**1** November

1972

(Printed and Published by the Information Office, University of Canterbury)

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## University History to be Published Soon

In 1873 Disraeli told the House of Commons that a university should he a place of light, liberty and learning. How far the University of Canterbury, founded in the same year, met Dizzie's requirements is described in A History of the University of Canterbury, 1873-1973, which will be published in December to mark the Centennial of the University next year.

Written by W.J. Gardner, a reader in the History Department, E.T. Beardsley, Information Officer, and T.E. Carter, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and edited by the Vice-Chancellor (Professor N.C. Phillips), this substantial (530 pages) book is an affectionate but candid account of the origins of Canterbury College, its growth from a small liberal arts college to a complex modern university and the disputes inevitable in its progress to maturity.

History was described by Carlyle as the essence of innumerable biographies and this history is no exception. It abounds in fascinating portraits of the men and women who made the College into what it is today - among them the eccentric scientist. Alexander William Bickerton, who, said a colleague, "filled the College atmosphere in the early days with a kind of intellectual champagne," but who fell foul of the Board of Governors and was dismissed (his eventual rehabilitation makes an equally absorbing account): John Macmillan Brown, the indefatigable founding Professor of English, Classics and History, who brought a touch of Balliol and of Jowett to the empty site in Worcester Street; Francis Haslam, driving to his Classics lectures from Riccarton in a yellow dogcart; Arnold Wall, around whom divisions in the Professorial Board crystallised in the College's middle years; the ubiquitous James Shelley, bursting on the stuffy provincial society of 1920 like a continuous fireworks display: James Hight, who, as Rector, closed the breaches and set Canterbury on a true course; the "research revolution" set in train by Karl Popper and continued by Hugh Parton, John Packer and Robin Allan; Helen

Connon, a princess among the early students; Rutherford, O.T.J. Alpers, Denis Glover and their influence; the roles of Chairmen and Chancellors, Boards of Governors and Councils: and the influence and characters of the University's leaders.

The book is in four sections. Mr Gardner, editor of the three-volume centennial History of Canterbury, deals with the origins, foundation, growth and life of the College up to the First World War and provides a critical assessment of the work of the three founding professors and their relations with the Board of Governors as well as a memorable account of student life.

Mr Beardsley describes the struggle for survival as returns from endowments dwindled and almost disappeared during the economic depression of the 'thirties, the demands for academic reform, the divisions between the English and New Zealand-born academics, the development of a sense of community under Hight and the closing of the "Canty Coll," era as new ideas and students flooded into the universities after the Second World War.

In the third section, "College Into University", Professor Carter outlines the decline and fall of the University of New Zealand, the coming of independence and the long, agonised debate over the decision to transfer to llam. This section also contains a critical appraisal of the work, influence and characters of the full-time Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of recent times

Finally, Professor Phillips, in a wide-ranging Epilogue, sums up the past 100 vears.

Printed by the Caxton Press, the book is complete with illustrations, many appendices, a bibliography and an index.

Until 1 December A History of the University of Canterbury, 1873-1973 may be ordered at the pre-publication price of \$6. After that date it may be purchased only at the full retail price. Orders accompanied by cheque, payable to the University of Canterbury, or by money order will be received until 1 December by: The Secretary, Centennial Executive Committee, University of Canterbury, Christchurch 1.

CENTENNIAL 3-7 MAY 1973

#### CENTENNIAL PLANS

Two major exhibitions are planned during the University's Centennial celebrations in May.

The Centennial Executive Committee has approved an exhibition of work by distinguished former students of the School of Fine Arts. It will be held in the foyer of the Christchurch Town Hall from 3 May, the opening day of the celebrations, until 11 May. The exhibition will include paintings, sculptures, prints and design work. Many of the exhibits will come from former students now overseas.

The second will be an historical exhibition in the Canterbury Society of Arts Gallery, Gloucester Street. This will feature not only photographs of former staff, distinguished graduates and a photographic record of the buildings of Canterbury College, Canterbury University College and the University of Canterbury, but also equipment of historical interest and the Ministry of Works model of the new campus at Ilam. Slides and films dealing with the University's development are also planned.

These two exhibitions will be in addition to displays planned within departments and faculties. Displays drawing attention to the Centennial are also planned in several business premises in Christchurch.

