

BIRTHDAY HONORS.

SOUTH AUSTRALIANS INCLUDED.

DR. NEWLAND, MR. JOHN MELROSE, AND CAPTAIN WILKINS KNIGHTED.

On Saturday, June 9, Sir John will visit Mount Barker and Woods' Point on the River Murray. He will be the guest of Mr. H. W. Morrissett.

On Sunday, June 10, he will visit the reclaimed swamp areas round Woods' Point and will later join the express to Melbourne.

Mr. E. W. Eardley (registrar of the University) states that since accommodation at the lectures will be limited, early application for tickets at the University is advisable.

ADV. 4-6-28

KING'S BIRTHDAY HONORS FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIANS.

Although the principal interest for South Australians in the list of King's Birthday honors is naturally in the distinctions bestowed on citizens of their own State, the larger Australian patriotism will render them fully appreciative of the recognition accorded to the splendid work done by Mr. Justice Isaacs for the Commonwealth as a whole as well as for his own State of Victoria, where his eminent career as a lawyer and a statesman began. The title of K.C.M.G. conferred upon him fittingly crowns a lifetime of valuable service for Australia. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs had made himself widely known as an exceptionally able and high-minded politician before he took part in the creation of the Commonwealth, of whose Parliament he became one of the foremost members. He held Ministerial office both in Victoria and the Commonwealth before he was appointed a member of the High Court, and in every capacity his intellectual power, allied to public spirit, has enabled him to achieve a success alike creditable to himself and beneficial to the community. The honors that have come to South Australia include a Knight Bachelor for Dr. H. S. Newland, whose war work had already won for him the distinctions of C.B.E. and D.S.O. Sir Henry Simpson Newland, bearing a name that will always be held in the greatest respect in this State, the brilliant son of one of South Australia's sturdiest patriots, who had himself been honored by the King, has well earned the further distinction now given him. The knighthood he has received may be regarded as an indication of the Royal desire to recognise in an appropriate way the public service rendered in the most disinterested spirit by the medical profession, no member of which, by his attainments, and the work he has done for the State and the Commonwealth, at the front during the war and in Australia, is more worthy of the honor. The title of Knight Bachelor has come also to Mr. John Melrose, of Uooloo, who has commended himself to the favor of the Crown not only by his enterprise in helping to develop the pastoral resources of the State, but also by his public-spirited generosity, as a friend of scientific research in connection with the principal primary industries of Australia, in endowing the laboratory associated with the Waite Institute of Agriculture. Sir John Melrose is deeply esteemed by all who knew him on account of his admirable personal qualities, which include a spirit of benevolence unostentatiously but liberally exercised in many cases of need that have been brought under his notice. Captain George Herbert Wilkins has also become a Knight Bachelor. Both in Arctic and Antarctic exploration Sir George Wilkins has gained distinction, and his latest exploit in the air has attracted by its splendid daring and successful issue the admiring attention of the whole world. There will probably be some surprise that Mr. Bert Hinkler has not, for his wonderful feat in flying from England to Australia, been similarly honored, but it may be that he did not desire a title, and is satisfied with the warm tributes paid to him by the Australian people, and by his appointment as Flight-Commander. The birthday list gives, as usual, recognition to faithful official as well as political service, but in the widening of the scope of the honors nowadays conferred by the Crown there is an evident wish to reward with Royal notice all forms of useful and distinguished public work.

His Excellency the Governor has been advised that the following South Australians are included among the recipients of the birthday honors conferred by His Majesty the King:—

Knights Bachelor.

Mr. John Melrose, of Uooloo.
Dr. H. S. Newland, C.B.E.

Companion of the Imperial Service Order.

Mr. H. Blinman, M.V.O.

