

**Two Distinguished Delegates.**

Major Furse and Mr. R. L. Robinson have arrived in Australia as members of the Empire Forestry Conference, which is to be opened at Perth on August 21. They have come in advance to arrange details with the Australian authorities regarding the itinerary of the conference. They have already visited Canada in connection with the conference, and in addition, in passing through Fiji, have advised that Government on matters relating to a forest policy, which is about to be introduced. The Empire Forestry Conference will tour all the States, reaching Adelaide on August 29, Melbourne, September 3; Hobart, September 8; Sydney, September 13; Brisbane, September 19; and Canberra, September 26. There the delegates will sit in conference for five days before proceeding to New Zealand. Latest advices show that more than 80 papers are to be prepared for the conference, and that the overseas delegation will be a strong one, and widely representative of the Empire.

Major Furse, D.S.O., was born in 1887, and was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, whence he graduated B.A. He was assistant private secretary to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Lewis (now Lord) Harcourt, from December, 1910, until August, 1914. Then he went on active service with the 1st King Edward's Horse, with which he remained until November 26, 1918. He served in France and Italy. A commission as captain was gained in 1914, and he became major in 1916. He was wounded during 1917. A D.S.O. was won by him in July, 1918, and a bar in March, 1919. Major Furse was twice mentioned in despatches. In 1919 Major Furse was appointed assistant private secretary to Lord Milner, and to Mr. Winston Churchill, in February, 1921. In the following offices he acted in the same capacity to the Duke of Devonshire; and a member of the British Labour Ministry. Mr. L. C. M. S. Amery obtained his services in November, 1924. He visited Canada on Dominion Office business in 1922, and again in 1923 as representative at the Imperial Forestry Conference. He is a member of the board of governors of the Imperial Forestry Institute.

Mr. R. L. Robinson, O.B.E., B.A. (Oxon), B.Sc., comes of a South Australian family, and was one of the early Rhodes Scholars from the Adelaide University. He was a contemporary of Mr. N. W. Jolly, B.A., B.Sc., Dip. For. (Oxon), Chief Commissioner of the New South Wales Forestry Commission. After a brilliant career at Oxford, where he studied forestry, Mr. Robinson visited the forests of Europe, and was selected to fill an important position on the English Board of Agriculture. In recognition of his distinguished services in connection with the supply of timber to the army during the war, he was awarded the O.B.E. On the formation of the British Forestry Commission, Lord Lovat, who was appointed chairman, selected Mr. Robinson as technical commissioner, a position he holds now.



SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AT CANBERRA.

After a tour of all the States, the members of the Empire Forestry Conference will meet at Canberra on September 26. Major R. D. Furse and Mr. R. L. Robinson are expected to arrive in Sydney to-day to arrange the itinerary for the members of the conference.

REC. 5.7.28

**STUDENTS' UNION.**

**University Social Building.**

**Conversazione for Fund.**

The Students' Union of the University of Adelaide wishes to raise funds for the completion of the union building and war memorial, rendered possible by the munificence of Sir Josiah Symon, who gave £10,000 for the erection of the women's portion of the edifice to be known as the Lady Symon Building. The students have arranged a conversazione, which will be held at the University on Saturday evening. In a foreword to a generous programme the three-fold object is set out as follows:—To give the general public an opportunity of seeing what is being done in the University; to foster a united and corporate spirit among the undergraduates themselves, by joining in an undertaking in which all departments of the institution are concerned; and to raise funds for the Students' Union and War Memorial Buildings. The foreword further explains that this is the first effort of the kind ever attempted by the undergraduates, and the enthusiastic way in which all departments have entered into the spirit of the display has already justified the undertaking; but a more lasting result is aimed at, namely, the helping on of the Union Building, which when completed, will be the hub about which undergraduate life will revolve.

£16,000 Still Needed.

Following upon Sir Josiah Symon's gift of £10,000, made at the University Jubilee, in 1926; for a women's union, a block of buildings was designed, to cost £42,000, and to include the Lady Symon Building, a corresponding building for men, and a hall and refectory, the whole arranged around memorial cloisters in the form of a quadrangle. The memorial is to the 63 members of the University who fell in the Great War. The council and staff of the University contributed approximately £7,500, and a public appeal brought the funds up to £16,000, exclusive of Sir Josiah's gift. Of that the students have contributed £750. Thus, of the £42,000 required, £26,000 is in hand. The erection of the Lady Symon Building, the refectory, and portion of the memorial cloisters is well advanced, and it is expected that they will be finished in August. Those buildings will absorb all the funds in hand, and nothing remains for the men's building or for the completion of the cloisters. The undergraduates are doing their utmost to help themselves, but they must still look to the friends and well wishers of the University for assistance to complete the buildings, which will serve the highest interests of the University.

The Complete Scheme.

