

KNIGHTHOOD FOR TWO SOUTH AUSTRALIANS

Sir Walter Young and Sir William Goodman

PREMIER'S STRIKING TRIBUTE

"Appreciation Of Outstanding National Work"

Two distinguished South Australians, Mr. Walter Young, C.B.E., managing director of Elder, Smith & Co., Ltd., who has acted as financial adviser to the last two South Australian Governments, and Mr. W. G. T. Goodman, general manager and chief engineer of the Municipal Tramways Trust, who has had an outstanding career as an engineer in all parts of the world, more particularly in Adelaide, have been honored in the King's New Year honors list with knighthoods.

The Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven) said yesterday that he had received a notification from the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs "that the King had been pleased to confer the following honors:—

Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division), K.B.E., . . . Mr. WALTER JAMES YOUNG, C.B.E.
Knight Bachelor Mr. WILLIAM GEORGE TOOP GOODMAN.

"Politics do not enter into the question of recognising distinguished public services by our citizens," said the Premier (Mr. Hill), when asked to comment on the South Australian honors. "Although the Government does not agree with the indiscriminate awarding of honors, this is the only method available when it desires to show its appreciation of outstanding national work. On the present occasion fitting honor has been done to two notable citizens who have done most valuable work for the community—Sir Walter Young and Sir William Goodman."

Mr. Hill said that the Government was pleased that the King had seen fit to bestow these honors on Sir Walter Young and Sir William Goodman.

"Sir Walter Young has given not only to this Government, but to the previous one, brilliant advice during most critical stages of public finance," said the Premier. "His services have been those of a great patriot who, without seeking reward of any kind or personal aggrandisement, has always given to the country the benefit of his experienced advice. Sir Walter's work for the State, in a financial capacity, is spread over many years, and, necessarily, it has been of a kind of which a general public can have little knowledge. As chairman of the Advisory Financial Committee, which the Government appointed soon after the book sale in 1930, his services during a grave financial crisis have been of a

far as that of New Zealand. The high quality of his expert knowledge as an engineer is recognised, not only in Australia, but beyond it. For eighteen months Sir William was chairman of the Royal Commission which was set up into railway management, and the whole of this work was honorary. The Commission had to tackle most difficult and embarrassing problems, and many valuable reports were presented to the Government. Sir William was expert adviser in connection with the construction of the great Hume dam, in New South Wales, and during the war rendered valuable service in regard to munitions. To Sir William, also, I offer the Government's congratulations on this well-merited recognition of his many important activities."

Opposition Leader's Tribute

The leader of the Opposition (Mr. Butler) said he desired to add his congratulations to the two notable South Australians when the King had honored them.

"It is very pleasing," said Mr. Butler, "to find that even a Labor Government can recognise services of a distinguished public character. The tribute to the financial work of Sir Walter Young is in every way a worthy one. The general public can never know the extent, and value, of advice in connection with the construction of the Hume dam, and the only Ministers, who have had the advantage of his services—always given willingly and ungrudgingly—can appreciate fully what they have meant to South Australia. The Government of which Sir Walter Young is a member, since 1927, has the good fortune to have the joint advice of Sir Walter Young and Mr. Harold Darling, two of the most able and experienced men of our time. On that occasion, and since, Sir Walter has come to the assistance of the State with his mature and authoritative judgment, and his services altogether have been of incalculable importance."

"Sir William Goodman, too, has done notable work for the State, in the very efficient management of the Tramways Trust. Alone, he has been a force of technical and administrative strength. Apart from that, however, Sir William has given expert advice in many capacities to other Governments throughout the Commonwealth, and on all occasions tributes have been paid to the value of his services."

No Federal Honors Announced

Canberra, December 31. The Governor-General (Sir Isaac Isaacs) left Canberra for Sydney to-night without making any announcement of New Year honors. In view of the Labor policy against honors this was not unexpected.

Hobart, December 31. The safe recipient of a New Year honor in Tasmania is Mrs. Rose Stephens, who will receive the O.B.E. Mrs. Stephens is the widow of Mr. W. F. Stephens, formerly a solicitor, of Hobart. Her husband awarded distinguished humanitarian and philanthropic work. Mrs. Stephens served in the B.P.M. as a nurse, and since has been associated with many Tasmanian women's activities, including hospitals, child welfare, mother-craft, food and charitable relief.

NOTABLE CAREER OF SIR WILLIAM GOODMAN

Brilliant Engineer and Fine Public Service

Few South Australians have as fine a record of public service as Sir William Goodman, Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Adelaide Municipal Trust, who has changed over from horse traction nearly 25 years ago. During that quarter of a century Sir William has been adviser to the South Australian Government and Governments of other States and of New Zealand, on many weighty matters within the sphere of his special knowledge and extensive experience.

