

SCIENTIST AND HIS REWARDS

"Like Other Mortals, Must Live"—Sir E. David

CONGRESS OPENS

SYDNEY, August 17.

A notable speech by Professor Sir Edgeworth David, Emeritus Professor of Geology in the University of Sydney, and one of the vice-presidents of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, marked the first function associated with the Science Congress—the civic reception today by the Lord Mayor (Alderman Walder) to the officers of the association and of the various sections.



Sir Edgeworth David

The Lord Mayor, in proposing earlier the toast of "Science," had asked the question whether science and those engaged in it were sufficiently rewarded for their great endeavors for the benefit of mankind. He added that, personally, he did not think the reward was commensurate with their labors. Men unobtrusively devoted the whole of their lives to science and its wonderful fruits, yet a man could come along, sing a funny song and make a funny face, and earn immeasurably greater pecuniary rewards and greater fame.

The remarks of the Lord Mayor were taken as the text of Sir Edgeworth David's speech in moving a vote of thanks to Alderman Walder. Sir Edgeworth David quoted Thomas Huxley's saying that, whenever a discovery of marked economic and scientific importance was made, great was the acclamation of those who thought that they would benefit as a result of it, and for the time being science was the Diana of all the crafts; but, while the jubilation resounded, the crest of the wave of scientific investigation was already far away on its course over the illimitable ocean of the unknown.

Growing Scientific Opinion

The scientist, proceeded Sir Edgeworth David, lived for the pursuit of his science. That was the scientist's great reward. "But," he added, "scientists, like other mortals, must live, and we think it is reasonable that we should have an earthly reward commensurate with the work which we are undertaking, so that we may not be limited in our endeavors. Here, in Australia, we have to thank the powers that be for the cordial support which they are giving to science. There is, I am happy to say, a growing scientific opinion among our people. We are hopeful that the congress will be not only pleasurable, but of profit to the community."

Sir Hubert Murray's Address

The President of Congress (Sir Hubert Murray) in his opening address, dealt with the steps that had been taken in the pacification of Papua. The well ordered government of a subject people, he said, was one of the most scientific, as it was one of the rarest, of human achievements and the pacification which preceded it must be equally scientific, for the one depended upon the other. A haphazard pacification could lead only to a slapdash administration. Both, to be successful, must proceed on scientific lines.

It was recognised nowadays that the old methods of slaughter and slavery were not only inhuman but also unscientific. He remembered a time when the shooting or, as it was then called, the "dispersal" of natives was defended on the ground that natives had no souls, an argument which he believed was as bad in theology as it was in law. There was little reason to apprehend a recrudescence of the bloodshed that had disgraced native administration in the past and still less cause to fear a repetition of the unctuous and nauseating hypocrisy with which it was sometimes defended, but all of them were still learners.

Duty Well Discharged

"In Papua," he went on, "we have assumed, I think rightly, that the territory can never be the home of a large white population and, consequently, we have in our administration been

guided less by such precedents as South Africa or even Kenya than by the examples set by those Crown colonies which resemble Papua most closely in climatic and other conditions.

"In these days of the dual mandate and the sacred trust, the duty of Governments towards subject races has become a commonplace of administration, and we may perhaps flatter our national pride by the reflection that this duty has been discharged in the British colonies at least as faithfully as anywhere else. The method adopted in those colonies has been that of association and collaboration, and we have followed the same policy in Papua. We are not trying to make the brown man white, we are trying to make him a better brown man.

"The swift injustice of the punitive expedition may conceivably, in some circumstances, be capable of excuse, but it has always seemed to me to be the last word in unscientific bungling.

Respect For Native Customs

"Great as has been our respect for native customs, we have thought that it should be tempered with common-sense. It is no part of our duty to keep what Mr. Julian Huxley has called a human zoo, or to maintain practices which would hamper us in the discharge of the sacred trust, and, in particular, we feel that no administration could tolerate the welter of bloodshed which once prevailed throughout Papua, and, indeed, still continues outside the limits of Government influence. We must remember that it is our conception of law and order that is to prevail and not that of the native.

"Head hunting and cannibalism must cease, and must cease at once, and no admiration for the picturesque or the bizarre, no interest in curious customs of infanticide, no sympathy with the gay abandon of the raiding party, can excuse a neglect of the essential duty of establishing and maintaining order, and this means violent collision with the native population.

