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General Information

Established in 1954, the Archives are a part of the Archives and Record Management Services in the Secretariat and Corporate Information Unit of the Registrar's Division. The Archives retains the records of the Senate, the Academic Board and those of the many administrative offices that control the functions of the University of Sydney; for example, Sydney CAE (and some of its predecessors such as Sydney Teachers College), Sydney College of the Arts and the Conservatorium of Music. The Archives also houses a collection of photographs of University interest, both prints and negatives, and University publications of all kinds. In addition, the Archives holds significant collections of the archives of persons and bodies closely associated with the University.

The reading room and repository are on the 9th floor of the Fisher Library, and the records are available, by appointment, for research use by all members of the University and by the general public. It is important to note that, while housed within the Fisher Library, the Archives are not a part of the University Library and have different hours and conditions of use. Access to records is permitted only under the direct control and supervision of the Manager, Archives and Records Management Services, or staff of the Archives. Access to administrative records is governed by the NSW State Records Act 1998, the NSW Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 and/or the NSW Freedom of Information Act 1989. Restricted access conditions may apply to some records. Photocopying of original records is not possible.

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Archivist's Notes

This year, 2002, the Archives is closing for renovations during October and November. New compactus shelving will be installed allowing easier access to records and creating more space for the growing collection. Offices are being created for the archivists, and the research area is being refurbished.

This issue of the *Record* is smaller than in the past, principally because of the disruption caused by moving the records to a storage site off campus.

Michael Bannigan, a long time employee of the University and honorary secretary to the NSW Rhodes Scholarship Committee for many years, has written a short history of the University of Sydney's involvement with the Scholarships.

David Branagan, honorary associate in the Division of Geology and Geophysics, discusses William Keverall McIntyre, the Tasmanian doctor who married Professor Edgeworth David's daughter, Margaret, and who served in both the Boer and the First World War.

There is an article on the first women graduates of the University and one on the philosopher, John Anderson, and his long-term liaison with Ruth Walker. Both these were provided by Lee Jobling, a member of the Archives staff.

Short notes on the Royal Charter and the Mace are also included.

I hope you will find the material interesting. We look forward to seeing you when the renovation of the Archives is completed.

T J Robinson
Manager
Archives and Records Management Services

The University of Sydney and the Rhodes Scholarships

In preparing this paper, I would like to acknowledge my debt to the work of Emeritus Professor John R Poynter, AO OBE, Rhodes Scholar, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, and Australian Secretary of the Rhodes Trust between 1974 and 1997. Professor Poynter very kindly supplied me with a draft of his chapter on the Rhodes Scholarships in Australia to be included in a history of the Rhodes Scholarships published by the Rhodes Trust in Oxford.

A Brief Background

Cecil John Rhodes died in 1902 at the relatively young age of 48. When the contents of Rhodes' will became known shortly after his death, the world was astonished by the scholarship scheme he established. As well as providing scholarships to study at Oxford for young men from each of the then existing British colonies, it also provided scholarships for the United States and Germany. Much has been written about the fact that the will excluded women from the scholarships. Indeed, Anthony Thomas, no admirer of Rhodes, wrote, "It is clear from the language of the will that women were not considered for these scholarships. The student had to be judged by *his* attainments, *his* qualities, *his* character, and so on..."¹. While it is true that the Association for the Education of Women in Oxford was founded in 1878, it is a pity that Thomas seems to have failed to realise that it was not until 1920, some 18 years after Rhodes' death, that the university recognised women as undergraduates and eligible for Oxford degrees.

As far as Australia was concerned, Rhodes' will provided for one scholarship for each of the colonies that existed before federation, that is, each of the post-federation states.

New South Wales was, therefore, allocated one scholarship, a situation that exists to this day. As additional funds became available, the Rhodes Trust allocated additional scholarships, known as Australia at Large Scholarships, to Australia. In 2002, there are three such awards, bringing to nine the number of Rhodes Scholarships available to Australians. In some measure, this helps even out the obvious inequality in the distribution of the state scholarships where New South Wales and Victoria, the two most populous states, each have one scholarship as do the other states, several of which have a tertiary student population that is a small fraction of those of the two large states.

New South Wales and Victoria are encouraged to nominate the two runners-up to the state Rhodes Scholar (provided that they are of sufficient merit) to compete for the three Australia at Large awards. Generally, both states have been successful in gaining at least one of these awards each year.

The Scholarships and the University of Sydney

The Rhodes Scholarships and the University of Sydney have been inextricably entwined for almost 100 years, if only by virtue of the fact of the New South Wales secretariat having been located at the University since the inception of the scholarships in 1904. This should not be surprising as Sydney was the only University in the state until 1949, when the University of Technology was established.² The University of Sydney was the logical institution to administer the

¹ Thomas, Anthony, *Rhodes*. (London: BBC Books, 1996) p.333

² The University of Technology was later to become the University of New South Wales. It should not be confused with the University of Technology, Sydney, which was established in 1990 as the successor to the New South Wales Institute of Technology.

scholarships. In two states, Queensland and Western Australia, which did not have a university, other arrangements had to be made.³

For more than 50 years, there was not a uniform method, among the states, of selecting the Rhodes Scholars. Indeed, in the early years, "in no two of the six Australian States was the constitution of the Selection Committee the same".⁴ This resulted in some interesting variations, particularly where assessing sporting prowess and leadership qualities were concerned. New South Wales alone required that candidates be university graduates or undergraduates of, at that time, the University of Sydney. In each state, the Governor chaired the Selection Committee and, in New South Wales, the remainder of the committee was made up of the Chief Justice and three representatives appointed by the Senate of the University of Sydney. Clearly, the University saw this as an important committee, since it nominated the Chancellor, Sir Normand MacLaurin, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr P. Sydney Jones, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Mungo MacCallum, with the Registrar, Mr H. E. Barff, as secretary to the committee. The Chairman of the Professorial Board, Professor Edgeworth David, replaced MacCallum two years later.

