

THE NEEDS OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

IMPORTANT MEETING.

A meeting to consider a scheme for raising a fund to meet the more urgent needs of the University of Oxford was held yesterday afternoon in the theatre of the Civil Service Commission at Burlington-gardens by permission of the First Commissioner of Works. LORD CURZON, Chancellor of the University, presided, and there was a large and distinguished gathering, which included the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. Asquith, Lord Peel, Lord Milner, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Brassey, Lady Wantage, Lord Radnor, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Goschen, Mr. and Lady Idina Brassey, the Vice-Chancellor and Mrs. Warren, Sir W. Anson, M.P.; Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., Sir R. Mowbray, Mr. Walter, Mr. Younger, K.C., and Dr. Parkin.

The CHANCELLOR, who was warmly received, said:—Your Grace, my Lords and Gentlemen,—One of the most distinguished sons of Oxford, Lord Lansdowne, was to have been among our speakers this afternoon, but he has unfortunately been prevented from attending. I had also hoped that either Lord Salisbury or Lord Hugh Cecil would be present to identify the illustrious name of their family with this new effort to benefit the University upon which it has already conferred so much honour; but both of them, although in hearty sympathy with this movement, had prior engagements elsewhere. I am sorry to say, too, that almost at the last moment I learnt that the Lord Chancellor, who was down to propose the principal resolution, has been detained in another place by the appetite for duty of the House of Lords; but he has sent me a letter, which I will read. He says:—"That which I feared has happened. The House of Lords sits to-day and begins its public business at 4.30, and there is, I fear, little chance of my getting to the Oxford meeting. I am very sorry, for I am convinced that it is the duty of all of us to support you and the Vice-Chancellor; but though, as Oxford men, we ought to show an example, we have no right to keep to ourselves the privilege of helping the University to fulfil her duty to the nation." I am afraid that, in the absence of some of these big guns, our artillery will sound with a rather imperfect resonance; but it has been pointed out to me that my first duty as Chancellor is to take the place of my absent namesake, and therefore I am to propose the first resolution on the agenda paper, which stands in his name, and which I will read. It is as follows:—"That a fund be raised, entitled the Oxford University Appeal Fund, to meet the needs of the University as set forth in the letter signed by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, which was published in the newspapers on May 2, 1907."

"A STURDY BEGGAR."

Now, my lords and gentlemen, I do not know whether any apology is needed from me if my first appearance as the Chancellor of the University (cheers), which has thus conferred its greatest honour upon me, is to act as a sturdy beggar in her behalf. (Laughter.) If this were so, I think I might find an excuse, or at any rate a parallel, in the earlier history of Oxford itself; but I prefer to rest my case upon the necessities of the situation as they are known to most of you who are here to-day. The growing needs, the unfulfilled requirements, of Oxford have been a matter not only of notoriety, but of discussion in the University itself for years. Seven years ago Cambridge passed through the same experience, and under the enlightened guidance of her present Chancellor wisely initiated a similar appeal. I wish that we had done it then. Let us, at any rate, lose no time in doing it now. (Hear, hear.) I daresay that the ordinary University man, whose memories and affections are for the most part centred in the college of which he was once a member, hardly realizes what is the University as distinct from the college to which he formerly belonged. And yet it is the University—its governing body, its statutes, its institutions and buildings, its examinations and degrees, its professors and lecturers, its noble library, and its liberal Press—it is the University, even more than the colleges, which is the real air and spirit, the real guardian of the traditions of Oxford. (Hear, hear.) It is the University which, after all, lends by its corporate action unity and cohesion to what might otherwise be a concourse of sometimes warring atoms. It is the University, as distinct from the colleges, which, in spite of the contributions made to it by the colleges—contributions which are in some

ways just add one word as to what in my judgment ought to be and what ought not to be our object in soliciting this money for the University of Oxford? In the replies which I have received to the letters I have written I have observed two strains of apparently contradictory thought. One man has said that he was not disposed to give much so long as it was necessary to study a dead language in order to obtain a degree at Oxford. Another man has said that he was not in favour of any movement which would tend to deprive Oxford of her ancient and historic character as the guardian of the humanities, or which would compel her to conform to purely utilitarian standards. In my replies I endeavoured to pacify both those classes of correspondents (laughter) and, if I may judge by the result, I think I may say that I did it with success, and yet I think I may say that I did it without the smallest compromise of truth.

