

News 29.5.30

### QUESTION OF FINANCE

#### Free University Education

#### "GIVEN IN SMALL DOSES"

Mr. McIntosh, in the Assembly this afternoon, enquired of the Hon. L. L. Hill (Minister of Education) whether it was the intention of the Government to extend free education to the University.

Mr. Hill said that it had been on the platform of his party for years.

Opposition Member—Window dressing. Mr. Hill—The University receives a subsidy from the Government of about £50,000 a year. The Government will carry out its policy as finances permit. (Opposition laughter.)

Mr. A. A. Edwards—We will give it in small doses.

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#### FREE EDUCATION—BUT NOT YET

#### Govt. Will Keep Promise, Premier Says

"Free education in every way, up to and including the university, has been on our platform for many years," the Premier (Mr. Hill) said in the Assembly yesterday in reply to a question on when free education would be put into operation.

"We annually subsidise the University by about £50,000, and there is no reason why the general public should not get more out of it," added Mr. Hill. "Our policy speech promise will be carried out gradually as finances permit."

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### MAWSON HONORED

#### AWARDED MUELLER MEDAL

#### Services to Science

Brisbane, May 28.

For his services in the interests of science, Sir Douglas Mawson has been awarded the Mueller Medal.

This announcement was made after the meeting of the council of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science to-day.



Sir Douglas Mawson

The Mueller Medal, which is awarded biennially at congresses of the Association for the Advancement of Science, is to commemorate the great service done for Australian science by Baron F. von Mueller, formerly Government Botanist in Victoria. Those who work in the interests of science are eligible for the award, which is not necessarily confined to Australians or New Zealanders. It is proposed to present the medal to Sir Douglas on Tuesday, when he will deliver an address to the congress.

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#### Successful Rhodes Scholar

MR. Arthur Formby, of Langhorne's Creek, told me yesterday that his wife (nee Elsie Landseer) had just received a telegram from London from their son, Dr. Myles Formby, announcing that he had received the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. Dr. Formby was the South Australian Rhodes Scholar in 1924, and he left for Oxford in 1925. He has had a remarkably successful career. In addition to his scholastic attainments he took an active part in sport and school life during his nine happy years at St. Peter's College, He led the Oxford lacrosse



Dr. Formby

Peter's College, He led the Oxford lacrosse

team to victory against the Cambridge team, captained by Mr. J. L. Bonython. Dr. Formby has a wonderful gift for making friends wherever he goes.

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### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHESTRA

#### Dr. Davies On the Outlook

On June 7 the South Australian Orchestra will open its tenth season with a Wagner programme.

Professor Harold Davies said yesterday that in spite of the difficulties of maintaining such a costly organisation as a symphony orchestra he preserved a cheerful optimism.

The work of the ladies' auxiliary last year, Dr. Davies said, was splendidly helpful, and the committee, under the patronage of Lady Hore-Ruthven, and the presidency of the Lady Mayoress (Mrs. Lavington Bonython), had done great service in securing subscribers for the season's concerts. Mrs. Brailsford Robertson, as secretary, had been indefatigable, and they were fortunate in her promise of continued help this year.

"The present bad times," the professor continued, "are against us, as they are against every enthusiastic venture." The executive had nevertheless decided to give a first series of three concerts this year. These would take place in the Adelaide Town Hall on the first Saturday evenings of June, July, and August, and it was hoped that public support would permit of two more performances. In the three programmes arranged Wagner, Beethoven, and Tschalkowsky nights appeared.

Reg. Adv. 30.5.30

#### £1,500 WANTED FOR RADIUM EXPERIMENTS

#### Professor Kerr-Grant's Balance Would Be Used

BRISBANE, Thursday.—Pointing out that the best device created for weighing microscopic objects had been invented at the Melbourne University in 1909 by Professor Kerr-Grant, now in Adelaide, and by Dr. D. B. Steele, now in Brisbane, Professor Hartung appealed at the Science Congress today for some public spirited person to subscribe £1,500 with which 100 milligrams of radium might be bought for measurements with the Steele-Grant micro-balance.

