

# PROGRESS AT ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE

## Annual Prize-Giving

### DR. CALLAGHAN'S REPORT

By YATTALUNGA

"Although I am from New South Wales, I come among you well aware of the sterling worth of Roseworthy College. I know much of its great work and had been taught in lecture rooms of universities to honor it; indeed, I feel I know more of its value, its magnificent traditions, and its still greater potentialities than any of the citizens of South Australia. I am now deeply engrossed in what I believe to be a glorious work; a work that entails the guiding and directing of both the agricultural training of our young manhood, and the experiments which aim at increasing the efficiency of our primary producers." Thus Dr. A. R. Callaghan, principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College, introduced himself to a large gathering of politicians, Government officials, farmers and students' relatives at the annual prize-giving ceremony at the college yesterday.

Those present included the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Whitford), the chairman of the Governing Council of Control (Mr. A. M. Dawkins), who presided, the Director of Agriculture (Professor A. J. Perkins), the Director of the Waste Research Institute (Dr. A. E. V. Richardson), members of the House of Assembly and Legislative Council for the district, and officers of the Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Callaghan recounted in his first annual report what had been accomplished during the past year, and disclosed his ambitions and plans for the future.

"Following the unfortunate happenings at the college a little over 12 months ago, and the severe public criticism levelled at the institution in consequence thereof, the general public will welcome news concerning the good discipline of the students," he said.

"Among Australian lads of the age when manhood is just in the midst of the struggle for supremacy over boyhood, we have a conglomeration of incongruous characteristics. By a liberal display of fair play and justice, tempered with trust, one rarely fails to induce a self-imposed discipline; the response is one of fair play. Then when boyishness has had its prank, and have it it will, the manliness hangs its head and murmurs either, 'It was worth it,' or 'I deserve it.' Not a single untoward incident has happened during the year, and not once have I failed to receive immediate response from those responsible when things have been done that should not have been done. Jellies have mysteriously melted out of existence from our refrigerator, melons have been harvested with surprising promptness, eerie noises have been heard in the dead of night, barricades have been improvised, and many other things (of which I pretend ignorance) have happened, yet I can with honesty and assurance say that the discipline of the college today is excellent. I would like to pay a tribute to the students for their sportsmanship and fair play, and to thank them for their loyalty and devotion to the college and to me.

#### Crucial Period Passed

During this year the college had survived the most crucial period of its history, said Dr. Callaghan. Its very life was threatened, but he was glad to say that the ruthless blows inflicted when the institution could least bear them, were shielded honorably and well by a sound thinking, rational Government. He paid a tribute to the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whitford), who was, he said, very largely responsible for the final decision which acknowledged the greatness, the worth, and the traditions of the oldest agricultural college in Australasia.

Referring to the Governing Council which the Government had appointed, Dr. Callaghan said that the members had been selected as representative of all branches in the agricultural community. He paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Spafford, Deputy Director of Agriculture, who acted as principal of the college pending the appointment of a principal. "I desire to thank him," he said, "for the able way in which, with shoe-horn like accuracy, he gently slid me into the responsibilities of office. It was the depth of winter, one of the wettest on record when I arrived, but the warmth of Mr. Spafford's welcome, and the energy with which he hurried me over the farm, protected me from undermining influences which might easily have crept in unnoticed with the cold, the wet, and the strangeness of a new position."

## Change In Curriculum

Dr. Callaghan said that so far as college discipline was concerned, no changes were contemplated. The curriculum and college examination system, however, had both received very careful consideration and many alterations had been made. In the first place the college year in future would be divided into two half-yearly sessions, instead of three shorter sessions, as in the past. This offered several distinct advantages, chief of which were that it guaranteed a greater number of lecture weeks, as well as greater continuity in instructional work, and it reduced the number of examinations held by one-third.

Referring to the rearrangement of subjects, the principal said that bacteriology and entomology would in future be dealt with under the various applied subjects. For instance, students would learn of the nature of bacteria in their botany, and in agriculture they would receive sufficient instruction in soil bacteriology to enable them to understand clearly the part such organisms played in the functioning of the soil. In dairying they would be made fully conversant with the importance of bacteria in that industry, and in oenology they would also receive the necessary bacteriological instruction. Physics would no longer be taught as such, but soil physics would be treated as portion of agriculture, and a course in farm dynamics would be substituted for the remainder of the old physics course. The instruction in farm dynamics would be given as part of the main subject of farm engineering.