CHARACTER AND TRADITIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

In the first place, no son of Oxford, no lover of progress in education, would desire to destroy or to impair the ancient character and traditions of Oxford University. (Cheers.) We all of us cherish the atmosphere of broad and liberal culture which emanates from her halls and quadrangles, and which not even the fumes of a hundred laboratories ought ever to be allowed to extinguish. We all of us wish to retain Oxford as the stronghold and fortress of what is often described as the old learning. (Cheers.) Further, it is not our business, and it would be vain for us to attempt to compete with those Universities of the new type which are springing up with such astonishing vitality and success in many of our great manufacturing cities and towns. Those Universities represent a type not inconsistent with but different from that of Oxford. They have different means, they subserve a different end, they are equipped with resources and appliances especially adapted to particular branches of mechanical or scientific training. Their spheres are alongside our own, but they are not identical with our own. Let us see that as far as possible they do not overlap, but let us see still more that they do not collide. But if Oxford, quite apart from the question of these new Universities, is still to retain that position which she has always claimed as the University of the better part of this nation, and still more if she is to become what the far-sighted conception of the latest and greatest of her benefactors, Cecil Rhodes, foresaw for her—if she is to become the central and leading University of the Empire, and, we might almost say, of the English-speaking portion of the globe—then Oxford must give to her new *clientèle* what that new *clientèle* demands. (Hear, hear.) She cannot continue to mumble old shibboleths, although for my part I do not believe she has ever shown the slightest inclination to do so. She must show herself in touch with all the science and educational movements of the time; and while she gives to her students the basis of good learning and culture which has built up her character, she must give her followers the practical training for every-day life. I for one have sufficient belief in the vitality and resourcefulness of Oxford to believe that she is capable of undertaking this task. Reforms are being pressed upon us with astonishing exuberance from without. For my own part I think that a good many of them are capable of being quietly and noiselessly effected from within. (Cheers.) For the advice so liberally showered upon us I am sure that we are grateful, and I hope we shall profit by it (laughter). But one proposition—and with this I will conclude—is, I think, certain—that no reforms can be effected in Oxford, that no substantial advance in carrying out her work in the world can be expected, that she cannot be expected to rise to the level of her great traditions, or her still greater opportunities, unless greater resources are placed at her disposal. (Hear, hear.) It is for those resources that we appeal to-day; and we address that appeal first to old Oxford men, who will be guided by their pride in her traditions and their jealousy for her honour, and secondly, to the large outside field not necessarily possessing any Oxford connexion, but who, we hope, will see in this ancient and famous institution, if revived and re-endowed, as we hope, a potent instrument for moulding the character and increasing the usefulness of the Anglo-Saxon race. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. ASQUITH, who was received with cheers, seconded the resolution. He said that the first observation which occurred to him was that the appeal was primarily, though not exclusively, addressed to Oxford men. In such an appeal, if a case of necessity was established, there was nothing derogatory to either the dignity or the great traditions of an ancient University. Oxford need not be ashamed, in that majestic old age which was with her the perpetual renewal of an unexhausted youth, to call her own sons to her aid. For which of them was there who did not recognize the bond which united them together? Of whatever age or calling they might be, and to whatever schools of thought or of practice in theology or in philosophy or in politics they might be attached, the bond which united them as old Oxford men was as solid in its strength and as real in the responsi-

great pro-Consuls of our time and those who at home were holding the reins of responsible government in the most authoritative way were looking back to Oxford as the source where they themselves acquired those crafts and arts, and asking that Oxford might be equipped rightly to discharge what seemed to him to be not the least of her responsible tasks—the education of the leaders of the days that were to come. (Cheers.)