The Lady Symon Building for women students, and a corresponding building for men will front the Victoria Drive; the dining hall will lie behind, immediately north of the Darling Building; and the three will partially enclose a sunken lawn of about 100 ft. by 50 ft., around which

will run the memorial cloisters, containing on the western side a memorial bronze. The whole design will be in red brick, and the style Georgian, in keeping with the later buildings of the University. The Lady Symon Building, which is being erected first, will consist of three storeys. The semi-basement will contain all dressing room accommodation. On the ground floor will be an attractive entrance hall, from which will open a large assembly or debating hall, and two committee rooms. The upper floor, with an open balcony above the entrance hall, will provide a fine library, a common room, and three small rooms, one of which is to be fitted as a rest room. The Men's Union Building will have a similar general design. The dining hall building will be about 150 ft. by 50 ft., and will contain kitchens and quarters for a resident caretaker. The hall will be provided with concertina partitions, and may be used for large gatherings or dances. The memorial cloisters will be a unique feature of the group of buildings.

A Generous Offering.

The conversazione will be on similar lines to that given in 1926, on the occasion of the jubilee celebrations. The organizing committee consists of Messrs. C. T. Madigan, C. W. Anderson (secretary), D. R. Downey, G. Heaslip, and R. N. Irwin, who are leaving no stone unturned to make the function a success. A party from Government House will be present, and the Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler), the Lord Mayor (Mr. J. Lavington Bonython), and many other official representatives have also signified their intention of attending. The Chancellor (Sir George Murray) will be received by the committee at 8 o'clock, and will assist in the reception of the viceregal party, which will arrive at 8.15. They will then be conducted around the buildings. The comprehensive programme includes lecture demonstrations, dramatic performances, and laboratory and museum exhibits. Refreshments will be served in the Elder Hall. The students regret that it will not be practicable to arrange for an inspection of the progress made with the new buildings, as the expense of temporary lighting would be too great.

ADV. 6.7.28

**CONSERVATORIUM ORGAN RECITAL.**

The lunch hour organ recital by Mr. John Horner at the Elder Conservatorium on Thursday attracted a large audience, in the main young people, which shows that these recitals are accomplishing their object of inculcating a love of good music in the rising generation. The programme consisted of the following items:—Toccata, Adagio, and Fugue in C (Bach); Largo in E from 12th Concerto (Grossi); Variations on a Scots Air, "Gala Water" (Stuart Archer), and "Rhapsodie sur des Noels" (Gigout). A vocal solo, "Evening Hymn," was rendered by Miss Reta Watson. Mr. Horner announced that owing to the fact that the Elder Hall would not be available next Thursday arrangements had been made for the recital to be given in the Town Hall.

NEWS 5.7.28

**WAITE INSTITUTE**

**Plant Diseases Investigated**

Mr. G. K. Samuel delivered at the Winter School for Farmers at Roseworthy College a lecture on "Plant Disease Investigations at the Waite Institute."

Mr. Samuel traced the history and development of the institute during the past three years, and showed lantern slides of the experimental plots and the work being done in the glasshouses.

The speaker stated that as a result of experiments at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, and field tests conducted at Mount Gambier, a light dressing of sulphate of manganese would completely check the appearance of the grey speck disease in oats. By means of water cultures in the glasshouses at the institute it had been shown that as little as one part in fifty million parts of solution was sufficient to cause oat plants to grow to maturity, whereas in the total absence of manganese they died in the seedling stage. These experiments were being continued this year with a view to finding out whether some manganese containing residues, such as those derived from the Electrolytic Zinc Works in Tasmania, would provide an efficient source of manganese at a lower cost.

Dealing with spotted wilt in tomatoes, the lecturer explained how this disease was spread by a small insect known as a thrips. Experiments were being conducted to try the value of cyanide fumigation in commercial glass houses. The problem of controlling wilt in outdoor tomatoes was more difficult, and the best results would probably be secured by endeavoring to find a resistant variety of tomato.

Mr. Samuel then spoke of the electrically controlled soil temperature tanks, in which investigations were being made to determine the reaction of different wheats and grasses to the take-all disease. It had been proved that wheat was badly attacked by take-all at soil temperatures round 54 degrees, whereas at warmer soil temperatures round 84 degrees take-all did not attack the wheat. Those experiments would be most valuable in testing varieties of wheat for possible resistance to take-all.

ADV. 5.7.28

**THE TEACHING OF JAPANESE.**

From "CANGARU," Walkerville:—The visit of the Japanese warships has drawn attention to the fact that few South Australians can make themselves understood in the Japanese language. This is not to be wondered at, seeing that no provision is made for teaching Japanese in our schools or at the University. Sydney and Melbourne have recognised the importance to Australians of this language. For, apart perhaps from the U.S.A., Japan is the great Pacific Power. Certainly, we have facing us various Spanish-speaking South American republics, but, so far as I know, none of these countries is a first-class sea Power, and, in any case, Spanish seems to be as badly neglected as Japanese. Less Latin and more Japanese, or perhaps a choice between the two languages, might help the schools to solve the difficulty. But unless the Education Department or the University authorities make a move, we must struggle along by ourselves or remain in ignorance of the language of perhaps the most progressive foreign Power of the day.

REG. 5.7.28

The Commissioners of the English Exhibition of 1851 have awarded overseas science research scholarships in physics to Messrs. H. G. Webster, Melbourne, J. D. McGee, Sydney; and W. A. Macky, New Zealand.