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"THE SEEING EYE" IN SURGERY

Sir Henry Newland On Being Wise After The Operation

LONDON, July 29.

Addressing the surgery section of the British Medical Association Conference today, Sir Henry Newland urged the cultivation of "the seeing eye" in order to detect and appraise the value of signs, positive and negative, however sparse they were. Something akin to the supersense of the Australian aboriginal would be a priceless possession. Bush tracks obvious to him are unseen by whites, yet visible when shown.

"I do not employ the simile in order to magnify the difficulty of surgical problems, but with the object of pointing a moral that too often, when death occurs, we are wise after the event, having failed in the surgical application of the injunction, 'He that hath eyes to see, let him see.'"

Sir Henry Newland deprecated the practice of surgeons who, when operating for other disorders, sometimes removed the appendix also, though this was really unnecessary. Referring to a case twenty years ago, he said:—"In an evil moment I was tempted to remove the appendix of a child, who died two years later. I have never forgotten the result of my meddling surgery."

Prince A Guest

The Prince of Wales was the guest of honor at the association's centenary dinner at Albert Hall. It was one of the largest gatherings held in London, there being 2,000 guests.

The Prince emphasised the Imperial aspects of the association's work. He said it was encouraging to think how many overseas members were present. Sir Henry Newland, president of the Australasian College of Surgeons, responded for the guests.

The menu was carefully chosen to represent the ideal summer meal. It consisted of alternate hot and cold courses and included iced melon, hot clear soup, cold salmon, hot lamb cutlets, and new potatoes, cold chicken with lettuce salad, raspberry Melba, and au liqueur coffee.

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them. The number of Rhodes scholars at Oxford is so relatively small that it could not possibly upset the old order of things. The scholars are only too pleased and honored to adopt the customs of the other students.

"In most instances a new student arriving at Oxford is overwhelmed by the greatness of the university, and considers it a big privilege to be associated with the old traditions."

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Scientists Will Meet Next Month

Once in two years the scientists of Australia get together at meetings of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, and talk shop for a week. They will do it in Sydney on August 17.

BETWEEN 35 and 40 members are going from this State. They will leave from August 10 to 14. Dr. R. S. Rogers (president of the section dealing with botany) will deliver a presidential address on developments in orchidology. Prof. J. G. Prescott, of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, Prof. H. J. Wilkinson, and Prof. Kerr Grant will be among those present. The lastnamed will read a paper in the astronomy, mathematics, and physics sections. Mr. C. T. Madigan will read a paper in the geology section.

Scientists are intensely human and often surprisingly practical, and plain-spoken. Some of them, of course, soar on occasion into the higher mathematics or plunge into the intricacies of purely technical matters in which only fellow-scientists can follow them.

For the most part, however, they deal at meetings like this with matters of general interest, and use language which the outsider can readily understand.



Will deliver an address on Electron Defraction—Prof. Kerr Grant.

It is true that they are apt to use terms with a precision which it all too rare in the hustle and bustle of the modern world.

Which recalls the time when a seeker after knowledge rang up that great scientist and delightful human being, the late Father Pigot, to ask about an earthquake record, "Was it a decent earthquake?" he said breathlessly.

The voice of Father Pigot came back calm and clear, with no hint of raillery, "I have no information about the moral nature of the earthquake, but it was one of considerable magnitude."

One of the speakers in the economics section will be L. F. Giblin, soldier, sailor, farmer, miner, lumberman, explorer, ex-politician, professor, and Commonwealth Statistician. He combines with vast knowledge and a logical mind a rugged and attractive personality and a gift for plain speaking. He will talk of the course of world prices.

Radio-electricity was a purely academic sort of thing a few years ago. Today there are about 400,000 persons in Australia holding wireless licences, and all directly interested in the propagation of wireless waves and things that were lately a matter for pure science.

A vice-president of the geology section is Sir Edgeworth David, one of the most widely known and best-loved men in Australia.



Will talk on course of world prices—Prof. L. F. Giblin.

