

FORESTRY SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. T. N. Stoute Selected

The successful applicant for the travelling scholarship in forestry founded last year by an endowment of £5,000 from Mr. Russell Grimwade, of Melbourne, is Mr. T. N. Stoute (senior assistant conservator in the Western Australian Forest Service). An announcement to that effect was made by Mr. A. Blakeley (Minister of Home Affairs).

Mr. Stoute, who is 35 years of age, is a South Australian. He began his forestry training at Adelaide University in 1912, and gained the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1918 when invalided home after having served for three years at the war with the Australian Imperial Forces.

He has had an extensive and practical experience in forestry, obtained in New South Wales, Western Australia, and South Australia. In 1923 he was appointed working plans officer in Western Australia, and four years later secured his present position.

Candidates for the scholarship were required to hold the diploma of the Australian Forestry School, or the Adelaide forestry degree, and to have completed by June 1, 1930, not less than two years' practice in the forestry service of the Commonwealth or in one of the State services.

The scholarship, which amounts to about £300, is tenable for a year. Mr. Stoute will be required to leave for England in August to begin his post-graduate course at the Imperial Forestry Institute at Oxford in October.

Adv. 11. 7. 30

SIR JOSEPH VERCO MEDAL

AWARDED TO MR. J. M. BLACK

"Distinguished Scientific Work"

The much-prized Sir Joseph Verco medal has been awarded by the Royal Society of South Australia to Mr. John McConnell Black, for distinguished scientific work.

This announcement was made at a meeting of the Society last evening by the chairman (Dr. L. Keith Ward). The choice of the council, he said, had been unanimous, and had fallen on one of its senior fellows, who was not at present in South Australia, but was representing the society at an important conference in Great Britain. In submitting his name to the society for its verdict, the council expressed deep appreciation of the services to science and to the State by Mr. Black.

"Distinguished and Modest"

Mr. Black was a man of many parts. Educated in Scotland, England, and Dresden, he came to Australia in 1877 and engaged in farming in the Baroota district for the next five years. For the following 20 years he was on the literary staff of the Adelaide press, and after withdrawing from that work, concentrated his energy mainly upon the study of the systematic botany of South Australia. But he had not neglected the claims of literature, to which his early training and more mature study had held him captive. An accomplished linguist, he was an authority on the structure of languages generally. Mr. Black's contributions to the society had been as distinguished for the modesty with which they had been presented as for their crisp clarity. His labors had been such that they had brought no material reward. They had been arduous, and could not have been completed but for a strong sense of devotion to science and fine ideals.

The Director of the Botanic Gardens (Mr. J. F. Bailey) addressed the meeting with regard to Mr. Black's contributions to botany, and a former president of the society, the foremost authority on the orchids of Australia (Dr. R. S. Rogers) supported the proposal.

The chairman said he had made known the decision to Sir Joseph Verco, who said he was pleased that the medal was being awarded to Mr. Black, as the work he had done had well deserved the honor.

Mr. Reg. Polson, an electrical engineer, was a passenger by the Molavia, which sailed yesterday from the Outer Harbor. He will visit London and then proceed to Sweden, where he has secured an appointment with the Swedish General Electric Company. Mr. Polson is a native of Western Australia. He gained a primary scholarship from the Morphett Vale school, and subsequently gained his B.E. degree at the University of Adelaide and the fellowship diploma at the Adelaide School of Mines. The Adelaide Electric Supply Company, on whose staff he was employed for a number of years, gave him a farewell and presentation of the staff on Wednesday. Mr. Polson, who is 24 years of age, is travelling to London on one of the three free passage gifts made annually by the Associated Steamship Owners to the University for outstanding students.



HIGHEST AWARD for an engineer, the Franklin medal, was conferred at Philadelphia on Sir W. H. Bragg, formerly of Adelaide.