A feature of the concert will be a composition by the head of the School of Music, Professor J.A. Ritchie, who was commissioned by Council earlier this year to prepare a work for the concert.

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The programme for the University's Centennial concert, to be held in the Town Hall auditorium on Sunday 6 May, has not vet been completed, but it is expected to include orchestral and choral works with a wide appeal.



from Wellington, formed an inseparable group at Canterbury College in the 'nineties They were Louisa Evelyn Bing, who graduated B.A. in 1895 and who later taught at Christchurch Girls' High School: Emily Rose Broome, born in Wymouth, Dorsetshire, and educated at Wellington Girls' High School, who graduated M.A. with honours in English and Latin in 1895: Alice Mary Fordham, from Wellington Girls' College, who became the first woman member of the Students' Association executive; and Selina Davy, who graduated B.A. in 1896 and who later married a Wellington barrister, C. Prendergast Knight.

Three of the group matriculated in 1891, the same year as James Hight, Ernest Rutherford, John Angus Erskine, William result from its exercise in co-education, Marris and Apirana Ngata, Among their contemporaries were Michael Myers, who was to become Chief Justice; John Caughley, a future Director of Education; George Lancaster, subsequently headmaster of Christchurch Boys' High School; Alexander Gunn Henderson, later editor of the Star, Christchurch, and of the Lyttelton Times and the first lecturer in journalism in the College; Frank Milner, a future headmaster of Waitaki Boys' High School; and Arthur Edward Flower, subsequently a teacher at Christ's College and for 34 years a member

Four young women, three of them of the College Board of Governors and chairman 1938 to 1944.

Mrs M. Binning, of Khandallah, a daughter of Mrs A.G. East (nee Fordham) recalls her mother's stories of life at Canterbury College in the 'nineties, Cycling was considered a daring occupation for "young ladies", the term by which they were always referred to, but the four rode cycles to the social morning teas that John Macmillan Brown, the founding Professor of English, Classics and History, often gave at his home, at first in Fendalton and then in Cashmere. They also cycled frequently to the home of Professor A.W. Bickerton, at Wainoni, on Sunday afternoons.

Although the College authorities were careful that no breath of scandal should segregation in lectures and common rooms and chaperones at all social occasions did not entirely frustrate romance. Marris was engaged to Miss Fordham before he went overseas to begin a career in the British Civil Service and the photograph above shows was probably taken at the home of Professor Bickerton, the bearded figure in biologists she was able to use the C.S.I.R.O. Napoleonic pose opposite Miss Fordham. The three other "young ladies" are also shown

#### Personal

Associate-Professor R. Shepherd, of the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Auckland, and formerly a reader in the Department of Civil Engineering at Canterbury, has been presented with the E.R. Cooper Medal of the Royal Society of New Zealand. The medal, which commemorates the first Director of the Dominion Physics Laboratory, was awarded to Associate-Professor Shepherd for his work in the field of engineering seismology.

Dr R.H. Stowell (English), who is on leave in the United States, has been appointed a post-doctoral research fellow at Yale for 1972-73. He has been awarded a grant by Newberry Library, Chicago, for research towards the preparation of a literary atlas of the United States.

Mrs H.J. Langer, a biometrician in the Botany Department, spent her recent leave with C.S.I.R.O., mainly at the Mathematical Statistics Division, Adelaide, She returned Marris, second from the right in the front, convinced that biometrics is essential to the with Miss Fordham standing beside him. It modern biologist. In addition to fruitful discussions with many statisticians and computer for a number of programs including a multivariate analysis of some vegetation types from the Manapouri area.

## Production of 'Peer Gvnt' is Planned

The Centennial production by the University Drama Society is expected to be Peer Gvnt. It will be presented in the James Hay Theatre in the Town Hall during the Centennial and societies will be making a celebrations

A dramatic poem by Ibsen, Peer Gynt was first produced with incidental music by Edvard Greig in 1876 and was later "deromanticised" by the composer, Harald Saeverad, A full orchestra will provide music for the University production.

Peer, a picaresque hero of folk origin, is part poet, part pariah, living out his life in a fusion of realism and fantasy in an effort to find himself. He lies somewhere in comparative mythology between the soaring romantic aspiration of Faust and the haunted search for self of the contemporary anti-hero. Indeed he has been described as the folk precursor of existential man.



