from the growing profession of orientation and mobility specialists in the United States. These specialists usually have a bachelor's degree in either education or psychology and take a special master's course in orientation and mobility at one of seven university departments in the country. Both the United Kingdom and Australia have followed the American pattern of training very closely, but the mobility specialists in these countries do not normally have a degree. Instead they take an intensive course of six months at one of their two training centres.

Purpose of Sensor

A prerequisite to teaching the sensory aid is that the mobility specialists already have a knowledge of a blind person's ability to perceive the environment through the use of unaided hearing and the long cane and are already experienced in teaching the blind to move about in a variety of situations. The main purpose of the binaural sensor is then to give a blind person a percept of his surrounding environment so that he can move about with relative ease and comfort in a graceful manner.

The first course of instruction for eleven instructors was held at Boston College and was given by the Canterbury team of Dr Derek Rowell, Miss Nancy Bell, Mr William Keith and Professor Kay, who had all worked together at Canterbury before going to Boston. The eleven instructors then began training blind people at their rehabilitation centres using sensory aids manufactured in Christchurch, whilst members of the Canterbury team travelled extensively to the centres monitoring the

training and attending to technical problems as they arose.

Further teaching courses were given subsequently with the help of some who had formerly received instruction, and this way training and experience was built up. Much was learned about the method of teaching orientation and mobility specialists in the use of sonic glasses and a new training manual is under preparation. The manual, written before the departure of the team from Canterbury, still forms the basis, for teaching blind people. The object of the training was not merely to test devices, but to show that a new concept in auditory perception was not only possible but was acceptable to blind people.

Although engineering, difficulties in the reliable manufacturing of the binaural aids caused difficulties during the training programme, it became evident that the device was highly acceptable to many blind users. The enthusiasm for the device led teachers to want more reliable units so that they could see them being used to maximum effect. Even so available data shows a very positive response from teachers and exceptional acceptance from the blind. All the features claimed of the device have been proved, and when fitted into a mobility setting it enables a blind person to move about in his environment more gracefully and more relaxed than has hitherto been possible. Surprisingly 86% of the users felt the device was satisfactorily reliable. It was evident all the same that much needs to be done both in the way of sensory aid research and development as well as in user training. This research and development may well be carried out in New Zealand.

Concept Approved

The programme so far appears to have been successful and no question now remains regarding the concept. All now agree it is good. Long-term acceptance by the blind has yet to be proved and further questionnaires planned in 1973 should help towards establishing this aspect. Not all blind people have been trained at this time and it will not be until the end of 1972 that

the teaching programme will be completed. But a major part of the work is done.

In addition to organising and participating in training and evaluation of the binaural sensory aid, lectures were given at various conferences and centres including the Bi-centennial International Conference of the American Foundation for the Blind, New York, in October 1971. This was a select conference of invited scientists from several countries who are working in fields related to blindness and took the form of a three-day roundtable conference. Special TV coverage was provided by four networks of the environmental sensor development at Canterbury and the reading machine developed by Stanford University. These two devices now seem to be recognised as the only aids holding any promise for the blind in the foreseeable future.

-K.P.G.

Busy Leave for Dr. Keey

Dr R.B. Keey, Reader in Chemical Engineering, has been awarded an Erskine Fellowship and left on 30 September for six months' leave.

As the NZIE Chemical Engineering Group representative, he will attend the 1st Pacific Chemical Engineering Conference in Kyoto, Japan. Later he will chair a session at the Conference on Heat and Mass Transfer Problems on Food Engineering at Wageningen, the Netherlands, and will present a paper on residence time distribution of droplets in a tall-form spray drier.

Most of his time will be spent at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich where he will lecture on process engineering aspects of drying. He will also give a series of case study seminars on drying problems to engineers in the Basal area.

A paper simulating the behaviour of a timber kiln by analogue computation by Dr Keey will be read by Dr W.B. Earl at the 4th Chisa Congress being held in Prague. Dr Earl who is at present on leave will also present his own paper on shaft kiln design.

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Centennial Convocation

Seven Honorary Degrees to be Conferred

A world-renowned philosopher, a distinguished judge, the second chairman of the University Grants Committee, the former commander of the Maori Battalion, a well-known Wellington engineer, an Auckland manufacturer and a historian with an international reputation in the history of political ideas will be awarded honorary degrees by the University at its Centennial Convocation in the Christchurch Town Hall on Saturday, 5 May, next year.

Those to be honoured are Professor Sir Karl Raimund Popper, Mr Justice Haslam, Sir Alan Danks, Mr C.M. Bennett, Mr W.G. Morrison, Dr H.C. Holland and Professor J.G.A. Pocock. All are graduates of or have been teachers at the University. Sir Alan Danks, Mr Bennett and Mr Justice Haslam will each be awarded an LL.D., Dr Holland and Mr Morrison a D.Sc. and Litt. D. degrees will be awarded to Professor Pocock and Sir Karl Popper.

Sir Karl Popper, who came to Canterbury's Philosophy Department in 1937 from Vienna, where he had gained his Ph.D., exerted a profound influence on the College during the war years. He left to become reader in logic at the University of London in 1945 and was subsequently Professor of Logic and Scientific Method at the London School of Economics. He was appointed an emeritus professor in 1969. His major publications include *The Logic of Scientific Discovery*, *The Open Society and its Enemies*, *The Poverty of Historicism and Conjectures and Refutations* in addition to numerous articles in philosophical and scholarly journals. Sir Karl Popper has been a visiting lecturer at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Emory, Bristol, Stanford, London, University of California, Berkeley, Minnesota, Indiana, Denver, Brandeis and the Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna. He is a member of the editorial boards of numerous journals dealing with the philosophy of science and has held high office in most international organisations in that field. He was elected a Fellow of the British Association in 1958 and is an honorary member of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Mr Justice Alec Leslie Haslam, came up to Canterbury from Waitaki Boys' High School in 1922 with a University Scholarship and graduated LL.M. in 1925 with first

class honours and the special gold medal in law. He represented the College in athletics, rowing and cross-country running and debating.

Awarded a Rhodes Scholarship 1927 he went to Oriel College gaining a D.Phil in 1929 and B.C.L. in 1930. He competed for Oriel in athletics and rowing. On his return to Christchurch to practise on his account he became a lecturer in torts, criminal law and evidence at the College until 1950 except for service with the 2nd N.Z.E.F. in the Middle East and Italy. He was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1957. A former president of the Canterbury District Law Society and vice-president of the New Zealand Law Society, Mr Justice Haslam was a member of the Senate of the University of New Zealand for six years and chairman of the Council of Legal Education. He is the Rhodes Trust representative in New Zealand.

Charles Moih Bennett, a son of the Rt. Rev. F.A. Bennett, graduated B.A. from the College in 1936. He joined the Army as a private in 1939 and in 1942 was a lieutenant-colonel in command of the Maori Battalion. He was awarded the D.S.O. at Tebaga Gap. His battalion was awarded 11 decorations, including the first Victoria Cross won by a Maori soldier. Mr Bennett served in the Education, Broadcasting, Internal Affairs and Maori Affairs Departments and is a former Director of Maori Welfare. From 1959 to 1963 he was New Zealand High Commissioner in the Federation of Malaysia. He is also a member of the Parole Board, the Ngarimu Scholarship Fund Board, the New Zealand Literary Fund Advisory Board and the New Zealand Labour Party.

Sir Alan Danks, who graduated M.A. from the College in 1938, became a part-time lecturer in economics in 1943 and subsequently became a lecturer, senior lecturer, associate professor, professor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor before his appointment as chairman of the University Grants Committee in 1966. He has been a member of the U.G.C. since 1961. Sir Alan Danks, the second Canterbury man to take the post of U.G.C. chairman, became something of a celebrity in Christchurch as a speaker, writer and broadcaster. He was a member of several committees and for 10 years was a member of the North Canterbury Hospital Board.

Harold Cecil Holland graduated M.Sc. from the College in 1929 and was Senior Scholar in Chemistry. He was briefly assistant lecturer in chemistry before becoming assistant to and then works manager of Woolston Tanneries. He completed his Ph.D. at Leeds and became works manager, general manager and later manag-

ing-director of W. Sutherland and Co., tanners and warehousemen of Auckland, the move necessitating his resignation from the College Council, of which he was a member 1942-45. Dr Holland was president of the New Zealand Manufacturers' Federation in 1969. He has been a member of the Manufacturing Section Committee of the D.S.I.R., of the National Research Advisory Council and the National Development Council. He has been a member of the University Grants Committee since its inception and is also a member of the Broadcasting Authority.

Walter Gordon Morrison, who graduated B.E. (Civil) from the College in 1926, established the Wellington consulting practice of W.G. Morrison and Partners in 1949 and has been responsible for the design of numerous major buildings and structures in New Zealand. On graduating he joined the Lyttelton Harbour Board as an engineer, went overseas, and then joined a Christchurch consulting firm. Enlisting with the N.Z.E.F. in 1939 he became OC 5th Field Park Co. of the Royal N.Z. Engineers and saw service in the Middle East. He was Assistant Director of Docks Construction for the British Middle East forces. A former president of the New Zealand Institution of Engineers, Mr Morrison has won several awards and has had numerous papers published. He has been a member of the Wellington City Council for many years.

John Greville Agard Pocock graduated M.A. from the College in 1946 and Ph.D. from Cambridge in 1951. A son of a former Professor of Classics at the College, he took an active part in student life and was editor of *Cambs* and a member of the Students' Association executive. He was also a producer and actor for the Drama Society. After two years as an assistant lecturer in history at Canterbury he went to Cambridge, lectured at Otago and then returned to Cambridge as a research fellow. In 1959 he was appointed a senior lecturer in charge of Political Science at Canterbury and was Professor of Political Science 1963-66. He left to become Professor of History at Washington University, St Louis, in 1966. Professor Pocock has an international reputation in his field of the history of political ideas and his latest book *Politics, Language and Time: Essays on Political Thought and History (1972)* has been described as an important intellectual event.