Adv. 25. 6. 30

FIFTY YEARS AGO

FROM "THE ADVERTISER" OF JUNE 24, 1880

The Adelaide University Degrees Bill was read a third time in the House of Assembly, and passed. The second reading of the Tea Tree Gully Waterworks Bill was carried, after a keen debate, by a majority of four votes.

News 26. 6. 30

CANCER TREATMENT

Lecture by Dr. Lendon

Dr. A. A. Lendon, in an interesting public lecture on cancer at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, referred to the antiquity of the complaint, and quoted figures to show the increased number of cases occurring throughout the world, particularly in Australia.

Dr. Lendon also referred to circumstances in which cancer could be artificially induced. He said that the complaint was due to a germ, injury, or repeated irritation.

Reference was also made to the relation of cancer to other tumors and diseases. A second lecture will be given by Dr. Lendon on Tuesday evening at the same hall.

Reg. 28. 6. 30

At the University yesterday, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Dr. C. T. C. de Crespigny) presented Vincent Francis Bennett Lennon, Francis James Ryan, and Samuel Roy Burston for the Degrees of M.B., B.S. The Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science (Professor R. W. Chapman) presented Clifford G. Bartholomaeus for the Degree of Bachelor of Engineering and for the Diploma in Applied Science.

Adv. 4. 7. 30

DRINKING IN HIGH SCHOOLS

AMERICAN INVESTIGATION

To the Editor
Statements re drinking among high school students in Victoria recently appeared in your columns, and we had in Adelaide the request, by University students for permission to have alcoholic liquors at social functions in the University. The persistence of these reports of drinking in higher educational establishments is seriously disturbing the minds of many parents.

The statement is often made that since the introduction of prohibition in the U.S.A. much more drinking goes on in this country than was previously the case. The Department of Moral Welfare of the Presbyterian Board of Christian Education, desiring to obtain 1,000 replies, recently addressed letters to the principals of high schools asking them to send a list, selected at random, of the names and addresses of 20 students of their senior high school class, aged 16-19 years. Lists were received in this way from most of the states, and a questionnaire sent to the names indicated. Out of the total number of 1,003 replies received, 132 were from New York State, 63 from Pennsylvania, 69 from Illinois, which are generally considered as wet.

The following are some of the results—Do you drink wine, beer, whisky, gin, or any other form of intoxicants? Yes, 149 youths, 67 girls; no, 367 youths, 420 girls. Is it necessary to drink in order to become popular in your school? Yes, 26 youths, 15 girls; no, 490 youths, 470 girls.—I am, Sir, &c., W. F. FINLAYSON.

Reg. 7. 7. 30

DISCOVERY TO SAIL IN NOVEMBER

C'tee. Discusses Voyage Plans

MELBOURNE, Sunday.—At a special meeting of the Antarctic Exploration Committee yesterday, it was decided that the Discovery should leave for the Antarctic in November, and return to Australia in March. The personnel will be practically the same for this trip as last. The territory to be explored is to the east of the area explored on the last voyage.

The committee, which consisted of Sir David Orme Masson, chairman; Sir Douglas Mawson, Rear-Admiral Munro Kerr, Sir Edgeworth David, and Dr. Henderson, discussed fully the plans for the voyage.

Adv. 9. 7. 30

WAGES MUST FALL

PROFITS AND RENTS, TOO

15 PER CENT. DROP FORECAST BY PROFESSOR MELVILLE

Professor L. G. Melville, who is a member of the State Advisory Committee on Finance, in a lecture at the Adelaide University last night, said that if Australia's economic troubles were to be righted, wages must fall, together with salaries, profits of all kinds, and rents—in fact, nearly all income.

He calculated that the drop in nominal wages would be 15 per cent., equal to 5 per cent. in real purchasing power when prices fell in sympathy.

The lecture was the first of a series by Professor Melville, and was entitled, "The Foundations of Prosperity." It was delivered in the Physics Theatre before a crowded audience, including many business and professional men, and a large number of women.

