The International Trade Conference was held this year at Monash, commencing on 11 September for three days.

Thirteen papers were delivered or circulated, several by internationally-eminent economists, during the course of the conference.

The following economists participated: Dr Max Corden, Dr H. D. Evans, Professor H. G. Grubel, Professor F. H. Gruen, Professor H. G. Johnson, Mr N. F. Laing, Dr P. Lloyd, Professor I. A. McDougall, Professor J. D. Pitchford, Dr R. H. Snape and Dr L. R. Webb.

GREAT HALL — Continued

life backwards. It was a most fortunate choice, I'm sure, to have the appointment of Sir Robert endorsed by the Cabinet and by all those associated at that time with the development of Monash.

'I think it most appropriate that the Great Hall should be given the name of Blackwood Hall because it is over the last decade that the giant strides of advancement have been made, and if there is any difficult period for a school or university it is surely the first decade of its development.

'There have been difficulties, difficulties of finance, difficulties of administration, difficulties of site development, but they have all, I believe, satisfactorily been overcome.'

The Minister emphasized the necessity of such a hall in any educational institution.

'The activities of a university', he said, 'can become so much more varied and diversified with a hall of this nature, and this is particularly important in the case of Monash because it is named after a man whose career was diversified and who contributed so much to so many different fields.'

In his response to Mr Thompson, the Vice-Chancellor, Dr J. A. L. Matheson, spoke of the laying of the foundation stone as a very moving occasion for members of Monash. In the course of his address he said:

'The original plans of the University, which were developed under Sir Robert Blackwood's chairmanship of the Interim Council, looked forward right from the very beginning to what was then described as — and still is — a forum with a double line of buildings with the Great Hall at the end of it. And this was, of course, regarded in the early days as being something that would take quite some time to accomplish, and now we are at the point of that accomplishment. In order to bring it about a great many people have been involved. We had to raise a considerable sum of money to make it possible, and an enormous number of people contributed either with time or with funds or with both to make it possible.

'We believe that when this building is complete it will be a tremendous asset, not only to the life of this University, and indeed of the surrounding neighbourhood, but also to the architecture of this city.'

Dr Matheson concluded by saying that the Blackwood Hall would be a magnificent addition not only to Monash, but also to the facilities of this part of the city.

Monash Law school awarded its first degree of Master of Laws to a woman graduate from the University of Melbourne, Mrs Ann Lahore. Mrs Lahore, who is a lecturer in law with the University's Law faculty, took out her degree at a graduation ceremony on Wednesday 11 December 1968. In 1970 her husband, Mr James C. Lahore, will also join the staff as a senior lecturer in law. Since Mrs Lahore gained her Master of Laws, two further Master's degrees have been awarded by the Law faculty to Mr Allen B. Afterman and Mr Ross A. Sundberg. Both of these degrees were conferred at graduation ceremonies which were held at the University early in 1969.

In 1968 the faculty of Law completed its first full programme for the combined degrees of B.Juris. and LL.B. The first students admitted in 1964 graduated at a ceremony in May 1969.

THE FRIENDS OF THE MONASH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Since the active life of the association began in August 1968, the Friends of the University Library have held regular meetings to hear talks on subjects of general interest to library and book lovers. Dr H. H. R. Love has spoken on 'Swift and his Publishers' — a lecture which was published along with a catalogue of the library's collection of Swift and Swiftiana: Dr D. F. Mackenzie has spoken on the 'History of the Cambridge University Press' and Associate Professor W. Kirson on the 'Libraries and Collectors in Europe in 1967'.

With the completion of the current library building it is hoped to hold exhibitions as well as lectures.

The Friends of the Monash University Library have several functions, one of the most important being to advise the library about books worthy of collection and how these may be obtained. They aim to provide a bridge between the library and the rest of the University, and between the library and the community. Part of their intention in providing this bridge is to publicize the University library's interest in acquiring valuable and important books. The association also makes donations to the library.

VISIT TO JAPAN

Associate Professor J. H. Smith, of Monash's Physics department, left for the University of Tokyo in September this year to spend three months as the out-going Fellow for 1969/70 under the Leverhulme Trust Fund Interchange Scheme.