Law And Order New Conception

"It is when the police start to make arrests that the spears and arrows begin to fly in earnest, and naturally so. Public law and order is a conception which is new to the Papuan. He has little idea of individual responsibility, and an attempt to arrest a man who has committed an offence is easily misconceived as an attack upon the village. The attack must be repelled, and so all spring to arms, grasp spears and clubs, and begin the hopeless fight of the stone age against the twentieth century.

"There are two courses open to the police. They can either blow their opponents to pieces with rifle fire, burn their villages, lay waste their country, and cover the survivors into subjection, or, in the alternative they can concentrate their efforts upon the arrest of the individuals who are believed to be guilty and seek to bring them to trial with as little disturbance as possible. We have preferred the slower, less showy, much more dangerous, but more scientific, alternative."

Adv. 18-8-32

Sir Douglas Mawson has been elected president-elect for the next congress of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, which will be held in Melbourne in January, 1935. The following officers were also elected at the meeting in Sydney yesterday:—



Sir Douglas Mawson

General Treasurer, Mr. D. Carment; trustees, Dr. A. B. Walkom (New South Wales), Mr. E. R. Pitt (Victoria), Mr. R. S. Burdon (South Australia), Professor E. De C. Clarke (Western Australia), Mr. C. Lord (Tasmania), Dr. D. A. Herbert (Queensland), Professor G. C. Farr (New Zealand). Mr. G. A. Currie was appointed local secretary for the Federal Capital Territory, and Mr. R. A. Dalien was elected auditor.

Adv. 18-8-32

Mr. J. M. Black, of Adelaide, who has done much important work in regard to the botany of South Australia, has been honored by the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science. At the meeting in Sydney yesterday, it was announced that Mr. Black had been awarded the Mueller Memorial medal, "for important contributions to anthropology, botany, zoology, or geology, preferably published in Australia."

FRESHMEN "RAGGED." STRIPPED NAKED AND BODIES PAINTED.

Discussions in England a short time ago on customs in public schools included "ragging" but this was never anything like the experiences of 22 new students of Adelaide University.

They were stripped naked and blindfolded, and then the "initiation" ceremonies of 1932, lasting an hour and a half, began.

First of all the victims were rushed through and along passages, in and out of buildings, round and round, until all sense of direction was lost.

If they lagged the freshmen were punished. At the close of the last "rushing scene" a hose was suddenly brought to play on them. Then, still naked, they were made to weed a lawn. Then, again still naked, they were stretched out on large slabs of ice and dragged on a small barrow.

The next command was to jump into a manhole and swim across the water beneath. When the jumps were made the victims found that the water was only a few inches deep. They fell heavily on concrete, granite chips, and gravel.

The ordeal was not ended. The next procedure was another "bath," this time from a huge pipe of dirty water.

The climax came when each student was painted, in different colours.

The students were then left to clean themselves as best they could and to sneak away in as inconspicuous a manner as possible.—British United Press.

Adv. 19-8-32

Conservatorium Organ Recital

At his Elder Conservatorium organ recital during the lunch hour yesterday, Mr. John Horner played the Mozart F minor fantasia and "Suite Gothique" (Boellmann), with excellent effect, as also the ever-welcome "Humoresque" of Dvorak.

The Misses Hilda and Lois Dunn were heard to advantage in the vocal duet, "Love Hath Not Yet Departed" (Brahms).

At the next recital (August 25) Mr. Horner will play "Peece Heroique" (Cesar Franck) and "Kieff Processional" (Moussorgski).

Adv. 19-8-32

Dr. Charles Kellaway, director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, has been presented with the Walter Burfitt prize and medal for 1932 by the Royal Society of New South Wales. The award is made every three years to the worker in pure or applied science in Australia and New Zealand whose efforts are deemed of the highest scientific merit. Dr. Kellaway was selected because of his work on snake venom.

News 18-8-32

TO read for his degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Mr. L. F. Casson, a master of the Unley High School, is leaving Outer Harbor for London on the Comorin late this afternoon. He will go to Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He took a four years' course in English under the late Prof. Archibald Strong at the Adelaide University, and graduated with first-class honors for the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1925. In 1928 he secured his Master of Arts degree, also with first-class honors, and was awarded the John L. Young Scholarship for research.