Lasting over several years, the experiment of measuring radium emanations would attract world-wide attention, he said, and it was fit that it should be conducted in Australia by Australians and with an Australian-invented machine.

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#### Annual Lister Oration At University Last Night

Dr. Fay Maclure, the noted Melbourne surgeon, delivered the annual Lister oration to members of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association at the University, last night. The subject of this year's oration was Fractures.

Dr. H. Gilbert (local B.M.A. president) occupied the chair before an attendance of more than 100 doctors. Among those present was Sir R. Stawell, of Melbourne, who is in Adelaide to deliver lectures in connection with the association's post-graduate course.

The course, which will extend for over a week, is being attended by many country doctors in addition to those in the city.

Reg. 31.5.30 (Also Adv)

At the monthly meeting of the University Council yesterday reference was made of the death of Dr. Jethro Brown, who had been professor of law from 1900 until 1916, and since then a member of the faculty. Reference was also made to the death of Miss Dorothy Woods, of the Registrar's department, who had been a most efficient secretary since 1921. The Council desired that the sympathy of the University be conveyed to their relatives.

Reg 31.5.30 (Also Adv)

Mr. W. Oldham, lecturer in history at the University of Adelaide, has been awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Scholarship for a year. The Council of the University yesterday congratulated him, and granted him leave of absence for 1931. Mr. Oldham will go to England next year.

Adv. 31.5.30

#### GIFTS TO UNIVERSITY

Mr. E. F. Fricke, agronomist at the Waite Institute, has presented to the institute a very representative collection of grasses and fodder plants of South-Eastern Australia. The University has also received the candelabrum bequeathed by Miss Ridley, which was presented to her father, John Ridley, in 1861, "by a number of old colonists as a mark of their appreciation of his services to South Australia by his invention of the reaping machine."

Reg 31.5.30 also adv.

### NO LIQUOR AT FACULTY DINNERS

#### —If Held In Refectory, 'Varsity Decides

#### STUDENTS WILL DINE ELSEWHERE

The Council of the University definitely decided yesterday afternoon not to allow the students to have liquor at their annual dinners, if they hold them in the refectory.

Since the students have already declared that if there is no liquor there will be no dinners, it appears as if the main purpose for which the Refectory was built will not be carried out, and the dinners will be held outside the 'Varsity.

The Refectory was built to strengthen the social life of the University. Every meeting was subsequently held there, and the community spirit in the University improved immensely. The students decided this year to hold all functions within the University walls, and the Men's Union unanimously decided to hold the annual faculty dinners in the Refectory, if the council would allow liquor to be consumed.

This, the council has refused to do. During last year all the faculty functions except the annual dinners were held in the Refectory. The profits on evening functions were small.

It was not hoped, so much to improve the financial position, as to strengthen the social life, by holding the annual dinners within the University.

Only a compromise on the part of the students can alter the position, and this does not seem likely.

adv. 3-6-30

### NEW CHAIR AT MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY

#### SUPREME COURT FUND

Melbourne, June 2.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria (Sir William Irvine) has advised the University Council that £30,000 is available in the library fund of the Supreme Court for the endowment of a second chair of law at the University. The fund, into which is paid the fees of barristers and solicitors for admittance to practice, has been accumulating for a number of years. The new chair will be a chair of public law.

Adv. 24.5.30

#### Free Lending Library

From "Mercurius," Helmsdale:—I have just been thinking of Mr. Barr Smith's magnificent gift towards building a University library. It occurred to me what enormous benefits would follow the founding of a free public lending library, where the workers' sons and daughters could have free access to the works of the great master litterateurs of the world. Many a man like myself is debarred the perusal of modern authors, and the thoughts of the ancients, through lack of the wherewithal to become a subscribing member to a suburban library institute. When in Broken Hill and Sydney I availed myself largely of the two municipal libraries in existence.