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Gathering Natives for Scientists

RESEARCH WORK

WILD native tribes are already being told of a big corroboree to be held soon. The idea is to have them at a central point when the University Anthropological Expedition, which leaves for the far interior on Thursday, arrives to study the aborigines.

An amazing organisation has been set up to ensure the success of the expedition's work. For weeks two canvassers have been moving among the wild tribes of the north and telling the natives of the big corroboree to be held at a certain place at a certain moon. In this way the natives will be assembled near Mt. Liebig when the party arrives, and so no time will be lost. Most of the natives will see white men for the first time.



Prof. J. B. Cleland

The organisers in Adelaide have been hard at work assembling the great mass of equipment to be taken. This includes moving picture apparatus, phonograph recording instruments, and a complete meteorology plant.

COMPLETE EXPEDITION

The expedition will be the most up-to-date and complete of its kind ever to leave an Australian city. When the party arrives on the field its living accommodation and laboratories will be set up ready for immediate work.

An expert moving picture man, Mr. E. O. Stocker, of Sydney, will arrive in Adelaide early next week to accompany the expedition.

The party will be among the natives for 14 days. To make the greatest possible advantage of the time, every man has a special job allotted him. Even an hourly time table of activities has been drawn up. The expedition will carry on work of previous years. It is making the first complete research of the natives' physical make-up and mode of living.

Prof. J. B. Cleland is the leader. Professors T. Harvey Johnston and C. S. Hicks will accompany the party. The Adelaide Museum will be represented by the director (Mr. H. M. Hale) and the ethnologist (Mr. N. B. Tindale). Other members of the party include Messrs. E. W. Holden (meteorologist of the party) and H. Gray and T. G. H. Strehlow (of Adelaide University).

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ANGAS ENGINEERING SCHOLAR

Mr. Max Hunt Selected

The Council of the University has awarded the Angas Engineering Scholarship for 1932 to Mr. Max Aubrey Hunt, B.E., for a thesis on mechanical design of overhead transmission lines. Mr. William C. R. Brooke, B.E., was placed proxime accessit.

The scholarship is of the annual value of £200 for two years, with an allowance of £100 for travelling expenses. The scholar is required to go to the United Kingdom and spend the whole of the time during the tenure of the scholarship in gaining engineering knowledge and experience.

Mr. Hunt, who has had a brilliant career, is on the technical staff of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company, and is about 23 years of age. His thesis was regarded as one of exceptional merit, revealing much original thought.



Will talk on course of world prices—Prof. L. F. Giblin.

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HONOR FOR S.A. SCHOLAR

Mr. M. R. Jacobs, Doctor Of Forestry

CANBERRA, July 29.

The Minister for the Interior (Mr. Parkhill) announced today that advice had been received that Mr. M. R. Jacobs, research student of the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, has been awarded a doctorate at the Tharandt University, Germany. Mr. Jacobs will represent the Commonwealth at the congress of the International Union of Institutes for Forestry Research, which is to be held in Nancy in September, and will return to Australia at the end of the year.

Mr. Jacobs graduated B.Sc. at the Adelaide University in 1925, and secured the Lowry Scholarship. His appointment as forest assessor at the Federal Capital Territory followed, with subsequent promotion to the post of Chief Forester. Resigning this position to take up a research scholarship with the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, Mr. Jacobs went abroad for training. Success in securing the diploma of forestry at the Imperial Forestry Institute preceded the gaining of his doctorate at Tharandt for a thesis on forest aerial surveying.

The school of forestry attached to the Tharandt University is the oldest forestry school in Europe.

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RHODES SCHOLARS ALTERING OXFORD TRADITIONS

MR. C. T. Madigan, prominent South Australian scientist, who was a Rhodes scholar, characterises Prof. J. Alexander Gunn's allegations against Rhodes Scholars as "a lot of trash." "Anyhow, who is Prof. Gunn, and on what authority has he made his statement," asks Mr. Madigan.

Prof. Gunn said in a Melbourne University publication that the influence of foreign and overseas students as Rhodes scholars was altering the old traditions of Oxford, and that the Rhodes bequest had been criticised as a burden to Oxford.

