

NAME: Mr. Charles SCHINDLER, B.A.(1915), M.A.(1918)

ADDRESS: c/- Highlands Experimental Station, Aiyura, via Lae,
T.P.N.G.

DEGREE RECOMMENDED: Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.)

Charles Schindler's thirty-eight years' of active association with the University (as one of the original undergraduates, graduates, and teachers) covers a continuous period of its history, from Inaugural Ceremony until 1948, when he retired as Associate Professor of French.

He was born in France in 1878, where he was educated with distinction in several primary and secondary schools. In 1897 he won a national History prize, was received as Bachelier-es-Lettres (Philosophie) by the University of Aix-Marseille, and proceeded to the University of Paris to read Law. In 1900 he was admitted as "Licence en Droit", whereupon he spent two years in England as a French teacher and journalist displaying a close observation and shrewd political judgment that promised a distinguished career as a foreign correspondent in Europe. However, in 1902 he emigrated to Australia, where he stayed to teach, write, study, marry (1906) and become a naturalised British subject. In 1909 he settled in Queensland, where his two sons were reared.

A visiting French Master to several leading Brisbane High Schools, he continued his own studies at the University of Queensland as an evening student in Arts, taking French, German, English, Geology, Economics, Logic and Psychology. His articles in Australian and French publications revealed a lively interest in local affairs, while his formal theses reveal his close study of international relations.

In 1915 he graduated Bachelor of Arts, taking his Master's Degree in 1918. He had already become a part-time member of the French and German teaching staff, and in 1921 became a full-time lecturer. His inclusion of studies of the historical and cultural life of France, in his language and literature courses, was a valuable basis for students subsequently studying there, as well as an enlivening interest and sound background for future teachers.

His clear thinking and legal training, already an advantage in his teaching and writing careers, made him an asset to various University associations: e.g. the Debating Society, and other societies and political clubs. He continued to take part in the Geology Department's field excursions, and show an active interest in scientific questions, as a member of the Royal Society of Queensland. He also held active membership with the Alliance Française; the English and Modern Languages Association (Foundation member); the Author's and Artist's Association (Council Member); Institute of International Affairs; and the League of Nations Union, and then the United Nations Association.

In all these fields of activity he enjoyed the respect and popularity shared by his colleagues at the University. Perhaps his greatest contribution to our community and to this University was the dynamic and progressive influence which he exerted on staff and students during his long association.