A seminar entitled, "Digital Computation for the Process Industries," will be held from 4 to 7 December. Lectures will be presented by Dr W.B. Earl and Mr R.M. Allen of the Chemical Engineering Department and by invited speakers from industry.

UNIVERSITY CLUB WILL REOPEN SOON

The University Club should reopen in its new premises in Hallenstein's building, corner of Cashel and High Streets, within a month. Renovations are now well under way as a result of a favourable decision by the Licensing Control Commission on the Club's application for the transfer of its charter.

The new premises, on the second floor overlooking the triangle at the corner, will not appear much different from the old premises in Worcester Street, now demolished, when the renovations are completed. The same furniture and fittings will be used and the carpet, specially woven for the Club, will be relaid.

The entrance to the Club, formerly the Queen's Club, is on High Street and a lift is available for members' use.

In its decision the Licensing Commission said that reports received from the Inspector of Licensed Premises, the Police, Health and Fire Authorities raised no objection to the application excepting that both the Health and Fire reports indicated matters within their jurisdiction requiring attention in order to ensure that the premises complied with regulatory requirements.

"Counsel for the applicant assured us that all matters raised in these reports would be dealt with immediately the lease of the premises was finalised," the decision said.

"The applicant's attention has been drawn particularly to the requirement of the Christchurch Metropolitan Fire Brigade that occupancy of the club rooms is not to exceed 150 persons at any one time. We have received a written assurance that this restriction will not cause the Club any difficulty."

"We will grant the application for removal and a charter to cover the new premises will be issued when these have been completed to the satisfaction of the Commission and the Police, Health and Fire Authorities," the decision said.

Mr T. P. McKaskill, lecturer at the University of Tasmania, has been appointed a visiting lecturer in the Department of Accountancy for the period 1 March - 30 November 1973. He is a graduate of Monash University (B.Ec.) and the University of New South Wales (M.Com.) and his main interest is in the field of computer applications in business and business systems generally.



British Minister at Ilam. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was a visitor to the University last month. She inspected the city and Ilam sites with the Vice-Chancellor (Professor N.C. Phillips) and the Registrar (Mr G.G. Turbott). Mrs Thatcher is shown inspecting an upper floor of the James Hight Library under construction at Ilam.

Staff-Student Relations

Closer Contact Sought in Arts

There is room for improvement in staff-student relationships in the Faculty of Arts, according to the findings of a faculty committee on staff-student relations. Just over 40 per cent of those who replied to a questionnaire to Stage 1 students in the faculty described the present situation in adverse terms, although some were prepared to excuse this because of the numbers involved.

Reporting this to Council the Vice-Chancellor (Professor N.C. Phillips) said that though the University maintained the staff-student ratio as enrolments grew the arithmetic was not reflected in human relations. The problem was most acute with Stage 1 and first-year students.

The committee's recommendations, while not spectacular, would be helpful. The first recommendation, that as far as possible weekly tutorials should be arranged in all Stage 1 classes during the first two terms, was already the practice in nearly all departments. From both an academic and a human point of view it was necessary to supplement lectures with tutorial classes.

Referring to the second recommendation, that tutors should indicate on their doors or in course outlines when and where they were available for individual consultation by students, Professor Phillips said this suggestion of "surgery hours" was not new and had been found helpful, but it did nothing about the diffident or reticent student.

The committee had also recommended:

That all departments arrange individual interviews with Stage 1 students, especially first-year students, early in the second term of each year.

That all tutors should endeavour to know their students by name as soon as possible. In some departments this was facilitated by photographing students individually and attaching each photograph to a record card.

That all lecturers should invite students to approach them immediately after each lecture and should make it easy for students to do this. They should also consider ways of occasionally making lectures less formal, perhaps by introducing a short break within the lecture period or by stopping before the full time had elapsed and inviting questions.

That the staff teaching seminars held in the past should be continued. These should always include sessions on the problems of

teaching in small groups and on individual interviewing, advising and tutoring.

Professor Phillips said that he could give an assurance that the seminars would be continued for the University now had an Educational Advisory Officer appointed for this purpose.

Answering questions about the information staff had about students, Professor Phillips said academic records were available when students enrolled and it might be supplemented by information from the Liaison Officer, who, with other members of staff, visited all schools in the University district. But there was "human information" which was not available and in any event there was probably a limit to the amount of information a student would wish to make available to members of the academic staff. It was up to the latter to ensure that students had the best academic advice available. There were occasions when more than amateur counselling was required and students could be referred to other agencies within the University.

Student Reaction

The committee's report said it was difficult to gauge student reaction precisely. Many students wanted more individual contact with staff and seemed keen to be known on a personal basis. But a few students openly questioned what they deduced to be the assumptions inherent in the inquiry. They asked, for example, why students should need to know the staff personally. Could students not achieve their aims without personal contacts.

