UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

The second course of extension lectures at the Adelaide University will commence on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Walter Howchin, F.G.S., will deliver the first of his lectures on the “Lost Rivers of South Australia.” The subject will cover a large field of observation, dealing with new and striking facts concerning the recent geological changes that have occurred in South Australia. Important earth movements have altered the drainage of the country and isolated the central portions of the continent from the sea-board, which has had a disastrous effect on the climate. Among the topics dealt with will be the life-history of rivers, records of geological change in South Australia, and the importance of the MacDonnell Ranges in the past history of the continent, the origin of the great lakes of central Australia, how South Australia lost its rivers, the great rift valley in South Australia, and its causes, the geological histories of the rivers Brougham, Light, Para, Torrens, Onkaparinga, Murray, and others. The lectures will be illustrated by over 100 lantern views, nearly all of which are of local features that have a bearing on the subjects dealt with in the lectures.

SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON.

RETURNING BY THE OMRAIL.

LONDON, June 23.

Sir Douglas and Lady Mawson are returning to Adelaide by the Omrah, after visiting the relatives of Dr. Mertz, who lost his life while with the Mawson Antarctic expedition at Barle.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

The second course of extension lectures at the Adelaide University will commence on Tuesday evening, June 30, when Mr. Walter Howchin, F.G.S., will deliver the first of three discourses on “The Lost Rivers of South Australia.” The subject will cover a large field of observation, dealing with new and striking facts concerning the recent geological changes that have occurred in South Australia. Important earth movements have altered the drainage of the country and isolated the central portions of the continent from the sea-board, which has had a disastrous effect on the climate. Among the topics dealt with will be the life-history of rivers, records of geological change in South Australia, and the importance of the MacDonnell Ranges in the past history of the continent, the origin of the great lakes of central Australia, how South Australia lost its rivers, the great rift valley in South Australia, and its causes, the geological histories of the rivers Brougham, Light, Para, Torrens, Onkaparinga, Murray, and others. The lectures will be illustrated by over 100 lantern views, nearly all of which are of local features that have a bearing on the subjects dealt with in the lectures.

OUR LOST RIVERS.

LECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

The first of a series of lectures on “The Lost Rivers of South Australia” was given in the Prince of Wales Theatre on Thursday evening by Mr. W. Howchin, F.G.S., and there was a large attendance.

The lecturer said his task was to prove that the loss of the continent’s floodplain and comparative absence of rivers in the not too distant past, geologically speaking, was due to continental rivers which in their magnitude had filled up the old coastal valleys. The collection of the facts on which his discourse was based had been rendered possible by the application of the new physiography, which not only took notice of the facts of the country, but sought the reason of their existence. River courses were originated by the uplift of the surface caused by subterranean movements. The river was distinguished by three features. The first was the watershed. The second stage was reached when the main river was fed by lateral stream. The third feature was the overflowing of the surface, and the third feature was distinguished by piracy, river capture, shifting water-sheds, and reduction of grade. Strong rivers would aggregate and give the old course into its own channel. A good example of river capture was the Millendella Creek, near Palmer, which had, entirely taken away the Palmer. The Murray was reached when they had accomplished their hardest work. Waterfalls and rapids were eroded, and the stream was graded and gathered. The much widened by the action of the river, frost, and rain, until the gorge had been smoothed out into a softened valley. The age of a river was judged by its age of the first course. The Murray had done an enormous amount of work. It had carried great loadings of huge rock. There was no other country in the world where a single large river could be paralleled in the combined river of continental maturity as Australia. The Murray was a meandering river, which had passed its maturity. With a reduction of energy the river was formed. A river had passed into old age when it wandered through the old flood plains caused by it, and with the mud from the flood plains filled up the old course. The end was when it reached a dead level, had no eroding force, and simply formed billabongs or irrigated flats. All the flats in the Murray region are indications that it had reached its base level, and lost its eroding force. One of two things might happen to an old river. It might come to be filled up, or it might be lifted, and thus become rejuvenated. The first resulted in a drowned valley. Sydney Harbor and Port Phillip Bay were drowned valleys. Spencer’s Gulf was recent instances. One good effect of rivers becoming lost was that good harbors were formed. It became very evident that life on this continent was formed by rivers. The river was carved in the rock below. Thus evidence was found of the elevation of the flat or the elevation of the earth surface. Nature which had been created on the flat was changed on the hill, and thus became rejuvenated. The LU Niver was rounded off, with a beginning, maturity, and extinction. The lecture was illustrated by lantern slides.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

AUSTRALIAN MEETING, 1914.

CONDITIONS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP.

No technical qualification is required for admission as a Member or Associate of the British Association.

New Members or Associates may be enrolled by the Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, F. E. Bacon, the University, Adelaide. The number of Members in the State of South Australia in Monday, July 27, 1914.

TERMS.

(By special arrangement for the Australian Meeting.)

Life Members: £5.0.0.

Annual Members— £2.0.0.

(1) Attending meetings at more than one centre— £2.0.0.

(2) Attending meetings at one centre— £1.0.0.

Associates—

(1) Attending meetings at more than one centre— £1.0.0.

(2) Attending meetings at one centre— £0.5.0.

Ladies may join on the same terms, but that in addition the privilege of their tickets are transferable to other Members.

PRIVILEGES.

Members and Associates only, entitle the holder on equal terms to participation in all General and sectional meetings, even at provincial or local meetings, during the Annual Meeting. A Member is admitted to any meeting without a ticket.

Members are entitled to be served as officers and on a committee of the Association, and they will subsequently receive official copies of the Association, giving a complete record of the meeting, free. Associates do not receive these privileges, but may purchase the Annual Report at the published price.

It is necessary to point out that the proceeds from subscriptions to the Association are devoted solely to the promotion of scientific research through committees, &c. A large local membership is essential to the maintenance of these activities, and the Association is unable to issue complimentary tickets, even to persons who cannot afford the expenses of the actual meeting. At meetings in Great Britain the number of members joining locally varies from £000 to £0,000.

All inquiries for further information concerning the meeting must be directed to the Secretary of the South Australian Committee, Professor B. W. Grant, University of Adelaide, Telephone Central 3732.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS.

The Hon. A. W. M. Styles, in his report on the work of the Royal Commission on the Administration of the University, has pointed out the great importance of the Minister of Agriculture to the University. In the proposition of the new member of the department the council of the University has been asked whether in consideration of a subsidy from the Department of Agriculture, the University would be in a position to increase the number of places for students, and the services of a Vegetable Pathologist made available to the department for consultation and professional reports. The council had replied that the proposal was not to be effected with the amount of subsidy proposed. Accordingly other arrangements would have to be made to meet the need of the department.