### Five Years' Plan

Dealing with the work in the field, Dr. Callaghan said that he had arranged for a five years' plan. "With five years' systematic and co-ordinated work, the farm and the college experiments will, I am certain, be in an unchallengeable position," he said. "The spirit to do this has been kindled, staff members are wholeheartedly behind me, and the students, being very impressionable, will soon be in line with us through sheer imitation, or force of habit. All that remains for the success of my plan is for a long-sighted competent Government to realise to the full the true worth of Roseworthy College. Then, when we come with an honest plea for assistance, let us hope a few pounds will not be begrudged us. Just one example. A pure seed programme has been outlined, foolproof in every particular, provided money is forthcoming to buy suitable machinery to handle pure seed. Without machines that can be readily and effectively cleaned our hopes and good intentions will be dashed to the ground.

### Signs of Recovery

"I am anxious to make reference to the distinctive signs of complete recovery the college has made since the upheavals of this time last year. So far 24 new students have enrolled for the new year, and considering our present first-year class consists of only 12, I consider that our prestige in this regard has been wholly regained. The farmers' winter school last July was extremely successful, and 34 young and energetic farmers attended. Visits from Agricultural Bureaux and other interested parties were rather phenomenal during October and November. No less than 600 visitors were received in parties of from 30 to 80, besides individual groups of fours and fives.

"Scholastically the year has been difficult, due to the general unsettlement occasioned by the early and subsequent events of last year. Those who have persevered and striven to success un-

der these conditions should receive our heartiest congratulations. You will agree with me in this, when I tell you that out of 32 students who began the course with the present diploma class, only eight have stood the test and survived. This I call stickability, and it is a quality to be admired, as much as, or even more, than sheer ability.

"Out of a class of 14, 12 receive their diplomas today, and Student Pownall receives the highest distinction in the form of the gold medal. Student McAuliffe was second in the aggregate, and won the old students' cup and several other prizes. Students Benzie and Hooper are very close together after Students Pownall and McAuliffe, and these four have completed very satisfactory courses. Honors have been awarded only in two instances, to Student McAuliffe, in dairying, and to Student Pollitt, in viticulture.

The silver medal, awarded to the dux of the second year, has been won by Student Woodroffe, with the highly creditable result of 81 per cent. Students Angove and Gunson have also done especially well in the second year.

The dux of the first year, and consequently winner of the bronze medal, is Student Hay. He has done a thoroughly competent and well-balanced year's work, and is top of his class in theoretical as well as outdoor work marks. Students M. W. Jones and Savage have also acquitted themselves ably in the first year.

### DIPLOMA LIST

Diplomas of the Second Class (in order of merit).—Robert Alfred Pownall, John David McAuliffe (with honors in dairying), Alfred Charles Benzie, Frederick Harvey Hooper, Carleton Pollitt (with honors in viticulture), Robert Eustice Emery, Hamish Randall Patterson, Walter Clifford John, Charles Worthington Kelly, Robert Laughton Kingsford Horne, Basil Redpath Gee, Harry Musson Woodville Honey. Not Competing in Present Year—Lloyd Arthur Oppatt.

Third Year Students—Gold medal (highest aggregate in all diploma subjects)—R. A. Pownall. Second Aggregate Prize—J. D. McAuliffe. Old Students' Cup (highest aggregate in agriculture and veterinary hygiene)—J. D. McAuliffe. Outside Work—A. C. Benzie. Practical Examinations—J. D. McAuliffe. Oenology—C. Pollitt. Morphett Medal and Prize in Dairying—J. D. McAuliffe. Basely Prize in Viticulture—C. Pollitt. Agriculture—J. D. McAuliffe. Ploughing Packer, Sheep Husbandry—H. R. Paterson. Swine Husbandry—J. D. McAuliffe. Vine and Fruit Tree Pruning—C. P. Identification of Cereals—R. E. Emery.

Second Year Students—Dux of (silver medal)—K. Woodroffe. Aggregate Prize—P. C. Angove. Culture—G. Woodroffe. T. G. H. Prize in Viticulture—K. Woodroffe. Morphett Prize in Dairying—P. C. Outside Work—R. E. Hagley. Agriculture—P. C. Angove.

First Year Students—Dux (bronze medal)—R. C. Hay. Aggregate Prize—M. W. Jones. Outside Work—R. C. Hay. Agriculture—M. Morphett Prize in Dairying—Farm Machinery—M. Pollitt Prize (most consistent trier—secured any other prize)—E.