

international collaboration between scientific men which paid little or no attention to politics or to any official organization. In addition, there was a semi-official collaboration—organizations formed by scientific men to encourage investigations in scientific directions where international co-operation was essential to produce results. The most important of those was the Astronomical Union, which embraced all civilized countries. There were other bodies, such as that studying the movements and properties of oceans, and to all of them the Commonwealth of Australia, together with other countries, contributed funds, so that she might share in the discoveries of such organizations. One outstanding scientific essential which Australia had not yet fully perceived, however, was that of her international duty to provide better facilities for astronomical observation. There were certainly valuable instruments at the new observatory at Canberra, but there was nowhere in Australia a telescope which could be compared in the same breath with those of the northern hemisphere, and until the Commonwealth awoke to its obligations of contributing to international science in the direction referred to, it would stand out as practically the only civilized nation which was not doing its share. (Applause.) N.qwobasesuO

1927, from the position of Crown Prosecutor, Mr. Chamberlain carried on the work of acting-Crown Prosecutor, and performed it so well in the opinion of the Government that he received the permanent appointment.

REG. 31-8-28

Dr. Myles Formby, South Australian Rhodes Scholar, who has just completed his course at Oxford, is going into a London hospital. Dr. Formby, who has had a brilliant career, is an M.B., B.S., B.A., and B.Sc.

REG. 1-9-28

At a meeting of the council of the Adelaide University on Friday, the examiners reported favourably upon the thesis presented by Miss M. C. Dawbarn, B.Sc., for the Degree of Master of Science. The degree will be conferred in December.

REG. 1-9-28

Professor J. A. Fitzherbert, who has succeeded Professor H. Darnley Naylor, in the Hughes Chair of Classics, at the University, attended the meeting of the council on Friday, when he was welcomed by the chancellor and introduced to the members.