Adv. 19-8-32

Mr. Leslie Frank Casson left yesterday by the Comorin for England. He will go to Oxford Corpus Christi College to read for the degree of doctor of philosophy, studying under Professor H. C. Wyld. Mr. Casson has been in the Education Department for more than six years. During the last five he was a master at the Unley High School. He graduated B.A. with first-class honors in 1925, and in 1928 took his M.A. degree, again with first-class honors. He was also awarded the John L. Young scholarship for research. Mr. Casson has been granted two years' leave of absence without pay, and on the recommendation of the University of Adelaide will be given a free passage to England by the P. and O. Steamship Company.

Adv. 20-8-32

Professor W. A. Laver, exam. for the Universities of Adelaide, Melbourne and Hobart, and for the Australian Music Examination Board, celebrates his 66th birthday today. He studied under many musical celebrities in Germany, and later became Ormond Professor of Music and director of the Melbourne Conservatorium, with which he has been connected since its foundation. He has composed many songs, as well as orchestral and chamber music.

W.A. Professors Not Recalled

PERTH, Tuesday.—The suggestion that Western Australian professors are being recalled from the Science Conference in Sydney as the result of a recent discussion in the Western Australian University Senate over the absence of the professors, was refuted today by the clerk of the records (Mr. A. S. Preshaw).

He said that the rumor was probably based on the fact that the professors were being recalled from the conference of the universities of Australia which follows the Science Congress, and which would mean the State representatives missing the first week of the university final term.

If Profs. Nichols, Weatherburn, Paterson, and Cameron stayed in Sydney for the conference they would be unable to catch the train necessary to get them back for the opening of the term.

Adv. 25-8-32

Mr. Eric Gray, who is the Rhodes Scholar for South Australia for 1932, will leave for London on the Orama, which will sail from the Outer Harbor today. Mr. L. G. Hopkins, the Queensland Rhodes Scholar, is also on the Orama.

News 25-8-32

PROFESSORS FOR PARLIAMENT?

'Varsity Conference Proposal

SYDNEY, Thursday.

IF the proposals on the agenda for the Universities' Conference at Sydney University are adopted and carried out, the character of the Australian universities will undergo radical changes.

Under the new arrangement examinations would not only be held over until autumn, but reduced in number, and even abolished.

Students might find their vacations entirely re-arranged, and each might be assured of a job at the end of his course. All universities might be joined, with a common entrance examination, and their publications issued from a specially organised joint press.

Professors might even enter Parliament. The Registrar of the University of Melbourne (Mr. J. P. Bainbridge), who is secretary of the conference, has arrived in Sydney. About 20 delegates from Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Queensland, and Tasmania are attending the conference which opened today.

Mr. Bainbridge said that some of these proposals were likely to be considerably reduced, or possibly shelved for further consideration.

Much opposition is expected to Western Australia's suggestion that university terms should coincide with the English academic year. This would mean that the universities would open about September, and, after a spell of a day or two at Christmas, a long vacation would follow in the winter.

Melbourne proposes that annual examinations should be postponed until March, when they would be held concurrently with the supplementary examinations, and this, too, is likely to be contested.

[The Adelaide University Statute forbids professors to sit in Parliament or to become members of any political organisation, but nothing is known locally of the proposal to lift this ban.

Items on the agenda have not been discussed by the local university council, but it is understood that a proposal that would continue university work during the summer, which would be necessary if the English academic year were adopted, is not likely to find much favor in Adelaide either by the staff or the students.]

Adv. 26-8-32

Conservatorium Organ Recital

At his Elder Conservatorium organ recital during the lunch hour yesterday, Mr. John Horner played the Moussorgski "Kieff Processional" and the "Peece Heroique" of Cesar Franck in excellent style. The Vaughan Williams "Rhosymedre" prelude and Mendelssohn's sixth organ sonata, both well done, completed the programme.

Miss Thalia Allin sang with good effect "May Night" (Brahms) to Mrs. Horner's pianoforte accompaniment.

At his next recital (August 31) the last of the series, Mr. Horner will play the Sibelius tone poem, "Finlandia."