

Advertiser
June 13/16

UNIVERSITIES AND ALIENS.

—
AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION.

Melbourne, June 12.

The professorial board of the Melbourne University to-day submitted a report to the council on a matter raised by the Adelaide and Brisbane Universities relating to the electoral and naturalisation laws of the States and Commonwealth. Professor Harrison Moore said the board considered it had no power to remove the names of enemy graduates from its roll, as was suggested by the Adelaide University. In regard to the recommendation by the senate of the Brisbane University that the electoral and naturalisation laws should be reviewed, the board considered that the matter was not one in which the University could officially take action. The board, however, considered that the question how far alien enemies should be admitted to University courses and degrees might be taken into consideration by the Government.

Dr. Leeper deprecated the attitude of helplessness assumed by the professorial board. He said the matter involved was one of high policy, and one in which the University Council should prove of valuable assistance to the Government.

Professor Moore said following the same line of argument, the council should make representations concerning preferential trade, the tariff, and other questions.

Dr. Leeper said this was a time of great crisis, and on matters affecting electoral laws in relation to aliens, and also naturalisation laws, the council's advice and suggestions should prove of great value to the Government. He moved the omission of that part of the professorial board's report dealing with the inability of the University to take action.

Mr. Justice Higgins said the difficulty was to determine how far the council should interfere in these matters. A line had to be drawn somewhere. If the council was entitled to give expression to opinions on the electoral laws as far as they affected aliens, there was equal right to interfere in the matter of one man one vote. He moved the adoption of the report.

Dr. Leeper's motion was lost on a show of hands, and the report was adopted. The general feeling was that the Government would approach the council for advice on certain phases of the subject.

Advertiser
June 14/16

The musical profession yesterday lost one of its most prominent artists by the death of Mr. Eugene Alderman, after a brief illness. Early last week Mr. Alderman appeared to be in the best of health and spirits, though perhaps a little tired by his many self-imposed tasks. On Wednesday, however, he became indisposed, and it was thought he was suffering from an attack of influenza. On Saturday he was to have conducted an orchestra in the second of a series of concerts he proposed to give during the winter months in the Jubilee Exhibition Building. At the last moment he had to relinquish all idea of conducting. Shortly afterwards he became seriously ill, and it was realised that he had fallen a victim to cerebro-spinal meningitis, which caused his death on Tuesday. He will be sincerely mourned by his friends and all who had had the pleasure of listening to his fine violin playing. The orchestra of 56 performers he had so capably trained will sadly miss him. He was but 32 years of age; his was a brilliant and promising life cut short. Hardly was there a musical gathering of importance in Adelaide with which he was not in some way connected. The measure of his assistance to patriotic concerts is well known. His heart was in that kind of thing; he was true patriotism personified, and several times he offered his services for enlistment, but was refused, because of a weak heart, it is said. So anxious was he to help with the prosecution of the war in every way in his power that during his vacation at Easter the two weeks' respite from his musical work was spent at Keswick assisting the military authorities. Mr. Alderman was born at Norwood, and was a son of Mr. R. G. Alderman, who now resides at Glenelg. He probably inherited his musical gifts from his mother, who is a very



The late Mr. Eugene Alderman.

Photo. Moss Studios.

fine violinist, and a cousin of the celebrated viola player John Zerbini. From Mrs. Alderman he received his first instruction in violin playing, his studies beginning at the age of 4 years. Six years of practice and constant lessons prepared him for entrance to the Elder Conservatorium, where he became a pupil of Mr. Heinecke. After a few years' study he obtained a scholarship, which entitled him to three years' free tuition at the Conservatorium, at the close of which he remained another two years at the institution. In 1905 he left for Europe, and took up his residence at Stuttgart, studying under Edmund Singer, one of the best teachers of the German school. After two years he visited Italy, and attended concerts during a three months' stay. He then proceeded to Brussels, and took lessons privately from Caesar Thomson, one of the most successful teachers of the violin in that city. It was while Mr. Alderman was with him that Thomson completed his celebrated "Zigeuner Rhapsodie." Mr. Alderman then spent a holiday in England. Returning to Brussels he later came back to Adelaide, where he soon secured a large teaching connection. He was on the staff of the Elder Conservatorium, and he made a number of trips to Melbourne, where he acted as examiner for the Melbourne University. As a performer he attained eminence, his tone, technique, and interpretation being favorably commented on by critics. He was the possessor of a violin by Gaspar da Fano, which is said to be worth several hundred pounds. He was closely associated with Mr. William Silver in teaching, and together the two gave many high-class concerts and chamber recitals in Adelaide.

Tues, Herald, June 14/16

DEATH OF MR. EUGENE ALDERMAN

A YOUNG AND BRILLIANT MUSICIAN

DISTINCT LOSS TO THE COMMUNITY.

The members of the musical profession, as well as the large number of other friends of Mr. Eugene Alderman will be deeply grieved to hear of the death of the young musician, which occurred at his home, Glenelg, yesterday afternoon. Mr. Alderman took ill on Tuesday last, and as symptoms of meningitis set in the case was looked upon as a serious one. Hopes were, however, held out for his recovery, but these were blasted when, at the end of the week, he showed signs of sinking, and yesterday, at 2 p.m., the malignant disease claimed him as its victim. The news came as a great blow to members of the musical profession, with whom Mr. Alderman came into almost daily contact. He possessed a sweetness of disposition and natural amiability which won him irresistible popularity. As a musician he ranked high in his profession, and was one of the best known in the city. No musical function of any consequence was without his aid, and this was especially true of patriotic functions, to which he devoted himself generously and good-heartedly. So enthusiastic was he to serve his country in its hour of trial that he made an abortive at-

ttempt to enlist in the Red Cross, but was rejected on account of a weak heart. Unabashed by this, he resolved to serve in a mental capacity and during Easter, while in vacation from his musical duties, he worked at the Keswick barracks for two weeks, where he was found work to satisfy his desire to assist the soldiers. About 11 years ago Mr. Alderman, who then showed strong signs of brilliancy as a violinist, proceeded to the Continent to continue his studies. For three years he was particularly brilliant at playing, and his wonderful technique together with the tone and quality of his expression and the truthfulness of his interpretation stamped him as an artist of great possibilities. For some time he was on the staff of the Elder Conservatorium, and on many occasions visited the Melbourne Conservatorium as examiner. The musical public will remember him in his earliest days, when he performed with Mrs. Dr. Formby and Mr. Harold Parsons in what was then known as the Juvenile Quartet. Mr. Alderman was also the possessor of a wonderful violin made by Jasper da Salo, which was valued at several hundred pounds. His last appearance in public was with the patriotic orchestra on May 27 at the Exhibition Building. This was an organization of 56 performers, who were collected together by him. It was his intention to give a series of concerts during the winter months, half of the proceeds to be given to various patriotic funds. Patrons will remember with what vigor and sustaining freshness he conducted the orchestra on his opening night, and how full the response was to



tempt to enlist in the Red Cross, but was rejected on account of a weak heart. Unabashed by this, he resolved to serve in a mental capacity and during Easter, while in vacation from his musical duties, he worked at the Keswick barracks for two weeks, where he was found work to satisfy his desire to assist the soldiers.

About 11 years ago Mr. Alderman, who then showed strong signs of brilliancy as a violinist, proceeded to the Continent to continue his studies. For three years he

his appeals for heart and expression in the difficult selections. Last Saturday night, when the "Dead March" in "Jaul" was played in memory of Kitchener by the orchestra, in the absence of Mr. Alderman, who was then ill, members of the orchestra and audience little thought that the talented young conductor was to be seen there no more. Mr. A. J. Chapman, of Allan's Music Warehouse, who acted as manager for Mr. Alderman's

