

## ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.

### THE MAWSON EXPEDITION.

LONDON, April 7.

Dr. Mawson announced yesterday that his Antarctic expedition must leave this year. Arrangements for the purchase of the ship and equipment have been completed, but cannot be ratified until the Australian committee cable the preliminary expenses.

*Register, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1911*

At a special congregation of the University of Adelaide on Monday the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow) conferred the following degrees:—For the Honours Degree of Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics, James Bernard Allen, B.Sc. (in absentia); Philosophy, George Elton Mayo (in absentia). Mr. Allen graduated B.Sc. in 1891. In 1889 he won the Angas engineering exhibition, and in 1892 was awarded a science research scholarship by the Royal Commissioners of the exhibition of 1881. Subsequently he was assistant lecturer on mathematics in the University, and afterwards was appointed lecturer on mathematics at the Perth Technical School, a position he still holds. In 1910 Mr. Allen passed in the first class the examination for the honours degree of B.A. in mathematics. Mr. Mayo studied philosophy for four years, and passed in the first division in each of the subjects—psychology, logic, ethics, economics, philosophy—and passed in the first class the examination for the honours degree of B.A. in philosophy. He was awarded the David Murray Scholarship for a thesis on "The criterion of social progress." A few weeks ago he was appointed the first lecturer in psychology, logic, and ethics in the new Queensland University.

*Advertiser, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1911  
Brisbane.*

### THE UNIVERSITY.

The Government have decided, in addition to the annual grant of £10,000 to the University, to vote £2,500 per annum to establish evening classes and also correspondence classes. In connection with the University the Government hope shortly to establish kindergarten training schools at Rockhampton and Townsville. There is already one at Brisbane.

*Register, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1911.*

## FREE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

### MELBOURNE PROPOSAL.

MELBOURNE, April 9.

There was a large attendance, which included the Governor and Lady Carmichael, at the Melbourne University commencement ceremony in the Wilson Hall yesterday. The Chancellor (Sir John Madden) said among the projects in the air was one of a free university. A university was for inculcating sound learning. Nothing could be more taking at the first presentment than a proposal that the university should be free to all, but if there were to be sound learning, there must soon be a standard in this university under which "sound learning" must not be allowed to go. That standard could not be fixed by any unqualified persons, but by the very best experts they could get. If they had presently a free university it might mean, as many people thought, an invasion of the university by everybody who came along and desired to study this or that subject to add to his education or industrial equipment. While sympathizing with the desire of everybody to have access to the best means of education, there must be a standard to which everybody entering the university would have to conform. An appointment to the chair of English would be made this year. It was proposed shortly to fit in a special research laboratory devoted to physical anthropology and to anthropometry, thus enabling any work on immigrants, cadets, and so on to be undertaken to the best advantage for either the State or the Commonwealth Government.

## FREE UNIVERSITIES.

### THE QUESTION OF STANDARD.

Melbourne, April 9.

The Chancellor of the Melbourne University (Sir John Madden), in his address at the Commencement Day celebrations yesterday, said that among the projects in the air was one of a free University. A University was for inculcating sound learning. Nothing could be more taking at the first presentment than the proposal that the University should be free to all, but if there were to be sound learning, there must be a standard for the conferring of degrees. That standard could not be fixed by any unqualified persons, but by the very best experts they could get. If they had presently a free University it might mean, as many people thought it would mean, the invasion of the University by everybody who came along and desired to study this or that subject in order to add to his educational or industrial equipment. While sympathizing with the desire of everybody to have access to the best means of education, there must be a standard to which everybody entering the University would have to conform. It was suggested that there should be a closer relation between the University and the technical schools. Formerly technology did not enter into the University, but now it did, and it was a science which had to be recognised. Technical education was very necessary, but it was to be feared that that abstract learning which elevated and refined the mind would be flung aside in favor of some science which might help them to make a living, but which lacked refining influences. It should be remembered also that although the University was the doorway of all professions, and although it was eminently desirable that deserving and industrious young people should get to their professions as soon as they could be qualified for earning their living, and, it might be, the attainment of wealth, there were other things to be considered. Whilst the technological side of education should be cultivated it was important to cultivate the other side, too, to insist upon refinement and culture, magnanimity, and a broad acquaintance with literature, and appreciation of its purpose and effects. The language, manners, and customs of great times that had passed away should be known and appreciated by students so that, apart from a capacity to earn their bread, they might be accepted as well-informed, capable citizens, and also be a joy to themselves through the fulness of their knowledge, and their capacity to appreciate the valuable discoveries of that new knowledge, which were presenting themselves to their contemplation. Though one could not show distinctly how at every step compulsory subjects did furnish and feed the mind, it could be easily understood how by a course of study extending over three years in the arts facility for an examination a man became imbued with certain studies that made him a different man than he would have been had his studies been confined to dry law and learning on a technical subject like engineering. The world had advanced so rapidly that new branches of science had continually to be taught, but room must also be found for that abstract learning which elevated and refined the mind.

