

## J. B. WALKER

James Backhouse Walker, a lawyer, was a foundation member of the University Council and later Vice-Chancellor 1898-9. He was formerly a member of the Tasmanian Council of Education and one of the foremost of those striving to found a University. In his personal letters to his family and friends amongst the Walker family papers (Walker Papers Uni.Tas. Deposited Archives W.9) he often referred to his aims for a University and he wrote a 7 page statement of the possible structure of the University, but he doubted whether it could be more than an examining body with no endowment and limited funds. He himself did much of the drafting of the University Act and the revisions of the Act. Indeed he wrote that he was doing most of the work himself. After the foundation of the University Council Walker continued to do most of the work of the Council, especially in drafting statutes and regulations. He also wrote personally to Associates of Arts of the Council of Education to ask them to become members of the Senate and he encouraged graduate friends to apply for degrees of the University *ad eundem gradum* to form a Senate as the body of the new University. He was pleased with the resulting good attendance at the first "Public Meeting" of the University in 1890. Later when it was decided to provide some teaching staff Walker wrote to applicants and asked advice from friends and colleagues on suitable staff.

These papers, filed with the Registrar's records, include Walker's official correspondence on University Council matters, notes of meetings, comments, drafts of regulations, news cuttings etc.

### CORRESPONDENCE

UT12/

1 Correspondence relating to University 1889 - 1899

Letters received and a few drafts of letters sent, arranged in chronological order.

This correspondence relates to funds and Parliamentary grants, exam and teaching schemes, staff, Launceston students and extension lectures and the north and south rivalry, Council elections, public exams etc. George Wilson Waterhouse of Launceston, a member of Council and Senate, wrote frequently about Launceston's opinion of "the Southern Institution" and the need for extension lectures there as a "sop to Cerberus" (1893 UT12/1(90-92), Council meetings, the inadequate funds voted by Parliament "what exactly does our Ministry expect the University to do on £1500 a year? Teach it certainly cannot and to examine merely is to my mind great folly" (1895, (115). Other correspondents included Edwin Bean a teacher in England; R.D.P. and J.O Harris; Professor A. Liversedge and R. Threlfall of Sydney University about courses and staff; J. MacFarland of Melbourne University about staff; Alex. McAulay, W.H. Williams and W. Jethro Brown about teaching etc.; and fellow University Councillors and other friends.

Most are letters received by J.B. Walker but there are a few drafts of his letters. On 1 September 1890, for example, Walker wrote to G.W. Waterhouse about "the mischief of the introduction of the political element" and Rev. James Scott's "intrigues and underhand plotting" as Scott "poses as the founder of the University" (21). In 1895 he wrote to the Chief Justice in Adelaide "Our little University has had a narrow escape from absolute extinction" (124).

An index of correspondents is appended (those marked "f" are JBW's drafts or "rf" a letter received and draft reply).  
(133 letters)

## COUNCIL

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2-5

## Council and Senate Papers 1889 - 1899

Including draft statutes and regulations (from 1889), agenda papers, notes of meetings, election of members, draft reports, exams, staff etc.

2 1889 - 1892 (folder of loose papers)

3 1893 Council, Senate &amp; Board of Degrees

Including standing orders amended ms., notes of meetings, news cuttings, drafts of statutes as sent to Governor, agenda, scheme for University teaching including memorandum by the lecturers (adopted by Council 13 Feb. 1893), estimate for Physics laboratory and list of apparatus needed (McAulay), Annual Meeting address by Chancellor 1893, public exams (error in pass list), lecture timetables, building. (stuck into unbound guard book folios)

4 1893 - 1897

Including notes of meetings of Council and Board of Studies, papers presented to meetings, news cuttings reporting meetings, notes, timetables, extension lectures, J.B.W.'s description of first Commemoration Day (5th Annual Meeting) 1895 - barristers' gowns borrowed for the 6 graduands to simulate academic dress, library donations, etc.

(Papers stuck into guard book)

5 1896 - 1899

Including regulations, syllabus, finance, chemistry lecturer's lodging.

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## Notes of Meetings etc. 1891, 1892

J. B. Walker's notes of various meetings:

1 Draft of speech [May 1890]

Relating to constitution of Council of Education, University Council and Senate election of Councillors.