The Selection Committee first met in May 1904 and, on the advice of the Professorial Board of the University, elected Wilfred Alexander Barton, son of the first Prime Minister of the

Commonwealth as the New South Wales Rhodes Scholar. In 1905, again on the advice of the Professorial Board, the Committee elected Percival Halse Rogers, later to become Chancellor of the University of Sydney. Both Barton and Rogers distinguished themselves at Oxford, setting a high standard for future Rhodes Scholars from the state. The Selection Committee continued to accept the advice of the Professorial Board for many years. In preparing its recommendation to the Selection Committee, the Board collated the information provided by and about each candidate, stating its reasons for preferring one candidate to another.

One of the peculiarities of the selection process in New South Wales was the involvement of the Sports Union and the Sydney University Undergraduates' Association (the forerunner of the Students' Representative Council). Rhodes was particularly keen that his scholars be "elected" by their schoolmates and heads of college or school. To keep with the spirit of Rhodes' will, both student bodies were asked to provide a formal assessment of candidates—the Sports Union was asked to allocate up to 20 points for "fondness for, and success in manly outdoor sports", while the Undergraduates' Association was asked to allocate up to 30 points for "qualities of manhood, truth, etc". After consideration of these reports, the Professorial Board prepared its recommendation to the Selection Committee. It was not until 1946 that New South Wales resolved to follow the other Rhodes constituencies and abolished the role of the Professorial Board, the Sports Union and the Students' Representative Council in the selection process. The Sports Union was not easily discouraged and, in 1947, offered its services in assessing candidates. The Selection Committee did not take up the offer.

In the early years, the Selection Committee appeared to be more of a rubber-stamp than a committee

³ The University of Queensland was established in 1909 and the University of Western Australia in 1911. Initially, these states drew their candidates for the scholarship from the states' state and private high schools.

⁴ Poynter, John R, *The Rhodes Scholarships in Australia*, unpublished draft, quoting F.J. Wylie, "History of the Operation of the Rhodes Scholarships in the Dominions" in Crosby, Aydelotte and Valentine, *Oxford of Today*, 1927 ed., p. 227.

actually *selecting* the Rhodes Scholar. Year after year, the Selection Committee accepted the recommendation of the Professorial Board, occasionally calling candidates before it for interview. By 1933, the practice of interviewing candidates before the selection was made was well and truly entrenched.

Perhaps this was a response to the continued mutterings from Oxford that New South Wales Rhodes Scholars were performing rather less well academically than those from the other states, especially Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. There were noticeably more third-class honours degrees from New South Wales than from the other states, while, since 1916, there had been a dearth of first-class degrees, the last being L. C. Robson, later to become Headmaster of Sydney Church of England Grammar School ("Shore").⁵

The question of the academic quality of Rhodes Scholars from New South Wales came to a head in 1938 when the Secretary of the Trust, Lord Lothian, visited Australia. Lothian pulled no punches: "The weak spot in Australia is New South Wales ... for more than twenty years from 1916 its scholars did not gain a single first, nor have they been outstanding in other respects." This was not entirely true. Robson, noted above, gained first-class honours in mathematics in 1918, while Callaghan and Bradfield graduated DPhil in 1928 and 1938 respectively. However, this does not weaken the thrust of Lothian's criticism greatly. It seems the New South Wales Selection Committee had a tendency to place more emphasis on averaging the qualities favoured by Rhodes, while the other states placed a greater value on intellectual qualities. This was not to say that in other states there was not some

criticism of local Selection Committees for failing to take adequate note of a candidate's sporting prowess.

Professor Poynter, in an unpublished draft referred to earlier, noted that a large proportion of the all-rounders selected by New South Wales "did indeed have distinguished careers later in life, less often in academia and more often in business than other scholars, but in 1938 most of those achievement remained in the future."

It could be argued that the Selection Committee's more active involvement in the selection process from 1933 commenced paying dividends with Bradfield's doctorate in 1938 (Bradfield was selected 1935 Rhodes Scholar for New South Wales).

There is no doubt that New South Wales continued to have a reputation for placing more emphasis on sport than the other committees in Australia well into the 1960s. Whether or not this reputation was deserved is a matter for debate; the 1950s and 60s saw the selection of a number of candidates who were outstanding both academically and in sport. Prominent in the 1950s group was James McLeod, who was to become Professor of Neurology at University of Sydney. These years also saw the selection of Scholars who later became members of the Bench of the Supreme Court of Queensland (Henchman 1951) and New South Wales (Hodgson 1962, Heydon 1964). The 1960s was a decade of the selection of an outstanding run of Scholars destined to become distinguished academics at the University of Sydney (Heydon 1964 was Dean of Law, before his career as a distinguished Queen's Counsel and later elevation to the Bench, Harris 1967 Professor of Cardiology, Houghton 1969 Professor of Obstetrics). Three others were appointed to Chairs at other universities. All easily combined outstanding intellect with sporting excellence.

⁵ Robson was succeeded as Headmaster at Shore by another Rhodes Scholar, B. H. ("Jika") Travers.