LORD MILNER seconded the resolution. He said that no doubt a certain amount of criticism came from the University itself as to the desirability of the movement in which they were engaged. He regarded that as a very inspiring fact. If Oxford had allowed that movement to pass in a spirit of dull unanimity, if it had failed to criticize it, or, indeed, anything, it would not have been the Oxford which they had all known and loved. (Laughter.) It would not have been the Oxford so full of young and ardent and conscientious spirits that there was never any principle so obvious or any movement so obviously beneficial that it was allowed to pass without some one to say it nay. (Laughter.) If Oxford, the home of criticism, had failed to produce a critic of a proposal so bold, and he had almost said so vulgar, as that of simply sending the hat round to get £250,000 for its most obvious needs, he would have regarded it as a most alarming symptom of academic decadence. (Laughter.) They were spared that painful spectacle, and they had every reason to hope that their dear *Alma Mater* would preserve her well-deserved reputation of not allowing anything to be done to her without a fuss—a local fuss, at any rate, and sometimes a national fuss. (Laughter.) He hoped it would have a good effect on the subscription list. There was nothing like controversy for a good advertisement, and you could not obtain money on any large scale without advertisement. Therefore he thought they had every reason to regard this controversy in a cheerful spirit. (Cheers.) They were asking for a moderate amount. He entirely agreed with his friend Mr. Asquith that thousands of them who were Oxford men owed her a debt which was more than could be measured in terms of money, and they included, he thought, some hundreds who were pretty well materially endowed. They ought not to have any difficulty, therefore, in obtaining the sum they desired. If it was said that it was not reasonable to ask for the further endowment of Oxford until every one was satisfied that all its present endowments were applied in the best possible way, they could only reply that, in view of the diversity of human opinion, in view especially of the diversity of academic opinion, they could never expect a time to come when everybody would be agreed that all the existing resources were devoted to the very best possible use. All they knew was that the University was short of money to fulfil its duty not only as a great home of classical learning, but also as the University in a broad sense of the word competent to keep up with all the new studies of the time. They realized the need, and, if it was said that they ought to wait before trying to supply these needs till the University had reformed itself and applied all its present endowments to the best possible purpose, his reply was that the University was constantly reforming itself, that its resident members had been animated for years by a liberal and self-sacrificing spirit in the matter of the readjustment of their existing endowments, and, finally, that even if those endowments were properly applied, as nothing in this world could be absolutely perfect, there still would not be sufficient for all the purposes of the day. It was only reasonable that, as the bulk of the money was coming from non-resident members of Oxford, they should retain the main control of the fund; but he did not anticipate that there would be any friction at all, though there would, no doubt, be division of opinion among the trustees. He never expected, however, to see the residents on the one side and the non-residents on the other. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR moved the following resolution:—"That a committee be appointed to consider the best means of raising subscriptions for the fund. That the committee do consist of the following members with power to add to their number, and that the college authorities be consulted as to the formation of a committee in each college:—The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Rector of Exeter, the Warden of New College, the Warden of All Souls, Lord Hugh Cecil, Hon. Edward Wood, Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Hon. T. A. Brassey, Lord Justice Farwell, Sir Robert Mowbray, Sir Walter Lawrence, the Hon. B. R. Wise, Mr. L. S. Amery, Mr. C. E. Hobhouse, M.P., Mr. Harold Hodge, Mr. F. Huth Jackson, Professor Miers, Professor Osler, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey, the Rev. E. Warren, D.D., and Mr. R. Younger, K.C." He said that it was a special pleasure to him to meet and join with old friends in this common cause of laying before them, and before that wider Oxford still which could not be gathered within the walls of that room, and in a sense before the world, the position and needs of Oxford at the present moment. One of the oldest and most distinguished sons

appeared as the Chancellor of the University (cheers), which has thus conferred its greatest honour upon me, is to act as a sturdy beggar in her behalf. (Laughter.) If this were so, I think I might find an excuse, or at any rate a parallel, in the earlier history of Oxford itself; but I prefer to rest my case upon the necessities of the situation as they are known to most of you who are here to-day. The growing needs, the unfulfilled requirements, of Oxford have been a matter not only of notoriety, but of discussion in the University itself for years. Seven years ago Cambridge passed through the same experience, and under the enlightened guidance of her present Chancellor wisely initiated a similar appeal. I wish that we had done it then. Let us, at any rate, lose no time in doing it now. (Hear, hear.) I daresay that the ordinary University man, whose memories and affections are for the most part centred in the college of which he was once a member, hardly realizes what is the University as distinct from the college to which he formerly belonged. And yet it is the University—its governing body, its statutes, its institutions and buildings, its examinations and degrees, its professors and lecturers, its noble library, and its liberal Press—it is the University, even more than the colleges, which is the real air and spirit, the real guardian of the traditions of Oxford. (Hear, hear.) It is the University which, after all, lends by its corporate action unity and cohesion to what might otherwise be a concourse of sometimes warring atoms. It is the University, as distinct from the colleges, which, in spite of the contributions made to it by the colleges—contributions often in excess of their legal requirements, and in spite of grants in aid and donations from the outside—is and remains permanently poor. You must not imagine it is poor because it has misspent its resources; it is poor because those resources are inadequate to meet the claims made upon them. I would not go so far as to say that the genious benefactor in relation to the University is extinct in these islands, but it is unquestionable that he has been reincarnated in much more lively form across the Atlantic than we find here, and that hospitals and charities play a much larger part than do Universities in the wills of the wealthy benefactor. Meantime, increasing demands continue to be made on the University from year to year. More students flock to Oxford from all parts of the world (cheers), new courses of study are required and are opened, and diplomas and degrees are given in subjects which, when I was an undergraduate 25 years ago, had never been thought of in the University curriculum. Fresh buildings are required, the equipment of modern knowledge, modern scientific training, is inevitably more expensive and more varied than any other corresponding branch of study. Postgraduate study and research has come upon Oxford on the heels of the ordinary academic courses. That is the origin of the present situation. That Oxford cannot cope with the situation thus developed is indisputable. That she ought to cope with it, if she is to retain her historic character and to deserve the name of liberal University in the fullest sense of the word, few will deny. That she desires to cope with it is certain. (Cheers.)

