

The Advertiser August 10th 1914.

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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS IN ADELAIDE.

THE FORMAL WELCOME.

The British Association has a splendid record behind it, and a great future lies before it. What worthier object could any institution comprised of men who hold foremost positions in the realm of knowledge set before itself than the spread of science? There are, of course, many ways by which this may be accomplished. Original research is obviously one of the most important, but this can only be undertaken on a large scale by comparatively few men. To achieve success in a marked degree as a pioneer investigator requires equipments which the ordinary student does not usually possess. There must be the scientific temperament, a fair amount of leisure, and the mechanical means necessary to the work. But scientific knowledge is not confined to the men who are able to explore new fields. Many an amateur in whom the scientific spirit has been quickened attains to a considerable proficiency in one or another of the numerous departments of knowledge, although he may contribute little or nothing to the great mass of information which is being slowly but surely accumulated. Something is accomplished if a large body of students are directed to expend their energies along right lines. Although it may not be quite true that knowledge is power, it is indisputably an instrument susceptible of being used for powerful ends. If the association stands for pure science there is an influence emanating from all knowledge which finds expression in practical form. In modern times science has allied itself with matters of utility to such a remarkable degree that the whole industrial world has been brought under its dominance. It has a place, and that a large one, in agriculture, engineering, and indeed all the processes of production and manufacture. Electrical science has brought into immediate communication places separated by the diameter of the globe. In medicine science has demonstrated its value in a hundred different ministries, and if we have not yet reached that stage in the world's progress when the poet's vision shall be realised—

All diseases quenched by science, no man
halt or deaf or blind:
Stronger ever born of weaker, lustier
body, larger mind—

we are, at any rate, moving towards that goal, and the work of an institution such as the one which is represented by the distinguished band of visitors in our midst is doing much to hasten the consummation. Of its history its members may well be proud. Dating back, as it does to 1831, the association has included in its rolls many names of men who have shed lustre on their country, and have won their way to immortal fame because of the additions they have made to the sum total of the world's knowledge, or on account of their work in co-relating one series of ascertained facts with other well authenticated facts. An organisation which has included amongst its presidents such men as Sir John Herschel, Sir David Brewster, Sir Charles Lyell, Professor J. H. Huxley, and Sir John Lubbock, to mention only a few, has indeed a high tradition to maintain, and this the British Association is admirably doing. If the men of former years were giants in the intellectual life of the nation, the men of to-day are equally conspicuous, and with the spread of popular education of a higher standard than that which was common a few years back, their influence on the community generally should be even greater than that of the earlier men.

The British Association is an Empire factor. It has drawn its members from almost all parts of the King's dominions. Educational institutions may be localised, but the ideals for which they stand cannot be confined within narrow limits. Fortunately the British Association has embraced a wide range in its domain. There is an Imperial note in its very name, and it has not confined its annual meetings to any one spot or country. Canada, South Africa, and now Australia have been its meeting places, as well as cities of the United Kingdom. Just as it aims to be full-orbed in its work,

and to stimulate the search for exact and trustworthy knowledge, it is catholic in its sympathies, and it is a splendid illustration of the practical uses to which scientific knowledge has been put, that it should be possible for its members to meet in Australia in such large numbers, and with the loss of only a few weeks' time. A suggestion, when the Association was formed, that in 1914 this could actually take place, and that the transactions of the society would be known in London almost immediately, would have been deemed to be at least, a "fairy tale of science," if not the imaginings of an overwrought brain. But this is only one of the many triumphs of civilisation to which science has largely contributed.

The Chancellor, in conferring the degrees, said that no one could receive a heartier welcome on that occasion than Professor Hudson Beare, one of the first students of the Adelaide University. (Applause.) The degree of Professor Elliott Smith was conferred in absentia.

Sir Oliver Lodge, who was accorded an ovation on rising, responded on behalf of the newly-admitted graduates. He said it had not been easy to come all that way to give up work for so long, but the call of Australia had been irresistible. (Applause.) He remembered the meeting of the general committee at which Australia's representative came to invite them. Many of the members had gone to the meeting determined to resist the request to go so far, but Sir George Reid and Professor Orme Masson spoke so eloquently and persuasively—he had seldom heard two better speeches—that the opinion of those hostile to the proposal was entirely reversed, and the motion to come to Australia carried unanimously. And now a number of them had been honored by the University of Adelaide. He would not venture to say anything about the professors now in office at that University, but would remind them—although, perhaps, the reminder was not necessary—that they had sent to the Mother Country that distinguished physicist, Professor Bragg, whose work, especially more recently, had excited the admiration of the civilised world. (Applause.) The way in which Professor Bragg had used X-rays to disentangle and to demonstrate molecular arrangement in crystals, and even the arrangement of atoms in the molecule had been most extraordinary. He had confirmed and made manifest many of the previous speculations of Professor Pope and Mr. William Barlow. In speaking of the researches of Professor Bragg, he ventured to couple with him one who, no doubt, was a boy when he left Adelaide, but had now become coadjutor with his father, and had shown that his crystallographic and geometrical insight had descended to the second generation. "I will not occupy your time further," concluded Sir Oliver, "but on behalf of myself, members of the association, and fellow graduates, offer you hearty thanks for the honor you have done us, and the reception you have accorded us." (Applause.)

The gathering was closed with the singing once more of the National Anthem.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIN PARTY

LIST OF OVERSEAS VISITORS.

