

ADMISSION TO THE BAR.

A DISTINGUISHED STUDENT.

On Saturday morning their Honors Mr. Justice Gordon, Mr. Justice Murray, and Mr. Justice Buchanan sat as a Full Court (the day being the last of the term) for the transaction of formal business. Mr. E. B. Grundy, K.C., said he desired to move for the admission of Mr. Harry Thomson as a practitioner of the Supreme Court. Against his name there was a long list of achievements which had reflected credit on Mr. Thomson, and had also brought honor on his mother University of Adelaide. He had had a brilliant career. In November, 1909, he graduated LL.B. with distinction at the Adelaide University. He served his articles with Mr. Rupert Pelly and in December of 1909 he was elected a Rhodes scholar. The following year he went to Oxford and entered Balliol College. In 1912 he took first-class honors in jurisprudence. In November of the same year he graduated B.A., Oxon. In June of this year he took a diploma in economic and political science with distinction. The position he gained at Oxford was illustrated by the pleasing facts that in 1912-13 he was president of the Law Society, and in 1913 he was president of the Colonial Club at the University. Such a career gave great promise for success in his profession, and the members of the bar would welcome him as one of themselves. He was about to join the firm of Messrs. Varley & Evan as a partner.

Mr. Grundy also moved that Mr. Rudolph Hermann Heuzenroeder be admitted as a practitioner of the Supreme Court. Mr. Heuzenroeder was about to join a firm of solicitors at Jamestown.

Mr. C. T. Hargrave, jun., moved for the admission of Mr. Frederick Ballour Schultz. He said Mr. Schultz had had a career to be proud of at the Adelaide University, where he obtained his LL.B. degree in December last. He had gained three first-class passes in addition to other distinctions. He was now associate to his Honor Mr. Justice Murray.

His Honor Mr. Justice Gordon, in intimating that the gentlemen would be admitted as practitioners of the Supreme Court, said the members of the bench were delighted to know that Mr. Thomson's career had been so distinguished and that he was going to exercise his talents in his own country. They wished all three every success in their profession.

The candidates then took the formal oath and signed the necessary documents.

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Dr. David Starr Jordan, president of the Leland Stanford University, California, who was in Adelaide on a lecturing tour about seven years ago, has written to a friend that he will visit Australia early next year. He expects to arrive about March 1. Dr. Jordan is a member of the Peace Society, and will lecture on "The fight against war," "Naval waste," and other kindred subjects in Melbourne, Adelaide, and Sydney.

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Dr. William Ray, son of Mr. W. Ray, of "Thirlmere," Hill-street, North Adelaide, the Rhodes scholar of 1907, returned to Adelaide by the Melbourne express yesterday after an absence of six years. Dr. Ray, upon his return from London a few weeks ago, after calling in to see his people, went on to Brisbane for a holiday, and came back yesterday. It will be remembered that after beginning his education at St. Peter's College, Dr. Ray took the M.B. and B.Sc. degrees at the University of Adelaide, and going to Oxford in 1907 as the Rhodes scholar, acquitted himself so well there that he was awarded the Philip Walker studentship at Oxford, after having taken the B.Sc. degree at Magdalen College. He was at Oxford for four years, and then became assistant bacteriologist at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chelsea Gardens, London. He resigned just before leaving England. Dr. Ray married Miss Parker, of Adelaide, at Cambridge three years ago, and has one son.

FORESTRY.

Wider recognition of the esthetic and utilitarian importance of forests has led to a welcome revival of public interest in afforestation. The formation of the Australian Forest League affords a pleasant proof of the vigour of the new movement, and much may be hoped from the efforts of this body of patriotic private citizens in co-operation with official departments. Nor has the League come into existence a day too soon if it is to arrest in time the dangerous denudation of natural timber resources which is still proceeding—although, fortunately, not to so large an extent as formerly—all over Australia. So experienced an observer as Sir Rider Haggard, during the investigations of the Empire Trade Commission, deplored the destruction of the Commonwealth's "magnificent primeval forests," and remarked that if reasonable care had been exercised Australia would have had supplies of timber sufficient for generations to come. The evil wrought through indiscriminate spoliation can never be fully repaired, for it is literally true of forestry that a short-sighted generation can work more havoc than Nature can restore in a thousand years; but the laborious process of artificial replenishment and scientific preservation can do much to mitigate the mischievous effects of earlier errors, and prevent the squandering of the remnants of our forestal heritage.