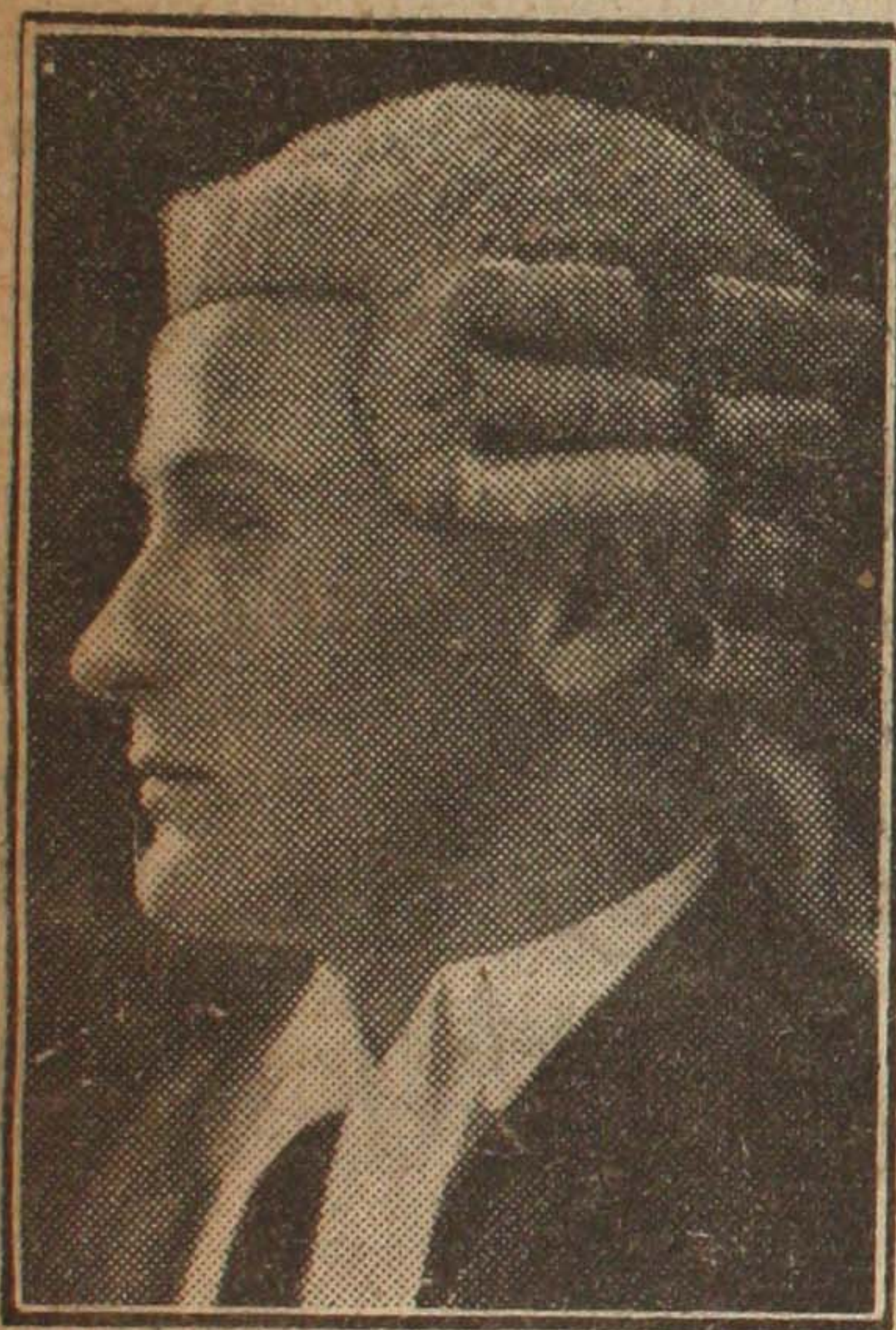
ADV. 30-8-28

### PUBLIC PROSECUTOR.

### Mr. Chamberlain Appointed.

Mr. Reginald Roderic St. Clair Chamberlain, solicitor in the Crown Law Department, was on Wednesday appointed Crown Prosecutor by the Executive Council.

Mr. Chamberlain, who is the son of the late Mr. Henry Chamberlain, farmer, of Wirrabara, was born on June 17, 1901, and



MR. R. R. St. C. CHAMBERLAIN.

was educated at the Laura and Gladstone Schools, afterward going to St. Peter's College and the Adelaide University. During his educational career he won the Farrell open scholarship, the Smith history prize, and Government bursary for the University.

At the latter institution he won the W. Roby Fletcher prize in psychology and logic. While at the University he was also secretary of the Law Students' Society, sub-editor of the University Magazine; and secretary of the rowing club. He obtained his "blue" for rowing at the University, and was a member of the sports committee. Mr. Chamberlain obtained the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and was admitted to the Bar in December, 1922.

He served articles with the late firm of Holland and Lathlean, and on the death of Mr. Lathlean, with Messrs. Cleland, Holland, and Teesdale Smith. In 1923 he was appointed associate to His Honor Mr. Acting-Justice Richards, and remained in that position until Easter, 1925. He then resigned to begin private practice in conjunction with Messrs. Wadey, Norman, and Waterhouse, which he carried on almost exclusively on the Court side. Shortly after his admission to the bar in 1922 he spent 18 months as associate to the late Mr. Justice Poole, and during that time witnessed a large number of criminal trials, thus gaining experience which should assist in qualifying him for the work he is now undertaking. He entered the Public Service on August 19, 1923, and became fourth associate in the Supreme Court and clerk of arraigns, which position he held until September 1, 1924. He resigned on April 17, 1925, and re-entered the service on June 28, 1926, as a solicitor in the Crown Law Department. On the retirement of Mr. Eric Millhouse in September,

REG. 1-9-28

### GIFT OF £2,000.

### For Agricultural Research.

At a meeting of the council of the Adelaide University on Friday it was announced that Imperial Chemical Industries, Limited, had given £2,000 to the University to initiate researches on the effect of nitrogenous fertilizers on the growth and yield of wheat. The investigation in the first instance will be carried out at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. A theory of replicated field experiments has already been laid out to test the effect of various forms and quantities of nitrogenous fertilizers on the growth and development of wheat and varying condition of tillage treatment.

Associated with these field tests will be laboratory investigations to determine the nature of the changes taking place in the nitrogen compounds of the soil in relation to the needs of the crop. The investigation will extend over a period of three years.

ADV. 1-9-28

### FERTILISER RESEARCH.

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MAIL 1-9-28

### PERSONAL AND ANECDOTAL

(By "Carbethon")

Granted that the environment of the Chapples was all in favor of academic achievement, it would be difficult to point to another Australian family that claims so many university graduates among its members. The late Mr. Frederic Chapple, head master of Prince Alfred College, was a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science (both of the first class) of the London University. His four sons and two of his daughters gained university degrees.

Dr. Fred Chapple and Dr. Phoebe Chapple are practising medicine in Adelaide. The latter returned recently from a prolonged visit to the old world. Mr. Alfred Chapple is lecturing and coaching at St. John's College, Cambridge, having taken his law and science and engineering degrees there. Dr. Harold Chapple is head gynaecologist at Guy's Hospital, London, and is a Harley street specialist. Mr. Ernest Chapple, who holds Cambridge engineering degrees, is manager of the British and Bombay Trading Company, Bangkok, Siam. Mrs. R. Broadbent, who is a Bachelor of Arts, is in South Australia, and that completes this unique family record in university honors.

### Aboriginal Songs

Prof. E. Harold Davies has returned from his visit to Coonabar, on the far West Coast, after gathering valuable records of the primitive music of the aborigines. While treasuring jealously his precious wax sheets, he was willing, when seen, to demonstrate his finds.

One was a song by a lubra at Yardea, constructed on the pentatonic scale of five notes. This is the oldest form of scale in the world, and may frequently still be found in Scottish folk song. The aborigine is said to be the parent or oldest man in the world, dating back some 20,000 years. His music is therefore not imitative, but intuitive, as was the music of all races. He has a keen appreciation of pitch relationship, which in civilisation has been highly evolved by scientific investigation.

