

Ado. 15-7-33

WAR GUILT

PROFESSOR HANCOCK'S LECTURE

To The Editor Sir—Mr. D. C. Jacob, in a letter in your columns on Friday, attacks my lecture on "The War Guilt Controversy" for statements and suggestions which it did not contain. It did not "lay equally at the feet of all nations the blame for the war," and so far from offering a "flagrant insult" to "British justice and fair-play," it expounded British policy as Lord Grey (whom I described as "one of the greatest of British Foreign Secretaries") expounds it in his "Twenty-five Years"—a book which I recommended to my audience, and now recommend to your correspondent. I cannot, within the limits of this letter, expound the thesis which my lecture did maintain.—I am, Sir, &c.,

W. K. HANCOCK.

Ado. 15-7-33

ALLIES WERE NOT UNPREPARED

Sir—Professor Hancock did not justify the German invasion of France and Belgium, but he showed its inevitability. In any case, the story of comparative unpreparedness by the Allies is a myth. Let the facts speak for themselves. Lord Haldane, in "Before The War," says:—"By the end of 1910, mobilisation arrangements for 160,000 troops and transporting them, with the aid of the navy, to places already settled by the British and French staffs, were finished." The "Official History of the War" says:—"Amongst many false impressions that prevailed when, after the lapse of a century, we found ourselves involved in a great war, not the least erroneous is the belief that we were not prepared for it. Whether the preparations were as large as the signs of the times called for will be debated, but given the scale we chose to adopt, there is no doubt that the machinery for setting our forces in action had reached an ordered completeness that has no parallel in our history." As to the theory of Germany's sole guilt for the war, Mr. Lloyd George, on December 23, 1920, said:—"The more one reads memoirs and books written in the various countries, of what happened before August 1, 1914, the more one realises that no one at the head of affairs quite meant war at that stage. It was something into which they glided, or rather staggered and stumbled, perhaps through policy, and a discussion, I have no doubt, would have averted it." The late Prime Minister of Italy, Signor Nitti, in "Peaceless Europe," says:—"I cannot say that Germany and her allies were solely responsible for the war which devastated Europe." The chief actors and most of the official documentary evidence together constitute a solid basis of fact supporting Professor Hancock's interpretation.—I am, Sir, &c., S. H. MAYES, Millswood.

Advertisement 19/7/33

SURVEY OF INDIAN OCEAN

Announcement By Sir Douglas Mawson

COLOMBO, July 16.

Sir Douglas Mawson, of the Adelaide University, said yesterday that a comprehensive oceanographic survey of the entire Indian Ocean would be undertaken in September by the scientific wonder ship, Mahablis. The commander, Captain Mackenzie, would arrive at Colombo in September to pick up the Director of the Calcutta Museum, who would have charge of the operations, which would last a year.

Professor Harvey Johnston, who was a member of the expedition which Sir Douglas Mawson led to the Antarctic in 1929-31, said last night that there was no suggestion that Sir Douglas Mawson would accompany the party, which was to undertake the survey of the Indian Ocean. So far as he knew, the whole personnel had been selected in England and India. The commander of the ship, Captain Mackenzie, was the navigator of the Discovery. The survey of the Indian Ocean, no doubt, would include investigations into currents, temperatures, depths, and the chemical composition of the sea.

Ado. 18-7-33

Granites Gold Boom.—In a lecture last night on the Granites gold boom, Mr. C. T. Madigan, of the Adelaide University, said that only one small claim had any potentialities, and that had been practically worked out.

Ado. 15-7-33

EDUCATION COSTS REVIEWED

How They Rose And Were Reduced

The declared intention of the Government to investigate education costs, draws attention to the fact that although the cost of primary education in South Australia had increased only from £4 14/6 per child in 1876 to £7 19/11 in 1932 (excluding expenditure on buildings), the cost of secondary education had grown from £2 17/6 in 1907 to £17 4/1 in 1932.