The extent and economic value of that inheritance are admirably illustrated in an official publication prepared by Mr. H. Hugh Corbin, B.Sc. (the able Instructor in Forestry of the Woods and Forests Department), the interest of which is not affected by the circumstance that it was written in October, 1912, and not issued until July, 1913! The useful compilation, "Facts and Figures Concerning Forestry in Australia," covers a wide range of subjects associated with forestry, and indicates considerable labour and care on the part of the author. Mr. Corbin, in a pithy survey of the aims of economic forestry, remarks that the worldwide denudation of primeval forests is reflected in the prevalent high prices required for large and sound timber. The quotations for timber of good quality are likely to rise steadily for many years, owing to its scarcity and the fact that the lumberman has to go further afield. The vast inroads of civilization into the "wood capital" of the forests have made it necessary for the lumberman to utilize inferior and immature timber in order to meet the demand for certain classes of woods. The situation is becoming such that timber-exporting countries are raising their export duties on forest produce, and are vigorously conserving and repairing their forests, as well as in many cases afforesting new areas, in the hope of being able to produce enough timber for their own consumption in the future, and at the same time prevent erosion and conserve moisture, maintain moderate climatic conditions, and generally foster the resources of the land. Such replenishment is a tedious business, although in this connection Australia has a distinct advantage over many other climates because wood grows much more rapidly here. "But who can say how old many of our larger forest trees are, and can we wait until our younger trees attain maturity?"

Already, Mr. Corbin points out, several valuable species of timber are practically exhausted. Instead of the superior quality and more or less knot-free pine, Baltic deals, and knotty small trees only are now available. "New Zealand kauri will last only about 15 years at its present rate of consumption; jarrah and Californian redwood are heavily exported, and will become scarcer and more costly, and eventually disappear as articles of commerce." Thus the increasing scarcity and enhanced price of foreign timber will eventually tend to throw Australia more and more upon its own resources. "With modern scientific methods forests offer a very sound investment," says Mr. Corbin. "What is required now in Australia is public sympathy and support, and practical scientific forestry. . . . Australia grows some of the finest hardwoods in the world. There are many extensive valuable forests which must be looked to to ultimately provide timber in the place of imports. Australia has the advantage of a variety of climates, and should be able to provide timbers which, though not identical with those imported, should be quite as satisfactory. South Australia, although not so densely wooded as some of the other States, is yet quite capable of producing timbers in sufficient quantities and of such nature as would replace the greater part of the enormous importations. There are many localities in this State where the soil and climatic conditions are such that a great variety of species is possible. This is rendered obvious by the fact of the presence of fine specimens of trees here and there about the country. The argument that some of the choicer species do not grow as quickly as some of the other species is poor, because quick-growth timber is necessarily lighter and inferior. Moreover, a variety of species is essential, since it is certain that one species cannot serve all purposes. The great point is for Australia, and especially South Australia, to make the most of these choicer localities where valuable timbers can be produced."

State afforestation is not only an indirectly reproductive enterprise, but one directly profitable to the Government. Throughout the Commonwealth the revenue from forestry departments doubles the expenditure—£203,256 against £110,923—although in South Australia the expenditure is considerably in excess of the returns. This, however, is due to the fact that this State is the largest planter of all, and planted trees do not grow like mushrooms in a night. They will ultimately bountifully repay the labours of the Forestry Department. A particularly interesting section of the bulletin relates to what may be described as "by-products" of forestry—turpentine, varnish, resins, honey, wattle bark, eucalyptus and olive oils, and charcoal, among other things. The value of these subsidiary industries is succinctly indicated, and in connection with charcoal Mr. V. H. Ryan remarks that that article is worthy of serious attention by the landholders of South Australia, as it offers an opportunity of converting all surplus wood into an item of profit. Figures quoted by Mr. Corbin to show the extent of Australia's timber importations and exportations are suggestive. Between 1901 and 1910 the Commonwealth imported wood valued at