STUDENT PLANS

Although firm arrangements cannot be completed until new officers are appointed at the start of the 1973 session, many student clubs are planning to participate in the Centennial celebrations. The Athletics and Cross-Country Club will hold a special meeting at the Ilam stadium on the afternoon of Saturday 5 May and this will be followed by a reunion cocktail party. Fencing, Rowing, Swimming, Judo and Deerstalkers' Clubs also plan displays or reunions

Some sporting activities will be available for visitors to the celebrations. There are breaks in the official programme on the afternoons of Saturday 5 May and Sunday 6 May and the University Tennis and Golf Clubs have been invited to arrange programmes for those wishing to participate on those days. In addition, the University Squash Club plans to arrange matches.

The Square Dancing Club will hold a special square dance on the evening of Sunday 6 May.



# Departments

Faculties, departments, clubs

significant contribution to the University's Centennial celebrations in May. Five departments are planning to hold seminars or symposia with invited lecturers. Some will conclude with a reunion buffet

meal Three departments will hold special meetings with associated organisations and others are planning reunions.

In addition to departmental activities, the major function in the School of Engineering will be a Centennial Conversazione, which will run during the celebrations

The Faculty of Science plans displays within departments with intensive phases of demonstrations for visitors. It is expected that these activities will culminate in a graduates' reunion

Some Arts departments are planning displays and others reunions with graduates. The work of some departments in the Arts Faculty will be featured in the historical exhibition in the Canterbury Society of Arts Gallery.

#### New Sciences Librarian Dr James W. Leonard has arrived from

Canada to take up the position of Sciences Librarian. He replaces Mr Robert Erwin, who is now Reference Librarian in the Main Library in the city site.

Dr Leonard, who is married to a New Zealander, took his first degree at the University of California at Santa Barbara, and graduated Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Oregon in 1968. From 1969 to 1971 he was a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Cyclotron Group in the Department of Physics at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, where he participated in the planning and running of nuclear reaction experiments with a 50MeV cyclotron and lithium-drifted germanium radiation detector. He then moved to the University of Western Ontario, where he graduated Master of Library Science in August 1972

Dr Leonard has published papers in the Bulletin of the American Physical Society and in Nuclear Physics. He is a member of both the American Physical Society and the Canadian Association of Physicists.

### Productive Study Leave

Dr R.S. Bigelow, a reader in the Zoology Department, had a productive year's study leave, which ended in August. He completed:

(1) A 10,000-word paper entitled The Evolution of Cooperation, Aggression, and Self-Control which will appear in the Nebraska Symposium for 1972.

(2) A shorter paper entitled Genetic Drift and Human Evolution, which will appear this year in Bollettino di Zoologia.

Twelve taped lectures, each approximately 60 minutes long, under contract for the Behavioral Sciences Tape Library. The completed lectures involved a total of about 120,000 words.

141 A paper on Samuel Butler and Evolution, which was delivered at the Samuel Butler Symposium at the University in May.

(5) A paper entitled The Role of Competition and Self-Control in Human Evolution, which was delivered at the ANZAAS Symposium on Ethology and the Study of Human Behaviour at Sydney in August. This paper was given very favourable comment by Sir Macfarlane Burnet during his summation at the close of the symposium

In addition Dr Bigelow was able to complete a draft of about 16,000 words, intended as part of a book on human evolution. This draft was submitted to his Boston publishers and he was encouraged to continue work on the book.

He was also able to complete another paper which has been read and approved by leading authorities in America, Britain, Germany, and New Zealand but which has yet to be accepted for publication.

Dr Bigelow gave lectures on human evolution at the Teachers' Conference on Man in the Biosphere in Christchurch in August, at Otago University in September, and at Stanford, Nebraska, Michigan, Rutgers and Sheffield Universities in February, March, and April.

A Ph.D. student at the University, Mr G.W. Rice, has been appointed to a lectureship in the Department of History and will commence duties on 1 February 1973. Mr Rice graduated M.A. with first class hours, his thesis topic being the medieval Muslim sect known as the Assassins and their struggle against the Crusaders in Syria. His doctoral thesis is on the career of an 18th century English diplomat and is expected to be completed at the end of this year. Mr Rice has held a John Connal Scholarship, a University Senior Scholarship and a U.G.C. Postgraduate Scholarship, under which he spent 1971 in London at the Institute of Historical Research.

