

ing Chairman, naturally restricted his references to Mr. Waite's association with the company for whose brilliant success he is so largely responsible; and the circumstance of his retirement from the more active duties of the position, without withdrawing his counsel altogether from the management, suggests interesting reflections. Mr. Waite was 50 years of age, when, 37 years ago, he was appointed to the post which he has just relinquished. Is there in Australasia any parallel for this record of distinguished and protracted service to the community in such a capacity? This wide characterization of his work is made advisedly, because progress in such corporations as that under consideration necessarily connotes corresponding advance in the State where they operate. Besides, in an unusual degree Mr. Waite as a merchant prince has tinged all his matter-of-fact commercial transactions with a touch of idealism; and his altruistic view of life has been shown by many thoughtful acts for the benefit of the employes of the great establishment of which he was the head during half an ordinary lifetime.

When the popular slogan in politics is "Produce!" three times repeated, it is stimulating to recall the remarkable achievements in that direction of the young man who came to South Australia 62 years ago, and began at once to wrestle with and overcome the pioneering difficulties of the day with which pastoralists were only too well acquainted. He solved many problems of settlement by forethought and a courageous and enterprising recognition of the fact that he who wishes to make money on such undertakings must spend money. This was his policy, carried at first to an extent which probably led some of his competitors to wonder whether he were not taking intrepidity to an extreme. Experience, however, justified his methods and principles; and in the following years—although he has had to endure the vicissitudes common to all men of action and resource—he has never looked back, but proceeded from victory to victory. Withal, he has not sought any public recognition of his achievements. He has always been content with the reflection that good work is its own sufficient reward. Thus, seven years ago, when he gave a princely benefaction to the University, and £10,000 as the nucleus of a provident fund for the employes of Elder, Smith, & Co., it was difficult to induce him to talk about his magnificent demonstration of public spirit. The obligation of the people to men of the type of Mr. Peter Waite is beyond calculation; and South Australians of all classes—for all classes will be benefited by his impressive benevolence—will join in the hearty hope that this fine old Scottish gentleman may enjoy unchequered happiness during the rest of life; and that some of the pleasant glow which he has communicated to others may be radiated back upon himself, so that he may realize in full the blessings proverbially bestowed upon the cheerful giver and the high-souled philanthropist.

Advertiser. 23/2/21.

BROWN COAL.

From A. C. BROUGHTON, Moorlands:—"Mine Manager" has created interesting diversion on a prosaic subject generally enveloped in the dullness of technicalities. In all the brilliancy and splendor of the self-appointed, self-proclaimed expert he examines and passes judgment on two of our many South Australian lignitic formations. With an audacity which would induce respect if it were not so palpably ludicrous, he assumes the responsibility of statements the veriest novice can commit. Without claiming the expert knowledge of your correspondent or the desire for notoriety of the gamblers' trade, I yet deny the statements of disparagement "Mine Manager" has made. The coal from the Moorlands field gives off sufficient gas to justify its use in gasworks; it gives splendid coke, and the distillate accompanying the retorting has been fractionated to various by-products. The coal may be treated with more ease than black coal; it is absolutely free from grit. I have seen hundreds of tons leave Moorlands siding, loose, in open trucks, and bagged for shipment to distant ports. At

present trucks are leaving, filled with coal, about every other day. This is sufficient evidence to show that the buyers of the substance hold differing views of its capabilities from those advanced by your correspondent. All this coal has been an intimate mixture of tree and plant remains of an ancient vegetation deposited under such conditions that grit could not accumulate; cellular structure of the wood and leaves is apparent to the naked eye. The grain in the tree, even to the knots where branch or root protruded, is discernible without effort, and lumps of resin distributed throughout the mass with the shape preserved they assumed when exuding from some prehistoric pine. If "Mine Manager" knew of the shafts and drives and preparations for chamber excavation on one coal deposit on which systematic boring has already shown to contain 11,000,000 tons he would perhaps be less imprudent in his censure. Men of international reputation have reported upon the Moorlands field, and to a great extent their indications of its potentialities have animated the preparations for its utilization. That cheap advertisement is not sought by the controllers of the Moorlands area is no indication that big industrial ventures are not in course of preparation by these men. Sir Douglas Mawson, Major E. N. Mulligan, the Government Geologist—whose verdict of lignite clay your correspondent seems to disagree with—are men the public know, experts on the subject in dispute. If "Mine Manager" is prepared to place his name, his knowledge, and his experience beside men such as these, instead of skulking behind the protection of a pseudonym, and let the public judge whose statements have the right of preference, he would be taken more seriously than he is at present.