Sir John Melrose, who born at Mount Pleasant, in 1860, and is the third son of Mr. George Melrose. He received his education at Prince Alfred College and after a year's experience in a mercantile office went to Franklin Harbor, where he was associated in the management of Wangaraleedina station until 1883. Early in 1884 he went to Uooloo, and managed his father's station until the latter's death, when he purchased the estate from the trustees. Three years later he and the late Mr. Henry Dutton acquired the North Booborowie estate, together with its flocks. By personal supervision Mr. Melrose established a remarkably fine stud, and his stock is well known throughout the Commonwealth. Sir John, who is at present living at Hallett, has spent the greater part of his life at Uooloo. In July, 1927, he donated £10,000 for agricultural research work in connection with the Waite Institute, and his daughter, Miss L. M. Melrose, laid the foundation-stone of the new laboratories last January. With his brothers and son Sir John is one of the leading figures in the sheep-raising industry in South Australia. He has been prominently connected with the affairs of his district and has been chairman of the Hallett District Council for many years. Mr. A. J. Melrose is a son and Miss Lily Melrose the only daughter.

Sir Henry Simpson Newland, who is a most distinguished Adelaide surgeon, is the eldest son of Mr. Simpson Newland, C.M.G., one of South Australia's most prominent citizens in the early days of the



Sir H. Simpson Newland.

State. He is also a grandson of the Rev. Ridgeway Newland. He was born at Kensington on November 24, 1873. He was educated at St. Peter's College, where he became the Prankerd scholar. In taking his M.B., B.S. degrees at the Adelaide University Sir Henry was bracketed equal first in the first class and Everard scholar. From 1898 to 1902 he continued his post-graduate studies at the London Hospital, and held resident appointments there. He gained the diplomas of M.R.C.S. (England) and L.R.C.P. (London) in 1898, and became F.R.C.S. (England) in 1900. Subsequently he studied in Paris, Berne, Prague, and Vienna, and took his Master of Surgery degree at the Adelaide University in 1902. Since 1908

Sir Henry has been surgeon at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, and he is also surgeon to the Adelaide Hospital and surgical consultant to the Repatriation Hospital at Keswick. From 1914 to 1919 he served in Egypt, Gallipoli, and France in the Great War, and represented the Commonwealth at the inter-Allied surgical conferences in Paris. His military decorations include the Distinguished Service Order and the C.B.E. Sir Henry was formerly president of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association, and was president of the surgical section of the Australasian Medical Congress of 1921. At the Adelaide University he has been lecturer on surgery and operative surgery. He is also chairman of the council of St. Mark's College. In 1910 Sir Henry married Miss Ellen Mary Lindon, daughter of Mr. J. H. Lindon, M.A., who was the founder of Queen's School, North Adelaide.

ALSO REG.

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AN AGRICULTURAL SCIENTIST.

SIR JOHN RUSSELL.

TO LECTURE IN ADELAIDE.

Sir John Russell, D.Sc., F.R.S., Director of the Rothamsted Agricultural Experiment Station, England, who has come to Australia to consult soil and agricultural experts, arrived in Adelaide on Sunday evening by the East-West express. Sir John will remain in Adelaide for a week, and will deliver lectures on Wednesday and Friday evenings at the Brookman Hall, School of Mines. On Tuesday he will visit the Roseworthy College. On Thursday he will go to the Chateau Tanunda wine cellars, and on Saturday journey via Mount Barker to Wood's Point, on the River Murray, where he will inspect the reclaimed areas. He will join the express that evening for Melbourne.

Western Australia, Sir John said, had developed remarkably well as the result of careful experimenting. Besides its wonderful scope for production of wheat, it had its numerous other qualifications to fall back on. His main observations of the Western Australian visit were wheat and the forestry there. He said there was a great possibility for the uncultivated land, especially for wheat. He would see as much as possible of this State's agricultural development. He was hoping to ascertain in Australia the manner in which the Imperial Soil Bureau, which was now in process of formation, might be of the most use. The bureau was proposed by the Australian representatives at the first Imperial Agricultural Conference last October, and it received the hearty support of Canada and the other dominions. The bureau would be established at Rothamsted with the object of keeping the scientists at the station in touch with what was being done in various parts of the Empire. If any particular difficulty confronted the scientists in one part of the Empire experts would be sent from England to consult the local workers. It was his intention to consult the agriculture and soil experts in Australia in regard to the methods to be employed in carrying out the work. All the Dominions were assisting in financing the operations of the bureau. He wanted to make sure that the experts in Britain would play their part in making a success of the venture.