ORIGIN OF THE MOVEMENT.

I now come to the origin of the movement to set these matters straight. Five years ago the authorities of the University conducted a careful scrutiny into the educational requirements of Oxford at that time, and the results of that scrutiny can be seen in a printed report, which is accessible to those who desire it; but scrutiny is a very different thing from solution, and solution is not possible without funds. Then it was that, in a fortunate moment, Mr. Brassey (cheers), who had already shown himself a most liberal benefactor to Balliol, appeared upon the scene, and turned his active mind and his generous disposition to the relief of the larger needs of the parent University. The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, Sir William Anson, Professor Miers, and Professor Osler joined hands with him. Together they sifted and collaborated the most urgent among the requirements of Oxford, of which I have spoken; and they drew up a scheme framed for the satisfaction of the principal among those needs for what I think may be considered a not unreasonable sum of money—a quarter of a million sterling. No effort was spared in Oxford to submit this scheme to the judgment, and to obtain for it the approval, of the leading University teachers and authorities. It was approved by every head of a college with one exception. It was approved by the late Chancellor, Lord Goschen. It was approved by the most eminent old Oxford men not living in the University itself. I have been asked to accept the chairmanship of an association to push this scheme to a practical solution. (Cheers.) Just at this moment the late Chancellor, Lord Goschen, died, and a new Chancellor was elected in his place. Well, it seemed to me that the first and foremost duty of the new incumbent of that office was to assume charge of this scheme and make himself, so far as he could, personally responsible for its success (cheers); and also that the most practical method of inviting for it from old Oxford men and the public at large the support for which we are appealing to-day was, if possible, that he should come to this meeting with a list in his hand to show that many of the wealthier sons of Oxford were already behind the movement, that many of those who had not had what we regard as the advantage of an Oxford education were in closest sympathy with it, and that the scheme was being started with the strongest practical chance of success.

THE AMOUNT ALREADY SUBSCRIBED.

I have in my hand a list which will be handed to the Press at the close of these proceedings, and which will

tions, or her still greater opportunities, unless greater resources are placed at her disposal. (Hear, hear.) It is for those resources that we appeal to-day; and we address that appeal first to old Oxford men, who will be guided by their pride in her traditions and their jealousy for her honour, and secondly, to the large outside field not necessarily possessing any Oxford connexion, but who, we hope, will see in this ancient and famous institution, if revived and re-endowed, as we hope, a potent instrument for moulding the character and increasing the usefulness of the Anglo-Saxon race. (Loud cheers.)