Professor Melville described the present position as one of the most serious economic crises which Australia had ever been called upon to face. In some respects, he said, it could be compared with a crisis of a different kind which was faced during the world war.

There was a growing army of unemployed, which, if allowance were made for those working part time, would probably number not much less than the total of the A.I.F.

Professor Melville

Distribution of Sacrifice

There should be no reason to despair, but all sections of the community would have to make sacrifices for the common good. It was their task to distribute the loss as rapidly and equitably as possible. Costs must be reduced. That could be achieved partly by increased efficiency, but that would not be sufficient. On present indications the reduction in wages and

salaries would need to be about 15 per cent. That was a reduction in nominal wages, and would involve a much smaller reduction in real wages, once the dislocations caused by the reduction had passed and prices receded with the falling wages. Economists agreed that a reduction of 15 per cent. in nominal wages would result in a reduction in real wages of about 5 per cent. That calculation, however, assumed that the present prohibitions of imports were removed and the existing high tariffs reduced. If that were not done the reduction in real incomes might be considerably more than 15 per cent.

"Comic Opera Country"

With the aid of tables and graphs, the lecturer explained that over a series of years expenditure had fluctuated more than productivity. One reason for that was changing prices for exports; another was fluctuations in national income added to by borrowings. Unfortunately those two factors generally combined.

"Countries cease lending to us when our exports fall and they come to suspect our ability to pay our interest and capital," said the speaker. "They would probably be more inclined to carry us over these difficult periods if we showed more respect for economic laws and prudent finance. As it is they regard us as a comic opera country to whom they will lend only when the weather is fair. In any case, we should take warning from the danger signals which have betokened the approach of a storm. The continuation of public works which do not succeed in increasing the productivity of the country must always be watched with a wary eye."

Rabbits from Silk Hats

Referring to a previous explanation he had made of points of similarity in the crisis of the nineties and that of to-day, Professor Melville continued:—"We have now been caught twice by the same sort of storm, and twice we have been punished. We have openly repudiated the teachings of economists, and have even boasted that the war forced economists to burn their text books. But it did not; it merely permitted politicians to create the illusion that they were producing rabbits out of silk hats. The comedy has turned to tragedy, and we have the pitiful spectacle of a growing army of unemployed looking hungrily into the empty hats and demanding that more rabbits be produced. Unhappy men! The magicians' rabbits were only borrowed ones, and the lender has refused to lend them more. Once more the musty old text books must be produced, and we must learn again how best to live within our means."

Falling World Prices

Referring to the increase in interest charges in recent years, Professor Melville said falling prices had increased the burden, and a serious aspect was that world prices were still falling, and were increasing that burden. Australia had borrowed too heavily, but not to finance the war. It was the so-called development works which had been launched which had been the country's undoing. Borrowing was justified only if the productive capacity of the country was increasing rapidly enough to pay interest on the increased overseas indebtedness. That had not been happening in recent years, and so the country's real living fund had been depleted. The present crisis had not a parallel during the war period, for then wages were automatically reduced by rising prices; there was a fall of 9 per cent. in real wages during the war. Recently prices for exports fell, wages lagged, and an economic crisis immediately developed. The salvation of the country was not to be found in increased tariffs, the tendency of which was to reduce the standard of living.

Provision for Taxation and Savings

The national income had been reduced, and it might be argued that the whole of the loss should be borne by profits; that as the shareholders took the rewards of prosperity, why should they not also take the losses of adversity? However, it would be impossible to throw all the loss on high incomes and still provide the annual taxations of 44 million pounds and savings of 50 millions. As a matter of fact, the margin of incomes left after savings and taxation had been deducted was quite small and wholly inadequate to meet a loss which at the lowest would exceed 50 million pounds. Some reasonable return on investments and margins for skill and ability were necessary if capital and skilled mental and manual workers were to be obtained, and without them prosperity could not be regained.