

was reopened Mr. Gepp said Sir John Downer's death, although expected, had come as a great shock to him. As a youth of 18 he entered Sir John's office as a clerk, and had enjoyed his uninterrupted friendship ever since. He was a gentleman in the highest sense. At the bar, in the House of Parliament, he was always the same—a gentleman. His was a courteous, kindly, and lovable nature, and he was an affectionate friend, and those who had the pleasure of his friendship would very much miss him. His death meant distinctly a national loss. A profound lawyer, an eminently clever advocate, and a statesman had gone from them, and South Australia and the Commonwealth were the poorer and would mourn his loss. Their heartfelt sympathy went out to Lady Downer and the other relatives in their great sorrow.

References at Port Adelaide.

At the Port Adelaide Police Court Mr. J. H. Sinclair, S.M., expressed the deep regret at the news which had just been conveyed to him of the death of Sir John Downer. He was honored not only for his great ability, but for his personal charm and manner. He would be greatly missed from the State for which he had done so much professionally and politically. "We can only express our regret," added the S.M., "at the great loss of the knight, of whose death I have learned with such great grief."

Mr. R. Cruickshank, as senior member of the Bar present, said he appreciated all the court had said. They felt exceedingly sorry, and members of the Bar gave their condolence to the family.

Mr. N. A. Webb said Sir John Downer was the leader of the Bar, as he was senior K.C., and every member of the profession held him in high esteem. Everyone joined in the expression of sympathy with those who had been bereaved.

Unley Council.

"In the death of Sir John Downer," said Mr. T. E. Yelland (the Mayor of Unley), at the meeting of the council on Monday evening, "South Australia has lost a veteran knight. One who has played a prominent part in the political world in this State, and who helped materially in the formation of the Federal Constitution. He was a brilliant politician and a very clever lawyer."

Commonwealth Club.

The committee of the Commonwealth Club met on Monday and passed a vote of sympathy with Lady Downer and the members of the family, and it was decided that the members of the committee should attend the funeral. Sir John Downer was president of the club.

The Funeral.

The remains of Sir John Downer will be interred in the North-road Cemetery this afternoon. The cortege will leave his residence at 2.45.

*Advertise
August 5th 15*

Mr. R. Wilson Tassie, B.Sc., M.E., of the Adelaide University, eldest son of Mr. T. Tassie, of Kent Town, who won the Angus Engineering Scholarship in 1908, and proceeded to America to enter the Cornell University to do post-graduate work, returned to Adelaide on Saturday on a short visit to his parents. Mr. Tassie spent a year in the Cornell institution, and then went to the Westinghouse Electric Company's works at Pittsburg, where he remained for two years. He next entered the service of the Cleveland Construction Company, and worked on various construction jobs before going to Havana to join the staff of the Havana Electric Railway Light and Power Company, an American corporation, which controls the tramways and electric light power of the city of Havana. He is employed as an assistant engineer of the company, and is stationed at Havana, which is the capital of Cuba, and has a population of over 400,000. Mr. Tassie was granted four months' leave of absence by the company to enable him to visit this State, and he intends to spend a month in South Australia before leaving on his return to Cuba.

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Advertiser
August 4th 15

The funeral of Sir John Downer was conducted on Tuesday afternoon at the North-road Cemetery, where the coffin was lowered into a beautifully-decorated grave beside that of the first Lady Downer. The top and walls of the tomb were completely enveloped in ivy leaves, palm fronds, and white flowers, the work having been carried out with admirable taste. Before the cortege left the house on Pennington-terrace family prayers were led by the Rev. G. H. Jose, M.A., of Christ Church, and upon the arrival of the hearse at the mortuary chapel in the burial ground the coffin was borne into the building by four pall bearers. Mr. Jose read the service, and finally the coffin was conveyed to its last resting place near the eastern boundary of the cemetery, where the burial service was concluded. The relatives who assembled near the graveside were Messrs. J. F. Downer (son), F. H. Downer, H. C. Downer, C. G. Downer, H. G. Rivaz, G. McEwin, and J. O. McEwin (nephews), B. Henderson (brother-in-law), C. H. Warren, and O. H. Schomburgk (nephews by marriage). There was a large gathering of members of both Houses of the Legislature, members of the Bar, and private citizens. Among those present were Sir Lancelot Stirling (President of the Legislative Council), the Hon. F. W. Coneybeer (Speaker of the House of Assembly), the Premier (Hon. C. Vaughan), the Chief Secretary (Hon. A. W. Styles), the Attorney-General (Hon. J. H. Vaughan), the Minister of Industry (Hon. R. P. Blundell), the Hon. E. Lucas (leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council), the Hon. A. H. Peake (leader of the Opposition in the House of Assembly), Mr. Legh Winser (private secretary, representing his Excellency the Governor), Sir John Gordon, his Honor Mr. Justice Murray, his Honor Mr. Acting Justice Buchanan, Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., Sir Edwin Smith, Sir Langdon Bonython, Sir Charles Goode, his Honor Mr. J. G. Russell (Commissioner of Insolvency), Mr. T. Gepp, S.M., Mr. Pavis Nesbit, K.C., Mr. E. B. Grundy, K.C., Mr. A. W. Piper, K.C., Mr. E. E. Cleland, K.C., Mr. C. A. Edmunds (secretary of the Law Society, of which Sir John Downer was president), Mr. W. B. Wilkinson, Mr. Peter Wood and Mr. S. H. Skipper (vice-president and secretary respectively of the Commonwealth Club, of which Sir John was president), Mr. F. Halecomb, M.A. (clerk of the Legislative Council), Mr. F. Chapple, C.M.G. (warden of the Senate of the University, of the council of which Sir John was a member), Mr. W. H. Raymond (Commissioner of Police), and Mr. E. W. Giles (Commissioner of Audit). The office staff of the firm of G. & J. Downer was represented by Messrs. F. A. Tennant, A. S. Hughes, J. Tighe, E. Cockrell, and J. F. Greaser. There was a large representation of the legal profession in the gathering. Sir John Downer was a popular man in all circles, and the news of his death was a source of deep sorrow to people of all ranks.