#### Looking Backwards

## Chemistry Department Spent First 40

Temporary buildings are no innovation at the University, Chemistry, one of the first subjects taught at Canterbury College, had no permanent home for nearly 40 years. The Chemistry Department building backing on Hereford Street and now occupied by the Education Department and American Studies was not completed until 1910. Before that chemistry was taught in probably the most unlovely building ever seen on the city site - a huge two and a half storeved building clad in corrugated iron which stood on the site of the present Library

There Alexander William Bickerton, the first of the professors to arrive after the establishment of Canterbury College in 1873, presided until the he left the College in 1903 after a series of disputes with the Board of Governors, Bickerton, initially Professor of Chemistry and Physics, was certainly the most colourful character of the University's first 100 years. His ashes are inurned in the western wall of the University Hall behind a plaque bearing this inscription

In memory of Alexander William Bickerton whose ashes here lie inurned. First Professor of this College, Appointed December 1873. Professor of Chemistry to January 1903 (including Physics to December 1900). Much loved for his warm sympathies and admired for his daring flights of thought.

When Bickerton arrived in Christchurch in 1874 Canterbury College existed in name only and his first lectures were given in the Oddfellows Hall in Lichfield Street, west of High Street, But in 1876 the Board of Governors accepted the tender of J.H. Kerr for £2347.18s.6d to build the Chemistry laboratory. The building was in use a few months before the main block was opened on 7 June 1877 by the Marquis of Normanby

The "old tin shed" as the Chemistry building became known, looms almost like a battleship from a page of Hight and Candy's History of Canterbury College. Not only was it a temporary building, but it was never really finished. Bickerton made do with it. but his successor, William Percival Evans, Professor of Chemistry 1903-23, was far from satisfied. It was the founding Professor of Mathematics, Charles Henry Herbert Cook, who pointed the way to finding resources for constructing a new Chemistry

attention to the Coldstream Reserve.

reserve vested in the College and in 1907 a jarrah deputation from the Board of Governors, were able to congratulate the College a few months later "on obtaining the measure of justice for which those who administer its appeals."

The rentals from the reserve since 1881 amounted to £4760, the Government provided a subsidy of £4000 and an appeal 1908 the tender of W. Greig and Sons to erect the building for £8168 was accepted.

When the foundation stone was laid by the chairman of the Board of Governors. Mr G.W. Russell, on 4 June, 1909, Professor Evans said it was almost unnecessary for him to refer to the need for a new laboratory, but he would clinch the subject with a quotation from his old friend and tutor, Professor Bickerton, who had written: "I remember when the old chemical laboratory was put up the greater part of the laboratory was left out because of insufficient funds." If the laboratory had been unfinished then, surely a new one was necessary now. Professor Evans said the old building

was in the first place a temporary one and its wood and plaster walls had become so thoroughly saturated with acid fumes and offered so little resistance to the passage of moisture that it had become almost impossible to keep any apparatus properly in it. It was moreover distinctly a "topsy-turvy" building - damp, dingy, dirty, drab, disreputable.

The new building was opened by Sir Joseph Ward on 23 February 1910. It stood on the old College tennis court, had a ground area of 110ft by 50ft and rose 60ft from the basement floor. A tower, which acted as a water tower, rose 13ft above the roof. Describing it in the Canterbury College Review Professor Evans said it could lav claim to being extremely substantial, "The walls are composite, the exterior being of aims of the department. What is the new

building. In 1897 he directed the Board's Halswell blue stone with dressings of Heathcote Valley stone in the basement and This reserve, in Ashburton, had been the buttresses, and of white Oamaru stone aside for the purposes of higher elsewhere. The roof is of blue slate with education by the University Reserve Act of simple but effective zigzag bands in green, 1875, but had been vested in the Crown, In The two lower floors are of concrete, the 1906 a Citizens' Committee was formed in main one covered with an inch of Trinidad Christchurch with the object of having the asphalt, while the upper floor is of picked

"The whole of the ground floor. backed up by almost all the Canterbury reached by a flight of bluestone steps, is members of Parliament, waited on the devoted to laboratory purposes, and is Premier, Sir Joseph Ward, grandfather of Sir divided into a main laboratory (50ft. x Joseph G.D. Ward, a former chairman of the 40ft.), a senior laboratory (40ft. x 25ft.), a College Council, and the Minister of senior balance room (20ft. x 12ft.), and a Education. The result was that the Christ- cloak room. On the first floor are the church newspapers, which had strongly lecture room (30ft. x 30ft.), the preparation supported the College's claim to the reserve, room (37ft. x 12ft.), the collection room (20ft, x 15ft.), the professor's room, demonstrator's room, and reading room (each 18ft. x 13ft.), a physico-chemical affairs had made a number of fruitless laboratory (40ft. x 24ft.), and a corresponding balance room (16ft, 6in x 13ft, 6in.).