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He thought they would all say that, whether they regarded the activities, useful or other, which absorbed their time at Oxford, the tastes acquired or developed, the friendships formed or deepened, the ambitions and ideals impressed, they would all say, from whatever stage in life they now reviewed the old days, that the whole was steeped in an atmosphere and suffused with associations which gave it a colour and quality of its own in the whole web of their experience. (Cheers.) They were not arrogant enough to deny to the less fortunate alumni of other ancient foundations the right to entertain a similar feeling for their own academic mothers. Perhaps few of them were sufficiently saturated with the old academic spirit which actuated an old don who belonged to the college from which the Chancellor and he both sprang, who was reported to have said of an eminent character in English history that he suffered from the one irreparable misfortune in a man's life—that of having been educated at the University of Cambridge. (Laughter.) The University of Cambridge was well capable of looking after itself, and he was sure they all extended to it their heartiest sympathy in the efforts it was making. (Cheers.) But the question for them was, "What is the appeal which is made by our University to us?" The real appeal which Oxford made to them to-day was on the ground that she was poor. Poverty was always a relative term, and when they said she was poor they meant poor in relation to her actual needs and actual duties. These needs and duties seemed to him to fall within three categories. In the first place without entering in any degree into competition with those more specialized institutions which to the great advantage of the community had been established over England in recent years, she must, if she wished to keep abreast of her mission—he was almost afraid to say it there, but he was going to use the phrase, she must "broaden the basis" of her curriculum. (Laughter and loud cheers.) He had not realized for the moment that his friend Lord Milner was there, or else wild horses certainly would not have dragged any such expression from him. (Laughter.) But without going into the controversial vocabulary—which was more and more shutting off from those engaged in public speaking some of the most useful expressions in the English language (laughter)—he thought he might say this, that it was the duty of those interested in the fame and fortune of Oxford that she should be provided with apparatus in respect of our own language, of French, and of German, to give the best teaching that could be given to those who, from all parts of the Empire, were flocking within her walls. And in regard to natural science, she should not, indeed, provide for its practical applications, but for that apparatus without which the principles and truths of science could not in these days be properly apprehended. In the next place, they must never forget, as the Chancellor had reminded them, that Oxford was a trustee of one of the most famous libraries in the whole world. The Bodleian Library was almost their most priceless possession, and it was also one of their most responsible trusts. It was with a feeling of shame that he read in the letter published the other day by the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor that that great institution was crippled in the pursuit of its work by want of space for its books, by want of room for those who desired to consult them, and by want of a well-arranged and a well-printed catalogue. And, lastly, the provision for these new wants was not to be in competition with, or in exclusion of, or in curtailment of the best traditions of Oxford as the school in which, better than anywhere else in the world, the great humanities were to be taught and learned. If they were asked to make provision for new studies and new interests, it was not that they might expel, but that they might supplement and purify and enrich, the old. The sum which was asked—£250,000—was certainly not an exorbitant sum. He doubted whether it reached the limits of Oxford's legitimate demands. He could not doubt that the response

the main control of the fund; but he did not anticipate that there would be any friction at all, though there would, no doubt, be division of opinion among the trustees. He never expected, however, to see the residents on the one side and the non-residents on the other. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR moved the following resolution:—"That a committee be appointed to consider the best means of raising subscriptions for the fund. That the committee do consist of the following members with power to add to their number, and that the college authorities be consulted as to the formation of a committee in each college:—The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Rector of Exeter, the Warden of New College, the Warden of All Souls, Lord Hugh Cecil, Hon. Edward Wood, Hon. W. F. D. Smith, Hon. T. A. Brassey, Lord Justice Farwell, Sir Robert Mowbray, Sir Walter Lawrence, the Hon. B. R. Wise, Mr. L. S. Amery, Mr. C. E. Hobhouse, M.P., Mr. Harold Hodge, Mr. F. Huth Jackson, Professor Miers, Professor Osler, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey, the Rev. E. Warre, D.D., and Mr. R. Younger, K.C." He said that it was a special pleasure to him to meet and join with old friends in this common cause of laying before them, and before that wider Oxford still which could not be gathered within the walls of that room, and in a sense before the world, the position and needs of Oxford at the present moment. One of the oldest and most distinguished sons of Oxford, Mr. Goldwin Smith, used on one occasion this forcible expression of Oxford and Cambridge:—"Universities of colleges they are, and Universities of colleges they must remain." He was quite certain that if Oxford and Cambridge ceased to be Universities of Colleges they would cease to be what they were. What were the colleges doing for the higher life of Oxford? It was a common idea that they did nothing; but that was a great mistake. He gave particulars of the contributions and charges imposed and paid by the colleges to the University, and said that the total amounted to 33 per cent., or nearly one-third of the net revenue of a college like his. In addition, the colleges contributed large sums in the way of payments, whether in the form of Fellowships or otherwise, to the maintenance of the professors and readers of the University. He described the additional demands made upon Oxford to meet the growing educational requirements of modern days, and said that unless immediate aid of a generous kind was forthcoming he could not see how Oxford, the oldest University, and yet still, he believed, one of the most vigorous of the English-speaking races, was to deliver her immemorial message to an increasing and increasingly grateful number of her sons. (Cheers.)

