

The School of Mines Ballarat.

Special Meeting of the Council } Tuesday 8 p.m.  
 of the Council } April 7<sup>th</sup> 1895.

Business: Very important.

Coming to the Registrar's absence from the meeting the following report published in the "Ballarat Star" of the 10<sup>th</sup> April inst. is appended hereto in lieu of the usual minutes:-

A special meeting of the School of Mines Council was held last night. Present—The President (Mr Andrew Anderson), the Anglican Bishop, Dr Pincock, the Hon. T. D. Wanless, M.L.C., and Messrs Williams, Lonie, and Figgis.

The president stated that he had interviewed the members of the staff, and all concurred with the proposal of the council that they should be reappointed and their salaries regulated by the revenue of the school. All the members of the teaching staff expressed their determination to devote their best attention to promote the prosperity of the school. Continuing, the president said that members of the council were aware of the resolution passed providing for the insertion in the papers of advertisements calling for applications from gentlemen willing to fill Professor Krause's position. He had had delayed putting the advertisements in until Saturday evening. Mr Wanless then called upon him and explained that it would be a great pity if Professor Krause were allowed to go, with the result that the advertisements were withheld. A meeting was accordingly called to consider the matter, as it was necessary that something should be done at the earliest possible moment. The following letter from Professor Krause had been handed to him immediately previous to the meeting:-

"It will perhaps assist you at the council's meeting this evening if I briefly restate the observations I made to you verbally the other evening. Permit me in the first place to say that the way in which I have been approached by the members of the council, by my colleagues, by the students, and by the outside public, urging me to continue my connection with the School of Mines is not only most gratifying to me, but is in full accord with my own wishes and hopes. In view of the changes that have been made and are still impending, I am, however, under the necessity of asking the council for a definite expression of their views respecting one or two matters of importance to me. 1. It is understood that I undertake to deliver the same number of lectures as formerly, viz., 280 per annum; maintain the museum in scientific order, and look after the library. These duties having been satisfactorily performed, I desire to enjoy full liberty to engage upon private practice outside the institution. 2. I have been informed that it is the intention of the council to appoint a director. While I shall be most anxious to aid the several members of the staff in their duties, I desire to have a specific assurance that that officer exercise no authority over my department. I have accepted a commission to professionally visit Western Australia. This undertaking would, of course, not have been made without the sanction of the council under ordinary circumstances. As it is, in asking the council to consent to my taking the necessary leave (of six weeks) I would endeavor to make such arrangements as to render my temporary absence of the least possible inconvenience to the school.—Yours, &c., V. M. KRAUSE"

Memorials were also read from the teaching staff and 70 students, urging that if possible, in the interests of the school, Professor Krause's connection should not be allowed to cease.

The president also read the following telegram, which he had received from the Hon. R. T. Vale:—"Object to meeting; notice too short. Protest against individual councillor over-riding council's decision."

The bishop said that on Friday evening last it was decided that advertisements be inserted for securing a successor to Professor Krause. The council then came to a clear understanding that the professor was completely lost to them. Therefore, he thought that the president was perfectly justified when he found that Professor Krause was not hopelessly lost to them in stopping the advertisements. The documents laid before the meeting were of the utmost importance, and the memorials from the teaching staff and students should carry considerable weight. It now appeared that Professor Krause desired to remain—that such was the object of his own wishes and hopes. All were perfectly agreed that he was a man of very lofty attainments, and that his character and status had been conducive to the high position the school occupied. The professor asked questions and proposed terms which it appeared to him that they could comply with, as there was not the least notion that the director should interfere with the professors. With regard to the leave of absence for six weeks, if he undertook to make suitable provision he thought that might be settled. The whole affair wore a fresh complexion, and it would be a serious matter for them, in the face of the documents before them and Professor Krause's letter, to continue the advertisements for a successor. In reference to Mr Vale's telegram he thought Mr Vale would see that the case was one of emergency, and if there were any irregularity the action taken could be confirmed by a subsequent meeting of the council.