"The basement, which has a clear height of 8ft. 6ins., and is exceptionally well lighted, contains a store for chemicals (40ft. to the public produced £90. In December, x 25ft.), with a special compartment for dangerous goods, a gas analysis room, and a special research room (each 23ft. x 16ft.), a strong room (10ft. x 8ft.), an explosion room, and a workshop (each 16ft. x 11ft.). and a technical laboratory (40ft. x 25ft.); while the roof harbours a well-lighted glass-store (60ft, x 17ft.), with a clear height of 11ft, under the straining beams.

"Throughout the whole building special ventilation is provided, firstly by means of tobins on the mullions, and secondly by means of glazed earthenware pipes built into the buttresses, and carried right up to the various finials. All the up-shafts from the main laboratory are connected with an electric pressure fan, so that the draught in them is positive during the whole time the room is in use by students

"The heating is effected by gas-fired radiators, except in the lecture-room, which has a special hot water system, and the private rooms, which are fitted with electric radiators. The lighting is electric in the basement, private rooms, and passages but otherwise ordinary incandescent gas burners have been adopted

"It only remains to add that as far as can be judged by the experience of the past month, the building is not going to disappoint either those who were responsible for its details or those students who will have to work within its walls.

"Naturally before concluding a few words must be written with reference to the

## Years in 'Temporary' Building

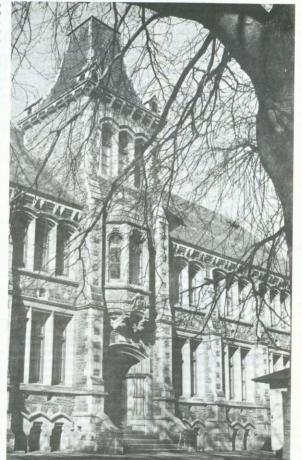
laboratory going to do? That question time alone can answer fully, but a sketch may be given now of what one would wish it to do.

"Firstly, it must supply the needs of students of all grades, from the irresponsible freshman to the hard working sober graduate; secondly, it must offer every facility for post-graduate research; and thirdly, it must ever be prepared to help those who have helped it, and, as far as its means allow, cheerfully undertake the investigation of any question bearing upon the industries of the Dominion. Work, indeed, is easily found, and workers will surely increase in numbers as the years roll on.

"May those who thus come to swell the ranks be permitted to find at least some fragment of the true philosopher's stone, for such there is in spite of modern critics. It is simply a compound of labour, perseverance, and genius, and the gold it produces is the gold of true knowledge, which neither tarnishes nor fades away." Professor Evans said

The building proved adequate for many years and it was a new Library which was given priority in the College's building plans during the 'thirties. The economic depression and then the outbreak of war prevented the translation of this plan into bricks and mortar. It was the sudden increase in the student roll after the war together with a new interest in science, that made expansion of the Chemistry Department necessary. A new Chemistry block on the site of the Students' Union was proposed, but this plan was gradually discarded as the Council gave up the idea of extending on to the block to the north in favour of transferring the whole University to Ilam. The decision meant several years of severe overcrowding in Chemistry, a situation only partly relieved by expansion into the old School of Engineering when the engineers moved to their new buildings at Ilam in 1960.

The then Vice-Chancellor, Dr. L.L. Pownall, conducted numerous distinguished visitors through the department at this period. One of them was the retiring Minister of Education, Mr H.L. Pickering, who recalled: "I was appalled with the overcrowding, the impossible and cramped conditions in which students and lecturers were trying to work, including Science laboratories dangerously turned into attics. The buildings may have been picturesque to view from the street, but inside they were working in places where there was not even room to stand up straight."



The old Chemistry block today. The huge trees which shade the south quadrangle were planted after the building was opened.