Reactions varied too according to the status of the students: women sought more individual contacts than men and full-time

students wanted more than part-time students. "Perhaps the best estimate is that about half of all first-year students in the Faculty would have preferred to have more contacts with staff," the report said. "Put alongside the strong preference for weekly tutorials these results are taken by the committee to indicate that most students would welcome more and closer contacts with staff than they have now."

Members of the Committee interviewed heads of departments early in the second term to discuss its findings at that stage and it was suggested that all first-year students, or at least those who seemed to be in difficulty, be interviewed individually some time in June.

"The response from the students to the interviews arranged in June seems to have varied somewhat, although no precise details were gathered. The variations may have been due, someone suggested, to the degree of formality, threat, or warmth conveyed in the invitation itself. The bottom 10% of students in one department were invited to an interview, but one-third of them failed to show up; in another department all were invited, but the staff were disappointed at the small proportion who accepted," the report said.

"Nevertheless the reactions in all departments in which interviews were arranged were highly favourable to the experiment. It was agreed that the exercise was well worthwhile, whether carried out with all students or only with those in difficulty. One tutor wrote: 'Whatever their purpose, the interviews were an excellent idea. I only regret that I had not done something similar earlier, not only because they revealed a number of problems of which I was not previously aware, but also because they showed up my equal ignorance in some cases of the good qualities and simple niceness of many students.'"

The report said there seemed to be few interactions between staff and students outside formal classes. The main exceptions were certain sporting and cultural activities, but relatively few took part. It was suggested that the Staff-Student Forum sponsored by the Students' Association in 1970 be resurrected and put on a firmer footing. About 50 per cent of students were unsure about or knew of no clubs connected with their subjects and it appeared that most of the existing clubs met seldom and were attractive to few although there were active clubs very successful in bringing staff and students together in informal settings. The report also said the student representative on its committee felt there could be value in involving Stage 1 students at staff meetings.

Professor Ryan said there were two important features of academic life in this country of which university teachers might feel proud — the tremendous contribution which universities had made to the development of the country and to the progress of society in general and also that academics here had avoided a division between town and gown which was so noticeable in other parts of the world.

Professor Catton Returning to U.S.

The University would be much the poorer for the resignation of Professor W.R. Catton, which was motivated largely by family circumstances, said the Vice-Chancellor (Professor N.C. Phillips) in announcing Professor Catton's resignation from his Chair in the Department of Psychology and Sociology from the end of the year.

He also told Council that Professor W.E. Willmott, a full professor in the University of British Columbia, had been appointed a reader in Sociology. "I don't know whether this is a tribute to Canterbury, or New Zealand, or both," he added in reply to a question.

Dr Willmott is Professor of Anthropology and lecturer in Asian Studies at U.B.C. He is a Canadian citizen, born in China, son of a missionary, brother of a sociologist in another Canadian university and is married to a New Zealander. He graduated M.A. in anthropology from McGill University in 1959 and took a Ph.D. at the University of London in 1964 in social anthropology. Since then he has been an assistant, associate and full professor at U.B.C. He undertook research in the Canadian Arctic in 1958 on the organisation of the Eskimo community but his major research interest has been local Chinese communities.

Professor J.H. Andreae has requested, and received, permission to relinquish the second Chair he holds in the Department of Electrical Engineering in order to concentrate on his teaching and research. He has been appointed a reader in the department.

Mr G. Hollobon, of the St Louis Institute of Music, St Louis, has been appointed an assistant lecturer in the School of Music. He is a graduate of this University.

The resignation of Dr K. Zdansky, a senior lecturer in Physics, was accepted with regret by Council. Dr Zdansky is returning to Czechoslovakia.

Messrs R.H. Bowron and E.C. Robinson have been appointed Council representatives on the Appointments Board. Mr Bowron was appointed chairman of the Board.

Father J. Pratley, S.M., chaplain at Rochester Hall, will be transferred at the end of the year. He will be replaced by Father Michael Smith, S.M., who plans to complete his Ph.D. at Cambridge this year.

A lectureship in religious studies in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies has been accepted by Mr J. G. Jones, of Ormskirk, Lancashire. On graduating B.D. (first class honours) from London in 1954, Mr Jones became a missionary in South India; his M.Th. was completed at London's Overseas Examination Centre in Ceylon in 1956. He was a faculty member of the United Theological College in Bangalore, India, from 1961 to 1966, when he returned to England to take up an appointment as lecturer and then senior lecturer at Edge Hill College of Education, Ormskirk. Since its inception in 1971 he has been a part-time counsellor for the Open University, his work this year including tutorial assistance for students of the Humanities Foundation Course.

Professor H.E. Field has been appointed a Council representative on the Tutorial Classes Committee.

Dr E.R. Palmer of the D.S.I.R., Petone, a graduate of the Chemical Engineering Department, has been awarded the Bone and Wheeler medal by the Institute of Fuel, Great Britain, for the best paper published in the Journal of the Institute of Fuel during 1971 by a member under 26 years of age.

