

Adv. 16-2-33

LISTENING ONLY "PASSING PHASE"

Dr. Davies Hopeful For Future Of Music PLAYERS WANTED

Professor Harold Davies, Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, said yesterday that children of average ability were discouraged from attempting to learn to play a musical instrument, because the performances of masters were readily available in the form of gramophone records. He thought this to be a passing phase, however, and that a new enthusiasm for the attainment of even limited performing skill would soon appear.

He expects this year an improvement in a situation which has lately caused much anxiety to teachers and professional musicians.

"It is certain," said Dr. Davies, "that no great art ever prospers amongst a public in which everybody looks on, and the logic of this statement applies first in the need for our own best efforts irrespective of the visits of artists from overseas. We must be energetic producers of music, as well as grateful consumers. It also applies in the wider sense that our children must be real students and not merely intelligent listeners."

"The best approach to music lies in individual effort, however modest. This is assured in singing, which is widely practised in all our schools; but I would urge all parents who can possibly afford it to give their likely children the chance of learning an instrument, too—piano, violin, flute, clarinet, or anything for which real music has been written by the great masters."

Tuesday Chamber Music

Work will be resumed at the Conservatorium next Monday.

"Last year's experimental series of chamber music recitals proved so successful," said Dr. Davies, "that they will be continued this year on each Tuesday afternoon of the second term. The Elder Conservatorium String Quartet has made a name for itself throughout Australia. Its Friday evening broadcasts from station 5CL are appreciated all over the Commonwealth and in New Zealand."

"During March, Mr. Harry Wotton, the newly-appointed teacher of singing will give his first recital, and I expect that his long experience in London with the famous master, Dinah Gilly, will give to his work a special value for many of our gifted young singers."

"The opera class, under Mr. Winsloe Hall, will produce Edward German's delightful "Merrie England," probably some time in April. This will be heard with a full orchestral accompaniment at the Theatre Royal, in conjunction with J. C. Williamson. As bearing upon this side of Conservatorium work, Mr. James Anderson is now holding classes in the art of speech, which were begun last year with considerable success. A study of the spoken word is of immense importance in many professions, and we hope that this year Mr. Anderson's classes will go on to dramatic performances in the University—a most desirable development."

"At our regular Monday evening concerts music-lovers have an easy means of hearing a great variety of music, presented by members of the teaching staff and by advanced students."

More Organ Recitals

"Mr. John Horner's midday organ recitals will be continued through the winter months as in previous years. These offer a recreative interest to business people and Varsity students during the Thursday lunch hour. It is possible that we may arrange to give each programme twice on the same day—between 12 and 1 and again between 1 and 2—for the convenience of all who specially appreciate organ music."

"Another feature of particular interest to students who are entering for University public exams in music will be the recitals of examination studies and pieces in all grades. These are to be given on afternoons and evenings during May and June, and they will be broadcast for the help of country teachers and students."

"I have in mind the re-establishment of a women's part-singing class, and the formation of violin classes for the sake of students who cannot afford individual instruction."

Dr. Davies said he hoped that, for the advantage of music teachers throughout the State, there would be a steadily growing public interest in every

kind of worthy musical activity. The measure of civilisation was the measure of the enthusiasm for artistic pursuits. Australia already gave promise of fame in this way, although much remained to be done before the eminence of older countries was reached.

The Advertiser

ADELAIDE: THURSDAY,
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ANTARCTICA

Quietly, considering the magnitude of the interests involved, the Commonwealth has come, or soon will, into control of the huge sector of Antarctica which lies due south of it and less than two thousand miles from its shores. British sovereignty having been formally proclaimed over this territory (the French dependency known as Adelle Land being excepted), it only remains for the Commonwealth Parliament to endorse the proposal that Australia shall undertake its administration and regulate whaling and other activities. Why Adelle Land should be excepted, has never been satisfactorily explained, except, perhaps, by a wish not to challenge the claim of a friendly Power, however morally untenable. All that can be said for the French claim is that, as long ago as 1840, which is only seven years short of a century, some French sailors saw the coastline from a distance without landing. This might once have served as ground sufficient for a title to possession; but juristic opinion has for two centuries been unanimously against this view, holding that settlement, in however limited a degree, is requisite to validate such a claim, and that, where annexation is intended there must be a declaration by someone authorised by his Government for the purpose.