## EDUCATION COMMISSION.

### RETURN FROM THE EASTERN STATES.

#### A LENGTHY ITINERARY.

The Royal Commission on Higher Education and the University of Adelaide returned on Thursday from a trip to New South Wales and Queensland. The members of the party were Mr. T. Ryan, M.P. (chairman), the Minister of Education (Hon. F. W. Coneybeer, the Hon. A. H. Peake, M.P., A. W. Styles, J. Cowan, Mr. T. Green, M.P., Mr. J. Sinecock (secretary), and Professor Chapman of the Adelaide University, Mrs. Cowan and Mrs. Coneybeer, accompanied their husbands, but Mr. and Mrs. Coneybeer remained in Sydney for a few days.

The chairman explained that at the request of the Commission the Government appointed Professor Chapman as expert adviser on University and technical education. The Commission left Adelaide on March 23, and went to Sydney, where they were met by officers of the Education and University Departments. On the following Monday they started taking evidence, and examined Mr. J. Dawson (Chief Inspector of Schools and Acting-Director of Education), and Mr. J. Turner (Superintendent of Technical Education in the Education Department). Before taking evidence from the University witnesses the Commission paid a visit to the University, and were met by the Chancellor (Sir Normand McLaurin), and nearly all of the Professors, and were shown through the extensive buildings. Up to that time the Commission had been sitting at Parliament House, but the members then utilised the University rooms in examining the Chancellor, the Registrar (Mr. H. E. Barff, M.A.), Professor E. Holme (Assistant Professor of English and secretary to the University extension movement), Professor Anderson Stuart (Professor of Physiology and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, who has been at the University for 28 years), and Professor David (Professor of Geology). All of those University witnesses were before the Commission on one day. On the following day the evidence of the following was taken:—Professor Carslaw (Professor of Mathematics), Professor Warren (Professor of Engineering, who has been 20 years at the University), and Dr. H. G. Chapman (Demonstrator in Physiology).

The Commission reached Brisbane on April 1, and were met by Mr. J. D. Story (Under-Secretary of Public Instruction). On the following Monday morning the members inspected the plans of the proposed new Technical College and additions to the University, and were shown over the present University building, which was formerly Government House, and waited on the Acting-Premier (Mr. Barlow). In the afternoon, at the request of the Governor (Sir William McGregor), who is Chancellor of the University, a visit was paid to Government House to meet the professional and administrative staffs of the University. On Tuesday the taking of evidence was begun at Parliament House, and on that and following days the witnesses examined were:—Mr. R. H. Roe, M.A. (Inspector-General of Schools, and Vice-Chancellor of the University), Mr. J. D. Story (Under-Secretary of Public Instruction and a member of the University Senate), Mr. L. C. Morris (Superintendent of Technical Education in the Education Department), Mr. R. McLean Riddle (Superintendent of the Technical College), Mr. F. W. S. Cambrae-Stewart (Registrar of the University), Professor Gibson (Professor of Engineering), and Professor B. D. Steele (Professor of Chemistry). On Thursday the Commission inspected the Junction Park and the East Brisbane primary and secondary schools, the Girls' Grammar School, and the Boys' Grammar School, both of which are subsidised by the State. The visitors were entertained at luncheon by the State Government and the Federal Attorney-General (Hon. W. M. Hughes). In the evening they left for Toowoomba, and spent the next morning visiting the Rangerville primary and secondary agricultural and farm school, which, Mr. Ryan said, is a wonderfully beautiful place, and which he considered the most beautiful school of in the Commonwealth. On their arrival at Toowoomba they were met by a board of honor, and given a civic reception. They were accompanied on the trip by the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. James Colmie).

The Commission returned to Sydney on the following Saturday morning, and on Monday went over the Hurstville Agricultural and Secondary School and the Fort-street school, the latter of which has an enrolment of 1,950 children. The Commissioners saw scholars from four to 18 years of age at their lessons. Mr. Ryan says the kindergarten educates children from the kindergarten to the University, and it is claimed to be the most complete school in Australasia. It is a free high school.

The chairman said the Government and the Education and University Departments the States visited vied with each other assisting the Commission, and entered the members right royally. The trip was a hard one, the hardest that the secretary (Mr. Sinecock) experienced, and much appreciated the assistance given Professor Chapman.