The 1970s opened with the election of Geoffrey Robertson (of television's *Hypotheticals* fame, and more lately a prominent human rights lawyer) who was followed by a succession of distinguished Scholars. By this time, there was no question about the quality of the Scholars New South Wales was sending to Oxford.

Competition increases

Up until 1959, it was always expected that the Rhodes Scholar would come from the University of Sydney, but, in that year, a candidate from the University of New South Wales, John Kennedy, was elected. This was just 10 years after that university was founded. While six years passed before another candidate from outside the University of Sydney was elected, Sydney had been placed on notice that it no longer had a mortgage on the Rhodes Scholarship. Ultimately, this increased interest from outside the University of Sydney meant that the expectations the Selection Committee had of candidates were also raised. In the late 1980s the academic requirement was "a good credit average", but in the early 1990s this was revised to a "distinction average leading to first-class honours degree, or the expectation that the candidate would achieve firsts at the end of the year". Since 1989, every Rhodes Scholar from New South Wales has had a first-class honours degree and, in the case of double degrees such as Arts/Law and Commerce/Law many have had double honours and, in several cases, were dual medallists.

The performance of candidates from Sydney remains strong. Since 1959, when the first non-Sydney candidate was elected, 58 Scholarships have been awarded to candidates from New South Wales. This number included the Australia at Large scholarships, which were introduced in the late 1970s, and which, by 2001, numbered three per year, making a total of nine

Rhodes Scholarships per year for Australia. Of the 58 Scholarships awarded, 44 went to candidates from Sydney, one to Macquarie and 10 to the University of New South Wales. The remaining three went to candidates who had one degree from Sydney and a second from either the University of New South Wales or Macquarie.

In 1989 and 1995, Sydney managed three Rhodes Scholarships in the one year, although the 1989 achievement could be said to be shared with the University of Melbourne. In that year Andrew Bell won the New South Wales Scholarship, Christopher Martin won the Australia at Large, and Mark Chiba (BCom *Melbourne*, LLB *Sydney*) won the Victorian Rhodes Scholarship.

In 1976, competition was further increased when the Trust admitted women to the Scholarship. While other states had no difficulty in electing women in that year, it was not until 1982 that Wendy Erber, a medical student from the University of Sydney, became the first woman Rhodes Scholar from New South Wales. Since then a further eight women from New South Wales have won Rhodes Scholarships and, of these, five have come from the University of Sydney. While the number of women winning the Scholarship might appear low, it is worth noting that, typically, less than 25% of applications come from women.

2003 will see the celebration of the Centenary of the Rhodes Scholarship scheme. In its first 100 years, it has achieved a standard of excellence that more and more students are striving to attain. There can be no doubt that it will continue to do so in the next 100 years.

Michael Bannigan

Executive Officer to the New South Wales Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee 1988-1994, Honorary Secretary 1995-2001

The First Women Graduates

Anne Jane Bolton, who won the University of Sydney's Fairfax Prize at the 1871 Senior Public Examination, was the first Australian woman graduate, though not of the University of Sydney. Her Arts degree was awarded by Canterbury University, New Zealand, in 1880, two years before women were admitted at Sydney.

The two first women to attend lectures at the University of Sydney were Mary Elizabeth Brown and Isola Florence Thompson, who graduated with Arts degrees in 1885. They went on to teach: Isola Thompson at Sydney Girls' High School and Mary Brown at Brisbane Girls' Grammar.

Then, in 1886, Jane Foss Russell completed her degree and became a presence on campus, paving the way for women's full involvement in university life. Her graduation photo shows, despite her obvious youth, both determination and humour; two qualities that, coupled with her desire to further the cause and status of women's education, led to her successful interaction with the University's neighbouring community. She supervised the first evening classes for underprivileged girls at the Harrington Street Night School, represented the school on the committee of the University Women's Settlement and, with Louisa Macdonald, the first principal of the Women's College, formed the Sydney University Women's Association. From 1892 to 1899, she was Tutor to Women Students at the University. In 1899, she married H.E. Barff, for many years Registrar of the University, and, thereafter, continued to work for the underprivileged people of the areas adjacent to the University through her involvement with the University Women's Settlement.

Those were the days of many "firsts" for women newly introduced into the hitherto masculine world of academic life in Sydney, but women attempting to enter the medical profession had a

difficult time. The academic staff, all men, were convinced that the intimate discussion of the human body, necessary in the training of doctors, was not a fit topic for the ears of young ladies. Nevertheless, the Medical School at Sydney was the first in Australia to admit women when it allowed Dagmar Berne to enrol in 1884. Her path was not made easy. She was, according to some accounts, denied passes in key subjects in order to keep her from completing a degree. However this may have been, eventually she withdrew, and completed her studies in Edinburgh and Glasgow. On returning to Sydney, she set up practice in Macquarie Street, but died at an early age from tuberculosis, contracted during her stay in Scotland.

Iza Coghlan and Grace Fairley Robinson were more successful. They graduated in 1893, and, proving that women were suited to the study of medicine, Grace Robinson made her way through the course without a failure. Iza Coghlan was the first Sydney medical graduate to open a practice in the city, and became the first president of the NSW Medical Women's Association. Later, she worked with the Sydney Medical Mission, founded in 1900 by another female medical graduate, Julia Carlile-Thomas.

Grace Robinson followed a different course. She joined the Sydney Benevolent Asylum's Maternity Hospital as a resident medical officer, after being refused a place at the Children's Hospital despite her impeccable credentials. A newspaper report from the *Freeman's Journal*, 30 December 1893 reports that, when she spoke of her election to the position with gratitude, she might have been nearer the mark if she had "characterized it as an instalment of justice which a cruel prejudice, masquerading under the guise of conventional property [sic], has

hitherto denied her sex".⁶ In 1912, she formed the Professional Women's Association for the improvement of social conditions for women and children in Sydney.