Associate Professor G. R. South, of the Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, has been appointed a post-doctoral fellow at the Edward Percival Marine Laboratory, Kai-koura, where he will work on the *Durvillea* research programme. A graduate of the University of Liverpool, Dr South joined the staff of Memorial University in 1967. His research has been largely concerned with ecology, systematics and culture of benthic marine algae in temperate or cold-boreal regions. In 1971 Dr South was a visiting professor at the University of Helsinki.

A post-doctoral fellowship in geology in 1973 has been accepted by Dr I. A. Brookes, assistant professor of geography at York University, Toronto. After graduating B.Sc. from the University of London, he studied at McGill University, Montreal, completing his M.Sc. in 1964 and his Ph.D. on the glaciation of southwestern Newfoundland in 1970. Dr Brookes has been teaching at York University since 1965.

Mr D.A. Prater (German) has been granted leave to undertake research in the United States from mid-November to mid-February next year.

Mr P.B. Davis (Sociology) will be attending a conference on sociology in the United States from 8-15 October.

Dr Richard F. Pascal, a lecturer in the Freshman Humanities Program at Cornell University, has been appointed to a lectureship in the Department of English. Dr Pascal, who is 26, graduated A.B. from the University of Notre Dame in 1966 and M.A. from the University of Virginia in 1967; his thesis was entitled "The Destructive Element in Baudelaire and Rimbaud". From 1969 to 1971 he was a teaching fellow at Cornell University, where he completed his Ph.D. dissertation on Whitman and W.C. Williams.

Professor Graham B. Wallis of the Thayer School of Engineering, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, visited the Chemical Engineering Department in September, lecturing on some aspects of two-phase flow and heat transfer.

Electronic Music Study

On study leave from October until the end of May next year Mr J.E. Cousins, lecturer in the School of Music, plans to spend considerable time working in electronic music-studies in overseas universities and studying the nature of the school studies within the university environment and the community as a whole.

He will spend a month at the studio of Toronto University working under Gustave Ciamaga and obtaining first-hand experience of equipment and conditions. This will be supplemented by work in studios in London and France.

In the United States Mr Cousins is to visit most of the campuses of the University of California and will also study in the Related Arts Centre of the San Diego campus with its emphasis on combinations of dance, drama and music.

Mr Cousins plans to spend a month in Indonesia, as he wishes to pay particular attention to the native religious temple music and to study the nature of the Eastern influence on Western composers' attitude to the element of "time" in music.

Heating Survey

Dr N.J. Peet and Professor A.M. Kennedy, in conjunction with the Christchurch City Council, Health Department, and several local schools, are carrying out a survey of home heating and fuel usage habits over the entire Christchurch area. This is to assist planning for future Clean Air Zones and to provide information for a research project on costs of air pollution control in the Christchurch area.

First Buildings Opened in 1877

At noon on 7 June, 1877, the Governor of New Zealand, the Marquis of Normanby drove down Worcester Street in a carriage and pair with a mounted constable at its head and three mounted troopers with drawn swords behind. The procession stopped at the Canterbury College clock tower, where the Governor was met by William Montgomery, chairman of the College Board of Governors. Two long speeches later the first permanent buildings of Canterbury College were officially declared open.

The building, said the *Lyttelton Times* next day, "is a most handsome one and in every respect, worthy of the body entrusted with the control of the Canterbury College in all its departments. It is of the Gothic order of architecture, built from plans drawn by Mr. B. W. Mountfort, the contractor being Mr. S. H. Seager, to whom very much credit is due for the great expedition he has used in putting up the building, seeing that he has completed it two months before the contract time. The amount of the tender was £6370, but the few 'extras' required will bring the total sum up to something beyond that. The first stone of the building was laid in June last, and the contractor had until the beginning of September next to finish it — so that in this respect he deserves very exceptional praise. And taking the building as a whole, it may also be said that he deserves very great praise in that respect also. The outer wall is built of 'rubble' obtained from Mr. Tai's quarry; and the facings, moulded strings, cornels and cornices are all of white rock."

Until the buildings were completed college classes were held in the Public Library and the Oddfellows Hall, but a "temporary" chemistry and physics laboratory, on the site on which the University Library now stands, had been completed a few months before. It was to endure for nearly 40 years.

The buildings consisted of the entrance hall and what are now Rooms 6 and 14, with offices for the Professors of English and Mathematics, offices for the Registrar and janitor on the left and right of the entrance and the Board room and chairman's room on the first floor.

"Very Handsome"

Describing the building, the *Lyttelton Times* said the main entrance was composed of an elliptical arch, supported on triple columns and foliated caps, the whole forming a very handsome appearance. "It is surmounted by a concrete archway, having a

span of 11 feet. The entrance hall is very roomy, and is tiled with white and red tiles, from the local factory of Austin and Kirk. On one side of the hall is the registrar's room, on the other side the janitor's, each being 16ft by 14ft. The class room downstairs is 36ft by 22ft; it is lofty and well ventilated. In fact the entire building is ventilated by Sheringham and Dr Arnott's valves.

