

The School of Mines Ballarat.

Ordinary Meeting of } Friday 8 p.m.
the Council } March 16, 1894.

Present - The President in the chair, Vice-president F. J. Martell
Councillors S. E. Figgins, M. Lindsey, J. Leinie, J. P., R. G. Middleton,
(Hon. Treasurer), J. C. Molloy, R. J. Vale, M. A. S., and Theo. Williams J. P.
Apologies for absence were received from His Lordship the Bishop,
the Hon. David Stam, M. A. C., and Vice-president D^r Timmott.

Business:- (1) - To confirm Minutes of previous meeting.
(2) - To pass Accounts presented for payment. (3) To receive and
consider - (a) Progress and other reports submitted by the Staff,
(b) Scale of Fees recommended for adoption, (c) Correspondence
from Education and Lands Departments, (d) Mining Laboratory Report,
(4) - General - including requisition for Chemicals.

Minutes of previous meeting held 23rd February ultimo were read
and Confirmed.

Accounts paid since last meeting amounting to £229.14.7 were
confirmed, and the accounts presented amounting to £136.0.2,
with the exception of one item of £27 which was referred back to the
Finance Committee were passed for payment.

Progress Reports for the month of February submitted by the Staff
were received. - A scale of Fees prepared by the Professors and
recommended for adoption was referred to the Education Committee:-

A letter from the Education Department with accompanying 'Extract
from Act Inspector's Report on Ballarat School of Mines' was read. -
The replies of the Instructors in this department of School ^{work} were also
read - No action was taken. - A letter relative to the erection of a
McArthur-Forest Cyanide Plant was also received from the Department,
intimating that the Managing Director proposed visiting Ballarat and
consulting Professor Smith in regard to the introduction of the process.
Professors Smith and Howwood, and Mr Lecturer Dawson were introduced
to the Council Chamber when Professor Smith submitted the views
entertained by the Professorial Board in regard to the working of
this Institution under the Rules for the management of Technical Schools'.
The following is a summary of the Board's remarks on some of the

Chief points at issue:-

Capitation grant allowed for only two subjects for each student
whilst some attend ten or twelve subjects.

Credited with December passes only instead of for the passes
extending over the whole of 1893, (except in the case of the June
passes in Electricity).

Deferred capitation allowance (forwarded to The School
two months after expiration of Session) is quite inexplicable upon
any basis we can think of. - The claim was made according to
the School's reading of the printed regulations.

Holding examinations only once a year instead of two or
four times is a great hardship to the student, and an injustice
to The School, as most students go over more than one grade of a
subject in the year. - Our second year's course in Electricity
corresponds to the Department's third year.

The new Attendance Rolls (drawn out for Art Classes) wholly
unsuitable to our teaching arrangements.

We were asked to give the new rules and regulations a trial;
we have done so, and find them to be quite unworkable and beyond
patching.

If the Department insists on enforcing these regulations it
must hold itself responsible for dealing a death-blow to The
School of Mines.

Insisting upon a School of Mines such as this entering into
competition for a bare subsistence with classes for plain needlework
and dressmaking is an undeserved indignity. The Department
overrides all our arrangements and drags us down ruthlessly from
the position of a School of Mines to 'Technical School No 10', and
forces us to teach each student only two subjects for two hours a
week each, spread over the whole year, instead of as now, giving our
students a complete School of Mines course so as to equip them
as fully as possible for mining careers.

The three gentlemen retired and it was resolved to
arrange for a deputation to wait upon the Hon. the Minister
of Public Instruction with a view to advising him in regard to