Daily Herald. 24/2/21.

RETIREMENT OF MR. PETER WAITE.

At the half-yearly meeting of shareholders of Elder, Smith & Co., Limited, Mr. Peter Waite retired from the directorate. In referring to the matter, Mr. J. F. Downer (chairman of the company) said:—"Mr. Waite has retired from the chairmanship of the company after having held the position for over 37 years. I need hardly say that it was not the wish of his colleague that he should retire, but he felt that he could no longer carry the responsibility he had borne so long, so we had reluctantly to acquiesce in his decision. Fortunately for us all, this change involves no parting, for Mr. Waite retains his seat on the board, and his fellow-directors hope, as you, too, hope, that he will attend many more board meetings, and assist us with his unrivalled judgment and experience. During his tenure of office Mr. Waite has seen the company expand far beyond what at the inception of his chairmanship would have seemed possible. He can claim to have largely influenced that expansion. It has always seemed to me that the most remarkable quality in his great personality is the power of assimilating and developing new ideas. Mr. Waite's mind has retained the vigor of youth to a degree far beyond any other case within my experience. His courage, enthusiasm, and energy communicate themselves to all with whom he comes in contact. His lot was cast in our dry north, and he carved success from what would seem to some of us unpromising material. Where ability and concentration of purpose such as his are combined in one person success is bound to follow. From the success which attended his efforts the whole State has benefited."

Advertiser. 24/2/21.

MR. JUSTICE ANGAS PARSONS.

Members of the legal profession are requested by the hon. secretary of the Law Society (Mr. C. A. Edmunds) to assemble in their robes at the special sittings of the Full Court on Monday morning, when Mr. Justice Angus Parsons will take his seat upon the Supreme Court bench for the first time.

Register. 22/2/21.

THE UNIVERSITY CALENDAR.

In a volume of more than 500 pages, the University of Adelaide sets out its doings of the year. The book contains the usual lists of staff, council, graduates past and present, pass lists, and endowments; and the statutes and regulation governing each detail of the institution's work. These items vary but little from one year to another. The chief interest attaches to a few pages of report and financial statement. There are now 736 undergraduates, besides 541 non-graduating students, and sundry bachelors studying for the M.A. degree; to these may be added 528 Conservatorium students. The tutorial classes of the W.E.A. go further afield, and attract hundreds more in city or country. Another professorship was created during the year, and Sir Douglas Mawson is the first occupant of the Chair of Geology and Mineralogy. Professor Howchin, by virtue of long service, has been invited to retain the title of Honorary Professor, and Professor Watson that of Emeritus Professor. The departments of forestry and commerce come into touch with the practical life of the State. The University is, in fact, swelling in every direction. The medical building, now being erected as a gift from the Darling family, must have a third story, and an additional chemical laboratory must follow; and the Government has undertaken to erect a building for physics and engineering. All this needs money, and the immensely increased expenditure has to be reflected somehow in the income, or the University would have to refuse students. Fees received leaped to £18,000, by the increase not of charges but of students, and investments bring in more than £6,000. But this is a comparative trifle. The Barwell Government was boldly asked for an extra £20,000 a year, and Parliament unanimously granted it; this in addition to £14,500 given as subsidies on various accounts. The Barr Smith family presented during the year £11,000 for books for the library, and a number of other public-spirited citizens found £7,000 as an endowment for research "on the growth and nutrition of man and animals." The visit of the Prince of Wales, who by virtue of an Oxford degree received here that of Doctor of Laws, set the seal on a year's record of popularity and progress.

Advertiser. 26/2/21.

THE BACH SOCIETY.

The Adelaide Bach Society will this year reach its twentieth birthday. The record of its achievements during that period, under the conductorship of Dr. Harold Davies, its founder, is one of which any choral society may be proud. This year the first concert will be a performance of the wonderful Requiem Mass by Mozart, which will be produced together with a Mozart symphony, in conjunction with the South Australian Orchestra. There are a few vacancies for good voices in all parts, and early applications should be made to the hon. conductor or the hon. secretary, Mr. Arthur Miller.