The first woman science graduate was Fanny Elizabeth Hunt, whose subsequent career was in teaching, and those immediately following her also pursued other than scientific paths. Most went on to teaching and a few to medicine. Sarah Hynes, who graduated in 1891, took a position with the government as a botanist, but, on the whole, women found it difficult to find work in science. The introduction of Science Research Scholarships in 1912 allowed some women to undertake further studies, with a view to obtaining junior academic posts (demonstrators and the like), but they had little opportunity of preferment in their profession either in the academic world or in industry. As late as the 1920s, women science graduates were continuing to accept careers outside their discipline.

The legal profession in Victoria admitted women from 1903. The other states soon followed, but in NSW there was no sign of relenting. Ada Evans, the first female Sydney Law graduate, received her LLB in 1902 knowing that legislation to allow women to practice would be a long time in coming because members of the profession were not inclined to give it their support. Miss Evans campaigned tirelessly for such legislation, and, in 1918, was, at last, successful. After two years of practical training, she was called to the NSW Bar in 1921. Not surprisingly, perhaps, she never practised as either a solicitor or a barrister, since, by that time, she was 49 years' old, in poor health, and was conscious of her long absence from the law. The first working woman solicitor was Marie

Beuzeville Byles (BA 1921, LLB 1924) who had a successful legal practice in Eastwood from 1924 until she retired in 1971, and the first practising woman barrister was Sibyl Gibbs (LLB 1924). Their time at university was made difficult by the appalling behaviour of the male students, who caused noisy disruption in their classes, and by the intolerance of the lecturing staff. The fact that they graduated is a testament to their determination.

The movement of women into professional areas was slow and, it seems, for those involved, often wearing and unrewarded. Nevertheless, these people persisted in the face of all obstacles and pioneered the way for those who came after. Their stories make fascinating reading. The book by Bygott and Cable listed at the end of this article expands the matters discussed here, and the University of Sydney Archives holds material concerning many of the early women students. It is available to the public on request.

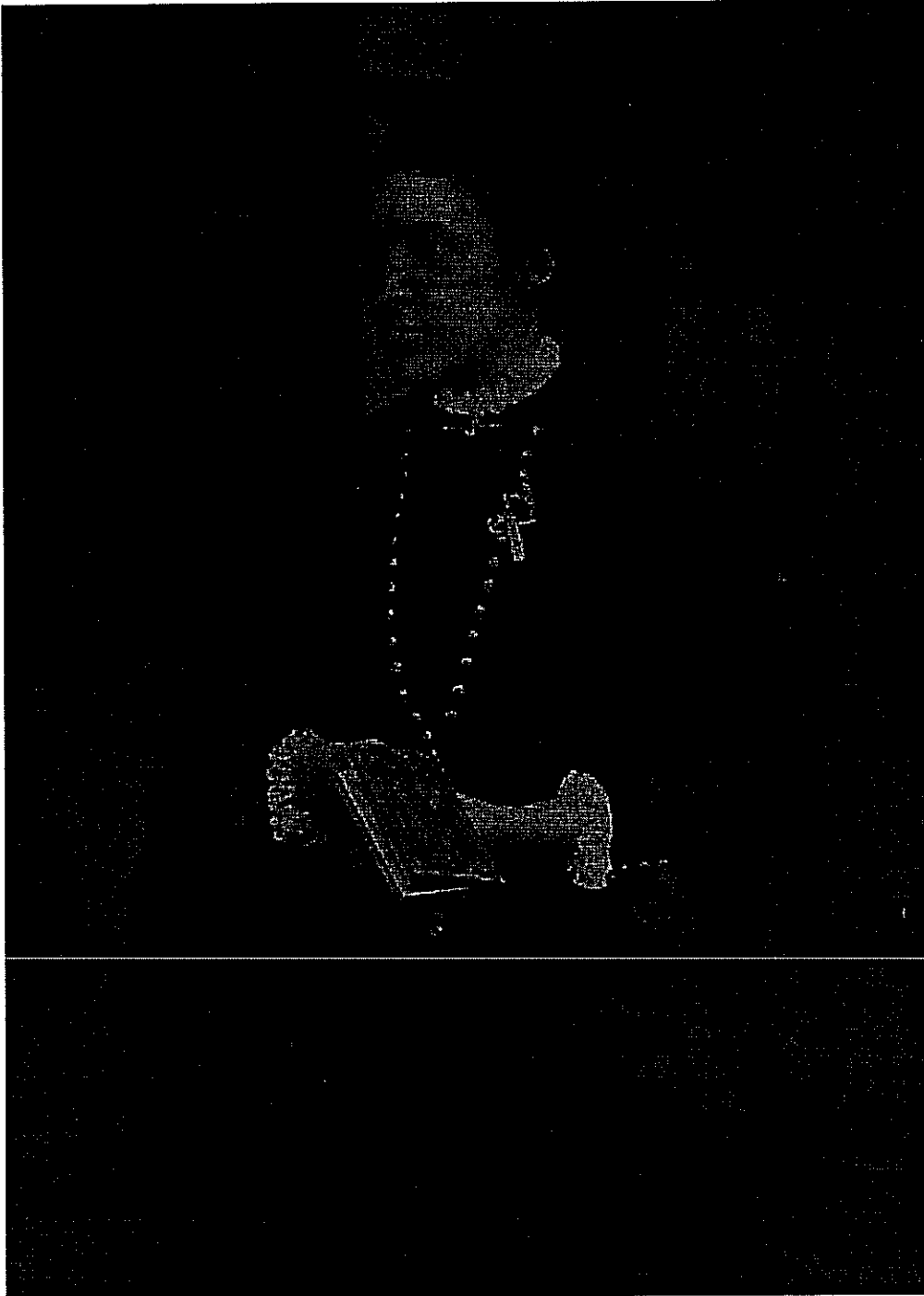
Lee Jobling

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⁶ Bygott, Ursula and K.J. Cable, *Pioneer Women Graduates of the University of Sydney 1881 – 1921*, Sydney University Monographs Number One, University of Sydney, 1985, p.37.

