The motion was granted.

Mr. A. W. Moore, K.C., referred to the case of Thomas Reginald Mellor, who had recently entered the service, and was now a second lieutenant. He had only two months to run to complete his course. He thought in a case like that they might apply for admission to the bar. He was afraid there was no probability that Mr. Mellor would be allowed to see his wife in England. It was possible that he might desire to remain in England for experience. It would be of great service to him if he were already admitted. He asked for a vote to consider whether or not he would apply for Mr. Mellor's admission.

His Honor Mr. Justice Gordon said so far as he was immediately concerned, he would say that he would cordially assent to the application if it were made. Those who were volunteering for the front deserved every assistance and encouragement that could be given. There were making what sacrifice it was their duty to make, but which no less called for the gratitude of their country. Even from the more monetary point of view, a man who went to the war was doing much. Labouring men getting 10/- a day, not only made an immediate sacrifice; but ran the risk of having to make one vastly greater. If such a man were incapacitated he got £1 a week. Thus for the rest of his life he gave in effect £2 a week to the war fund. This was more than most of them, even in the very rich classes. It stood to their honor for ever that so many valiant men in all ranks of life were making such sacrifices at the call of patriotism.

Mr. Justice Murray said he would hear what Mr. Piper had to say.

Adventures July 15

EMPLOYMENT OF ENEMY ALIENS.

Melbourne, July 8.

The employment of enemy aliens on the staff of the University gave rise to a long discussion at last night's meeting of the University Council. Dr. Leeper moved—

That it was inexpedient to employ citizens of any enemy country who may be in the employment of the University be dispensed with as soon as possible, provision being made for the employment of citizens of any enemy country not so employed.

Mr. Piper seconded the motion. He said it was not directed against any particular person. It would be a mark of loyalty and a symbol of the unity of the Empire to follow the lead of Great Britain in dealing with enemy aliens. It was a measure of safety and a wise precaution. Professor Mason said the circumstances in Australia were different from those in Great Britain. It was said it would be back in five months. The two persons to whom the motion were the lecturer on German (Herr von Dechend) and the teacher of music at the Conservatorium (Herr Scharf). Both had been with Australia for years and had married Australian wives. The Defence authorities had investigated both cases, and interrogated correspondents, and paid domiciliary visits, to obtain information concerning the persons in question. After much discussion, the motion was finally carried in the following form—"That engagements of unatmized citizens of any country who may be in the course of the war be terminated at the end of their present term of office."
Government Action Promised.

Afforestation is a question which will soon engage the attention of the Vaughan Government. This much was promised by the Attorney-General (Hon. J. H. Vaughan), in reply to a deputation from the Forestry Department, who waited upon him on Wednesday morning and presented a number of motions adopted at the last meeting of these gentlemen. The deputation was introduced by the Hon. F. S. Wallis, M.L.C., who said:—"That an increased annual sum be placed on the Estimates so as to administer a larger annual program of operations being carried on by the Forestry Department."

2. "That steps be taken to ensure that the salient areas of the various water which the area is to be distributed."

3. "That statistics be collected through the police and Crown lands service showing the position of afforestation, drifts, and the average amount of seedling stations for planting in various districts of the Commonwealth."

4. "A bulletin be published giving particulars of varieties of trees suited for planting in various districts of the Commonwealth, together with recommendations for the best method of planting operations, and circulated throughout the State."

5. "That the treatment of disease and pests indigenous to the Commonwealth be the subject of investigation by the late Mr. J. E. Brown be revised and distributed among the Forest Department and local authorities."

6. "That the Crown take steps to see that no timber on miscellaneous leases in the vicinity of the Crown Lands Act, 1912, be assessed by the local Assessors Commission under section 30 of the lands Act, 1912, be assessed by the local Assessors Commission."

7. "That care of and provision for the management of land be left to district councils, and made a part of theEND.

Mr. W. U. Ullrich (President of the Forestry League) stated that the time had arrived when the question of afforestation should be dealt with in a systematic way, and not in the haphazard way in which it had been done in the past. The League attached special importance to the question in South Australia, where nature had been so diligently to its forest and where the climate was so well adapted to the growth of trees. The work of afforestation was not injurious, but would pay directly and indirectly, and the League was hopeful that it would be provided for in a progressive policy of forest extension."

A Happy Accident.

The Attorney-General, in reply, said he did not know whether it was pure accident or that he had been present at the meeting of the Forest Department, and the transfer of the Department had not been known to him. He had been impressed by the letter from the Government, and he was pleased to learn that there were body of bis north and women in South Australia who had raised the question of afforestation and who were pressing the Government to take immediate action. He might add that the Government would undoubtedly be or great assistance to the Government in moving forward in this matter, and that they were dealing with many of the important matters met in the deputation, and desired them to consider the various factors into which the detailed questions of the Continent's position in the various districts, and the Ministry would be glad to see the matter carried on in regard to afforestation. They would hope that the Ministry would be forward steps to that end, and when the result of their investigations had been made known he would be able to do more. He would do everything in his power to assist the Government in South Australia and in other States.
NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Gratifying and important facts recorded in the Education Report for 1913, as compared with the preceding year, are that the enrolment in attendance at the State's primary schools increased by 1,771, and the daily average attendance by 2,582. The number of children enrolled was fewer in 1913—58,125 against 59,616 in the preceding year; but the attendance was better—44,110 against 43,780. The necessity of a good grounding in the elements of education was never before so widely and keenly appreciated, and prosperous material conditions enabled the State to meet the demands of its different schools and colleges. The parsimony of the department last year indicated the desire of the Legislature to improve the system, and to ensure satisfaction among the teaching staffs, which was, of course, most encouraging. The heavy and accumulating burdens, the wants of the State and Commonwealth, by equipping them for useful avocations; but for some time at least the taxpayers cannot approve of costly experiments in theoretical knowledge. The grand total State expenditure on education was £567,074, compared with £523,829 in 1910—an increase of £43,245 in four years! Under its main headings the outlay respectively for 1914 and 1913 was thus incurred—Administrative, £25,740, 28,001; Secretarial, £25,376, 25,369; secondary education, £26,194, £15,903; buildings, £563,840, £445,025; grants to educational institutions (University, Public Library, Schools of Mines, etc.), £40,200, £24,700; books and stationery, £6,783, £6,903; Office of Minister, £5,027. The cost to the State of each pupil instructed in all schools was £5.60 in 1914, compared with £5.70 in 1913 and £4.54 in 1910. An increase of 12.5 per cent. in 10 years! The increase of 1913 on primary schools is accounted for mainly by increases of salaries to public and provisional teachers, and the augmented cost of training owing to the extra number of junior teachers and the training college students.

The high schools, including the domestic science centres, are doing good work, and their usefulness ought to be extended. There are 27 of them, and during the year under review 2,000 pupils received instruction in domestic science in 10 schools.

The schools have become a valuable resource for the supply of junior teachers. Out of 749 pupils on the roll of the Adelaide High School 161 were junior teachers, while 204 were improving their general education. 390 were studying for the University, 230 in life, 260 for the University Public Examinations, and 114 were taking commercial course to prepare them for business pursuits. Owing to his regretted illness, from which he has since recovered, the Director of Education (Mr. M. M. Maughan, B.A.) was unable to prepare the usual complete report on the work.