Mr Wanless remarked that he did not wish to add anything to the excellent address of the bishop, who explained the position very clearly and fully, and put in an admirable way his view of the situation. He rose chiefly to inform the council that on Saturday evening he met Professor Smith, and in talking over the action of the council on Friday evening the professor informed him that Professor Krause was a little taken aback at the position of affairs—that he had thought there was still a chance of other conciliation, so to speak, between him and the council. Having heard this he jumped, he might say, at the chance of being able to secure his services to the institution, as he regarded Professor Krause's leaving as a great loss to the institution, knowing, as he did, the position he occupied amongst scientific men throughout Australia. Mr Wanless proceeded to relate the steps he had taken in the matter, and to say that the president and vice-president Martell had cordially agreed with him. Mr Martell and himself had accordingly arranged with the representative of the Argus to telegraph withholding the advertisement sent down. Mr Martell went down to see Mr Vale relative to the advertisement sent to the Argus, but that gentleman refused to order its postponement. The president's name was accordingly affixed to the countermanding telegram, and Mr Anderson had endorsed the action taken. He (Mr Wanless) thought it harsh for Mr Vale to so refuse, seeing that it was purposed to merely postpone the advertisement for a day or two at the outside. Seeing the value placed by the whole community on the services of Professor Krause he thought the action approved of by the president was a wise one, and he accordingly endorsed the remarks of the bishop in the matter.

Mr Figgis—The advertisement is in the Argus to-day.

Mr Wanless—Then that is despite the president of the institution. If the Argus received a telegram to withhold the advertisement and Mr Vale interfered and over-ruled the president, I think he has put himself more out of court than I have or we have by our action—a very great deal more.

The President—I would draw your attention to one very important thing in Prof. Krause's letter—his desire to privately practise.

Mr Williams strongly urged that the professors of the institution should not be allowed to practise outside of it.

After some discussion, Dr Pincock observed that as there was a protest against the president's action and the meeting, he would move that the action of the president be confirmed.

The bishop seconded the motion.

Mr Lonie thought that if the president's action were endorsed, Mr Vale should be afforded an opportunity of defending himself.

Dr Pincock—So he will. Continuing, Mr Lonie said that he agreed with the bishop in all he had said regarding Professor Krause. Still, there were some clauses in his letter which were not very clear. Why did not such a letter come before the last meeting? They were aware that there was an advertisement in the papers asking for commissioners for Western Australia, and it appeared as if Professor Krause, from the tenor of his letter, intended to get leave of absence and to boss the whole council. He thought some explanation was needed.

Dr Pincock agreed that these were matters for discussion, and they could subsequently be dealt with, but they did not interfere with his motion.

Mr Lonie thought that notice to rescind the motion passed at Friday's meeting should have been given, as several members were unavoidably absent at present. There would be no harm in the matter standing over for a few days.

Dr Pincock explained that his proposition in view of the protest was merely to confirm the president's action, for if that were not done the meeting would be informal, and they might as well walk out of the room. After some discussion, during which the president remarked that he was willing to be responsible for his action, as he had acted in the best interests of the school, the motion was carried in this form—"That the action of the president in calling this meeting be confirmed."

It was decided on the motion of Mr Lonie, seconded by Mr Wanless, to withhold the advertisements in so far as they referred to applications for the position of Professor Krause.

It was decided to hold a special meeting of the council to deal with business before the meeting on Tuesday evening next.

S. Ballarat.

10.5.95

The School of Mines Ballarat.

Adjourned Special Meeting } Friday 8 p.m.  
 of the Council } April 16<sup>th</sup> 1895.

Present - The President in the chair, Vice-presidents L. J. Martell and Dr Pincock, Hon. R. T. Vale, M.L.C., Hon. D. Ham, M.L.C., Hon. L. D. Wanless, M.L.C., S. E. Figgis, M. Lindsay, J. Lonie, J.P., R. G. Middleton (Hon. Treasurer), His Lordship the Bishop of Ballarat, and His Worship (Sheo-Williams, J.P.) Mayor of Ballarat East.

Business - 1. - To consider Professor Krause's letter offering terms for re-engagement. - 2. - Memorandum from the Staff recommending that the services of Professor Krause be retained. - 3. - Memorial from students asking that Professor Krause be reinstated.

The President read two letters received from Prof. Krause dated 28<sup>th</sup> March ult. and 9<sup>th</sup> April inst. respectively.

Dr Vale moved 'That the action taken by the Council on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April inst. in the matter of Prof. Krause's resignation be final - Seconded by Dr Williams.

Vice-president Dr Pincock moved an amendment - 'That the Council reconsider the whole matter' This was seconded by His Lordship the Bishop and Carried.

Dr Middleton moved - 'That Professor Krause be offered re-engagement on the same terms as the other members of the teaching staff' - Seconded by the Bishop and Carried. Dr Middleton moved and Dr Wanless seconded - 'That the matter of Prof. Krause's proposed visit to Western Australia be left in the hands of the President' - This was agreed to.

It was resolved that a meeting of the Council be convened for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> inst. to receive applications for the position of Director and Registrar.

Vice-president Martell tendered the resignation of his seat on the Council and announced his candidature for the position.  
 Samuel Ballarat

10/5/95