The main party of overseas visitors to attend the gatherings of the association arrived at the Outer Harbor by the R.M.S. Orvieto on Saturday morning, and reached the city by special train shortly after 12.30. They included Sir Oliver Lodge (retiring president), Professor Schafer, and other distinguished scientists, numbering altogether about 130. All were anxious for tidings of the war. When the vessel left Fremantle it was not definitely known that England had declared war against Germany. Saturday morning's war news was read with deep interest, and the position was discussed with friends who had gone to the Outer Harbor to meet the visitors. Careful preparations had been made by the hon. secretary (Professor Kerr Grant) to ensure the least possible inconvenience to the visitors. They were relieved from the

necessity of attending to their baggage, and when they stepped out of the train at North-terrace station they were conducted to motor cars which were in readiness to take them to their temporary homes. Most of the cars had been placed at the disposal of the visitors by members of the Automobile Association, and the president of the association (Mr. Angus Parsons, M.P.) conveyed Sir Oliver and Lady Lodge and the Hon. G. J. Mulholland (Sir Henry Galway's private secretary) to Government House in his car.

Amongst the members are representatives of four Antarctic expeditions. They are Captain Davis, who was in command of the Aurora during the Mawson expedition; Dr. Brown, of the Scottish National Antarctic expedition; Dr. G. C. Simpson, of Scott's last expedition; and Mr. H. T. Farrar, of the Discovery expedition. Captain Davis expressed himself as pleased at once more being in Australia. Their chief object in coming is to attend the congress on Antarctic work. This congress is to be held in Sydney, and Sir Douglas Mawson is to open the discussion with a paper on the past, present and future work in the Antarctic.

The following is a complete list of names of the members of the overseas party of the British Association:—

- a'Abarelton, Mr. R., Newmarket Hotel, North-terrace.
- Abbot, Mr. C. G., Mr. Justice Murray, Murray Park.
- Allorge, Mr. M. M., Mr. J. E. Thomas, "Glan-nant," Dequetteville-terrace, Kent Town.
- Anderson, Professor, South Australian Hotel (guest of Swedish Consul).
- Armstrong, Professor H. E., Professor E. H. Rennie, Childers-street, North Adelaide.
- Ashby, Dr. Thomas, Mr. H. W. Anderson, Robe-terrace, Medindie.
- Ashworth, Dr. J. H. and Mrs., Grand Central Hotel.
- Baber, Professor Zonia, Grand Central Hotel.
- Backhouse, Mr. W. A., Newmarket Hotel.
- Boiley, Mr. P. G., Newmarket Hotel.
- Balfour, Mr. Henry, Professor Stirling, 48, Melbourne-street, N.A.
- Ball, Mr. Sidney, South Australian Hotel (guest of Lady Brown).
- Bateson, Professor Wm. and Mrs., Government House.
- Beare, Professor T. Hudson, Mrs., and Miss, Mr. Herbert Phillipps, Edwin-terrace, Gilberton.
- Benson, Miss M. J., Miss E. Benham, Victoria-avenue, Unley Park.
- Berridge, Miss E. M., Mr. F. G. Cole, Jaffrey-street, Parkside.
- Blamires, Mr. Joseph, Newmarket Hotel.
- Bolton, Mr. H., Newmarket Hotel.
- Bond, Mr. C. I., and Mrs., Mrs. G. S. Aldridge, Palmer-place, North Adelaide.
- Borns, Dr. H., Commercial Travellers' Club.
- Boulenger, Mrs., Grand Central Hotel.
- Bower, Professor F. O., Professor T. G. B. Osborn, South-terrace.
- Breton, Miss A. C., Mrs. T. R. Bowman, South-terrace.
- Brewis, Mr. E., Grand Central Hotel.
- Briggs, Dr. L. J., South Australian Hotel.
- Briggs, Dr. W., and Mrs., Colonel Makin, Pal-mer-place, North Adelaide.
- Brown, Mr. A. R., Botanic Hotel.
- Brown, Professor E. W., Mr. F. W. Niesche, Malvern House, Wakefield-street.
- Brown, Professor R. N. R., Grand Central Hotel.
- Browning, Mr. T. B., Mr. W. H. Selway, "Ma-rika," Gilberton.
- Buchanan, Miss Florence, Mr. A. B. Black, Jell-cott-street, North Adelaide.
- Buckmaster, Mr. C. A., Grand Central Hotel.
- Cadman, Mr. W. H., Grand Central Hotel.
- Challenger, Mr. Bromley, Grand Central Ho-tel.
- Challenger, Miss E. M., Grand Central Hotel.
- Chamberlin, Dr. R. T., Mr. L. Keith Ward, Burnside-road, Burnside.
- Chapman, Dr. H. G., Newmarket Hotel.
- Channdy, Mr. T. W., Mr. H. R. Purcell, 28, Park-terrace, Parkside.
- Cheeseman, Mr. W. Norwood, Grand Central Hotel.
- Cheeseman, Miss G. H., Grand Central Ho-tel.
- Clark, Mr. J., Botanic Hotel.
- Clarke, Miss L. J., Mrs. Culross, Buxton-street, North Adelaide.
- Clowes, Dr. Frank, and Mrs., Mr. F. H. Downer, Esq., Burnside-road, Burnside.
- Coker, Professor E. G., Mr. Richard Law Smith, Woodlands, Glenelg.
- Cole, Professor F. J., Mr. W. Duffield, Seawall, Glenelg.
- Coleman, Professor A. P., South Australian Hotel.
- Collum, Mrs. A. M., Grand Central Hotel.
- Crossfield, Miss M. C., Mr. E. Ashby, Black-wood.
- Cunningham, Mr. J. T., Dr. A. M. Morgan, Stanley-street, North Adelaide.
- Dalby, Professor W. E., Mr. Graham Stewart, Northcote-terrace, Medindie.
- Dakin, Professor W. J., Grand Central Hotel.
- David, Professor T. W. E., Adelaide Club (guest of Professor Stirling).