TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

THEIR EFFECT ON COMMERCE.

AUSTRALIA'S PROBLEMS.

AN INTERESTING ADDRESS.

A gift by the late Mr. Joseph Fisher to the Adelaide University some years ago resulted in the establishment of a fund for the purpose of securing a permanent lecture theatre, and a lecture series, which is being given every year since, was started. The first of these lectures was given by Mr. Fisher, and since then there have been lectures by other distinguished speakers, including such well-known figures as Sir William Macquarie, the Governor-General of Australia, and Sir Hubert Walmsley, the former Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Mr. Fisher's lecture on the subject of “The Problem of Transportation and their Relation to Australian Trade and Commerce” was well received by the audience, who were impressed by the speaker's knowledge and the clarity of his arguments.

Of the total public debt of Australia, more than one-half was represented in its railways, and the railway companies were the largest debtors in the country. The railways were largely financed by the issue of new shares, which were sold to the public and to the State and Commonwealth governments. The railways were not only a source of revenue for the State and Commonwealth governments, but also a means of transportation for the people of Australia.

Neglect of Geographical Outlets.

In general terms, it could be said that in Australia production had always been limited to the carrying capacity of the land and the resources of the country. The railways were the means by which these resources could be developed, and the railways were the means by which the people of Australia could be brought together.

The Wealth of Australia.

The annual produce of the produce of Australia in 1917 was $200,000,000, and the produce of the country in 1918 was $250,000,000. In 1919 the produce of the country was $300,000,000.

The approximate value of the produce of Australia in 1917 was $200,000,000, and in 1918 it was $250,000,000. In 1919 the produce of the country was $300,000,000.

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