SIR WILLIAM ANSON, M.P., in seconding the resolution, spoke of the urgent needs of Oxford University, and said that these could not be satisfied by waiting for the gradual economies of the colleges. They could not be met by a possible improvement in University finance, which might not improve as rapidly as we hoped, and, at any rate, whose improvement would extend over a period of years. They could hardly wait longer for the casual benefactor, for whom they had waited too long—

Quibus, benefactor, ab oris

Expectate venis. They wanted help now and at once, if they were to keep the ancient University up to the high standard of modern requirements.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The HON. T. A. BRASSEY, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chancellor for presiding, said that allusion had been made to the needs of the Bodleian Library, and he was glad to be able to say that the additional space needed for a reading-room was already in course of being provided, and also that the sum needed for providing the additional storage had been guaranteed to the curators of the Bodleian Library. He was glad also to be able to state that they were already in a fair way towards raising a sum which would justify them in commencing the work of revising and publishing a printed catalogue of the Bodleian Library. Already a generous response had been made to the appeal among the colleges. With regard to the question of engineering, he held strongly to the view that they should not attempt to spend money on workshops and other practical appliances, but simply endeavour to undertake to teach the scientific side of the subject. He had enlisted the sympathy in this matter of Sir William White, for many years the Chief Constructor in the Navy. They were now in a fair way of having £1,000 a year guaranteed for five years, which would justify them in starting the engineering school. With regard to the general appeal, he wished to emphasize the fact that, even if they had the £250,000 asked for it, would not be possible to spend it at once. It was much better for any possible donor to give a larger sum spread over five or ten years than to give a smaller sum down at once. They found that principle worked with the greatest success in the case of the college appeal, and he was sure it was a sound principle to adopt in the present case.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the vote, asked for the help of all present to bring the appeal before every old member of Oxford University.

In addition to the amounts mentioned by Lord Curzon in his speech, the following donations to the appeal fund have been promised:—Lord Egerton of Tatton, £200; Lord Barnard, £200; the Hon. W. R. Peel, £200; Sir Elliott Lees, £200; Lord Newton, £150; the Duke of Abercorn, £105; Lord Bathurst, £100; Lord Beauchamp, £100; Lord Jersey, £100; Lord Henry Bentinck, £100; Lord Ridley, £100; Lord Crawshaw, £100; Lord

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I now come to the origin of the movement to set these matters straight. Five years ago the authorities of the University conducted a careful scrutiny into the educational requirements of Oxford at that time, and the results of that scrutiny can be seen in a printed report, which is accessible to those who desire it; but scrutiny is a very different thing from solution, and solution is not possible without funds. Then it was that, in a fortunate moment, Mr. Brassey (cheers), who had already shown himself a most liberal benefactor to Balliol, appeared upon the scene, and turned his active mind and his generous disposition to the relief of the larger needs of the parent University. The Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, Sir William Anson, Professor Miers, and Professor Osler joined hands with him. Together they sifted and collaborated the most urgent among the requirements of Oxford, of which I have spoken; and they drew up a scheme framed for the satisfaction of the principal among those needs for what I think may be considered a not unreasonable sum of money—a quarter of a million sterling. No effort was spared in Oxford to submit this scheme to the judgment, and to obtain for it the approval, of the leading University teachers and authorities. It was approved by every head of a college with one exception. It was approved by the late Chancellor, Lord Goschen. It was approved by the most eminent old Oxford men not living in the University itself. I have been asked to accept the chairmanship of an association to push this scheme to a practical solution. (Cheers.) Just at this moment the late Chancellor, Lord Goschen, died, and a new Chancellor was elected in his place. Well, it seemed to me that the first and foremost duty of the new incumbent of that office was to assume charge of this scheme and make himself, so far as he could, personally responsible for its success (cheers); and also that the most practical method of inviting for it from old Oxford men and the public at large the support for which we are appealing to-day was, if possible, that he should come to this meeting with a list in his hand to show that many of the wealthier sons of Oxford were already behind the movement, that many of those who had not had what we regard as the advantage of an Oxford education were in closest sympathy with it, and that the scheme was being started with the strongest practical chance of success.

THE AMOUNT ALREADY SUBSCRIBED.