## Work on New Book During Study Leave

A follow-up volume to The History of the Mongol Conquests, published last year, is planned by Mr J.J. Saunders, a reader in the History Department. It will be a study of relations between Europe and Asia during the Mongol age (13th and 14th centuries). During study leave this year Mr Saunders collected material for the book in London.

In a report on his leave Mr Saunders said The History of the Mongol Conquests, the first book on this topic to appear in English for nearly 100 years, had been on the whole well received. An American edition came out at the same time and Spanish and Turkish translations were being prepared. The Turks were particularly interested in the Mongols, whose antiquities were linked, and he was flattered to find the book on sale in Istanbul.

Mr Saunders spent his leave mainly in Britain, but the journey from New Zealand was broken by several stops, including one at Beirut.

The Lebanon is a country peculiarly attractive to the historian; its antiquities stretch back to Phoenician times, the museum at Beirut contains the oldest surviving example of an alphabetic script, the stupendous Roman ruins at Baalbek are the greatest in the world, and I was able to examine with more than usual interest the finely preserved Crusaders' castle at By blos," he said, "I also visited the American University of Beirut, a campus beautifully sited among cypress groves overlooking the Mediterranean; I had some contacts with Professor David Gordon, who heads the History Department there, and who had some interesting comments to make on the treatment of the historical past in an ex-colonial country: as we leave the shores of European historiography, he remarked, we move into unchartered seas. Only in the West has the past been studied objectively for its own sake; in the new countries of Asia and Africa history is a means of building a national consciousness and there is scarcely a pretence of finding out 'what actually happened'.

"After brief halts at Istanbul, Athens, Rome and Florence, I proceeded to the Villa Serbelloni by Lake Como, where I had been invited as the guest of the Rockefeller Foundation. The Director assured me that I was the first scholar from New Zealand to be so honoured, and I passed here six weeks in beautiful surroundings with facilities for study and writing and with opportunities of meeting distinguished diplomats, scholars, public figures and specialists in many fields who were attending the frequent international conferences held there.

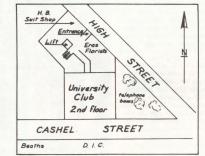
"From Italy I flew to England and settled in London for the summer. At the Vice-Chancellor's request, I represented the University of Canterbury at the plenary Conference of Anglo-American historians held at the Senate House of London University, and again found myself the only New Zealander present. I attended most of the meetings, heard a wide variety of papers read and discussed and met several old friends and former colleagues. I was particularly impressed by a symposium on the social significance of 16th and 17th century witchcraft, to which notables like Trevor-Roper and Keith Thomas contributed. I also visited Oxford, the University of Sussex at Brighton, and in the course of a brief trip to Scotland, the University of St Andrews," Mr Saunders said.

# CLUB WILL OPEN SOON

The renovation of the University Club in its new premises on the second floor of Hallenstein's Building, is proceeding well and the new Club will reopen there early in November.

Reporting this to a meeting of the University of Canterbury Association the chairman (Mr V.M. Busby) said he had been delighted with the progress made since the granting by the Licensing Control Commission of the transfer of the Club's charter to the new premises. Although the lift had been out of operation the contractor had managed to get his materials into the premises and had worked steadily towards completing the renovations.

The entrance to the Club is from High Street and the lift or stairway may be used to reach the second floor.



# 1972 Yearbook Published

The 1972 Commonwealth Universities Yearbook, the forty-ninth edition of the well-known annual directory, which is the principal publication of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, has now been published.

The Yearbook is a standard guide which provides in its 2, 100 pages the essential facts needed by university teachers and administrators, students, and others seeking detailed information about the facilities, organisation, staff and activities of university institutions of good standing in the Commonwealth. This edition contains information about universities in Bangladesh and in Pakistan.

There is a separate chapter for each of 240 universities which contains general information including detailed sections on First and Higher Degrees, and a complete list of teaching staff arranged by subjects. Authoritative essays by leading academic personalities introduce the pages for Australia, Britain, Canada, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Each is primarily intended for people abroad as a factual guide to university education in that country.

There are six appendices. One contains a detailed summary of the admission requirements of universities in Australia, Britain, Canada, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan and Bangladesh, plus for each country an introductory note intended to put into perspective for overseas readers the university-by-university descriptions of entrance requirements. Another contains chapters on those of the universities in the Republic of Ireland and South Africa that were formerly in the membership of the Association.