

and two children, will leave for America on the next trip the Niagara makes. When asked why he was going to America, the Professor replied, "For one thing, to have a holiday. I have been teaching 14 years without a break, and I feel I need a spell. Secondly, to make the acquaintance of American universities, and to get some experience in science in America, in particular, in the great research laboratory of the General Electric Company at Schenectady, New York. This is the largest electrical manufacturing establishment in the

have been made and perfected along certain lines than otherwise would have been the case in time of peace. At the same time there has been an enormous falling off in the total output of scientific discovery. The loss probably outweighs the gain. America has at present no inconsiderable number of scientific men, worthy to rank with the best intellects of Europe, both in pure and applied science. I think it will be found after the war that the most important military inventions have emanated from men who were previously engaged in pure science. I know that America has made great use of her workers in pure science."

—Fame Abroad.—

Professor Grant has already attained fame on the other side of the world, as is shown in a remarkable note in Professor J. Cox's book, "Beyond the Atom." Professor Cox writes:—"The work of Gray and Ramsay was rendered possible only by an achievement in the southern hemisphere which illustrates the gain of power to science through the worldwide co-operation of disinterested investigators. Dr. Steele, of the University of Melbourne, and Mr. Grant, of the University of Adelaide, have constructed a balance with a girder beam made of fine silica rods, and have devised a method of weighing by displacement with it, which allows the estimation of one quarter of a millionth of the milligram. The limit of sensibility of the finest assay balance has hitherto been one two-hundredth of a milligram. . . . The credit of a wonderful feat of manipulation is thus shared between two hemispheres." Dr. Bertram Steele, who shares the credit of this achievement, is now Professor of Chemistry in the University of Queensland. Professor Grant was at the time on the teaching staff of the Melbourne University.



PROFESSOR KERR GRANT.

world, and it is especially famous for its enormous research laboratories. They spend £100,000 a year in research work, and still they find it pays them. I expect to spend the greater part of this year in America, and to visit England and Europe on my way back. I will arrive home again in time for the opening of the session in March, 1920."

—Experimental Work.—

"Have you any special research work you wish to do there?" the Professor was asked. He replied that he had certain lines of his own which he hoped to experiment in, but whether they would fall in with the wishes of the heads of departments there he did not know. When further asked whether he was engaged on special investigations in connection with the war, Professor Grant answered that he had undertaken one case for the Defence Department. The scheme had been sent to the Imperial Government, but it had not been finally adopted by them. They had had alternative methods, which they had preferred.

—Filling the Vacancy.—

Professor Grant came to Adelaide in 1909 to succeed Professor Bragg, who went to England to occupy the Chair of Physics at the Leeds University. The interviewer asked him who would fill his chair during his absence, and he explained that Mr. E. V. Clark might possibly return from active service abroad in time to take up his former duties. Mr. Clark had applied for permission to come back. In addition, assistance would be given by Mr. R. S. Burdon, a former honours graduate in physics, who had been teaching in Melbourne under Professor Laby for the past two years.

—Science and the War.—

Conversation turned to what science had done in the war, and the professor enlightened the pressman concerning some of the activities of the General Electric Company. "Here is a single manufacturing company built on a commercial basis," he said, "spending £100,000 a year, which is more than that expended by the whole of the universities in the British Empire in research work. They have been working almost entirely on war work since America entered the conflict, and all their able men have been engaged exclusively on war problems. Prior to the war, one of the research workers in this laboratory invented a special and highly improved form of X-ray bulb, which enabled radiographs to be taken much more expeditiously than was formerly possible. It is not too much to say that hundreds of lives have probably been saved during the war by reason of this single invention."

—Pure Science Triumphs.—

"What other scientific improvements have been made by the war?" "It is too early to say yet," the Professor replied. "Full details have not yet been published. Certainly a much larger number of inventions, obviously of military usefulness,

Register 29.1.19.

NEW UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS.

Dr. Harold Davies Conservatorium Director.

At a meeting of the University council, presided over by the Chancellor (Sir George Murray), on Tuesday, it was unanimously resolved to offer the appointment of Elder Professor of Music and Director of the Elder Conservatorium to Dr. Harold Davies, to date from March 1 next. It was also resolved to divide the Chair of Mathematics and Mechanics, to create a separate Chair of Pure Mathematics, and to offer the appointment to Dr. J. R. Wilton, as from March 1, 1920.