Jane Foss Russell



William Keverall McIntyre (1881-1969)

The interesting article by Keith Jones concerning Professor Woods and the Boer War published in the 1999 issue of *Record*⁷ noted that Woods's right of free speech on the war was supported by the University's students. Edgeworth David was one of the staff who openly supported this right, although, as a strong supporter of Empire, David was possibly on the side of Britain.⁸

Listed amongst those who served in both the Boer War and World War 1 is William Keverall McIntyre. He was the son of the Canadian-born Hobart Supreme Court Judge, John McIntyre (1842-1930), and Adeline Janetta Langdon, who were married in 1869. McIntyre and his two brothers were probably educated at the Hutchins School, Tasmania. Although he did well in his exams, Keverall McIntyre did not matriculate, because he failed to attend the Latin exam. According to family memory, he went, in preference, to a cricket match, as he couldn't at the time see much sense in the ancient language.

Shortly after, he went to the west coast of Tasmania to work as surveyor's assistant to his brother-in-law, Hubert Ross Reynolds (1876-1959). At the declaration of war in 1899, they were both enthusiastic volunteers and joined the Tasmanian Bushmen, Keverall with reluctant consent from his father as he had only just turned 18. Later, Keverall's brother, Gilbert, also joined up. They were members of one of the early contingents to go to South Africa (where Keverall may have taken part in the relief of Mafeking). On his return to Tasmania, he took work at an

underground mine at Beaconsfield in northern Tasmania. Here, he was befriended by an older miner who recognised McIntyre's intelligence and potential, and recommended he attempt a University course to qualify as a mining engineer, an idea of which Keverall's father approved.

Despite his non-matriculated status, McIntyre came from Tasmania to begin Mining Engineering studies at the University of Sydney, apparently in 1904.⁹ It is unclear whether he did the then obligatory first year in Arts subjects, but he probably did not. He passed the first year of engineering in March 1905 (and was noted as unmatriculated), and the second year exams in December 1905 (when he was not listed as unmatriculated). In December 1906, he gained Second-class honours in both Mining and Metallurgy and First Class Honours in Assaying (and was again listed as unmatriculated), and shared Professor Liversidge's Prizes for Practical Metallurgy and Assaying with J. Atkinson. However, he was not awarded a degree.

During his student years, naturally enough, he came into direct contact with Edgeworth David through lectures and field excursions. He also sat in some of the Geology classes with David's elder daughter, Margaret, with whom it was love, if not at first sight, then only a little later. Margaret's parents, although liking McIntyre, made the pair wait for marriage, as Margaret was, they felt, too young. Family letters indicate that Cara David, Margaret's mother, would have been happy for them to marry "in haste", but Edgeworth David apparently proposed that Keverall should be earning a minimum salary of £300p.a. before he gave his consent, which was a great deal to ask in those days.

⁷ Jones, Keith, "The South African War of 1899/1902, and its effect on members of the University of Sydney", *Record*, The University Archives, 1999, pp. 17 – 23.

⁸ It was, in fact, David who encouraged Woods to join the University's Rifle Club in 1914 as World War I loomed.

⁹ At this time, mining students considerably exceeded civil engineering students in numbers.

Nevertheless, the marriage took place not long after David returned from the Shackleton Expedition to the Antarctic in 1909.

When McIntyre had completed his Engineering course (without a degree, but probably with a letter regarding what courses he had passed), the young couple moved to western Tasmania, where Keverall was employed as an assayer (at Zeehan and Mt Bischoff). However, following the near fatality of their first child during birth, due to the incompetence of the local doctor, and because of the difficult living conditions at Waratah, McIntyre decided to take a change in career. He was nearly 30. He chose medicine. Helped financially by the Davids, the McIntyre's moved to Edinburgh in 1911, because Edgeworth David regarded the University of Edinburgh as having the best medical course available. McIntyre graduated just as World War 1 began.¹⁰ He enlisted in a British Ambulance unit and was sent to Macedonia, where he spent the entire war, while his wife and young family remained in Edinburgh. In 1919, he was awarded a medal by the Greek Government. A family note records that McIntyre designed a one-wheel, mule-drawn stretcher for the wounded, which proved a much safer means of carrying them down the steep mountain tracks.

After the war, the family returned to Tasmania where McIntyre practised in Launceston, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology. He was appointed CMG in 1950.

Margaret McIntyre, Keverall's wife, became the first woman elected to the Tasmanian Parliament, but was killed in an air crash near Nundle, while returning from a National Women's conference in Brisbane in 1948. She is buried at Tamworth.

Archie McIntyre, his son, went on to eminence in medicine. He lived with his grandparents, the Davids, for some years while he was a student at Barker College and later at Sydney University. Having graduated BSc, he was in the final year of a medical degree in 1934 and was "en scene" during Edgeworth David's last days at Prince Alfred Hospital. Both the McIntyre daughters, Peggy and Anne, graduated from the University of Sydney. Anne, a poet, was awarded a Distinguished Alumni award several years ago. On the whole, then, the McIntyres were a very interesting and productive family.

