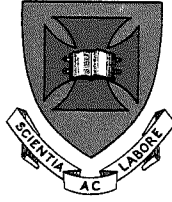


UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



JAMES CHARLES MAHONEY

"MR. CHANCELLOR,

JAMES CHARLES MAHONEY WAS PROFESSOR OF FRENCH FOR TWENTY-THREE OF HIS FORTY-FOUR YEARS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND - SERVICE WHICH INCLUDED TERMS OF OFFICE AS DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS, PRESIDENT OF THE PROFESSORIAL BOARD AND SENATOR.

AN OUTSTANDING SCHOLAR AND ATHLETE, PROFESSOR MAHONEY WAS NAMED QUEENSLAND RHODES SCHOLAR FOR 1929. AFTER STUDY AT OXFORD WHERE HE GAINED DEGREES AND A HALF-BLUE AS A MILER, HE WAS APPOINTED TUTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND IN 1933 AND LATER BECAME LECTURER IN THAT DEPARTMENT. IN 1949, HE BECAME SENIOR LECTURER AND THEN IN 1950 CHIEF LECTURER IN FRENCH. HE WAS APPOINTED PROFESSOR OF FRENCH IN 1954.

FROM HIS STUDENT DAYS ON, PROFESSOR MAHONEY HELD MANY OFFICES IN SOCIETIES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY. THESE INCLUDED HONORARY SECRETARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND UNION, VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND STAFF ASSOCIATION, PRESIDENT OF THE ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE (BRISBANE) AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES LANGUES ET LITTÉRATURES MODERNES.

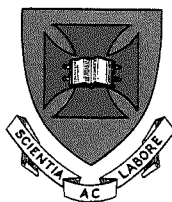
HIS SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE HAS BEEN RECOGNISED BY AWARDS SUCH AS THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP, THE HEATH HARRISON TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP FROM OXFORD (1930), AND A GRANT IN AID FROM THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK (1952).

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS HONOURED PROFESSOR MAHONEY BY RECEIVING HIM AS THEIR GUEST IN PARIS IN 1952 AND ULTIMATELY BY AWARDING HIM THE CROIX DE CHEVALIER DE LA LÉGION D'HONNEUR IN 1960.

ON HIS RETIREMENT IN AUGUST, 1977, THE SENATE CONFERRED ON HIM THE TITLE OF PROFESSOR EMERITUS.

TO THESE HIGH DISTINCTIONS SHOULD BE ADDED OTHER ATTRIBUTES OF ELOQUENCE AS A PUBLIC SPEAKER AND CONVIVIAL RACONTEUR. LIKE ONE OF THE CHARACTERS IN 'SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER', JAMES MAHONEY 'LOVES EVERYTHING THAT'S OLD; OLD FRIENDS, OLD TIMES, OLD MANNERS, OLD BOOKS, OLD WINES'. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THEREFORE THAT HE HAS ESTABLISHED A REPUTATION AS A LOCAL HISTORIAN, NO ONE KNOWS BETTER THAN HE THE DISTINCTION AND FOIBLES OF THOSE EARLY EDUCATIONAL PIONEERS WHO FOUNDED THIS GREAT INSTITUTION. HIS MEMORY FOR SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IS INEXHAUSTIBLE.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



JAMES CHARLES MAHONEY (cont.)

HE HAS A PASSIONATE INTEREST IN CRICKET AND RUGBY AND HAS PLAYED A LONG AND VALUED ROLE ON THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE OF SENATE ESPECIALLY IN RELATION TO RECREATION AREAS AND HIS INSISTENCE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE AESTHETIC QUALITIES OF OUR BUILDINGS. DURING WORLD WAR II HE SERVED AS BRIGADE MAJOR IN THE SEVENTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE AND WAS MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES AT MILNE BAY.

MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY - SENATORS, STUDENTS, AND ACADEMIC AND GENERAL STAFF - HAVE OBSERVED HIM OVER SO MANY YEARS IN VERY VARIED CIRCUMSTANCES. THEY HAVE FOUND HIM SERIOUS AND METICULOUS IN THE DISCHARGE OF HIS UNIVERSITY DUTIES, VIGOROUS AND ENTHUSIASTIC AT SPORT, AND CHEERFUL AND WITTY IN HIS RELATIONS WITH HIS COLLEAGUES. ABOVE ALL, THEY HAVE OBSERVED HIS DEEP AND ENDURING INTEREST IN THE WELFARE OF THIS UNIVERSITY AND IN THE PROMOTION OF SCHOLARSHIP - AN INTEREST THEY ARE SURE WILL CONTINUE WITH HIS RETIREMENT.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE MIGHT HAVE HAD JAMES MAHONEY IN MIND WHEN HE WROTE -

"HE WAS A SCHOLAR, AND A RIPE AND GOOD ONE;
EXCEEDING WISE, FAIR-SPOKEN AND PERSUADING."

OR PERHAPS IF YOU WILL FORGIVE A MISQUOTATION OF VOLTAIRE IN MY EXECRABLE PRONUNCIATION -

"SI JAMES MAHONEY N'EXISTAIT PAS, IL FAUDRAIT L'INVENTER"

MR. CHANCELLOR, I PRESENT TO YOU JAMES CHARLES MAHONEY, HOLDER OF AN EFFICIENCY DECORATION, MASTER OF ARTS, BACHELOR OF LETTERS (OXFORD), HOLDER OF THE CROIX DE CHEVALIER DE LA LÉGION D'HONNEUR, FOR ADMISSION TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LETTERS 'HONORIS CAUSA'."

The Chancellor says -

"BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, I ADMIT JAMES CHARLES MAHONEY TO THE RANK AND PRIVILEGES OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LETTERS 'HONORIS CAUSA' IN THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND."