

The Register
May 2nd 15

SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON.

America and the War.

SYDNEY, May 4.

Sir Douglas Mawson, of antarctic fame, returned to Sydney by the steamer Sonoma to-day. In relation to war matters, he said in an interview:—"My opinion is that 80 per cent. of the population of America are in favour of the Allies." This impression was gained by him during an extended lecturing tour through America. Regarding the attitude of the President of the United States, Sir Douglas remarked:—"I have heard extremists declare that President Wilson must be pro-German. Some critics, who appear to be fair-minded, and whose qualifications merit respectful hearing, attempt to excuse Dr. Wilson's attitude by explaining that he has a great abhorrence of war, and looks upon it as a crime for any nation to fight, but I found that a great many of America's young men were actually fighting with the Allies. Many American parents send their sons to England and France to be educated, and a large percentage of these enlisted when the call came. I met some fairly prominent German-Americans, who did not hesitate to denounce Germany for her part in provoking the war."

EDUCATION IN INDIA.

Principal Fraser, of Trinity College, Candy, who is on a visit to Adelaide, delivered a lecture at the Adelaide University on Tuesday evening on "What can educational institutions do to Christianity indigenous in the East?" The Chancellor of the University (Sir Samuel Way) presided, and there was a large attendance of students. The lecturer dealt with the many phases of his subject in an able manner. Numbers of Indian students, he said, were converted to Christianity, and they generally became actively engaged in some form of Christian work among the natives.

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Lieut. Munro.

The late Lieut. Munro was born at Kilkenny 21 years ago. He was educated at the Woodville Public School, and was subsequently at Alberton as a training teacher. After that he spent three years at the Adelaide High School, and then returned to Alberton for another 12 months. The



LIEUT. G. A. MUNRO, S.A. (Killed).

deceased officer took a most creditable course at the University of Adelaide. He passed the Higher Public with credit, and was about to study for the B.A. degree when the war broke out, and he enthusiastically volunteered his services. Lieut. Munro was Assistant Secretary and Librarian at the Kilkenny Congregational Sunday School, and was a member of the town club.

The Advertiser.
May. 9th. 1915

LOYAL INDIA.

ADDRESS BY PRINCIPAL FRASER.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S PRAISE.

The Rev. A. G. Fraser, M.A., principal of Trinity College, Kandy, Ceylon, during his short stay in Adelaide has created an impression in circles of thought that cannot fail to have a stimulating effect. On Wednesday evening he addressed a well-attended meeting held in the Town Hall under the auspices of the Church Missionary Association of South Australia. His Excellency the Governor was in the chair, and among those present were his Honor the Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way), the Bishop of Adelaide (Right Rev. Dr. A. N. Thomas), and many prominent clergy and University professors; for Principal Fraser is not only an enthusiastic missionary worker, but also an acknowledged authority on educational matters, especially matters affecting India and the East. The addresses delivered were most interesting, and the meeting was marked by much enthusiasm.

The Governor's Tribute.

His Excellency, in introducing the Rev. A. G. Fraser, said:—It gives me great pleasure to introduce Mr. Fraser. He is going to tell you something about that great country, India, and the people who inhabit it, and I have no doubt he will impress upon us the great loyalty these people have shown at this crisis. (Applause.) I think we have one of the greatest examples of Empire-building the world has ever seen in the response of the overseas Dominions to the cry of the Motherland last August, and in that response was that of India, peopled by races of different blood and color from ourselves, which proved an eye-opener to Germany. (Applause.) The loyalty and attachment of the Indian princes and troops have surpassed everything that even the most optimistic of us ever expected. It has been one grand response, and the way in which those troops have been behaving in Flanders and France has kept up the traditions of the Indian army of the last 100 years. (Applause.) It is only 15 years ago, when the armies of the nations were all represented in Peking, that the Germans ignorantly and insultingly referred to the Indians as coolies. The Rajput, the Sikh, and the Ghurka will never forget that insult, but they are wiping it out to-day on the battle-fields of Flanders and France. (Applause.) You know that the valleys of the Euphrates and Tigris are occupied by British and Indian troops, and a great Indian authority said the other day that we could not do better than annex Mesopotamia and people it with the surplus population of India. (Applause.) No better reward could be given to the Mussulman soldiers than a grant of land in the country which fable says was occupied by our first parents. (Applause.) This meeting is held under the auspices of the Church Missionary Association, which is closely allied to the Church Missionary Society. After 13 years' residence in West Africa I can speak with some confidence of the splendid work members of that society have done and are doing in Nigeria and elsewhere, under the most disheartening circumstances and in a climate and country filled with insects carrying diseases, from sleeping sickness to malaria. But none of those dangers ever daunt a true missionary. (Applause.) When I think of the terrors of West Africa I am reminded of the doggerel I learned when a child—

If I were a cassowary,
On the plains of Timbuctoo,
I would eat a missionary,
Skin, bones, and hymnbook too.

(Laughter.) I learnt afterwards that the cassowary was a great bird which nobody was afraid of, but it impressed me with the difficulties a missionary had to meet. (Laughter.)

Mr. Fraser said there was unrest in India, but unrest was not synonymous with disloyalty, any more than the views of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald on the war were symbolical of the attitude of the British House of Commons. India was not disloyal. Her response to the Empire's call to arms had amply proved that. (Applause.) India to-day was facing a crisis in her history, and on the manner of her emergency from the present state of unrest much would depend. An idea was a cause and not an effect, and never had an idea been more widespread, more intense, or given to a greater number of individuals than the idea of nationality in India to-day. It was a force of incredible strength. One of the ablest of Indians had sacrificed his home and embraced Buddhism, not because he was a Buddhist—he was an atheist, as a matter of fact—but because he believed he could reach more people with the gospel of Indian nationality as a Buddhist than as a Hindu. (Applause.) There was no doubt the responsibility for the present unrest in India lay primarily with England. But if England had given India unrest, she had also given her the possibility of a national idea, and, after all, all unrest was not bad. A man would be less than a man if he never felt unrest. It was the forced contact with Western civilisation that had shaken India. There was much in the Western people that the Indians disliked; but they realised now that they gained more than they lost by the contact. At the outbreak of the war, many people had asked him what would be the position of India, and he had had no hesitation in saying, "India will offer all the soldiers she has, and I only hope the Government will have the sense to take them." (Applause.) How true that prophecy had been had been proved by subsequent events. The war had set at rest all doubts concerning India's loyalty. To-day, a leading Indian native, who had been exiled for sedition, and another—the "uncrowned King of Bengal"—who was known as a seditious agitator, were working with all their resources to send men and equipment to the front. (Applause.) Through the length and breadth of the country the response had been the same. As no boys from colleges were accepted as volunteers, a number of students at Kandy had marched 72 miles to Colombo in 38 hours and offered themselves there. (Applause.) In the first three months after the war more men had volunteered for the army in India than during the previous ten years. If the British Empire were blotted out to-morrow, what Great Britain had done in India would remain as an imperishable tribute to her greatness. (Applause.) The Germans sought to impose their "kultur" on the world; but that was not the way with Britain. Surely it was inconceivable that they would ever endeavor to Anglicise India, and make it a grey, colorless, and characterless country, to make wonderful Lahore another Melbourne or London. No, a national India was as essential to complete the British Empire, as a national France was to complete Europe, and the national movement in India to-day would save for the world the imperishable beauty of that country. A national India would enrich the British Empire and make it fuller. In the native Indian there was a genius for social service and a quiet unassuming courage, from which the world might benefit; and by their contact with India, they themselves would learn what Christianity really meant. He had seen a mountain stream dammed up, and the water was dirty and muddy, but when the barrier was removed and the stream spread out, it quickly became clear and pure again. So with Christianity. If they dammed it up and kept it to themselves it would lose the clearness and beauty of the stream as it came from Christ. It would become dirty, and they would quarrel over things that were not worthy of them. They should open the gates and let the stream pour into India, and they would gain as much as would the Indians. (Applause.)