"The ceiling of the lower classroom is of concrete arches supported on wrought springs. The gallery consists of eight tiers, and is fitted for the reception of benches. This room is well lighted by eight venetian windows. A very wide, lofty, and exceedingly handsome staircase, leading from both sides of the entrance hall, conducts the visitor to the upper storey, which contains five rooms. The largest of these, except the classroom, is the Governors'-room, which is 24 ft by 14ft. It contains a large and comfortable looking fireplace, which, like all the others in the building, is composed of Reece's Kaipara stone. The roof girders are supported by moulded brackets and handsome carved cornels.

"Adjacent to the Governors' is the waiting-room, from one corner of which there is a staircase leading to the tower. The interior of this is intended for the works of a clock, with which it is shortly proposed to fit the tower.

"After passing through two professors' rooms, which are of the same size as the registrar's room below, we find ourselves in a very spacious classroom of the same size as that below, only containing nine instead of eight tiers for the reception of benches. The ceiling of this room is coved and plastered with wrought beams, and moulded and swept brackets. The two classrooms, the entrance hall, and the staircase, are all lined with bricks and bands of white rock stone; the whole coloured and tuck pointed, and being surmounted by a course of moulded bricks and bold corners. There is an entrance for the students from the back of the building, and this entrance leads to the back of the classrooms. The entire building is roofed in with slates, and finished with ornamental ridging.

"When completed the College will run back as far as the girls' high school, and there will be an eastern wing similar to the western one which now exists, which will give the building a very finished appearance. The additions will be made as funds permit, and when completed the College will contain four classrooms, etc. The building is a very handsome addition to the architecture of the city, and will, no doubt, be found to be of very great benefit for the purpose for which it is designed."

"Wonderful Improvement"

Montgomery, surrounded by members of the Board of Governors and the three founding professors, A.W. Bickerton, J. Macmillan Brown and C.H.H. Cook, outlined the brief history of the College since its establishment four years previously and his Excellency congratulated the College on the progress that had been made. "When we come to recollect that only 27 years ago the spot on which we now stand and on which this very handsome building is erected, was a wilderness with only a few scattered families living hereabout in huts and with no sign of civilisation in their midst, and contrast it with the present time; when we look around us and see on all hands new buildings erected and going up, the vast resources of our agricultural districts, the extension of our railway in every direction, the easy mode of transit from one part of the Colony to another; then gentlemen, I say, if we look backward to that 27 years, and then look at the present time, we have a right to look forward to a wonderful improvement in every respect in the course of the next quarter of a century. Looking forward, then, gentlemen, to those 25 years in this light, I do not think we are at all premature in the establishment of such a College at this. Gentlemen, I certainly must congratulate you on the step you have taken in the erection of this College. You have acted wisely. In the matter of your endowments, too, I think your efforts are worthy of all praise. In England, with all its wealth and population, and with all the money annually paid in the cause of education, they cannot get on without endowments. It is true that many of these come from private sources, and I trust that in this country, as years go by, and you grow rich, you will not fail to take counsel from the good example there set you, and do likewise. I will not detain you longer, but only say again that I feel proud of the opportunity you have this day given me of identifying myself with the Christchurch College."

Montgomery then called for three cheers for His Excellency, which were given, the *Lyttelton Times* report said, with great heartiness.

It fell to Professor Cook to express the staff's gratification at the Governor's visit. "We, the Professors and Lecturers of Canterbury College, beg respectfully to approach your Excellency to express our gratification at seeing your Excellency within the precincts of this College, and thus affording us an opportunity of testifying our loyalty to her Majesty the Queen upon that spot in which we naturally feel a peculiar interest."

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"Chemistry before the Classics"

"We trust your Excellency will be satisfied, from all you will learn in relation to our institution, that it does provide with a considerable degree of success for the attainment of the higher education by all classes of the community at a moderate expense and without distinction either of race or of creed. This has been from the first the object of its promoters, and it is to ourselves, who are personally engaged in the work of teaching, a matter of cordial satisfaction to be so employed upon this important basis.

"We assure ourselves of your Excellency's sympathy in the work we have undertaken, and humbly pray that your stay amongst us may be marked by continued evidence of progress throughout the colony."

More Than Classics

In his reply the Governor expressed, if not felicitously, some opinions about higher education which are often echoed nearly a century later. "Gentlemen of the Professorial staff," he said, "I thank you for the address you have just presented to me, and beg at the same time to assure you that you have my most hearty and cordial sympathy. I think it is a matter of primary importance that the youth of this country who may have time and inclination to perfect themselves in the highest order of education, should have the opportunity given them of carrying out their desire in their own country, instead of having to leave their homes and friends to obtain it elsewhere. Without in any way wishing to disparage what is generally known as high-class education, I am glad you have embraced in the character of the education which is sketched out in the address that has just been presented to me, other subjects besides those of the classics. As I said before, I do not wish to disparage a classical education, because I believe that in a high-class literary education it is necessary; but in a new country like this I do think that a high-class education — such sciences as mechanics, agriculture, mechanism, and chemistry before the classics — is to be preferred. I therefore say that I wish you in all sincerity and heartiness a thorough success in the undertaking which you have in hand, and I believe, as I said before, that in the future this College will prove a blessing, not only to the district, but to the whole of the country."