Sir William's outstanding service to the South Australian Government was as chairman of the Royal Commission on Railways, whose valuable report was recently presented to Parliament. He is a recognised authority on transport, and his authority to the Commission justified the most sanguine expectations of the Government. Even those who do not agree entirely with all the recommendations contained in the report acknowledge that the work of the Commission as a whole, and of the chairman in particular, has furnished an example of thoroughness, never equalled and never exceeded, in the history of similar investigations into State concerns. With characteristic energy and system, Sir William impelled himself wholeheartedly to such a task, trying to find a way of reducing the losses on the State's most extensive and expensive public enterprise. He tackled the job with a fearlessness and a firmness which were universally acknowledged to be admirable.

Moving Monument

A monument to Sir William's capacity and minute attention to detail is the tramway system, Adelaide has passed through. It may be said since electric trams first ran in this city a quarter of a century ago, but the railway men have not called upon to make up one penny on account of deficiencies. They have endeavored to improve during all those years, and the fares compare favorably with those charged in most other cities. The fact that reserves for replacement and for repayment of money borrowed from the Government, have been accumulated to the extent of more than £20,000, speaks volumes for the organising genius of the general manager. Sir William is proud to find that one of the first cars put into commercial use as a trolley system, although it has covered about 750,000 miles, is still in daily service, and distinguished from those of his built years later. One of the road buses also has run 242,000 miles. The high standard of maintenance is typical of the whole tramway service.

Extensive Experience

After a brilliant scholastic career, and starting his engineering in London, Sir William spent the first six years of his life with Poole & White, engineers at 15 a week. He had experience in the electrical and mechanical undertakings, and then went to Australia as engineer on the construction of the George street and Harris street tramways, Sydney, and also the Rose Bay, Gore Hill, and Willoughby trams in the same city. Next he was engaged in the construction of the Auckland City Corporation in the project of the Government of the Dominion on electric and power schemes. The Tasmanian Government sought his advice on electric and railway schemes, and as late as 1928 the New Zealand Government appointed him on a Royal Commission to inquire into Auckland transport matters. The Commission and State Governments, also, wanted the benefit of his engineering experience on the construction of the great Hume reservoir, and in 1924 appointed him a member of the Royal Commission on Railways.

Friend Of Returned Soldiers

Sir William has always kept himself up-to-date on transport and other engineering matters by extensive reading.

and by travel undertaken to gain first-hand knowledge. He has visited many parts of the world, and spent a year on a trip abroad, had many exciting experiences in London during the war, and was anxious to enlist in the Great War and when released for active service, did everything he could as a civilian. One of Sir William's most prized possessions is the Order of Merit received from the South Australian headquarter of the Returned Soldiers' League in recognition of his public services, and he has a strong preference in employment to the men who served in the Great War.

Sir William has been a member of the University Council for the past sixteen years. He is chairman of the South Australian division of the Australian Institution of Engineers and chairman of the South Australian Advisory Council of the Institute of Civil Engineers.

New Knight Pleased

"I express my very great appreciation of the high honor conferred upon me," said Sir William, when spoken to last night. "I regard it as great compliment to the profession to which I belong. Whatever I have done in the interests of the State to deserve this distinction, has been a work of pleasure. It is a consolation to know that one's effort, however appreciated, and this recognition will be an incentive to further activity."

Victorian Ministry Made No Recommendations

Melbourne, December 31. The State Ministry has acted in accordance with its usual policy of refraining from making any recommendations for honors in the New Year list.

A similar policy has been adopted by previous Labor Ministries in Victoria.



SIR WALTER YOUNG

MAN OF BIG MISSIONS

What W. J. Young Has Done For His Country

FINANCIAL GENIUS

Although many distinguished South Australians have been honored by the King in past years, probably no knighthood has been more fully earned than that which will be conferred upon Sir Walter Young.

Sir Walter Young has never been active in public life, and many people are unaware, even today, of the great part he has played in the nation's affairs. It is no exaggeration to say, however, that no single individual did more for the orderly marketing of Australia's products during the war, and no one kept Australia on a true financial keel during the last 18 months.

Successive Governments, Federal and State, have come to lean upon his advice. His clearness of vision, ability to reduce all problems to essentials, and selfless devotion to the public good, have lifted him far above the ordinary. Liberal and Labor Governments have found him equally ready to help. He has worked five nights a week, and every week-end, for months together without thought of reward.

He has always shunned publicity. He prefers the quiet of the country to the bustle of city life, and he spends every hour he can in his book-filled study, Mount Pleasant. A man whose views are widely quoted and read with respectful attention on Imperial councils.

SIR WILLIAM GOODMAN

generally character. It was largely through the expert advice of this committee that the State has been able to emerge so soundly through the most difficult crisis that has ever faced it. The honor conferred upon Sir Walter Young is richly deserved, and I desire to take this opportunity to again pay tribute on behalf of the Government, the great work he has done for the State.

A Great Administrator

The honor done to Sir William Goodman is also well deserved. He is not only a distinguished engineer, but the general manager of the Trust, and must be the ablest administrator and organizer. His successful success that has marked his career is based on his electric system, is a combination of his own initiative and the ability of the men whom he has given to the State. Governments throughout the world have turned to him for