

A do. 21-2-31

# NEW GLACIER AGE

## IS IT COMING?

### AMERICAN EXPEDITION PLANNED

CHICAGO, February 19.

Commander Macmillan announced to-day plans for a North Pole expedition of three months next summer. The expedition will be in three sections, headed by himself, Dr. Alexander Forbes, and Sir Wilfred Grenfell. Aeroplanes will be used to study the possibility of the approach of a new glacier age.

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# NO NEW ICE AGE YET!

## EARTH SAFE FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS

### MR. MADIGAN DISCUSSES PHENOMENON

According to Mr. C. T. Madigan, lecturer on geology at the University of Adelaide, there is little fear of another ice age creeping upon the earth for millions of years.

"All the evidence is that the ice is receding and that we are now living in the tail end of the last great ice age," said Mr. Madigan yesterday.

He was discussing a cable message from Chicago, which appeared in "The Advertiser" on Saturday, referring to an American expedition to the North Pole, which would use aeroplanes to "study the possibility of the approach of a new glacier age." He declared that at present the ice was definitely retreating in the polar regions, and it would be a long while before the pendulum swung the other way, and the ice began to encroach on the temperate regions again. It would in all probability go on retreating for millions of years.

"Since Cambrian times, about 500 million years ago," said Mr. Madigan, "there have been only two well marked, world wide glaciations, or ice ages, one in what are called Permo-Carboniferous times, about 200 million years ago, and the other in the Quaternary, or the great ice age, in the tail end of which we are living. So you see, glacier ages are not very frequent events and do not come very rapidly."

#### South Australia Affected

"There were several before the Cambrian age," declared Mr. Madigan. "One of them, which occurred immediately before those times, affected South Australia, and the signs of it can be seen in the gorge of the Sturt River near the Flagstaff Hotel on the South-road. Those indications are famous geologically, and have been inspected by scientists from all over the world. The boulders of Victor Harbour granite, which are found all across Cape Jervis Peninsula, at Hallett's Cove, and in southern Yorke Peninsula, were carried there by glaciers in the Permo-Carboniferous ice age. We have not experienced a glacier age in this State since then, although the higher lands in the eastern States, such as the Great Dividing Range, and the Australian Alps, were affected by the great ice age."

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Sir Charles Martin, who will succeed the late Professor Brailsford Robertson as chief of the division of animal nutrition of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, will arrive at Outer Harbor in the Ceramic next Monday. Adelaide will be his headquarters. Before Sir Charles went to England 30 years ago he was professor of physiology and bio-chemistry at Melbourne University. At the time of his new appointment he was director of the Lister Institute for Preventive Medicine and professor of experimental pathology in London University.

# RHODES SCHOLARS

## Ten in South Australia

### ASSOCIATION PROPOSED

A movement is on foot for the formation of an Australian Rhodes Scholars' Association. Recently State representatives met in Melbourne and discussed it.

There are 10 Rhodes scholars in South Australia. Occasionally they meet, but there is no definite organization.

Of those 10 five have entered the medical or dental profession, three are furthering the cause of education, and the remaining two have chosen law.

The first-mentioned five are Dr. W. Ray (Rhodes Scholar of 1907), H. K. Fry (1909), E. Britten Jones (1912), Leonard Lindon (1918), and D. J. R. Sumner (1923). All are practising in Adelaide. Some are lecturers at the University of Adelaide and have honorary positions on the Adelaide Hospital medical staff.

#### DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS

Those who have chosen teaching have distinguished themselves. Of these South Australia can claim only one as its own—Mr. C. T. Madigan (lecturer in geology at the University of Adelaide). He received that appointment in 1922. His scholarship was conferred upon him in 1911. Mr. Madigan has taken a great interest in exploration work and has made four trips into the interior of Australia. Twice on foot he ventured as far north as MacDonnell Ranges. He is a member of the Rhodes Scholar selection committee in this State.