2 Senate meeting 1 Sept. 1890

3 University Annual Meeting 26 June 1891, *minutes*4 Teaching appointments committee Apr. 1892 *1891*

Notice of meeting and notes of committee meeting including F.J. Young: discussion of possible candidates; Young's suggestion of a federation of Australian universities. *Notes of meeting 20. 7. 91*

5 Committee on science teaching ND [?1892]

✓ 6 Use of technical School Laboratory 18 May 1892

Interview with B.S. Bird

7 Dry Scholarship 17 June 1892

Note of report of committee and motions for Council.

✓ 8 Discussion with Lamprill: statutes, regulations, Senate 6 July 1892

9 Petition to House of Assembly for extension of land 1892

Including notes of early history of education in Tasmania

10 Council meetings 30 Jan. 1893, 20 Feb. 1893

11 Notes on Parliamentary grants 23 Feb. 1893

Douglas threatened to knock another £1000 off - the old North and South feeling, need for retrenchment.

12 Scholarships - T. Stephens ND

Note by T. Stephens of action to be taken about scholarship holders matriculating and attending lectures.

13 Cover: "Scott's resolutions Council Meeting 20 June 1892".

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## Leake Bequest Committee 1893-1894

Correspondence, reports etc.

- 8 Finance Committee 1893 - 1895  
Notes of income and expenditure, statements of account, estimates for 1896
- 9 Parliamentary Vote and proposal to abolish University 1895  
Copies of articles by J.B. Walker sent to members of Parliament (eg. "Is the University a luxury?", "The example of the United States?", "Shall the University be closed), news cuttings and letters to Press, petition of Launceston students at University, petition from residents of Hobart, petition from Hobart teachers. Also copy of cost of maintenance of University and Council of Education (Parl. Papers 1896), news cuttings 1896 and copy of "The example of the U.S." (uncut pamphlet) and copies of pamphlets.  
(papers stuck in unbound folio guard book and folder of loose papers)
- 10 Note of Legislative Council Meeting 1895  
J.B. Walker's note of the Legislative Council meeting which raised the University vote to the amount the University Council had requested "without even a whisper of dissent" 6 out of 7 Northern members speaking in support of the University, A. Douglas moved the increase, Piesse's speech. Also printed extract from a debate (ND).
- 11 Finance Committee: Launceston Technical School 1898 - 1899  
Copies and precis of correspondence and notes for Finance Committee on cooperation between Launceston Technical School and University; notes on expenditure including Technical School and music course; report of Council of Agriculture referring to technical education.
- 12 Annual Report amended ms. 1899

## BOARD OF DEGREES AND STUDIES

- 13 Regulations for degrees and public exams 1890 - 1897  
Drafts and copies of regulations
- 14 Scheme for matriculation and degrees 1891  
Draft of scheme "as sent to Sydney", criticisms of scheme by M.W. MacCallum of University of Sydney, Mr Weigall's "remarks", scheme for 3 years course in Latin and Greek and "remarks added at the request of Rev. J. Smith to his schedules of subjects".
- 15 Notes of Meetings of Board of Degrees 17 Jan. 1893, 10 Feb. 1893  
J.B. Walker's notes: schemes, teaching in 2 centres not practical.
- 16 Board of Studies: notes and Papers 1894 - 1898  
Drafts of minutes and schemes, scheme by W.H. Williams, F.M. Young's proposal to ensure accuracy in public exam class lists (1897-8)

## MINING COURSE

- 17 Proposed Mining Course 1898 - 1899  
Papers of sub-committee of Board of Studies and Finance Committee, Chairman Adye Douglas, including draft schemes by professors McAulay and McLeod, J.B. Walker's draft statement.

## FACULTY OF LAW

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- 18 Formation of Faculty of Law 1893-1897  
Copies of correspondence and reports regarding the law School
- 19 Committee on Legal Education ND  
Minutes of a conference of committees appointed by the Councils of the Southern Law Society and Northern Law Society and by the University Council to consider the question of legal education.
- 20 Reports 1891, 1892  
Reports of Articled Clerks' Association and of Sub-Committee of Southern Law Society and copies of Legal Practitioners' acts for Tasmania, South Australia and W.A.
- 21 Regulations for LLB 1893-1897  
Draft regulations for the degree of LLB annotated by JBW and copy of "Report on Regulations for Degrees in Law".

## PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

- 22 Public Examinations 1898  
Correspondence relating to botany syllabus with L. Rodway, B.B. LeTall and notes; letter from E.C. Clark on museum facilities and news cutting on geology specimens in Launceston Museum; Senior Public exam amendments (Nov. 1898); Junior Public regulations (printed with ms correction)

## J.B. WALKER'S NOTES, ARTICLES ETC. ON THE UNIVERSITY

- 23 Rough notes and drafts of articles or speeches etc. 1889 - 1895
- 1 Proposed Tasmanian University Aug. 1889  
Rough notes - examining or teaching body
  - 2 List of books or articles on universities [1889-1890]
  - 3 Rough notes on education ND [? 1890-91]  
Including rough draft of ?speech to Council on drawing up scheme for exams for degrees.
  - 4 Notes on publication of *Calendar* ND [? 1890]
  - 5 Rough notes (? for Council debate) ND [1890-92]  
Jottings on Council schemes, V.C's "thoughtful address", 3 chairs, science.
  - 6 Notes on history of University Council 1890-1892
  - 7 Public Exams. July 1892, 1893  
Rough notes on exams of June 1892, notes of secondary education conference 1893 and of H.E. Roscoe on the secondary education movement.
  - 8 Rough notes on lectures and extension lectures 1893
  - 9 Rough notes on grants and costs £ 1893-95
  - 10 Draft article: "The case for the Tasmanian University ND [?1895]  
Including history of the University and the example of the U.S.A.
- 24 Notes on history of University of Tasmania 1893  
"Notes to serve as material for a history of the establishment of the University of Tasmania"

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- 25 Proposal for University 1875  
Motion by Mr Justice Dobson for the Council of Education to be constituted the University of Tasmania.  
(printed Parliamentary Paper)
- 26 Articles for press 1890 -1898  
Notes on the question of university teaching in Tasmania (ND); "The University of Tasmania a statement of facts" (Aug. 1893); "Our University and its value to us" (*Walch's Literary Intelligencer* Oct.1893); "Can we afford it? The Tasmanian University its cost and work" (1893); letter to *Wellington Times* [Burnie] 1895 in reply to leader of 4 June criticising the University and further letter on mistake in Senior Public exam; proofs of Walker's articles for *Mercury*: "the treasurer's figures challenged (?1895); "The University and Mining Science (1898, 2 articles); Parliamentary grants: comparative figures 1890-1898; cuttings of letters to *Mercury* 28 Aug. 1893, 7 Mar. 1894.
- 27 Reply to press letter  
Draft or copy of reply to question in "issue of 4 June 'Has the Tasmanian University any real independent existence?' " discussing history of education in Tasmania, scholarships, costing, type of students at University, northern students. Not signed. Writing not identified.
- 28 *University Calendar* 1898  
Copy of *Calendar* annotated by J.B.W. with notes of dates of statutes, staff, numbers of degrees awarded etc.
- 29 Admission tickets 1890, 1895, 1896  
Tickets for: University Meeting (one lady) 25 June 1890, Commemoration (members of Council and Senate) 19 December 1895, extension lectures: the evolution of federation 1896.

## NEWS CUTTINGS

- 30 Annual Meeting/Commemoration Reports 1891, 1893, 1895-1897  
Cuttings from *Walch's Literary Intelligencer* or *Mercury*.
- 31 Newspaper cuttings 1884 - 1899 *Folio.*
- 1 Council & Senate reports 1893, 1898, 1899
  - 2 1884 (proposed university)
  - 3 1888 (University of Melbourne)
  - 4 1891 (Matriculation exam.)
  - 5 1892 (Technical schools, extension courses)
  - 6 1893 (Technical education, scholarships, Rev. G. Clarke on retrenchment)
  - 7 1894 (Henry Dobson's letter, House of Assembly)
  - 8 1895 (Parliamentary debates on University)
  - 9 1896 (Extension lectures)
  - 10 1897 (University Council elections)
  - 11 1898 (Technical education, public exams., School of Mines)
  - 12 1899 Jan. (*Tas. Mail* University Commemoration photographs 1898)
  - 13 1899 (Technical education)
  - 14 Miscellaneous undated

UNIVERSITY UNION

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- 32 Tasmania University Union Constitution [1899]  
Galley proof, ms amendment

MISCELLANEOUS

- 33 "Cambridge University Association 1899.  
Report of inaugural meeting London (Jan. 1899) and printed address to Chancellor  
of University of Tasmania from Registrar J.H.R.Cruickshank: "Can we profit by the  
precedent?"  
(2 printed pamphlets)
- 34 High School, Hobart Town subscription list ND [?1847-9]