"Prof. Gunn is quite wrong," says Mr. Madigan. "Only today I received a letter from a head master of one of the most prominent colleges at Oxford who wants to secure more Rhodes scholars. He is perturbed that there have been few applications by Rhodes men for his college, and he asked me to help him find the reason. I don't imagine he wants more of

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OUR FORESTRY POLICY

HELPFUL COMMENTS BY PROFESSOR CORBIN

To the Editor

Sir—Having followed the trend of affairs in relation to South Australian forests, I consider there are, in the light of recent remarks occurring in your paper, matters upon which some comment might be useful. In certain cases it is not beneath the dignity of Governments to possess forests for the production of timber and other forest produce necessary as the raw material upon which the industries of the State depend, but it is, I suggest, distinctly beneath the dignity of a Government to conduct a business which enters into competition in the general commercial field. There would appear to be no justification for the State owning sawmills or any similar concerns. The function of the Government ceases when it has grown the trees, and the State in the wide sense should not even grow timber for commercial purposes, if this is being done by private enterprise in accordance with the well established principles of forestry, in respect to continuity and forest management. The function of Government, is to control the forests within its jurisdiction in such a way that there is sufficient perpetual supply of raw material for industries operating in any State.

The larger the privately owned forests are, and the better they are managed, by so much is the State relieved of its responsibility in providing State-owned forests to supplement the supplies produced from these privately owned forests for the purpose of industries dependent on these supplies of raw material. If the State Forest Department functions efficiently, it will find more than sufficient scope to occupy its attention in developing the highest possible quality of produce in the State forests, and should not be allowed to hamper itself by conducting a saw-milling business which can be much more efficiently run by experienced sawmillers.

South Australia has always retained ownership in forestry development, and has today, as a result of this policy, very valuable softwood forests. The State has to thank the Vaughan Government and particularly Mr. J. H. Vaughan, C.M.G., for laying the foundation of a real forward policy in the development of the present forests. Since then the forests have suffered various vicissitudes. The South Australian Forestry School was lost through the politicians of that day being tricked, and thus a very valuable, in fact, the only forestry research station in Australia, which was established and developing in the Forest of Kuitipo, was ruined. The wood pulp industry, which might have been established ere this, has been relegated to the dim future by the action of certain officials of the Commonwealth, who knew nothing about the requirements or economics of the pulping industry.

However, as the result of a very extensive investigation I have fortunately been in a position to make in the forests and forest industries and forest economics in Canada and America recently, it would appear that a State such as South Australia would reap an increasingly valuable harvest from its forests if its policy were to steadily plant in the best possible way the most suitable and useful forest trees on a plan which will ensure continuity. If this is not done, the State will be in the hands of foreign exploiters, and you will be sending good hard cash out of the country to purchase material which can be satisfactorily grown for the industrial use of the State, upon more or less unoccupied and waste land. The forestry and timber industries properly developed, employ considerable labor, pay good wages, clothe the poor soils and land with a beautiful forest cover, and have the effect of ameliorating extremes of temperature, and temper the harsh winds. These industries tend to increase the happiness and prosperity and financial stability of the State. It obviously makes little difference whether the forests are owned by the State or by substantial private concerns, so long as they are managed on sound principles.—I am, Sir, &c., H. HUGH CORBIN, Auckland, New Zealand.

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PARTY TO STUDY ABORIGINES

A party organised by the anthropological board of the Adelaide University will leave Adelaide for Alice Springs by train on Thursday morning. It is going to Mount Liebig to study the anatomical, psychological, and mental characteristics of aboriginal tribes. Members of the party will be Professor J. B. Cleland, Professor Hicks, Professor Harvey Johnston, the Director of the Adelaide Museum (Mr. H. M. Hale), the Museum ethnologist (Mr. N. B. Tindale), Messrs. E. W. Holden, J. H. Gray, H. Moore, and E. Eldridge. Moving pictures will form an important part of the records of the work. Mr. E. O. Stocker, of Sydney, will accompany the party as cinematographer.