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EDUCATION ABROAD.

THE DIRECTOR'S IMPRESSIONS

IMPORTANCE OF INSTRUCTION IN AGRICULTURE.

The Director of Education says South Australia, although holding her own in some branches of education, is lagging behind in the matter of agricultural teaching.

Impressions of importance to the education system of South Australia have been gathered by the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy), who returned on Tuesday, after a tour of about nine months in Europe and America. Mr. McCoy said he was sent away by the Government in the first instance to attend the Imperial Education Conference in London. It was the third conference of the kind, and he had previously attended the last one in 1923. These meetings were held every four years. At the recent conference, there were 45 separate parts of the Empire represented, including

Mr. W. T. McCoy.

three Australian States and Fiji. New South Wales was represented by the director (Mr. S. H. Smith), and Victoria by the director (Mr. J. S. Tate). The discussions lasted about five weeks, and mainly revolved round problems of post-primary education, with particular attention to agricultural education, problems of administration, rural education, and certain new ideas of development. He had brought back a considerable amount of information for the Minister, which he hoped would prove beneficial to the South Australian system. Apart from the educational conference, he was commissioned to make enquiries into agricultural education below college rank, vocational guidance, and the placement of children. The conference was presided over by the Parliamentary secretary of the Board of Education (the Duchess of Athol). Another question of importance discussed was the history and geography of the Empire, and problems with regard to the interchange of teachers and their superannuation rights.

Lagging Behind.

The big questions of vocational guidance, placement of children, and agricultural education below college, Mr. McCoy said, would form the subject of a report to the Government, and he did not therefore feel free to discuss them in detail at present. He might say, however, that in his opinion, South Australia was lagging far behind both Great Britain and the United States in agricultural education beyond the elementary stage, and below college rank. In the United States, agricultural education of college rank meant education of university grade. A boy could not enter an agricultural college in the United States unless he had satisfactorily completed four years' high school course. He was usually 18 years of age, and during his four years' stay at college devoted himself entirely to the scientific bases underlying agricultural practices. No college time whatever was given to manual work. He was contended that skill in manipulating operations such as ploughing, harrowing, seeding, and harvesting, should be obtained on the home farm. There were certain high schools in the United States, which had agricultural departments connected with them, and in which instruction below college rank was given. They were manned principally by graduates from the colleges. He visited a number of High Schools and also many farms, from which boys came, and was surprised at the character of the work carried out by them. He was convinced, provided they could get teachers with the proper qualification—University qualifications—which would command the respect of both students and farmers, that the staffs of the South Australian High Schools could maintain successfully such an agricultural department. Both in the United States and Great Britain, he thought that the schools, especially the elementary schools, were ahead of those of South Australia in the teaching of general science, elementary agriculture, drawing, music, physical culture, woodwork, and domestic science, and the greatest success seemed to be due as much to the advisory and supervisory work done by the supervisors as to the excellent work done by the teachers themselves.

In South Australia they needed more officers of the kind to advise, supervise, and inspect the work of the teachers, as well as to train them for special work in all other respects.

Holding Their Own.

Mr. McCoy said the South Australian primary schools could more than hold their own with any that he had seen. He saw no better infant schools than those of South Australia. Certain of the South Australian High Schools compared well with the best he had seen in the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. In America, however, most of the Schools had five years' course of secondary, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and home economics. In South Australia there were but two departments, except at Adelaide and Clare, where there were three.

Experience in the United States confirmed him that South Australia placed far too much value upon external examinations. These examinations might be very necessary to ensure a certain standard being reached by those who contemplated going to the University, but those students formed but a small minority of the children who passed through the primary schools. South Australia followed the traditions of Great Britain in that respect, but in most parts of Canada and the United States boys and girls were admitted to the University by the certificate of the headmaster, his school having previously been approved by the University authorities. It was the business of the headmaster to see that the student took all the subjects and those only which would afford him most help in his University course. Moreover, the requirements for graduation in home economics or agriculture at the University did not include such subjects as Latin and advanced mathematics. Graduation from the High School in the United States marked an important epoch in the child's life, and the courses in their High Schools were so framed that all High School pupils had the same opportunity to graduate whether they took the secondary commercial, industrial, agricultural, or home economic course.