At the time of his appointment in 1924 to the chair of history at the University of Adelaide—when he was 26 years of age—it was claimed for Prof. W. K. Hancock that he was the youngest professor in the British Empire.

Prof. Hancock was born in Melbourne, and secured his Rhodes Scholarship from the university in that capital in 1922. He was the first Australian student to achieve a blue riband of Oxford Scholarship.

For the past 12 months Prof. Hancock has been studying at Oxford. He is due back in Adelaide shortly in time for the first term of the University.

The third member of this group is Mr. R. P. Barbour (master of St. Andrew's College, Mitcham). Mr. Barbour secured his scholarship in Queensland in 1920. For two years previous to that he played cricket for his State. He has also played for Sturt Cricket Club here, and has been a member of Hyde Park A Grade pennant tennis team. Mr. Barbour has also represented this State in hockey. Apart from his present appointment he is lecturer in ethics at the University.

#### LAW SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Mr. H. Thomson, K.C. (Rhodes Scholar in 1910) was recently appointed president of the Law Society of South Australia. He received his education at St. Peter's College. After a distinguished career at Oxford, Mr. Thomson was admitted to the South Australian Bar in 1913. Two years later he enlisted for active service. He rose to the rank of major and was awarded the Military Cross. His selection as a King's Counsel was made last year.

Mr. R. J. Rudall (Rhodes Scholar for 1908) has been in practice in Gawler since his return from the war. At one time he was closely associated with Liberal politics in the district of Barossa, but has not been in Parliament.

The Rhodes Scholarship system is the most far-reaching in the world. The originator was Cecil John Rhodes, who died in 1902. By his will he endowed scholarships at Oxford for students from 12 British States and dominions, a number of Crown colonies, the United States of America, and Germany. By an act of Parliament the scholarships for the last-named country were withdrawn in 1916. They were distributed among British dominions.

The winner of a scholarship is eligible to attend Oxford for three years at any college he desires. The original value of the award was £300, but the trust by additions in 1921 and 1923 increased its worth to £400.

In the Commonwealth a scholarship is awarded each year in each of the six States. It sometimes happens, however, that the selection committee in a State may not deem any applicant worthy that year, and the award will not be made until later. The first Australian student under the scholarship entered Oxford in 1904.

Final selection rests in each State with a committee of seven, including the State Governor, the Chief Justice, and representatives of the University.

Several things are taken into consideration in the choice of the scholar. He must have literary and scholastic qualifications, must take an interest in sport, and apart from moral qualities must possess force of character and leadership.

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# HELP FROM SCIENCE

There is little need in these days to dwell on the immense benefits science has conferred on all branches of industry, and particularly those relating to primary production. Knowledge of these benefits is widespread, and it is with general satisfaction that the public of this State learned some months ago that the late Professor Brailsford Robertson would have as his successor in the control of the animal nutrition division of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific Research, and in the chair of bio-chemistry at the Adelaide University, so distinguished a scientist as Sir Charles Martin, who is due in Adelaide by the Ceramic on Monday. Sir Charles is well known in Australia, from his connection many years ago with the Melbourne and Sydney Universities. In 1923, he renewed his acquaintance with the Commonwealth as a delegate to the Pan-Pacific Conference. It is interesting to recall the interview we published last month with Dr. A. C. Rivett, the chief executive officer of the council, who had just returned from a nine months' visit to Britain, and was enthusiastic over the reputation gained overseas by the work of the animal nutrition laboratory of the Adelaide University, as performed by the late Professor Brailsford Robertson, who was going through an elaborate and ambitious programme of research when his lamented death overtook him.