The aborigine sings, not only at tribal functions, but as he wanders about the bush, so also do the lubras and piccanninies, from a primitive desire for self-expression, proving that music as an outlet to the emotions is a universal thing.

The beginnings of our musical system were evolved in just the same manner; and the vocal efforts of primitive man bear the same relation to a Beethoven "Symphony" as the early language of our ancestors to a Shakespearean drama. The aborigine is one with ourselves in seeking through the medium of our own early methods to express the undeveloped utterances of his inmost self.

REG. 3-9-28

Mr. Harold S. Denton, A.R.C.M., the newly appointed teacher of singing in the Elder Conservatorium, arrived in South Australia, by the Narkunda, on Saturday. Mr. Denton who has been chosen to the council of the University, to succeed Mr. Clive Carey, was trained in the De Reske School, by Mr. Johnston-Douglas, who is recognized in England as the most able exponent of this method. His general musical education was gained at the Royal College, of Music, where he held a singing scholarship, and of which he is an associate. He has had extensive experience of operatic work, and only recently appeared in London at the Court Theatre in an interesting production of Schubert's only opera, "The Faithful Sentinel." Mr. Denton has also had a measure of experience on purely dramatic lines, and in his earlier days at the Royal College, was an elocutionary prize-man. He will take up his work in the conservatorium at the commencement of the fourth term (October 1), on which date it is also likely he will be heard in the vocal recital in the Elder Hall. His wife, Miss Carys Davies, has accompanied him to Australia, and doubtless she also will shortly make her appearance here on the concert platform. Mrs. Denton has a mezzo voice of exceptional beauty and range. She also is a scholar and an associate of the Royal College, and, during the recent Covent Garden season, appeared in that famous opera house as one of the Valkyrie in Wagner's great work of that name.

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REG. 5-9-28

Professor W. J. Dakin, of the University of Liverpool, has accepted the offer of the chair of zoology in the University of Sydney, rendered vacant by the death of Professor Launcelot Harrison.

### ANIMAL NUTRITION.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR ROBERTSON

Professor T. Brailsford Robertson was the speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Constitutional Club at Bal-four's Cafe on Wednesday. The chair was occupied by the president (Mr. Leahy), who briefly introduced the speaker.

Professor Robertson reviewed the operations of the old Bureau of Scientific Research, and the movement which resulted in the formation of the Commonwealth Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The work of the former had been crippled owing to lack of funds. A sum of £250,000 had been set apart for the work of investigation by the new body, and this had been expanded to £500,000. Experts were appointed in the different States, and it had been arranged that their work should be co-opted. They found a multitude of problems affecting every avenue of life in the Commonwealth. It was, therefore, necessary to select a few problems, and concentrate their attention upon them. The problems urgently calling for scientific solution related to the production of food, transport of food, and cold storage, and the utilisation and conservation of forest products. There was a vital group of problems relating to liquids and solids, and then there were the problems of irrigation in the Murray Valley which were of paramount importance. Then they came to the problem connected with the chemical composition of soils. Those were the avenues upon which it was decided at first to direct attention. He had been appointed to take charge of investigations on animal nutrition. The entomological problems were serious, and at the beginning of the work their importance was not realised. It was found that while many insect pests were harmful in one way they were useful in another way in destroying plant pests.

### Field Stations and Laboratory Work.

Much valuable work was being done in investigating animal diseases in various parts of Australia. Work in forestry products had already borne fruit in the production of pulp from hardwood for the manufacture of paper. When they looked at the magnitude of the interests involved the sum of £500,000 would not go far. The investigations in animal nutrition had received a start in South Australia through the endowment of £7,000 provided by the pastoralists for research, and Adelaide had been selected as the centre in which such investigations should be conducted. The work was designed to cover the whole of Australia, and at present referred chiefly to sheep used for wool production, and that meant the Merino. That work must be carried out both in the field and in the laboratory. To that end it had been decided to establish field stations, and those stations would be located in important areas of sheep country. The investigations would be most comprehensive, and would deal not only with the animals, but also with soil, water, climatic conditions, and all other factors likely to affect the health and development of animals. Animal nutrition was a problem distinct from animal diseases, and fell into two or three main groups. They were gradually feeling their way, and were establishing the field stations in such a way as to interest the owners and get them to co-operate in the work. A laboratory had been established at Victoria Drive, near the Adelaide Bowling Club's property at a cost of £14,000, and was being used for the chemical research. It was confidently hoped that the results would be of immense benefit to the community. (Applause.)

REG. 7-9-28

### INVESTIGATION OF MURRAY SOILS.

CANBERRA, Thursday. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has decided upon an investigation of soils in the River Murray Irrigation areas. Applications for the position of assistant chemist, with headquarters at the Waite Research Institute of the Adelaide University are invited.