But what about McIntyre's engineering degree? The University's Graduates and diplomates list (1974) assigns W.K. McIntyre a BE in 1921. This is the year Edgeworth David reluctantly accepted a knighthood, partly because of pressure from the University authorities. Could the reluctant knight have used a BE for his son-in-law as part of the bargain?

David Branagan

(with thanks to Anne Edgeworth for information and assistance)

¹⁰ Early on, he had to pass Latin, and was coached vigorously by his knowledgeable wife.

John Anderson and Ruth Walker

John Anderson was Challis Professor of Philosophy at the University of Sydney from 1927 to 1958. The impact of his teaching and beliefs changed the lives and thinking of many Sydney undergraduates, some of whom were theological students who abandoned their studies and their beliefs, and became his "disciples", exchanging, in essence, one credo for another. The Society for Free Thought, founded in 1930, of which he was the first president, was full of his admirers and followers; its aims included anti-clericalism. In his presidential address, he attacked all political superstitions and idols, including patriotism and war memorials, describing religious ceremonies associated with them as "fetishes for the purpose of blocking discussion" of war. This may have caused protest in the community, but it influenced profoundly those students who had, it seems, made of Anderson, himself, an "idol".

In particular, his impact on Ruth Walker, a young student in the 1930s, was to have life-long repercussions. They became lovers; a relationship which continued until Anderson's death in 1962, and one which caused great pain to his wife, Jenny, and his son, Alexander (Sandy). Ruth, too, suffered, and was finally to have a complete nervous breakdown brought on by her feelings of guilt and frustration.¹¹

From the mid-1930s, Anderson and Walker corresponded regularly.¹² The earlier letters were confined to academic topics and various invitations for Ruth to join the family either at home or on holiday. But, on 14 January 1938, as he and his family sailed for England, he wrote:

Ruth, dear, I've been thinking a lot about you and me, but nothing very coherent, except that I miss you very much. I think we should find ourselves a lot more assured when we're together again; a sort of purgative period, as it were, only a year is such a confoundingly long time.

He was forty-five; she was twenty-one.

During his year abroad, they wrote often, and continued to do so when he returned. On 21 January 1941, he sent a letter and a poem in which he professed his love. The letter ends:

I don't know about all this –
the poem either. Oh, Ruth,
teach me to be simple;
knock the humbug out of
me.

I don't want to get out of
my crisis – my crisis is
love.

The last verse of the poem, which he describes as his first love poem, is:

My ardent girl, my
tender, lovely girl,

Breathe your sweet
breath on me,
enfold me in the
warmth

Of your divine
embrace – forgive
me, sweet,

And love me, love
me, even as I love
you.

They had become lovers, and continued to be so.

Their relationship, however, was difficult. He could not, if he wished to retain his academic post and position in society, terminate his marriage. And, though, he often fulminated against the institution of marriage, he knew that it was in his best interests to stay as he was. Meanwhile, he

¹¹ Kennedy, Brian, *A Passion to Oppose: John Anderson, Philosopher*, Melbourne University Press, 1955, pp. 164-166.

¹² The University of Sydney Archives holds their correspondence.

continued to love Ruth and to be loved by her. Dated Tuesday, 15 June 1943:

Dear Ruth, I know how you feel. I've been all uneasy and at a loss since you went away, but now I'll be able to go at things, and have a good report of my progress to give you on Monday. I'll be able to tell you, too, how much I love you. It isn't so much our not being tender, I think; it's the way other things keep breaking in and the things we could say are left unfinished or even unstarted. But there have been turns in our affairs and I think this absence may be one.

Oh, my dear Ruth, how I long to hold you close. But it will be soon.

Saturday, 8 February 1947:

Sweetheart

I have been wanting to write to you and wondering whether I should wait and just talk to you, but I think some things come out better in writing and perhaps we have suffered a bit through not having kept up that sort of communication ... One of my troubles is that my mind is "all mixed in" with my heart; you have often laughed at some pedantic expression coming incongruously out of me, and you may, more seriously, often have thought me unfeeling. It is clear enough that I've had a quite inadequate sense of both your sensitiveness and your loneliness ... Ruth, I am sure that in the things that matter most we can always be close to one another, but it may be that I have endangered the

greater things by absorbing your interests even in the little things. Mind you, I'm not sure of that; it might rather be that we had to be allied in all things "against the world" ... I think (in line with my old notion) that it would really do you a lot of good to beat your troubles into theories – to take up psychology in a serious way ... One thing is sure – I'll have to get ... back to the simple seriousness which first drew you to me. I think I can, Ruth; I think I can manage always to be there when you want me, so that you won't feel it a privation if you should have no-one else to turn to but will rather turn joyfully and hopefully to your lover and friend and comrade

John

Oh God, Ruthie, I need you. Come soon, soon, soon (pencilled after the letter)

But, in the end, he couldn't be there for her. In 1950, she had a serious nervous breakdown and was confined to Woodleigh Private Hospital in Hurstville, where she alternated between hallucination and lucidity. Kennedy, in his autobiography of Anderson, asks:

As Ruth suffered on the verge of insanity in hospital and John Anderson taught his classes at the university, did he recognise his responsibility for her torment and mental disintegration?¹³

Ruth's mother, at least, was in no doubt. She wrote to Anderson saying:

We do not hold you entirely responsible in the matter ... but she was young and

¹³ Kennedy, op cit, p. 165.

unsophisticated when she came under your influence at the university, and she had a great regard for you as a teacher, you should have been able to prevent things coming to their present pass. We realize we cannot harm you without harming Ruth more, but we appeal to you to keep out of her life in future apart from your professional association.