The growth of the expenditure on primary education was uniform, reaching a peak of £9 15/5 per child in 1929, and falling in succeeding years to £9 14/11 and £8 11/10 in 1930 and 1931 respectively. The cost of secondary education, however, has fluctuated, having been £14 2/10 in 1912, £11 11/5 in 1918, £19 7/7 in 1920, £22 8/9 in 1926 (exclusive of higher primary schools), and £17 4/1 in 1932 (including higher primary).

Since 1928, however, the total expenditure on education has fallen from £1,043,148 (including cost of buildings) to £857,881, although there was an increase in 1929 to £1,088,412.

It is interesting to recall that in 1931 a special committee, comprising the Director of Education (Mr. W. J. Adey), Professor J. McKellar Stewart, and Mr. J. Wallace Sandford, which was appointed to enquire into education costs, recommended reductions in expenditure, and that in 1932 education costs totalled £857,881, compared with £917,233 the previous year. The cut was applied by a reduction from £609,985 to £559,889 in primary education, from £110,452 to £101,571 in secondary education, and from £90,882 to £80,943 in technical education. Grants to educational institutions were further cut from £60,586 to £58,402, but pensions rose from £12,865 to £14,521, and buildings from £30,494 to £40,579.

The total expenditure on education, exclusive of buildings, fell from £1 10/5 per head of population in 1931 to £1 7/11 in 1932. The cost in 1928 was £1 12/5 and the peak year was 1929, when it was £1 13/8. The next year showed a drop of 1d. per head of population.

Ado. 18-7-33

Dr. E. Harold Davies (Elder Professor of Music at the Adelaide University) is 66 today. He was born at Oswestry, Shropshire, England, where he received his early education. He passed the examination for the Bachelor of Music degree at the Adelaide University, and for the Doctorate in 1903. This was the first Doctorate in Music conferred by an Australian university. Dr. Davies is the founder and conductor of the Adelaide Bach Society and the South Australian Orchestra. He has published songs and anthems, and is widely known for his interest in all matters musical.

Ado. 18-7-33

War Guilt

From "Ex-Captain," Colonel Light Gardens:—Professor Hancock's lecture on "War Guilt" has given many soldiers and sailors food for thought. Mr. D. C. Jacob has asked the professor how does he justify the German invasion of Belgium and France in August, 1914? Boastful predictions prior to 1914 plainly show what they had in mind in those years. I hope the professor will reply. Many soldiers and sailors today are still paying the price for believing that Germany was mainly responsible for the Great War. I feel sure there is no returned soldier who would not willingly forget the war if he could; but it is impossible to forget when we are so often reminded of the many privations, horrors, and sufferings, all brought about, according to some persons, by ourselves.

Ado. 19-7-33

FIGHT AGAINST TOMATO WILT

Waite Institute Research

A description of the fight against tomato wilt being carried out at the Waite Institute for Agricultural Research was given by Mr. Geoffrey Samuel, plant pathologist at the institute, in a lecture at the University last night on virus diseases in plants.

He showed a number of lantern slides indicating the manner in which plants were affected by virus disease. It had been discovered, he said, that a far more satisfactory infection was obtained by producing an extremely small wound, and the wilt research had been hampered until this was discovered. Close observation had shown that the virus travelled down the veins from the infected point, and followed the food supply into the fruit. It was for this reason that fruit often showed spotted wilt while the rest of the plant exhibited few if any symptoms of the disease.

Will Live For 30 Years

"Virus diseases are hard to explain on a hypothesis of living organisms," he added. Tobacco mosaic will resist a temperature of 88 degrees Centigrade, and will live for 30 years, if not longer. It will also survive immersion in 50 per cent. alcohol.

Potato mosaic showed very few symptoms in a warm temperature, he said. One slide showed equally infected plants at temperatures differing by about 10 degrees, and the one in the higher temperature appeared perfectly healthy. Mr. Samuel explained how certified seed was obtained abroad. He also showed examples of curly top disease in sugar beet, which had caused 10,000 acres of land to be abandoned in America. It was a menace to existing crops, as the leaf hopper which carried the virus still existed on the abandoned crops. There were 20 scientists in America at work trying to find a cure for this disease.