Asked what impressed him most in the United States, Mr. McCoy said first of all their wonderful belief in education, and the large amount of money spent through the Federal and State Governments and municipal authorities to back up this belief. The education authorities of both Canada and the United States were wonderfully generous to him and anxious to show him everything he wished to see.

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UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

Public Examinations Board.

Leaving Honours Examination, 1927.

A.—HONOUR LISTS.

The following lists show the order of merit for candidates who have distinguished themselves, and who were under 19 years of age on December 31, 1927:

I.—GENERAL HONOUR LIST.

The following is the order of merit of candidates in General Honours, arranged in order of merit:

1. Gray, E. W., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
2. Dorsch, T. S., Prince Alfred College.
3. Fletcher, M. W., Scotch College, and O'Connor, W. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal).
4. Hogarth, D. S., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
5. Simpson, A. M., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
6. Sharpe, E. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
7. Taylor, T. R., Scotch College.
8. Sparrow, L. D., Methodist Ladies' College.
9. Hunter, B. G., Scotch College.
10. Bennett, P. S., Prince Alfred College.
11. Turner, F. B., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
12. Doyle, L. J., Christian Brothers' College.
13. Hebbard, F. V., Scotch College.
14. Guinand, A. P., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
15. Funder, J. F., Christian Brothers' College.
16. Moodie, R. B., St. Peter's Collegiate School.
17. Giles, J. P., Adelaide High School.
18. Giles, T. E., Adelaide High School.
19. Besley, J., Methodist Ladies' College.
20. Isaachsen, O. G., St. Peter's Collegiate School.

II.—SPECIAL HONOUR LISTS.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.

1, Gray, E. W., O'Connor, W. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 2, Dorsch, W. B., Prince Alfred College; 3, Bowering, R., Methodist Ladies' College; 4, Besley, J., Methodist Ladies' College.

GREEK.

1, Gray, E. W., St. Peter's Collegiate School.

LATIN.

1, Gray, E. W., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 2, Dorsch, W. B., Prince Alfred College; 3, Dorsch, T. S., Prince Alfred College, and Doyle, L. J., Christian Brothers' College (equal); 4, Fisher, T. E., Adelaide High School; 5, Giles, T. E., Adelaide High School; 6, Hebbard, F. V., Christian Brothers' College, and Hogarth, D. S., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal).

FRENCH.

1, Dorsch, W. B., Prince Alfred College; 2, Besley, G. E. H., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 3, Simpson, A. M., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 4, Dorsch, T. S., Prince Alfred College; 5, Gray, E. W., St. Peter's Collegiate School, and Smith, J. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal).

GERMAN.

1, Hebart, S. P., Immanuel College.

ANCIENT HISTORY.

1, Lunn, M. A., Girton Proprietary School; 2, Hogarth, D. S., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 3, Moodie, R. B., St. Peter's Collegiate School.

MODERN HISTORY.

1, Gray, E. W., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 2, Doyle, L. J., Christian Brothers' College; Hunter, B. G., Scotch College, and Puddy, A. F., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal); 5, Linn, M. A., Girton Proprietary School; 6, Simpson, J. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 7, Naughton, L. E. M., Adelaide High School.

MUSIC.

1, Hunter, B. O., Scotch College.

GEOGRAPHY.

1, Compton, J. O., Unley High School.

MATHEMATICS.

1, O'Connor, W. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 2, Fletcher, M. W., Scotch College; 3, Sharpe, E. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 4, Taylor, T. R., Scotch College; 5, Simpson, A. M., St. Peter's Collegiate School, and Turner, F. B., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal); 7, Doyle, L. J., Christian Brothers' College.

CHEMISTRY.

1, Besley, H. L., Adelaide High School; 2, O'Connor, W. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 3, Smith, W. R., Prince Alfred College, and Gray, F. V., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal); 5, Sparrow, T. B., Adelaide High School; 6, Fletcher, M. W., Scotch College, and Sharpe, E. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School (equal); 8, Sharpe, E. J., St. Peter's Collegiate School; 9, Taylor, T. R., Scotch College.