Despite this plea, their relationship continued.

In his later years, Anderson questioned his attitude to his students. He admitted to failing to encourage those who declined to become his followers. Nevertheless, his influence, whether for good or ill, was widespread.

Michael Baume, who was a student in the late 1940s, writes:

The Andersonian legacy goes far beyond Anderson's academic disciples. By giving an intellectual backing to the vague concept of academic freedom (to which undergraduates so often give passing acknowledgment before joining the real world), Anderson has been a lasting influence, both directly and indirectly. He helped to create a generation of anti-authoritarian freethinkers who rejected the populist panaceas, particularly of the left, that aimed to submerge personal freedom for promised communal advantage. That message was pervasive, if not universal, among my generation at Sydney University—even among those who could barely

understand a word Anderson was saying.¹⁴

Though, perhaps, better philosophers were to follow him at the University of Sydney, Anderson was the catalyst who broadened philosophic thought and teaching in Australia and paved the way for later scholars, like David Armstrong and David Stove, who enjoy significant international reputations.

Lee Jobling

To see the University of Sydney Archives list of holdings, including the Anderson and Walker papers, go to:

http://www.usyd.edu.au/arms/archives/anderson_john/welcome.html

For the Anderson lectures see:

<http://setis.library.usyd.edu.au/anderson/>

¹⁴ Baume, Michael, "The Andersonian Aura: Memoirs of a post-war Sydney undergraduate", *Matters of the Mind: Poem, Essays and Interviews in Honour of Leonie Kramer*, University of Sydney, 2001, pp. 28-42

John Anderson (centre) and Ruth Walker (at right) with students



The Royal Charter

In 1856, Charles Nicholson contacted the Secretary of State for Colonies in regard to a Royal Charter for the University. The Senate, on the advice of the Secretary of State, resolved to apply for a Charter (Letters Patent) through the Executive Government. They decided:

That it is expedient that measures should be taken to obtain a Royal Charter which without interfering with the power of amending the existing constitution of the University by the local Legislature, will secure for the Degrees granted by the University a recognition throughout the British Empire ...¹⁵

Again, no precedent could be found for any other colony, but the University of London had been granted Letters Patent so that its degrees in Arts, Law and Medicine would be recognised throughout the United Kingdom. The question then arose as to whether the same privilege should be accorded the University of Sydney. After various enquiries and some debate, the Lord Chancellor recommended that it should. A draft Charter, which encompassed somewhat wider parameters than that of London, was prepared in Sydney by Nicholson's solicitors. This caused some debate in London, but the Lord Chancellor recommended that it should be passed in the form in which it was submitted.

A Royal Charter was granted on 27 February 1858 declaring that the degrees in Arts, Law and Medicine of the University of Sydney were to be recognised throughout the United Kingdom and its colonies and possessions, and that its degrees

should be received by the University of London.

A corporate seal was devised which showed a seated female figure (the Spirit of Learning) holding a laurel wreath over a kneeling boy (Youth), and which bore the motto "Virtutem Doctrina Pareat" (Let Teaching Promote Excellence). It was not taken beyond the planning stage, and the matter rested for some twelve months. At that time, Francis Merewether, acting Provost, submitted a design for a Coat of Arms to the Senate. It bore the motto "Sidere Mens Eadem Mutato" (Although the constellations change the mind is constant¹⁶). The design proved to be too complicated and the heraldic authorities in England, in collaboration with Charles Nicholson, devised the Coat of Arms which is still used today. The motto was unchanged.¹⁷