The Unions

June 2/16

"The Mail" makes no apology for emphasising afresh the eloquent observations which it recently published from Professor Chapman concerning the imperativeness of national organisation with a view to industrial efficiency. Indeed, the import of his message ought to be indelibly imprinted on the mind of every citizen, for it affects the welfare, safety, and prosperity of the whole community. True it is that the matter is not new. During the past half-century Germany has, by invoking science, advanced from a backward agricultural country, weak and politically negligible, to a foremost position among dreaded Imperialisms. Especially in this twentieth century she has been held up as an educational example to Britain; and, though as Professor Chapman points out, we must be careful how we employ the illustration, because the Teuton debased science to ignoble, lustful politics, the war has brought home the inevitableness of assimilating our civilisation with science, if we mean to preserve our democracy as against absolutism. It cannot be said that our democratic leaders are unimpressed by the importance of hitching our wagon to the star. Quite lately the Minister of Industry (Hon. R. P. Blundell) established a new department of industrial research. To use a hackneyed phrase, it was a step in the right direction, but, significant and valuable as it is, it is only one of many steps that should be taken. Many years ago a similar movement resulted through the labours of Professor Lowrie in the application of fertilisers and fallows to the salvation of agriculture in this State. Intelligently directed, generous expenditures on education, particularly technical and scientific, are the best of national investments. Indeed, one may confidently affirm that they have become absolutely indispensable to the integrity of the State.

Keen will be the post-war competition of nations to make good the wastage of these tragic years. The British Empire will no doubt fortify itself by adopting preferential trade throughout, with prohibition against the barbarous enemy. Already German commercial men affect to ridicule any effort that may be made by the Allies to compete with them industrially in future; and here it is well to recall that Professor Fuchs, one of their greatest economists, who devoted infinite pains to examine the trade policy of Great Britain, strongly advised his fellow-countrymen to hinder the carrying out of British preferential trade, "as this naturally would be a great misfortune to Germany." This weapon, though the strongest politically, is not in itself sufficient. As Professor Fuchs saw, it is less important than the great problem of the national organisation of production and labour. Professor Chapman well points out the advantages ordinarily possessed in this connection by an absolutist government over a democratic; but here should be remembered two special factors in Australia—first, that the militant constitution of the dominant political party particularly favours direct and uniform methods; and, secondly, that the people have undergone such a psychological change through the war that they are prepared to co-operate with the authorities and make sacrifices for patriotic ends. The object of national organisation of production and labour is to create wealth as a means of defence and in order to raise the standard of comfort. Defence brings the problem of Imperialism, comfort that of social politics, but these can be left for later development, the immediate need being to provide enough bread and butter to go right round a growing family. To supply this need it is essential that our Governments shall organise the national forces, notably in three directions—1. Technical and scientific education and research, beginning with the primary schools and extending beyond the University in the manner indicated by Mr. Blundell. 2. Generous expenditures for this work. 3. Co-operation between Capital and Labour.

We want more "ginger" in our education policy and management. They are altogether too timid and stereotyped. Mr. Blundell's initiative should characterise all departments, particularly the Educational. As we have no specialist in technical education, the Government should not hesitate to import a man, a thoroughly good man, regardless of cost. Our University is still largely a "pill and bill factory;" it is true we are now passing a number of teachers through its academic drill, but the fetish of classicism continues to divert higher education from practical ends. We can afford to double our expenditure upon education in the broad sense, provided it is judiciously organised; research and laboratory work alone can be made to pay handsomely. But it is also necessary to call both employers and trades unions to the councils on scientific training. As "The Mail" has already observed, capital and labour are equally affected by false economies and short-sighted practices, and there can be no hope of industrial efficiency without intelligent co-operation of both. Further, technical and scientific training should be guided into useful channels. We want to find and utilise our natural resources; to discover the talent as well as develop the capital for exploiting them. And in teaching trades in schools and colleges it is also necessary not only to secure the natural bias for each calling in the students, but to regulate the supply of skill within the measure of the varied pursuits.

Y L. Ward