Dr. Davies was born in July, 1867, at Oswestry, Shropshire, England. He was educated at the Oswestry Grammar School, and studied music under Dr. Joseph Bridge at Chester Cathedral. He came to Australia early in 1887, and spent his first two years in the State as organist and choirmaster of Christ Church, Kapunda. He was appointed to a similar office at St. Peter's, Glenelg, late in 1888. At the beginning of 1890 he returned to England for further study of music. He occupied for six months the position of organist and choirmaster at the Chapel Royal, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park. He obtained the diploma of Associate of the Royal College of Organists the same year, and came back to Adelaide after an absence of 12 months. While still following



DR. E. HAROLD DAVIES.

his profession as a teacher of music in this city, he graduated in 1896 as a Bachelor of Music. The final examiners for the degree, Sir J. F. Bridge and Sir Herbert Oakley, in commenting upon the composition submitted to them, remarked especially upon its exceptional creative musical talent. In 1902 he graduated as Doctor of Music, being the first Australian student to obtain this distinction. In this connection the composition, a symphonic setting of the "Te Deum," was examined and approved by Sir Hubert Parry Chorus of Oxford University. Dr. Davies has made a wide and comprehensive study of music, both practically and theoretically. An organist of distinction, he has for nearly 22 years occupied this position at Kent Town Methodist Church. As a teacher of organ, piano, singing, and composition he is well and deservedly known throughout the State. As a conductor, the high repute of the Bach Society testifies to his exceptional ability in this direction. For many years he has been a member of the Faculty of Music of the University, and an examiner in the Universities' Public Examinations of Music, visiting in this connection the States of Victoria, Tasmania, and Western Australia. Dr. Davies belongs to a musical family. His father was a cultured amateur player of both the flute and the violoncello, as well as a choral conductor of excellent attainment. An elder brother, the late Mr. Charles A. Davies, who died in Gawler in 1889, was a performer and teacher of both piano and organ, whose work is still remembered in Kapunda and Gawler. The younger brother, Dr. Walford Davies (organist of the Temple Church, London), is recognised as one of the most eminent musicians and composers of the modern English school. During the time of his residence in South Australia, Dr. Davies has kept in close touch with the art of the old world, and has periodically visited England to this end.

—A Mathematical Genius.—

Dr. J. R. Wilton, M.A., is a son of Mr. J. R. Wilton, of Hutt street, Adelaide. He was born in May, 1884. He had a brilliant career at Prince Alfred College, where he went right through the school, and finished as Dux. He displayed great mathematical talent, and graduated in science, with first-class honours in mathematics and physics at the age of 19. He took his Arts Degree at Cambridge in 1907, and also acquitted himself remarkably well at that famous university. In 1914 he received his Doctor of Science Degree. Prior to the war he was a lecturer in mathematics at Sheffield University. He has latterly been engaged in military pay work in Sheffield and London.

Register 15.2.19.

CONSERVATORIUM APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. William Silver and Mr. Harold Wylde.

Following upon the appointment of Dr. Harold Davies as Director of the Elder Conservatorium, further additions have been made to the teaching staff. Mr. William Silver, who is well known to the public as a brilliant pianist, and one of the most successful teachers the State has known, has placed his services at the disposal of the University, and will take up duties in the Conservatorium in the first term. Mr. Silver's abilities as a performer will be of great value in the matter of concerts, recitals, and chamber music work, which will be a feature of the coming session. Mr. Harold Wylde, F.R.C.O., who was recently appointed as organist on the staff, has now been made additional teacher of pianoforte. Mr. Wylde has already appeared as a capable pianist on the Conservatorium platform, having been associated with Miss Nora Kyffin Thomas in a piano-



MR. WILLIAM SILVER.

forte and violin recital last year. The various classes already conducted will be resumed in the first term, and many new branches of study are already under consideration, and will be announced in the press in due time. These important additions to the curriculum should stimulate interest in the work of the Conservatorium, and a large influx of new students is expected in consequence. The first term will begin on Monday, March 3. The director and staff will interview all intending students on Friday, February 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturday, March 1, from 10 to 12.

Mr. William Silver, who has long been prominently associated with musical life in Adelaide, was born at Clare, and began his musical studies there. He also received the benefit of some lessons from the late Mr. C. J. Stevens in Adelaide, and while yet a youth obtained an engagement to tour New Zealand as accompanist to Madame Belle Cole. When he



MR. HAROLD WYLDE, F.R.C.O.

was 19 years of age, he went to Germany to continue his musical studies, and worked assiduously for 24 years at the Royal Conservatorium of Music, Stuttgart, principally under Professor Max Pauer, one of the greatest pianists of the day. Before returning to his native land Mr. Silver visited England, and heard the best that London had to offer, and when he came back to Adelaide he established a teaching practice, in which he has been eminently successful. One of his most intimate friends was the late Mr. Eugene Alderman, and the two artists, pianist and violinist, gave many concerts in conjunction. Mr. Silver is not a frequently seen figure on the concert platform, but his appearances are always welcome, and he may invariably be relied upon to make a notable contribution to any programme which bears his name. In private life he is an enthusiastic a gardener as a musician.

Mr. Harold Wylde, F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., is also a South Australian. Eldest son of the late Mr. Charles Wylde, he was born at Glenelg in 1888. He began his musical education under the tuition of Mr. W. B. Hills, of Glenelg, and in 1903 went to England and became a pupil of Dr. G. J. Bennett, at Lincoln Cathedral. After five years' hard work