

THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE

Although the University of Queensland was only opened in 1911, the number of students, both male and female, has so far exceeded anticipations that the Old Government House buildings have proved too small for its requirements, and sundry temporary buildings have had to be utilised for some of the classes. Denominational residential colleges for men students have been opened in different localities, but until the site for the permanent University buildings is settled on, it is, of course impossible for the colleges to be other than temporarily housed. This has in some cases necessitated the building of extra rooms and renting of near-by houses in order to accommodate the overflow.

It was felt from the first that either a hostel or a residential college should be provided for the women students, but nothing definite was done on the subject until about a year ago. In the early part of 1913 a number of women who were interested in the subject formed a deputation to *[sic]* the Government in order to ask for assistance in establishing a women's residential college. They received scant sympathy then, but nothing daunted, set about trying to raise funds to establish the college without Government aid. Such determination as they showed would probably have accomplished its purpose in time.

Meanwhile the Education Department had decided on a new scholarship scheme, which will enable an increased number of State school scholars and young teachers to avail themselves of a University course. As these scholarship holders will come from all parts of the State and include a number of girls, the college committee decided on another deputation to the Government. The second appeal for help resulted in a promise of a £ for £ subsidy on [...] money collected up to a thousand pounds, and a grant of £500 per annum for five years.

As the public subscriptions have reached a total of £1265 [...] full advantage can be taken of the thousand pound subsidy.

This generous treatment has enabled the committee to go ahead with their arrangements, and have the college available for students at the beginning of the 1914 University term. A house on Kangaroo Point and an adjoining cottage—which it is intended to attach to the main building by a new wing of bedrooms—have been leased for three years for the college. By that time it is expected that the new University and colleges, will be built.

Miss F. Bage, M.Sc., Melbourne University, is the first principal of the college. Although a Victorian and a graduate of the Melbourne University, Miss Bage is not unknown in Queensland. During last year she acted as lecturer in biology at the Queensland University in place of Dr. Harvey Johnston, who was absent from the State. Miss Bage, who is also a Fellow of the Linnean Society, is well acquainted with University work, having acted as demonstrator in the Melbourne University, where she won the MacBain scholarship for research work, and also worked for a year in King's College, London. Her sympathetic and optimistic disposition have made her so many friends in Brisbane that her appointment as principal of the new college is a very popular one. It is a matter for congratulation that Brisbane—with such a young university has succeeded in establishing a women's college, through which the pathway of the learner can be made so much more rapid and easy, while some of the cities with older universities are still lagging behind.