Professor Bickerton, probably the most colourful character in the University's history, did not allow the opportunity to slip away without indulging in the showmanship for which he later became renowned. That night a brilliant *conversazione* was held in the Museum and Bickerton, having clambered to, as the report has it, the highest accessible part of the building, projected electric light down the length of

Worcester Street, turning it into an illuminated carriageway.

"Splendid Experiment"

"The effect was really wonderful, the Clarendon and the trees round it standing out with almost startling distinctness," said the *Lyttelton Times*.

"The Cathedral walls, too, were brought out in bold relief, and upon the frontage the shadow of the Godley statue was sharply defined. Even at this distance it was a somewhat difficult task to look steadily in the direction of the brilliant light which, as far as the East belt, formed a source of great attraction to those who passed within its radius. Seeing that the battery employed was one of only 40 cells, the effect obtained was particularly good, and Professor Bickerton is to be congratulated upon the success of his splendid experiment. The visitors, on arriving at the Museum, found that every possible arrangement had been made for their comfort. A covered way had been erected from the entrance, so that ladies on alighting from their carriages incurred but little risk of exposure to the night air, and there were ample cloak-rooms with courteous attendants, and a simple but perfect system of registering the articles left. Near the entrance were the refreshment rooms, which, during the whole of the evening, were in great request, and it is worthy of mention that the management were enabled to supply all demands upon them with apparent ease. Almost every one appeared first to turn to the large hall to the right of the entrance, the doors of which stood invitingly open, and, as a matter of course, this large hall formed the nucleus of the brilliant assemblage, the effect here produced being one that will not be easily forgotten. Art, science, and music were here united, as if acting in concert, to present a combined attraction worthy of the occasion."

The College staff played a not inconsiderable part in the success of the evening. Cook and Julius von Haast sang and Bickerton's Scientific exhibition kept the assembly — and Bickerton — "in a constant state of excitement. His Excellency stayed for a considerable time in this room, Professor Bickerton explaining to him the nature and use of many of the appliances. It was, by the way, exceedingly thoughtful of the Professor to place that huge basin of cool looking water so temptingly behind the door, but those who chanced to dip their fingers therein, scarcely thanked him for his shocking results...

"It should be mentioned that, in the course of the evening, Professor Bickerton successfully conducted Foucault's pendulum experiment for marking the rotation of the earth. Two pendulums were used, so that it might be seen how each produced the

same result, and the variation obtained was two and a half inches in ten minutes. By Cavendish's wonderful experiment the earth was also weighed, and found to contain six thousand millions of tons. At about half-past ten o'clock his Excellency took his departure, and the large assemblage then gradually dispersed, after one of the most pleasant evenings that could possibly have been conceived."

Construction of Hall

As subsequent administrators have found the opening of new buildings does not always provide sufficient accommodation and by 1881 the College had outgrown the buildings. In April of that year the Board adopted B. W. Mountfort's plans for a College Hall to be used for examinations, graduation ceremonies and public lectures and for a robing room and a professor's room on the ground floor adjacent to the Hall with a lecture room on the first floor.

The Hall was to be 80ft by 30ft, rising to a height of 43ft from floor to ceiling and adorned with a staircase turret, 76ft high. It was built by England and Martin for a contract price of £6290, the foundations having been separately contracted for one Finlay. The total amount involved was £7240.

The Hall was opened on Diploma Day, 29 August, 1882. "Though not so rich in colour as the Provincial Council Chamber, in which hitherto the ceremony has taken place, the Hall is much more commodious and in every way better adapted for the purpose, and large as was the attendance (even so large that many could not find seats) there was no appearance of uncomfortable crowding," said the *Lyttelton Times*. "The cathedral glass in the windows gave a light by no means favouring the complexions of the ladies, of whom the assemblage was largely constituted, and the prevalence of dark dresses made the *coup d'oeil* somewhat sombre compared with the many-hued brilliancy which would have streamed through the windows of the older hall."

Tenders Sought for Arts Buildings

The Ministry of Works estimates for the new buildings at Ilam for the Departments of History and Modern Languages have been sent to the University Grants Committee with a request for authority to call tenders for the work.

The History building will consist of 43 rooms, including staff studies, teaching rooms, a library, microfilm rooms and a store room. Modern Languages will have 52 rooms, including two laboratories.

Official Opening of Rutherford Hall

Congratulations to the University on its work and foresight in providing residential accommodation at Ilam was expressed by the Minister of Housing (Mr Holland) at the official opening of Rutherford Hall, the Methodist-Presbyterian-Baptist hall of residence housing 63 men and women students at Ilam.

Traditionally reliance had been placed on the inner city housing areas to provide accommodation for students and saturation point had almost been reached in the more accessible off-campus residential zones, Mr Holland said. This was one very real problem which faced the University when it was solely centred in the heart of Christchurch — that and the fact that there was just no room available for the expansion of facilities so necessary.

