

Annie Ure Atrebatas Talk: Studying Classics at University College Reading.

Ure Museum archive

"At first Reading University College had no chair of Classics. Latin, and the little Greek there was, were taught by a lecturer, A Y Campbell, who, afterwards became Professor of Greek at Liverpool. ... In 1911 the authorities decided it was time to create a chair and Percy Ure, who was then a lecturer at Leeds, was appointed to be its first occupant. When he arrived he found precisely one Honours Classics student in the department, a third year man called Tombling. There were two freshers arriving with him, girls, both of them knowing some Greek, but not much. These three had, in the main, to be taught together, in spite of the disparity of their accomplishments. It was rather hard on Tombling. Looking back, it reminds me of a team I once saw drawing a farm cart through the streets of Naples. The team consisted of an ox, a horse, and a donkey all yoked together. In this case I was the donkey."