GEOLOGY.

1, Glastonbury, D. I., Private Study, Kensington; 2, Allanson, F. J., Unley High School; and Sparrow, L. D., Methodist Ladies' College (equal).

B PASS LIST.

English literature (Eg.), Greek (Gk.), Latin (L.), French (Fr.), German (G.), including oral (Fo.), geography (Gr.), ancient history (Ah.), modern history (Mh.), economics (Ec.), geography (Gr.), mathematics, two subjects (Ma.), music (Mu.), chemistry (Ch.), geology (Gl.), botony (Bt.), physiology (Ph.). An (x) denotes a credit.

The list of candidates who have passed in at least four subjects, and who receive the Leaving Honours Certificate if they hold or are entitled to the leaving certificate or the leaving commercial certificate.

Ashton, Mary Winifred, Pe, C, Adelaide High School.

Barrett, Ruth Estelle, Eg, Fo, Ma, Adelaide High School; Baudinet, Walter Hooper, Fo, Ma, Pe, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Bowman, Harold Percy, Ma, Pe, Scotch College; Brooks, Joyce, Eg, L, Fo, Mh, Ec, Adelaide High School; Bruce, Ivy Mary, Eg, Fo, Ah, Mh, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Browning, Beryl, Eg, Fo, Mh, Ec, Rc, Methodist Ladies' College.

Carmichael, Ernest John, Eg, Mh, Ma, Scotch College; Cockburn, Ian, Ma, Pe, C, Adelaide High School; Cocking, Raymond Burton, Eg, F, Ec, Gl, Unley High School; Colebatch, Gordon Frederick, Ma, Pe, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Colebatch, John Houghton, Fo, Ma, Pe, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Cole, George Gilbert, F, Ma, Pe, C, Adelaide High School.

Davis, Christine Joyce, Eg, L, F, Mh, Bt, St. Peter's Collegiate Girls' School; Delmont, William Osmond, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe, Adelaide High School; Dorsch, Theodor Siegfried, Eg, Gk, Lc, Fo, Gn, Prince Alfred College; Dorsch, Thelma Beatrice, Eg, Fo, Mh, Ec, Pe, Prince Alfred College; Doyle, Leo James, Eg, Lx, Mh, Ec, C, Christian Brothers' College.

Eardley, Constance Margaret, Eg, L, Fo, Mh, Bt, Walford House School; Elliott, Brian Robinson, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe, Scotch College.

Fisher, Tryphena Ellen, Eg, Lx, Fo, Ma, Ah, Mh, Ec, Methodist Ladies' College; Fisher, Ma, Pe, C, Scotch College; Frost, Richard Lewis, Fo, Ma, Pe, C, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Furniss, Gwendoline Mary, Eg, L, Fo, Pe, C, Christian Brothers' College.

Gray, Frederick Vincent, Eg, Ma, Adelaide High School; Gray, Eric William, Eg, Gk, Lx, Fo, Mh, Bt, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Gray, Ronald Hamilton, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe, C, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Guinand, Andrew Paul, Eg, F, Ec, Gl, St. Peter's Collegiate School.

Hassell, Frank Colin, Eg, Ma, Pe, C, Prince Alfred College; Harding, Keith Edward George, Eg, F, Ec, Gl, Adelaide High School; Harris, Gwendoline Catherine, Eg, Fo, Mh, Bt, Kadina High School; Hebbard, Paul, Gk, L, Gn; Ah, Mh, Immanuel College; Hogarth, David Stirling, Eg, Lx, Fo, Gn, Ah, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Hosking, Ethel Margaret, Eg, Fo, Mh, Ec, Scotch College.

Isaachsen, Oscar Gustav, Eg, L, Fo, Ah, Mh St. Peter's Collegiate School.

Johnson, Dorothy Mavis, Eg, L, Ec, Bt, Methodist Ladies' College.

Kelly, Thomas Davis, Eg, L, Mh, Pe, C, Christian Brothers' College.