"The bigger universities, and their accommodation problems, are feeling the social costs of excessive centralisation. By far the better long-term alternative is to encourage universities in regional areas such as this site, where it is cheaper and can be planned with constant regard for aesthetics.

"Partly as a result of the move from the city centre to Ilam the University itself has had to recognise and accommodate, to a greater degree than in the past, the social, physical and welfare needs of its students.

"I understand that two further projects are presently under construction to provide further accommodation for the students here. With this in mind and a view to the ever increasing rolls in universities, I would like to offer my congratulations to the University as a whole for its work and foresight in this field."

Expressing the University's pleasure at the opening of the hall the Chancellor (Mr T. H. McCombs) said the Government saw the provision of halls of residence as a shared responsibility — among the University, the Government, civic authorities and the community, including the churches and voluntary organisations. The University was deeply conscious of the wide co-operation among these groups in the establishment of Rutherford Hall. The churches combined in a public appeal for funds, supported by the University. The community responded magnificently. The Government provided subsidies and halls were built.

But there was more to the story of Rutherford Hall than that. Rutherford Hall was planned by the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, and their long struggle to establish the hall was a striking example of ecumenical co-operation and determination. The two churches combined with the

Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches in the 1965 appeal, but funds and resources were inadequate for their plans. They then conducted an appeal among their own numbers under the inspiring leadership of the late Very Reverend M.W. Wilson. Later they were joined by the Baptist Church, and the Board representing the three Churches had worked in the closest co-operation with the Rochester Hall authorities in pressing the project to its satisfactory conclusion.

Rutherford Hall was part of the original concept of Rochester Hall, which was to consist of four accommodation blocks surrounding a central dining and kitchen block. Rochester had built two and Rutherford one of these blocks. If a fourth block was built, it could well be a block of flats with which both the Rutherford and Rochester Boards would be associated.

Rutherford Hall, designed by Mr Charles Thomas and built by Rea Enterprises, has accommodation for 50 men and 13 women students and was among the first in New Zealand to be designed specifically as a mixed hall. It had the advantage, also, of being relatively small and intimate, and since it was occupied at the start of the session, it had come a long way towards establishing its identity as a true community. If it was a privilege to be admitted to a hall, the students in Rutherford Hall had gone a long way towards justifying that privilege and towards establishing traditions which, it was hoped, would shape — and shape for the better — generations of students, many of them as yet unborn.

One of Lord Rutherford's grand-nephews, Mr Roger Sandford, is a first-year resident in the hall.

Grant for Bull Kelp Research

The Lottery Profits Scientific Research Distribution Committee has increased the grant it has made to Professor G.A. Knox for the investigation of bull kelp being undertaken by the Department of Zoology.

The committee had previously made a grant of \$7000 for this work. It has now made an additional grant of \$9000, making a total of \$16,000.

The committee has also made a grant of \$600 to Professor D.C. Stevenson (Mechanical Engineering) for the construction of two tilting beds.

Dr Jane Browning has accepted the offer of an extension of her post-doctoral fellowship in the Department of Chemistry from December 1972.

HALL PAPERS FOR LIBRARY

A close family connection with the University has been continued by the presentation to the Library of a comprehensive collection of correspondence, telegrams and newspaper clippings relating to New Zealand's early history.

Sir John Hall, Premier of New Zealand from 1879 to 1882 and a Canterbury pioneer, was a member of the original Board of Governors of Canterbury College. His home in Park Terrace was purchased by the College during the First World War and opened as Helen Connon Hall in 1918. Mr G. Hall, on behalf of the Hall family, has presented 100 bound volumes of Sir John Hall's meticulously kept and classified material to the Library. It will be a most valuable historical source.

Sir John Hall arrived in Canterbury in 1852. A secretary in the Post Office in London, he enlarged his experience aboard the vessel in which he sailed to Lyttelton by editing a newspaper, *The Soottee Sammee*, or *Samarang Gazette*. He carried this interest into the founding of the *Press* a few years later and was one of the 10 men listed in the deed of association of "The Proprietors of the *Press*". His grandson, Mr P.D. Hall, of Tai Tapu, is today chairman of directors of the Christchurch Press Company.

Though he became a pastoralist he held several provincial offices and was a prominent member of the Provincial Council. As chairman of the Municipal Council in 1863 he was effectively the first Mayor of Christchurch. He was Mayor in 1906, the year of the Christchurch Exhibition. He served in Parliament for nearly 40 years and by 1873, the year Canterbury College was founded, had been a member of five ministries. His political duties left little time for the business of the Canterbury College Board of Governors and he resigned his seat in 1875. He died in 1907.

Dr J.D. Allen, a lecturer in the School of Forestry has been granted an award of \$900 under the David Henry Scholarship, which is administered by the directors of N.Z. Forest Products, Ltd. The money will go towards the cost of a study trip to Australia, South Africa, Rhodesia, Kenya, Spain and Chile, where Dr Allen will do research on diseases and insect pests affecting radiata pine.