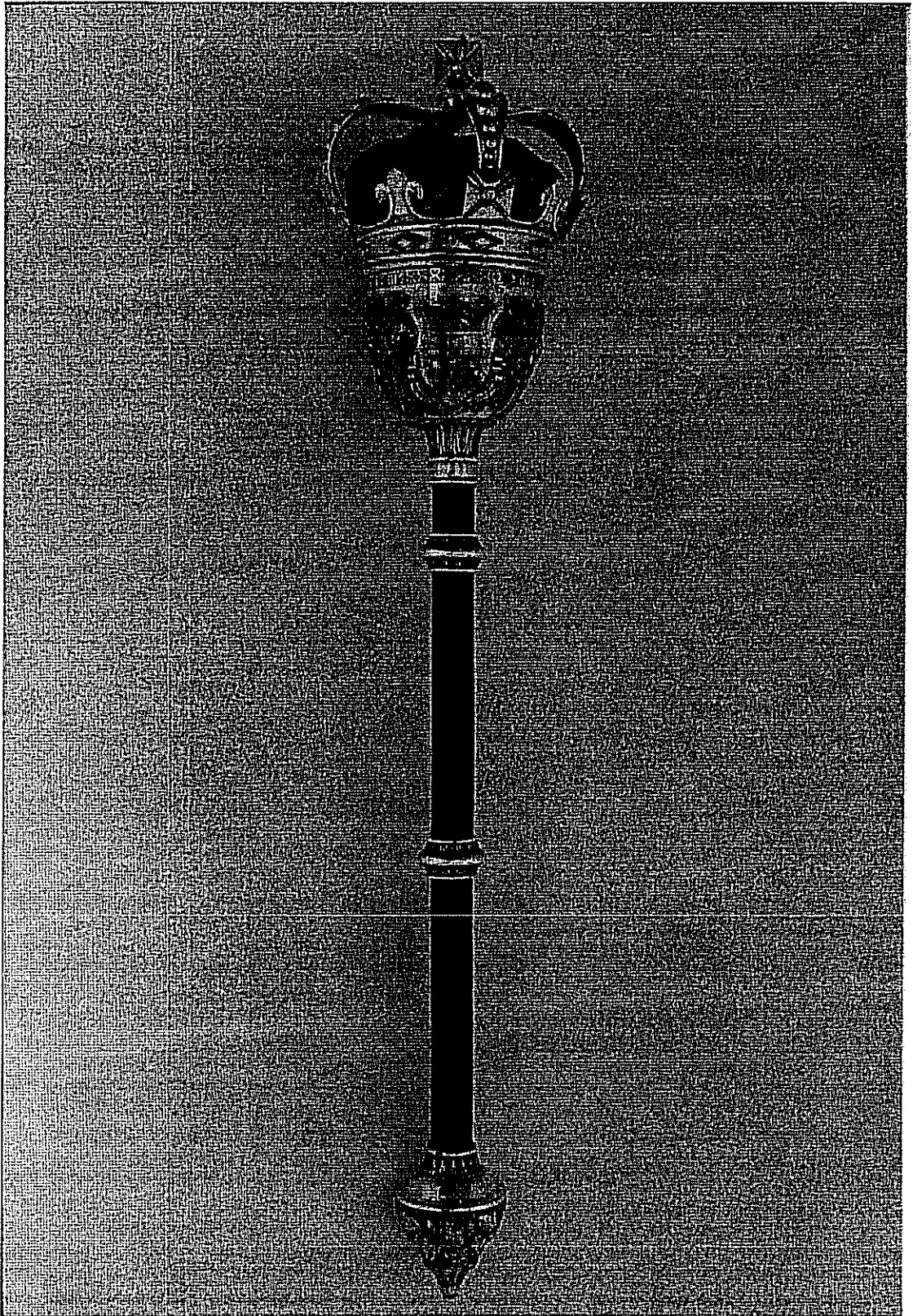
The Royal Charter is held in the University of Sydney Archives and can be viewed on request.

¹⁶ This translation was supplied by the late Kevin Lee, Professor of Classics at the University of Sydney during the 1990s.

¹⁷ The information for these notes was taken from Turney, Clifford, Ursula Bygott and Peter Chippendale, *Australia's First: A History of the University of Sydney Volume 1 1850-1939*, The University of Sydney in association with Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 1991.

¹⁵ *Minutes of the Senate*, 13 December 1856.

The Mace



The Mace

The University of Sydney was established in 1850 to promote useful knowledge and to encourage residents of New South Wales to pursue a regular course of liberal education.

The founders sought to create a university in the antipodes that provided teaching of the standard of Oxford and Cambridge and one which upheld the traditions of those places.

Charles Nicholson, the first Vice-Provost, suggested that a Mace, to be a symbol of the University's prestige and authority, should be granted by the Crown. This caused some consternation in England, where the Secretary of State for Colonies said he

could find no precedent. He considered that it would be better if the Governor of New South Wales were to present one to the University of Sydney on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and in her name.

In June 1854, the Senate agreed to meet the cost of a Mace out of revenue from student fees, and one, which may have been designed by Edmund Blacket, was made in New South Wales by Brush and McDonnell.

The Mace Bearer precedes the Chancellor in academic processions at graduations and on other ceremonial occasions, and the Mace has a special stand on the dais in the Great Hall.

Tim Robinson

Tim is an honours graduate of Macquarie University and has a Diploma in Information Management in Archives Administration, UNSW. He has worked in tertiary education since 1986, having been the foundation College Archivist at Sydney College of Advanced Education. He joined the University of Sydney as Assistant University Archivist in 1990, following the dissolution of Sydney CAE as a result of the reorganisation of Australian tertiary education. Earlier in his career, he worked in the Council of

the City of Sydney Archives and at the Society of Australian Genealogists. Tim is an active member of the Australian Society of Archivists and a former member of the executive committee of the Australian Council of Archives. He has published and spoken regularly in the areas of recordkeeping, accountability, privacy and freedom of information. Tim is Manager of the Archives and Records Management Services at the University of Sydney.

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Anne is a graduate of the University of Tasmania (Hons Ancient History) and also has a Graduate Diploma of Archives Administration from the University of New South Wales. She joined the staff of the Archives & Records Management Services of the University of Sydney as the assistant manager in May 2002. Formerly, she

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Suzy Nunes

Suzy is a graduate of the Cultural Heritage Management (1995) and Library and Information Management (1997) programs of the University of Canberra, and the Masters program in Archives and Records Management of the University of New South Wales. Following her first year of full time study at the University of NSW, Suzy moved to Vancouver, Canada, to complete her studies at the University of British Columbia, before moving to the USA to work as an intern for nine

months at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston. After several records management positions, Suzy's next role in archives was with the LBJ Presidential Library in Austin, Texas. On her return to Australia in 2001, Suzy worked for a short time in the Archives at the Australian Museum, before accepting a permanent position with the University of Sydney in January 2002. Suzy is the Reference Archivist at the University Archives.

Lee Jobling

Lee is an honours graduate of the University of Sydney, where she has worked, in various departments, since 1980. Her background is in English, and she has been employed in research and writing, as well as, for a period of six years, administering an industrial scholarship program for the Faculty of Engineering. Immediately before joining the Archives, she worked with Emeritus Professor Dame Leonie Kramer, Chancellor from 1991 to 2001. Lee is the Archives' Outreach Officer.