Of course, in a great frozen, uninhabited land like Antarctica, the first requisite is impracticable, and juristic stipulations have had to be satisfied with the second. In default of occupation, some interest must be shown by the claimant in the coveted land, such as was displayed, for example, by Canada in 1886 in the Arctic territory to her north. The principle, again, was applied to Spitzbergen in the Arctic, which Britain recognised as the property of Norway; and to the Ross Sea area in the Antarctic, whose possession by New Zealand has been nowhere challenged. But no landing was ever effected by the French in Adelle Land, and no claim to ownership preferred till British and Australian expeditions had busied themselves in its neighborhood. Some eight or nine years ago, Sir Douglas Mawson made vigorous representations to the Commonwealth Government on the subject, pointing out this lack of interest on the part of France; but, though these representations were transmitted by Mr. Bruce to London, nothing came of them, and our share of Antarctica has to be accepted minus this substantial slice, possession of which, it has been urged, would, inter alia, have given us the shortest route to the Atlantic, and a valuable site for depots in connection with aerial routes to the other side of the world. Fortunately, on what is left of the Australian sector, there are economic possibilities, including mineralogical deposits, to which Sir Douglas Mawson, from his personal observations, attaches the greatest value. It is well, therefore, that our rights should be put on a regular basis, and not left in the inchoate condition which enabled France, in the case of Adelle Land, to establish what Sir Douglas has always designated a highly disputable claim.

Professor Walter Howchin, author of the standard work, "The Geology of South Australia," has received a letter from Professor Sir Edgeworth David, of Sydney, conveying greetings from the senior geologists of Sydney, and expressing their appreciation of the second edition of Professor Howchin's book. Sir Edgeworth David wrote:—"At a friendly little gathering on February 10 of geologists (who were kind enough to celebrate my having completed three-quarters of a century—a mere youngster compared with yourself), it was agreed with enthusiasm that I should write to you and convey assurance of our high admiration of your work." Professor Howchin, who was born at Norwich, England, is 88. He retired from the Adelaide University in 1920.

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RHODES SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION

Biennial Conference Next Week

Representatives from all States will attend the biennial conference of the Australian Association of Rhodes Scholars at Trinity College, Melbourne, on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. H. Thomson, K.C., is on his way to attend as official delegate from this State.

The association was inaugurated at a meeting in Melbourne two years ago, and it will be the first conference since then.

A number of interesting items are on the agenda for the conference, including consideration of a proposed visit from either the general secretary or the Oxford secretary of the trust to Australia.

The status at Oxford of medical students who have completed three years' study in Australia will be considered. At present they have to start almost from scratch again at Oxford, and it is desired to rectify the position.

The proportion of Rhodes Scholars on the selection committees in the different States, and their terms of office, are to be discussed. The idea of the trustees in England is that more and more former Rhodes scholars should take part in the selection of the new Rhodes Scholars.

The extent to which the association will support the Fairbridge Farm School in Western Australia will be discussed. The school was founded 20 years ago by Mr. Kingsley Fairbridge, and since then he has been instrumental in bringing a tremendous number of boys from England and placing them on farms.

Mr. Fairbridge believes that the best means of colonisation is to get the men early, and the school caters for young men in their teens.

Other items on the agenda include the question of the newly founded Oxford University Society, the publication of a half-yearly journal, and the keeping of a complete record of Australian Rhodes scholars.

The association gives Rhodes scholars from the different States an opportunity to meet together, and assists in the successful placing of scholars as they complete their course at Oxford. Mr. R. J. Rudall represented South Australia at the inaugural meeting two years ago.