I have in my hand a list which will be handed to the Press at the close of these proceedings, and which will appear in the newspapers. I am glad to say that, by efforts conducted for the most part in bed during the past few weeks, I have been fortunate enough to collect a sum of about £23,000. (Cheers.) This sum is exclusive of the munificent donation of £10,000 with which Mr. Brassey started the scheme (cheers), and exclusive, too, of other contributions received independently, which raise the total at present promised to us to a figure of nearly £42,000. (Cheers.) Mr. Brassey, in pursuance of the same generous attitude, hopes to be able within ten years from now to increase his initial donation of £10,000 to £25,000. (Cheers.) If that be so—and we hope it will be the case—we may say that we are starting this fund with £57,000 already promised to us. I will not read out the whole of this list, as it will appear in the newspapers; but I may give you a few of the leading names. From Mr. Brassey, as I have said, we have £10,000, and the same sum from that most generous American gentleman, Mr. W. W. Astor. (Cheers.) We have promises of £2,500 from Mr. W. F. D. Smith, £2,000 from the Chancellor, £1,000 from Lady Wantage—who has honoured us with her presence on the platform—£1,000 from Sir William Anson, and the same amount each from Mr. E. Whitley and Mr. R. Younger, K.C. From Lord Brassey £1,000 has been received, and £500 each from the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Newcastle, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Lansdowne, Lord Salisbury, Lord Aldenham, Sir Robert Mowbray, Mr. Francis N. Curzon, Mr. Albert Brassey, Mr. F. Huth Jackson, and Mr. J. F. Mason, M.P. Mr. Algernon Mills has promised £300, and £250 is promised by Lord Londonderry, Lord Milner, Mr. Evelyn Hubbard, Mr. Harry Lawson, Sir Andrew Noble, and Mr. Eustace E. Palmer, while sums of £200, £100, and less are promised by the other subscribers whose names appear on this list. (Cheers.)

THE OBJECTS OF THE RESOLUTIONS.

Our business to-day will be to carry certain resolutions for the formation of a committee in order to organize and carry on the appeal, and for the appointment of a body of trustees to administer the funds in connexion with the University. Perhaps I may mention, too, as a more severely practical form of appeal, that there are a number of forms in the custody of the secretary which are at the disposal of any gentleman present who may like either to take them with him, or, what would be still more to the point, to fill them up before he leaves this room. (Laughter.) May I before sitting

(Cheers.) But the question for them was, "What is the appeal which is made by our University to us?" The real appeal which Oxford made to them to-day was on the ground that she was poor. Poverty was always a relative term, and when they said she was poor they meant poor in relation to her actual needs and actual duties. These needs and duties seemed to him to fall within three categories. In the first place without entering in any degree into competition with those more specialized institutions which to the great advantage of the community had been established over England in recent years, she must, if she wished to keep abreast of her mission—he was almost afraid to say it there, but he was going to use the phrase, she must "broaden the basis" of her curriculum. (Laughter and loud cheers.) He had not realized for the moment that his friend Lord Milner was there, or else wild horses certainly would not have dragged any such expression from him. (Laughter.) But without going into the controversial vocabulary—which was more and more shutting off from those engaged in public speaking some of the most useful expressions in the English language (laughter)—he thought he might say this, that it was the duty of those interested in the fame and fortune of Oxford that she should be provided with apparatus in respect of our own language, of French, and of German, to give the best teaching that could be given to those who, from all parts of the Empire, were flocking within her walls. And in regard to natural science, she should not, indeed, provide for its practical applications, but for that apparatus without which the principles and truths of science could not in these days be properly apprehended. In the next place, they must never forget, as the Chancellor had reminded them, that Oxford was a trustee of one of the most famous libraries in the whole world. The Bodleian Library was almost their most priceless possession, and it was also one of their most responsible trusts. It was with a feeling of shame that he read in the letter published the other day by the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor that that great institution was crippled in the pursuit of its work by want of space for its books, by want of room for those who desired to consult them, and by want of a well-arranged and a well-printed catalogue. And, lastly, the provision for these new wants was not to be in competition with, or in exclusion of, or in curtailment of the best traditions of Oxford as the school in which, better than anywhere else in the world, the great humanities were to be taught and learned. If they were asked to make provision for new studies and new interests, it was not that they might expel, but that they might supplement and purify and enrich, the old. The sum which was asked—£250,000—was certainly not an exorbitant sum. He doubted whether it reached the limits of Oxford's legitimate demands. He could not doubt that the response would be both prompt and adequate, and that that great University, to which they all owed so much and for which they all cherished such an undying love, set free from the sordid anxieties which for so many years past had embarrassed and fettered her activity, would discharge with renewed and even redoubled fruitfulness her secular mission to the English people. (Loud cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY moved:—"That a body of trustees of not less than nine, nor more than twelve be appointed for the administration of the fund, composed of one-third resident and two-thirds non-resident members of the University, and that the hebdomadal council be requested by the Chancellor to nominate the University representatives, and that the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor be authorized to consult with the leading supporters of the movement as to the appointment of the non-resident trustees." He said that he would be unworthy of his great predecessors were he not to join in setting before England and before the Empire, and he ventured to say before those even outside the Empire—for they had had a reminder in one munificent benefaction at least that our brothers across the Atlantic knew something of Oxford and her needs—that the Oxford of the 20th century must be as well equipped for the needs of the 20th century as was the Oxford of the 13th, the 14th, or the 15th century, for the needs which then existed for the acquisition of human knowledge. Some years ago he studied the report of the University Commission in 1852. It was a Blue-book, which combined throughout a brilliance of rhetorical style with a profound historical knowledge and with the widest human sympathy. It was not wonderful that it should be so, for the secretaries of that Commission were Arthur Penrhyn Stanley and Goldwin Smith. (Cheers.) It was strange to find how many of the things which were now being put forward as obvious requirements if Oxford was to take its place aright, were put forward then, but with this difference, that then the appeal was made on the strength of the duty which Oxford owed to England, and we now spoke of the duty which Oxford owed to the Empire and to the world. At that meeting they had evidence of how Oxford had, at all events, shown her own capacity and responsibility for the education of our leaders both at home and across the sea. The