Dry Land Problem.

Asked whether any particular problem confronted agricultural scientists to-day, Sir John said the dry land agriculture was the chief concern of those concerned in research work. That problem affected Western Canada, South Africa, the Sudan, parts of the African protectorates, Palestine, Trans-Jordania, India, and Australia. He was hoping to learn a

great deal in Australia which could be passed on to the other parts of the Empire. Wheat was one of the best crops in dry land everywhere, and it would stand dryness almost as well as any plant. While on his way to Australia he spent two weeks in Palestine, where he found that the Jewish colonists were making a steady advance in the application of scientific methods to agriculture. They were producing fruit, especially Jaffa oranges, bananas, grapes, figs, and olives, on dry land which was irrigated, and were also producing wheat and dairy produce on unirrigated land. They were trying Australian wheat which was known for its rust-resisting qualities. The Australian wheat had a smooth ear, whereas all the native wheat had bearded ears, the result being that native birds attacked Australian wheat ferociously. The Jewish scientific investigators were trying to cross Australian wheat with the bearded varieties to get a new sort of wheat which would be rust-resisting and bearded.

Famous Agricultural Station.

Rothamsted was established in 1843. Empire and foreign agricultural scientists visit it, and the experts at that station are thus in constant touch with problems all over the world. The founder was Sir John Lawes, and work began in 1843, with Mr. J. H. Gilbert as chemist. The station is noted for its field experiments, and not the least important relates to the growing of wheat on two plots continuously for 85 years. One of the plots received various treatments of manures, and the other received no fertilisers. Over the entire period some of the manured plot produced an average of more than 34 bushels, and the yield on the unmanured plot was about 12 bushels an acre. Many countries owe a debt to the research work carried out at the station, and, Australia, in particular, has benefited enormously by Sir John Lawes's discovery of the use of superphosphate. The station was subsequently taken over by a trust. Sir John Lawes leaving the experiment fields and laboratories, with the addition of £100,000 to maintain the field work. Sir Daniel Hall was the first director under the trust, and he resigned in 1912, when he was appointed to the head of the Development Commission which was formed to promote research in agricultural and associated sciences. His successor was Sir John Russell, who has applied his energies with great success to the work of developing agricultural research. Born at Frampton in 1872, Sir John Russell was educated in Manchester, his principal subject being chemistry. After graduation he was appointed lecturer in chemistry in his alma mater. Later he accepted the position of principal of the chemistry department of the South-Eastern Agricultural College, Kent, and finally he was appointed a scientist for research in the agricultural chemistry at Rothamsted. He was responsible for important advances in increasing agricultural production in Great Britain during the war. He was one of the first of the English scientists to apply his energies to systematic soil survey study, and he invented a simple device for measuring the rate of oxidation in soils. After intense research he solved the phenomena associated with the partial sterilisation of soils. He is the author of "Soil Conditions and Plant Growth," and has written works specially for farmers and for school children.

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Professor Sir John Russell (director of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, England), who is visiting Australia at the invitation of the Commonwealth universities to lecture on agricultural science, and to meet the staffs interested in the development of agriculture, visited the Waite Agricultural Research Institute at Urrbrae on Monday. He was shown over the property by the Director (Dr. A. E. V. Richardson). To-day Sir John will visit the Roseworthy Agricultural College. Sir John spent the whole of yesterday at the Waite Institute, and conversed with the officers respecting the experiments being made, and the work now in progress, with which he was very much impressed. He was tendered a private dinner at the Adelaide Club on Monday night, at which the Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler) and other prominent persons were present.

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ST. MARK'S COLLEGE OLD COLLEGIANS' ASSOCIATION.

The first annual dinner of the St. Mark's College Old Collegians' Association was held at St. Mark's College on Thursday evening. There are 22 men who have passed through the college, and 20 guests, tutors, and members attended the dinner. The health of the college was drunk in a loving cup, and the toast of "The Master" was honored with enthusiasm. The first president of the association (Dr. W. A. J. Nairn) was in the chair.