Lade, Kathleen Beatrice, Eg, L, Fo, Ec, B, Methodist Ladies' College; Lawer, Jean, L, F, Mh, Ec, St. Peter's Collegiate Girls' School; Lunn, Margaret Anne, Eg, Ahs, Mhx, Ec, Girton Proprietary School.

Moodie, Robert Beresford, Eg, L, Fo, Ahx, C, St. Peter's Collegiate School.

O'Connor, Patrick, Eg, Max, Pex, Cx, St. Peter's Collegiate School.

Pedlow, William Doug, Eg, Mh, Mex, Pe, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Phillips, Gordon Gilbert, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe, C, Adelaide High School; Albert Norwood, Eg, Fo, Ah, Mhx, St. Peter's Collegiate School.

Rice, Vincent de Paul Lawrence, Eg, L, Mh, Pe, C, Christian Brothers' College; Rudd, Eric Percy, Eg, Fo, Ma, Adelaide High School.

Sharpe, Edmund John, Fo, Ma, Pex, Cx, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Simpson, Alexander Moncrieff, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe, C, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Smith, Cedric Alfred Neil, Eg, Ma, C, Prince Alfred College; Smith, Ethel Mary, Eg, Fo, Ah, Mhx, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Stanford, Ethel Mary, Eg, Fo, Ah, Mhx, Ec, Girton School; Smith, Raymond Thomas, Eg, Ma, Pe, King's College; Sparrow, Laura Dorcasine, Eg, L, Fo, Mh, Ec, Methodist Ladies' College; Taylor, Trevor Roy, Eg, Fo, Max, Cx, Scotch College; Turner, Frederick James, Eg, Fo, Pex, Cx, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Winterbottom, Denis Harold, Eg, Fo, Ah, Ec, St. Peter's Collegiate School.

II.—List of candidates who have passed in less than four subjects.

Attelston, Erica Nancy, Eg; Allanson, Phyllocye Joyce, Ec, Gl; Allster, Frederick Leslie, Mh, Accountancy; Anderson, Alice Mary, Eg, Fo; Boyce, Claric Muriel, Fo; Bridgland, Lloyd Arthur, Eg, Fo; Bulmer, Nance Hinchcliff, Eg, Fo.

Cash, Geraldine, Eg; Cashman, Lindsay Gordon, Eg, Fo, C; Cowie, Nettie, Eg, Fo; Clark, Robert, Eg, Fo; Cockburn, Ian, Ma, Pe, C; Collins, Alec James, L, F; Cleland, Elizabeth Robson, Eg, Fo; Crawford, Ethel Mary, Eg, Fo; Considine, Thomas John, Pe, C; Counsel, Irene Mary, Eg, Fo; Cromer Darcy Francis Neil, Pe; Davey, Thora; Dixon, Ethel Mary, Eg, Fo; Dunbrec, Pe, C; Downer, Sidney Frederick, Eg, Fo.

Elliott, Kenneth Alexander, Pe, C; Farrell, Gabriel Francis, L, Mh; Finch, Laura Evelyn, Fo; Finlayson, Alan Hugh, Ma, Fo; Fisher, James Robert Thomas, Ma, Pe; Fitzgerald, Frances Catherine, Eg, Fo; Fowler, Burker, L; Fraser, Harry Lovat, Fo; Fraser, Martin Archibald, Ec, Fo, C; Funder, Anne Cathrine, Eg.

Glastonbury, Dudley Ivan, Gk; Gould, Gladys Mary, Eg, Fo; Gregory, Eric, Eg, Fo; Gunn, Kenie Chadwick, Pe; Griffer, Norma Hazel, L, Fo; Guy Gunson, John Michael Morphett, Eg, Fo.

Haddad, Claude, C, Gl; Hammill, Githa Katherine, Eg; Hannaford, Martha Keen, Eg; Hannis, Mavis Dorothy, Eg, Ec; Harvey, Reginald Percy, Eg, Fo; Hedde, Reginald Frederick, Eg, Fo; Herbert, Henry Wilbur Lathres, Fo, C; Horgan, Joan Therese, Eg; Horwood, Mary Ruth, Eg, Fo; Hughes, Phillip Wilfred, Ec, Fo; Hughes, Mabel Rose, F.

