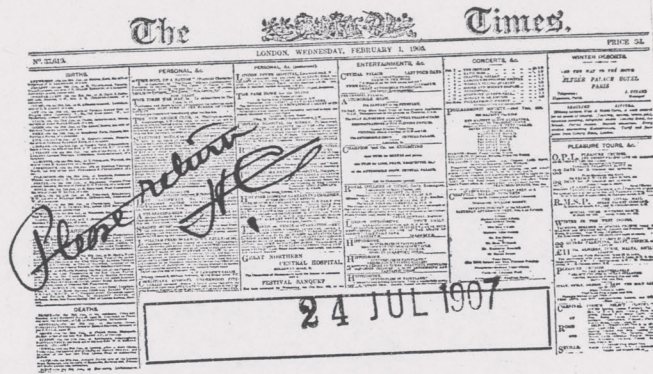


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THE CUTTING ATTACHED IS FROM:—



THE NEED OF REFORM AT OXFORD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—The action of the Bishop of Birmingham in bringing before the House of Lords the question of a new University Commission has come without warning to those members of Oxford University who think that there is need for further legislation.

This feeling is by no means confined to the younger graduates; there are many senior members of the University who are of opinion—

1. That the constitution and machinery of Oxford, both legislative and executive, need revision.
2. That the relations between the University and its colleges, both constitutional and financial, require modification.
3. That a central direction of our studies is required enabling the Faculties to have the authority assigned to them in other seats of learning.
4. That the studies of the University are themselves too narrow in scope and that fresh endowments of various branches of study are necessary, and especially that a greater encouragement should be given to research, which at Oxford is probably to a larger extent divorced from teaching than in any other great University.

We do not by any means assert that the points above enumerated are the only matters on which inquiry should be made.

Attempts to reform from within have again and again proved abortive owing to our present constitution, which can only be modified by legislation. We therefore consider that either a fresh Commission, or, if that suffices, legislation by the King in Council, as contemplated by the last Commission, are the only practical ways of carrying out the necessary changes.

Term being over, Oxford is at present almost empty, and the signatures appended to this statement must for this reason be taken as very imperfectly representing the number of those who share the views above expressed.

We are, yours faithfully,

SIDNEY BALL, M.A., Senior Tutor of St. John's College.

CHRISTOPHER COOKSON, M.A., Senior Dean, Magdalen College.

ARTHUR J. EVANS, M.A., D.Litt., Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Fellow of Brasenose College.

LEWIS R. FARNELL, M.A., D.Litt., University Lecturer in Classical Archaeology, Fellow and Tutor of Exeter College.

HERBERT A. L. FISHER, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of New College.

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P. T.

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FRANCIS J. HAVERFIELD, M.A., Camden Professor of Ancient History, Fellow of Brasenose College, late Senior Dean and Tutor of Christ Church.

DAVID G. HOGARTH, M.A., Fellow of Magdalen College.

REGINALD W. MACAN, M.A., D.Litt., Reader in Ancient History, Master of University College.

A. A. MACDONELL, M.A., Boden Professor of Sanskrit.

WILLIAM B. MORFILL, M.A., Professor of Russian.

JOHN L. MYRES, M.A., University Lecturer in Classical Archaeology, Student and Tutor of Christ Church.

WILLIAM OSLER, D.M., Hon.D.Sc., Regius Professor of Medicine, Student of Christ Church.

EDWARD B. POULTON, M.A., D.Sc., Hope Professor of Zoology, Fellow of Jesus College.

JOSEPH WRIGHT, M.A., Professor of Comparative Philology.