Adv. 3-6-30

### ELDER CONSERVATORIUM

#### CONCERT BY STAFF

By Alex. Burnard

What may aptly be termed a truly great concert was given last night by several members of the Conservatorium staff. The programme, save in one notable instance, was ideally balanced.

Mr. John Horner, in the opening number, further endeared his playing to us. Louis Vierne's dramatic allegro risoluto movement (from second "Symphonie") was full of elan. Perhaps the posane tone was too strident at times. So it struck me, halfway back in the over-reverberating hall, Widor's "Pastorale" (also a "Symphonie" movement) was a simple, insouciant rustic dance in six-eight, interspersed with bird-calls. It had a decided appeal.

Our patriotic pride was quite stirred by the English member of the group—Rupert Erlebach's neo-modal setting of "The Cherry Tree," and to conclude his bracket Mr. Horner surpassed himself in the great German organist's (Karg-Elert) "Festival Prelude," an improvisation on an old chorale subject. To seize on but one of his many outstanding attributes, the organist's unflinching taste in registration was nowhere more apparent than here. It was a stirring performance. The public should endeavor to attend as many as possible of Mr. Horner's fine series of free midday organ recitals at the Elder Hall, beginning Thursday, June 12.

Miss Hilda Gill's luscious organ was heard to advantage in two brackets, both of them British. Two songs from Mrs. Kennedy Fraser's wonderful Hebridean collection were most sympathetically done. Whether they were sufficient foil to each other or not, we were all attuned to the mood of both, as, needless to say, was the singer. Her voice has that "quality of tears" about it ideally suited to this plaintive, crooning folk-music. Sir Hamilton Harty's "Sea Wrack," Delius's "To Daffodils," Quilter's "In the Bud of the Morning-O," and Parry's "My Heart is like a Singing Bird" (the last three fine stuff) were beautifully done, the only thing that one could further wish being possibly a greater contrast in tone-quality.

Ottorino Respighi's comparatively early sonata, for violin and piano (it first saw the light in 1918) was marvellously played by Miss Sylvia Whittington and Mr. George Pearce. These two artists always show perfect understanding, and it was present here to the full. The "Moderato" showed a broad, inspired melodic line reminiscent of the Cesar Franck quintet. The "Andante," in quintriplet rhythm, passed through its successive stages of uneasy brooding (manifested in the unflagging Pf figure) and gloriously defiant climax, thence to emerge to a highly rarefied atmosphere of spiritual calm. Then, all doubts dispersed in the final Passacaglia, we proceeded to a mood of triumphal assertion. In this the variations were disguised with all the subtlety of a Brahms, of whose spirit, indeed, the movement smacked strongly. The two players maintained a fine level of unity and continuity in this music-for-the-musician-alone, and can really be said to have interpreted its fullest message.

Miss Maude Puddy's group of Bach was admirably chosen and played. It was hard to see why these numbers did not open the programme. Coming as they did after the Respighi, the programme balance seemed to me to suffer somewhat. But Miss Puddy's playing was charming. Four movements of the G major French Suite were given fine treatment. I thought her Courante, taken cleanly at rattling speed, was over-pedalled. That was partly building echo, maybe. The B minor Bourree (arr. by Saint-Saens) and the Chorale, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" (arr. Myra Hess), were also well done, though I thought the Hess carried too much tone for its inherently simple, flowing "affability." Miss Puddy had to bow her acknowledgments to the prolonged applause four times.

She and Mr. Harold Parsons were associated in the Delius cello and piano Sonata, which was given its first public performance here. Here we heard a Delius who had plucked himself for the nonce from that rather negative, day-dream atmosphere in which it is his wont to shroud himself. This work showed unalloyed beauty; romantic, certainly (it were not Delius without that), but its romance was straightforward and never once cloyed. The performance was finely sympathetic.

Miss Ivy Ayers accompanied Miss Gill delightfully in her six songs.