Jeffries, Richard Cecil, Fo; Jeffery, Jean Katherine, Eg, Ec, Bt; Johnson, Grace Elizabeth, Eg, L, Fo; Johnston, John Harvey, Fe, Pe.

Kyrle, Margaret Florence, Eg, Mh.

Lewis, Kevin Joseph, Eg, Mh; Lunn, Beryl Mary, Eg, Ec, Mh; Lloyd Jones, F.

McBain, Norman John, Pe, C; Mc-Carthy, Dora Franklin, L; McCarthy, John, Ma; McCarthy, Macdonald, Ec, Fo; McDonald, L, Ah, Mh, McKenzie, Leslie Donald, Gl; McLaren, Ian Charles, Eg, Fo; McLaren, Ronald Mitchell, Lurline Vaughan, Gr; Mollet, Jessie Mary, Eg, Fo; Mackie, Charles, Ma; Mc-Ivray, Philomena, F; Myers, Arthur Mervyn, Pe; Nankivell, Lilian Mabel, F, Mh, Ec; Nicholls, Nelll, Richmond Elseley, Ec; Nichterlein, Freida Pauline, F, Ec.

Oliver, Doreen Emma, Eg; Pearson, Hatley James Crawford, C, Gl; Pittner, Howard Arthur Ernest, Fo; Pilkington, Ethel Mary; Pickford Rose Elize Scott, Ec; Polkinghorne, Nate Elinor Mary, Eg; Powell, Gladys Alice, Bt; Pryor, Dorcas Winifred, L.

Reynolds, Florence Lillian, Eg, Bt; Roe, Wilfrid Lewis, Fo.

Sando, Clarice Melva, Mh, Bt; Soolle, James Edward Alexander, Eg, Fo, Ma, Pe; Sheppard, Joan Halford, Eg, Fo, Ec; Simmonds, Gwendoline Mary, Eg, Fo, Mh, Ec; Smith, Ethel Gl; Stockdale, Margaret, Eg, L, F; Swanson, Thomas Ratkie, Fo, Pe, Cx.

Tapley, Ethel Mary, Eg, Gl; Taylor, Patricia Scott, Fo; Terrain, Verna Joyce, L, Fo; Thompson, Ethel Mary, Eg, Fo; Thorpe, Harold Sandy James, Gr; Topperwein, Amelia Emma, Bt.

Wallace, Frank Kenneth, Mh, Pe, C; Walter, Rex David Simeon, Ec; Wannan, Edward Ramsay, Eg, Fo; Wannan, Frances Evelyn, Ec; Wiesner, Noel Cranston, Fo.

Young, Olive Irene, Eg, Fo.

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The Chancellor of the Adelaide University (Sir George Murray), at his commemoration address on Wednesday, said death had levied a heavy toll upon them during the year. Dr. Rennie, who had been professor of philosophy and chemistry since 1885, and had been a member of the council almost continuously since 1887, and on many occasions had acted as Vice-Chancellor, died at Glenelg on January 1. No member of the University had ever been more respected and beloved than he. One of the busiest of men, he had never hesitated to undertake an added duty or responsibility. Probably he would rather have been remembered for his character as a man than for his distinguished attainments as a chemist. They could not but admire the skill and sincerity that he would be remembered with affection and admiration in every relationship in which they knew him. In 1914 he was elected a member of the Senate (Mr. Justice Poole). He had suffered from ill health for many years, but set an example of fortitude to endure. He was also a Fellow of Adelaide, and had had the best opportunity to form an opinion of his ability, learning, and character, and he had always regarded him as one of the ablest Judges in Australia. He served the University with distinction during his comparatively brief career as a lecturer, examiner, member of the council, and Warden of the Senate. His merits entitled him to be remembered by the University had to confer. Sir George Brookman had died in the previous June. He had been a member of the council for 30 years, and rendered valuable services as Chairman of the finance committee. When he was appointed to that office times were hard, but he piloted them through safely for many years to a very satisfactory success.