Cross That Failed

"So far as tomato wilt is concerned, we are in an even worse position than the American workers with curly top," he said. "The thrips which produces it is present in almost every garden, on nasturtiums, Iceland poppies, zinnias, and even common weeds. We tried crossing the currant tomato, which is immune in the field, to produce one of commercial size which would be immune. The first generation was all poor fruit, but the second generation, although split into various types, was generally bigger, and we felt that we were on the way. Two years later, however, the immune tomatoes we had were poor fruit with an unpleasant flavor and those of commercial size had lost their resistance."

The Advertiser

ADELAIDE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1933

SCHOLARS, OR LEADERS?

The addition of Mr. Rudall to the ranks of South Australian members of Parliament, has a special interest, apart entirely from political, and almost from personal, considerations. In this State, Mr. Rudall is the first Legislative recruit from the long and honorable roll of Rhodes Scholars. Yet the main idea of the founder of these scholarships was obviously to make enlightened public service more likely. Cecil Rhodes looked for brains, as all scholarship-donors have always done. He was the first to stipulate, also, for prominence in "many outdoor sports." These two assets are provable, and, on the evidence of them supplied by each applicant, the award may be supposed to be usually made. Rhodes further asked, not only for such qualities as manhood and courage, but for "truth, sympathy, kindness, unselfishness." No great stress is usually laid on this clause. Proof can hardly be available; perhaps the qualities are more or less taken for granted.

An examination of that fine document, the will of Cecil Rhodes, reveals a clause not now often quoted. The qualities of leadership demanded from the Scholar are expressly set down as being such as will "guide him to esteem the performance of public duties as his

Ado. 19-7-33 cont.

highest aim." Nothing could be more explicit. Rhodes went out into the wild places of the world, always remembering the English traditions, as revered, and in so high a form displayed, at the old universities. His idea was, then, that the picked youth from each Dominion, excelling mentally, morally, and physically, and with that undefinable "leadership" quality added, should go to Oxford and breathe in there the best of those traditions. And Rhodes went further than the Dominions. It is perhaps not generally realised that the United States of America can have, if each State cares to advance its claim—which is not always the case—more Rhodes Scholars at Oxford than all the British Empire together. There was even a provision for a few scholarships in Germany. But in any case the idea was, obviously, that the finished product should return home and apply his great powers, with the Oxford tradition now superadded, to "the performance of public duties."

Has that expectation been quite realised? The scholarships have been in existence for thirty years, and Australia as a whole has made nearly two hundred appointments, all men now in the prime of life. Where are they? It must be said at once that they have had fine careers in a variety of directions. To consider only those from our own State, it might be invidious to mention any names, since all have done well. They hold high appointments, professorships, and a variety of honors, many of them in other countries. Those who have returned to South Australia are prominent in medicine, at the bar, and in university work. There has been lacking only the one thing which the founder seems to have desired especially. Perhaps this is what the scholars of all Australia meant when, meeting in Melbourne last March, with Mr. Harry Thomson, K.C., as chairman, they stated modestly that they had "not done everything possible" in the matter. The late Mr. Davy was Attorney-General in Western Australia; Mr. Kent Hughes has held a Cabinet portfolio in Victoria. The list, however, ought to be greatly increased, in spite of the admission that there are many men prominent in scholastic learning who would make quite indifferent members of Parliament. Rhodes himself evidently realised this when, bequeathing an extra £100,000 to his own old college, he provided for its administration by business men, since, as he put it with appalling frankness, the dons of Oriel "are like children as to commercial matters." But this, of course, could never apply to Rhodes scholars. The logical dilemma, in fact, is obvious to the view, either that the "leadership" quality was not really present in the chosen ones, or that, possessing it, they have not so far quite "pulled their weight." The entrance of Mr. Rudall into active political work, welcome in any case, would be doubly so if it could be looked upon as a portent.

Ado. 5