

Hon. Curator

Dr Usher made some remarks on this Officer, but no action was taken.

W. Barbridge's application for increase of Salary.

Mr. Preshaw suggested that the Registrar prepare for next meeting of this Council a statement setting forth the names designations duties and remuneration of all Officers of The School, and that the present application be postponed until the Administration Council had considered the whole question of the official organization of The School, and reported to the Council; the suggestion was approved of & adopted.

J. M. Caselli  
Chairman

12/6/79

The School of Mines - Ballarat  
Special Meeting of } P.M. May 1879  
the Council } at 8 P.M.

A SCHOOL OF PHARMACY IN BALLARAT.

A special meeting of the administrative council of the School of Mines was held last night, for the purpose of conferring with representatives of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria with regard to the establishment of a school of pharmacy in Ballarat. There were present Dr Hudson (vice-president), Messrs Caselli, Preshaw, Newman, Flude, Hoelscher, Wilson, Dr Usher, and the registrar pro tem; the representatives of the board being Messrs Bosisto, Blackett (president of the Pharmaceutical Society), H. Brind, and the secretary, Mr Shillinglaw. Mr Barnard, the registrar, reported what steps had already been taken by the council of the school towards establishing classes for pharmacy and botany, the details of which had been left he said, in the hands of a committee, who drew up suggestions in the matter, which had been adopted, and a class started under the direction of Mr Flude. It had been subsequently ascertained that the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society would like to communicate with the council on the subject, and in response to an invitation sent to them the representatives of those bodies had kindly come to Ballarat to meet the school authorities, and discuss the question with them.

Mr Bosisto having been asked for the views of the Pharmacy Board upon the establishment of a school of pharmacy in Ballarat, remarked that, as the council was well aware, the board was appointed under an act of Parliament for the purpose of attending to the education of young men in the art of dispensing, materia medica, and practical and pharmaceutical chemistry, and it was on behalf of those students who had been apprenticed since the passing of that act that he and his colleagues appeared before the council. The act allowed students to attend lectures on materia medica and botany at the University, whose certificate was to be considered sufficient by the board, and therefore, pupils attending the University would only have to pass the pharmacy examination before the board; but the expense to country students of living in Melbourne, so as to attend the University lectures, had led the board to think that it would be desirable to establish schools of pharmacy where the subjects above mentioned could be taught in Ballarat and Sandhurst as well as at Melbourne. The act allowed the board to recognise any school of pharmacy it chose, and the certificates which would emanate from the Ballarat school would be accepted by the board. The students would then only have to go through the final examination before the board in Melbourne. He and his fellow-members were there to ask the council if it would undertake not only to teach practical chemistry, which it was doing already as well as it could be done in Melbourne, but to set the machinery going to have lecturers appointed for materia medica and practical botany; practical pharmacy being taught in the shop and finally examined upon by the board itself. The board's proposition to the council was that it should appoint its own lecturers, whose syllabus should be submitted to the board for approval, but it was finally adopted, and of course the council would allow the board to make suggestions in the matter. With reference to botany, that could be taken up, it was thought, by the same person who taught materia medica, and the question of fees would be left to the council to make what arrangements it considered necessary, only it was desirable not to adopt too low a scale, or else the lecturer might not devote that time to his pupils as he would if he were properly paid. At the University the fees were high, and at Sand-

hurst the board considered them too low, but in Ballarat a scale might be adopted equitable to all parties. Of course the board could not grant certificates to the pupils of the School of Mines, but is asked to be allowed to send up its own examiners to be accepted as the school's, so that the certificates issued from the school could be recognised. As the School of Mines had prestige by being in some way recognised by Parliament, the board thought it would be advantageous to students to establish a school of pharmacy in connection with it, and as soon as the council was ready to proceed with the formation of classes as proposed, the board would take steps to have the school gazetted under the Pharmacy Act. After a few remarks from the chairman, Mr Bosisto explained that students would first have to pass a preliminary examination, so that none but educated young men would come into the classes. Mr Barnard remarked that in order to satisfy the Government, Government officers were already brought up as examiners in the school, on whose decision certificates were awarded; and he intimated that in the case of the school of pharmacy the council would like to issue the certificates. Mr Bosisto replied that the board would take the schools' certificates if that body examined the students through its own examiners. Mr Blackett further explained the proposition of the Pharmacy Board, under which, he said, certificates would be issued by the school, and the examinations made by the board. It was not desired to concentrate the board's work in Melbourne, where studying was accompanied with a great deal of expense and moral danger to young people whose friends lived at a distance, and therefore the establishment of provincial schools would, it was thought, prove of immense advantage to the public, the Pharmacy Board, the Pharmaceutical Society, and the pupils themselves. Mr Bosisto pointed out that the School of Pharmacy would be entirely independent of the School of Mines, so that the scale of fees of latter would not be interfered with at all. Mr Blackett added that the Pharmacy School would be a sort of affiliated body, and with regard to practical chemistry, the course usually adopted was so well known that the board was not likely to interfere in the school's existing arrangements. He enquired if there was any provision for growing botanical specimens, and received an affirmative answer. Mr Brind said that it had been the earnest desire of the board to be cosmopolitan in its efforts, and if country schools of pharmacy were not established, going to Melbourne to study would be a very heavy drag on students in the provinces. Further explanations were entered into, and it was definitely understood that the lecturers and examiners should be separate and distinct bodies. The question of fees having been considered, Mr Bosisto said that the fee for practical chemistry would not be altered, as the certificate for that must come from the board. Dr Usher having expressed his warm approval of the proposition made by the board, the chairman heartily thanked the members of it, for meeting the council of the school, and expressed a hope that the Pharmacy School in Ballarat would soon be a flourishing institution. Mr Bosisto, before leaving the school, left a written copy of the board's proposals, which required examinations and the granting of certificates every six months; a fee of £3 3s to be paid to each examiner for each examination, if the number of candidates be not more than six, and for every additional candidate 10s 6d; and the duration of the lectures to be not shorter than that of those given at the University. The whole question above treated, of will shortly be fully considered by the council of the School of Mines.

Present

Registrar Report

Mr Bosisto

Chairman  
Mr Bosisto as  
by explanation

Mr Barnard

Mr Bosisto

Mr Blackett

Mr Bosisto

Mr Blackett

Mr Brind

Mr Bosisto

Dr Usher

Mr Bosisto

R. M. Newman