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RESEARCH IN BLOOD DISEASES

Two Scholarships Offered

Two scholarships for research in blood diseases, with special reference to leucaemia, have been offered to applicants within the British Empire by the trustees of the Lady Tata Memorial, according to advice received from the High Commissioner's Office, London, by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

Each of the scholarships is valued at £400 a year, and will be tenable for one year from October 1, and renewable up to the normal maximum tenure of three years. They will be open for award in June next. They will be available to both sexes, and will be ordinarily awarded on a whole-time basis. The appointees may hold part-time teaching posts if their duties in the latter will not, in the opinion of the trustees, prevent the devotion of their chief interests to the specified research.

Applications must reach the secretary, Lady Tata Memorial Trust, Capel House, 62, New Broad street, London, E.C.2, not later than April 15.

Candidates must furnish name, age, sex, nationality, qualifications, the proposed line of research and methods to be used, the institute or laboratory in which the research is to be done, and the name of the director who will supervise it. Testimonials, in a confidential letter addressed to the secretary, should be sent at the same time by not more than three persons able to speak from personal knowledge of the candidate's character, ability, and experience.

THORNBUR BURSARY

Miss F. C. Rymill's Nomination Accepted

The Council of the Adelaide University, at a meeting yesterday afternoon, accepted the nomination by the Council of the Institute of Associated Teachers of Miss Frances Carstairs Rymill for the Thornber bursary for 1933.

The bursary, which is for women students and is tenable at the University for one year, was founded by old scholars of the Unley Park School in memory of Catherine Maria Thornber, formerly principal of that school. It is awarded annually by the University to the candidate nominated by the Institute of Associated Teachers, and was first awarded in 1926.

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A letter has been received from Professor F. Wood Jones, formerly of the Adelaide University, and now Professor of Anatomy at the Melbourne University, saying that he proposed to leave Peiping, China) on February 22, and expected to be back on April 9. He said that every train leaving Peiping had been booked up days ahead by nervous families making for safety. Influenza was prevalent, and the cold intense. Professor Wood Jones had been filling the post of director of the Peiping Union Medical College, in the absence of Professor Davidson Black, its principal, who has been making a tour of places where relics of ancient man had been discovered.

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Sir Henry N. Barwell, who will retire from the position of Agent-General for South Australia shortly, was born at Adelaide on February 26, 1877. He was educated at St. Peter's College and the Adelaide University, where he took the LL.B. degree. He has practised since 1899. He entered Parliament in 1915, and was Premier and Attorney-General from 1920 to 1924. He also held the portfolio of Attorney-General in 1917 and 1918-20. He was a member of the Commonwealth Senate from 1925 to 1928, when he was appointed Agent-General.

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'RESEARCH WORK MORE THOROUGH NOW'

Mr. Oldham On Methods Of Old Time Historians

"Historical research is being conducted on more scientific lines in Great Britain, and facts of great historic interest which were overlooked by searchers in the past are being uncovered," said Mr. W. Oldham, lecturer in history at the Adelaide University, who returned by the Orontes on Saturday after a stay of two years abroad. In England he studied under Professor A. P. Newton, Rhodes Professor of Imperial History at the London University, and wrote a thesis on the transportation of convicts from England from 1763 to 1793. This period covered the latter years of the convict transportation to America, the early years of the Australian, and the period of experimentation between the two. To obtain the material for the thesis he had to go through 200 large volumes, and thousands of documents, some of which he could hardly decipher.

Mr. Oldham said that historical writers in the past often used data gained from other people's books and from newspaper cuttings, but now it was necessary for men writing on historical subjects to trace their information through documents written by the Secretaries of State and other high officials of the period.

"Latest research," he added, "goes to show that the earlier methods of historical research were far from reliable. Present day historians, through their more thorough methods, have disproved a great deal of what has been written in the past. For instance, convicts were not sent to Botany Bay, as we understood, but to Sydney Cove. It has also been discovered that there were between 75,000 and 100,000 convicts shipped from England to America before the American Revolution."