The Daily Herald
August 5th 15

UNIVERSITY RECRUITS LEAVE FOR EXAMINATIONS.

MELBOURNE, August 2.

Although Senator Pearce (Minister of Defence) was not willing to agree to a request made to him to-day by a deputation from the Melbourne University that students of medicine, chemistry, engineering, and veterinary science, in their final year, should be prevented from enlisting till they had completed their courses, he expressed the opinion that it would be better for the students if they passed their final examinations before enlisting, as being then fully qualified, their services would be of more value to the military authorities. The Minister promised to arrange, if possible, that students taking the courses mentioned, and who had enlisted should be given leave to attend university examinations.

The Advertiser
August 5th 15

Dr. J. M. Ennis, professor of music at the Adelaide University, celebrates the 51st anniversary of his birthday to-day. Dr. Ennis was born at Dover in 1864, and was educated at the University College School. He began his musical career as a choir boy, and when 14 years of age acted as organist at St. Barnabas Church, London. He received his musical education entirely in London, and was a piano-forte pupil for some years under Edward Dannreuther. He took the degree of Bachelor of Music in 1892, and the doctor's degree a few years later. In 1900 he came to Australia and accepted an appointment at Christ Church, St. Lawrence, Sydney. He also did much teaching in Sydney, and in 1902 he came to Adelaide, and was appointed to the chair of music at the University. Dr. Ennis was married in 1895.

Advertiser 5/8/15

Mr. L. A. Whittington, LL.B., solicitor, of Narracoorte, has enlisted for the front. He has entered camp as a private. Last year Mr. Whittington, who is the youngest son of Mr. Peter Whittington, late Audit Commissioner, was captain of the University lacrosse team.

The Register
August 7th 15

THE DEAD LANGUAGES.

THEIR EDUCATIONAL VALUE DISCUSSED.

At a meeting of the Classical Association, held at the University on Wednesday, the President (Professor Darnley Naylor) occupied the chair. Mr. W. R. Bayly gave an interesting address on "The value of classics and the teaching of classics in school." He stated that during the last few years he had changed his opinion as to the value of Latin as a subject of the school curriculum. He had formerly had some sympathy with those who questioned the practical worth of classical studies, but his observation had forced him to the conclusion that those boys who neglected Latin were distinctly the losers. They were unable to enter avenues of knowledge which were opened up by the ancient languages; missed the opportunity of tracing the historical development of much of our civil and military organization, of reading the story of the inspiring lives of men of other days, and, above all, they failed to gain the same mastery of style in their own language of which Latin was a key. Though he had formerly viewed with equanimity the departure of Greek from the school timetable, and the unpopularity of Latin, he had lately been impressed by the weakness in language study shown by those who had not taken Latin, or at least some other language beside their own. The secret of success in the teaching of Latin was the power of imparting animation to those who took the subject. If the teaching were really vitalized, the language ceased to be regarded as "dead," and became the means of representing living thoughts. Boys were very responsive to "fine" teaching, and easily took to the idea that they could learn to speak a language that was once the medium, even among boys, of expressing thought. Grammar should not be allowed to dominate everything. The constant "grind" of accidence and syntax could with advantage be replaced by conversational lessons. Dr. Rouse's methods at Cambridge were quoted in support of this assertion. The speaker had visited the school over which this distinguished scholar presided, and though he, in company with the head master arrived a little late, he found the