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economics of the colleges. They could not be met by a possible improvement in University finance, which might not improve as rapidly as we hoped, and, at any rate, whose improvement would extend over a period of years. They could hardly wait longer for the casual benefactor, for whom they had waited too long—
Quibus, benefactor, ab oris

Expectate venis.

They wanted help now and at once, if they were to keep the ancient University up to the high standard of modern requirements.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The HON. T. A. BRASSEY, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chancellor for presiding, said that allusion had been made to the needs of the Bodleian Library, and he was glad to be able to say that the additional space needed for a reading-room was already in course of being provided, and also that the sum needed for providing the additional storage had been guaranteed to the curators of the Bodleian Library. He was glad also to be able to state that they were already in a fair way towards raising a sum which would justify them in commencing the work of revising and publishing a printed catalogue of the Bodleian Library. Already a generous response had been made to the appeal among the colleges. With regard to the question of engineering, he held strongly to the view that they should not attempt to spend money on workshops and other practical appliances, but simply endeavour to undertake to teach the scientific side of the subject. He had enlisted the sympathy in this matter of Sir William White, for many years the Chief Constructor in the Navy. They were now in a fair way of having £1,000 a year guaranteed for five years, which would justify them in starting the engineering school. With regard to the general appeal, he wished to emphasize the fact that, even if they had the £250,000 asked for it, would not be possible to spend it at once. It was much better for any possible donor to give a larger sum spread over five or ten years than to give a smaller sum down at once. They found that principle worked with the greatest success in the case of the college appeal, and he was sure it was a sound principle to adopt in the present case.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the vote, asked for the help of all present to bring the appeal before every old member of Oxford University.

In addition to the amounts mentioned by Lord Curzon in his speech, the following donations to the appeal fund have been promised:—Lord Egerton of Tatton, £200; Lord Barnard, £200; the Hon. W. R. Peel, £200; Sir Elliott Lees, £200; Lord Newton, £150; the Duke of Abercorn, £105; Lord Bathurst, £100; Lord Beauchamp, £100; Lord Jersey, £100; Lord Henry Bentinck, £100; Lord Ridley, £100; Lord Crawshaw, £100; Lord Llangattock, £100; Lord Redesdale, £100; Lord Colebrooke, £100; Sir W. Bousfield, £100; Mr. Asquith, M.P., £100; Lord Justice Farwell, £100; Sir H. Seymour King, M.P., £100; Mr. L. S. Amery, £100; Mr. W. Arkwright, £100; Mr. R. H. Benson, £100; Mr. G. D. Faber, M.P., £100; Professor Miers, £100; Mr. H. C. Moffatt, £100; Mr. C. H. Oliverson, £100; Mr. Alan Sykes, £100; Mr. J. G. Walker, £100; Mr. A. F. Walter, £100; Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, £100; Lord Bath, £50; Lord Goschen, £50; Lord Scarsdale, £50; Lord Northcote, £50; Sir E. Grey, M.P., £50; Sir Savile Crossley, £50; Mr. Justice Kekewich, £50; Sir Charles Jessel, £50; Sir Alfred Jones, £50; the Vice-Chancellor, £50; Mr. R. Bayly, £50; Mr. G. D. Rowe, £50; Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey, £50; Mr. J. K. J. Hichens, £25; Mr. F. E. J. Smith, £25; Anonymous, £20; Mr. Beresford Melville £21; Lord Poltimore, £10; Mr. R. S. de Havilland £10; Mr. P. E. Matheson, £10; Mr. A. S. Blair, £5; Mr. A. S. Orlebar, £5; Mr. A. E. Wynter, £5; and the Dean of Wells (for the Bodleian), £2 2s.