His labors not only advertised the laboratory throughout the scientific world, but procured for it the services of Sir Charles Martin, who might, as Dr. Rivett said, have retired from his labors, as he was well justified in doing, had he not been tempted, by the possibilities opened up by the researches of Brailsford Robertson, to accept the invitation to continue his work in animal nutrition. There certainly could be no better appointment. For years Sir Charles has been immersed in all departments of bacteriological and biochemical research at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, of which he was a director; and medical men proceeding to London found him a very helpful guide, philosopher and friend. His work, like that of his distinguished predecessor, will be largely concerned with the improvement of the quantity and quality of Australian wool. It is a great and far-reaching sphere of work, including not only matters affecting the selection and breeding of sheep, but also those relating to fodder plants. The pastoral industry, as Dr. Robertson was fond of saying, represents one of the greatest of all the triumphs achieved by man over Nature. Were Nature left to carry on the work of man, decadence would begin at once; for, left to themselves, no long time would elapse before the animals so carefully bred developed atavistic propensities or lost their power of reproduction. Natural selection could never have accomplished what human ingenuity has done; nor without the vigilance of man could his triumphs be maintained. The production in immense numbers of high-class sheep puts a great strain on the soil, rendering nutrition, literally the most vital of all problems; though the conquest of disease comes a close second. The work of research is therefore of incalculable importance, and it is gratifying to reflect that it will be in such competent hands as those of Sir Charles Martin.

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Sir George Murray was re-elected Chancellor of the University of Adelaide at the meeting of the Council yesterday. Sir Langdon Bonython, in moving the motion, mentioned that the statutes require that the Chancellor be elected in five-yearly periods. The University, he said, had never had a Chancellor who discharged the duties of the office with more dignity or greater ability than Sir George Murray.

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# GETTING READY

## FOR "MARITANA"

### KEEN CAST FOR OPERA CLASS PRODUCTION

#### NEW SINGERS

Members of the Elder Conservatorium opera class cannot recall that the light opera "Maritana" has ever been produced in Adelaide before, although it was given 30 years ago in Sydney.

This fact should add interest to the production of the opera at the Theatre Royal on March 7, by the students in conjunction with J. C. Williamson, Ltd. "Rehearsals have been wonderfully spontaneous," Madame Delmar Hall, who has designed the costumes, said yesterday.

She herself played the part of Lazarillo for three years. There would be several surprises for those who attended, she said. Singers new to the public would make their bow.

#### New Dramatic Tenor

Mr. James F. Currie is one of these. A dramatic tenor, he confesses that this will be "his first test of nervousness." He will be Don Caesar, an impetuous spendthrift, who gets himself into—and out of—a lot of bother, including a firing squad and a wall at dawn.

All parts are duplicated, one company playing three nights, and the other four nights. The second Don Caesar is John Jonas.

The two Maritanas are Misses Beryl Kekewick and Allison Lane, both of whom played in the last year's production by the Opera Class.

Miss Kekewick says she finds the highlight of her performance in the opening of the third act when she sings "Scenes that Are Brightest."

Miss Lane is amused at the thought of dancing before the King on a table top two feet square.

#### The Villains

Messrs. Len McLaughlin and Jack Prider are the bad men of the opera. They will exchange as Don Jose, the unscrupulous courtier who uses Maritana to betray the King to the Queen, with whom he is bold enough to be in love.

The two Kings are Messrs. Victor Morcom and Lindsay Dawkins; the two Lazarillos, Misses Declina Harvey and Evelyn Kekewick, and the producer is Mr. Harold Denton.

Everyone is keen and imbued with a spirit of adventure, for Vincent Wallace's colorful opera has gripped their imagination.

News 26-2-31

# Elder Scholarship

Candidates for the Elder Scholarship for singing were examined at Elder Conservatorium of Music today. The examiners will forward their recommendation for the award to the University council, which will announce the name of the successful candidate probably at its monthly meeting tomorrow afternoon.

The scholarship was formerly held by Miss Geraldine Cash who resigned it on her departure for England.

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# ELDER SCHOLARSHIP

The Council of the University has awarded an Elder Scholarship for singing to Miss Mavis Beryl Kekewick. The examiners highly commended Miss Iris Correll Hart.