Advertiser. 26/2/21.

3 FREE PUBLIC LECTURES.

The WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION of S.A. has arranged 3 FREE PUBLIC LECTURES, to be given in the PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY, on March 1st, 3rd, 5th, 10th, 15th, 17th, 22nd, and 31st. That on TUESDAY, March 1st, 1921, at 8 o'clock.

By Mr. J. C. McDONNELL, M.A.,

on "AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF SHAKESPEARE."

THURSDAY, March 3rd, at 8 o'clock,

by Mr. L. A. MANDER, M.A.,

"ARMAMENTS, ETHICS AND WAR."

Students now being enrolled for the W.E.A. University Tutorial Classes. Fee for each only 5/- per year. University West Wing. Tel. 6910.

G. McRITCHIE, Gen. Sec. W.E.A.

Daily Herald. 26/2/21.

Mr. Herbert Heaten, M.A., M.Com., and M.Fs. Heaten were entertained at the Masonic Hall, Hobart on Monday by the Workers' Educational Association of Tasmania.

Advertiser. 28/2/21.

FOREST PRODUCTS.

VALUABLE RESEARCH WORK.

Melbourne, February 25. Mr. Greene (Minister of Customs) made available to-night the following information regarding work in connection with forest products carried out during 1920 by the Institute of Science and Industry at its Perth laboratory. The work of the laboratory has been in connection chiefly with paper-making from Australian materials, and impregnation of hardwood with preservatives, with special reference to Powellising and tanning materials. A bulletin on the utilisation of wood waste has been prepared, and is now being printed. The paper investigations have been mainly confined to testing the pulping quality of timber from various States. This work is practically complete, and a report, which is being prepared setting out the results of the pulping trials, indicates satisfactory results from several of the common eucalypts.

Advertiser. 28/2/21.

Mr. William Charles Medlyn, secretary of the Adelaide Hospital, died at his residence, Moseley-street, Glenelg, on Saturday morning. He had been ill for some weeks, but on returning from a short holiday at Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, on Thursday last, was feeling much better. His sudden collapse, therefore, was quite unexpected. Mr. Medlyn was 62 years of age, and for over 20 years had been the secretary of the Adelaide Hospital. He was born in Adelaide and was educated at Wharfedale and Prince Alfred Colleges, and for some years had been residing at Glenelg. After a few years spent in commercial pursuits he was appointed to the clerical staff of the hospital in 1887. He was also secretary to the Charity Commissioners. He took an active interest in militia affairs, and formerly held the rank of captain in the citizen forces. During the war he joined the Army Medical Corps, and had the supervision of one of the hospitals at Lemnos Island. He was a consistent worker for the Methodist connexion, and was an officebearer of the Moseley-street Church. His services were highly valued by the Hospital Board, and he was always enthusiastic over his duties. To know him was to admire him for his courtesy and kindness, and he had a wide circle of friends. He leaves a widow, who is the daughter of the late Mr. Henry Graves.

Advertiser. 1/3/21.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

The office of Chancellor of the University is declared vacant every five years, and at its meeting on Friday last Sir George Murray, K.C.M.G., was unanimously re-elected by the council, on the motion of Sir George Brookman, seconded by Mr. Chapple. Dr. W. T. Hayward was reappointed by the council as the University representative on the Board of Management of the Adelaide Hospital. A letter was received from Mr. W. E. Wainwright, general manager of the Broken Hill South mine, offering several ore-dressing machines of laboratory size to the University engineering laboratory. As the machines are all particularly suitable for the purpose of teaching, the offer was gratefully accepted. A good deal of apparatus will be required to equip the new laboratories, the building of which will soon begin, and the hope was expressed that private generosity would greatly assist the University council in this respect. The council accepted tenders for the building of four additional teaching rooms for the Elder Conservatorium, and for the erection of an additional temporary chemical laboratory. The council approved the arrangements in connection with the Joseph Fisher lecture on "Currency and Prices in Australia," to be delivered by Mr. D. B. Copland, of Tasmania, at the beginning of the second term. The results of the special examination for the Elder Scholarship in singing were submitted, and the scholarship was awarded to Richard Charles Watson.

Register. 1/3/21.

Sir George Murray was unanimously re-elected Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, at a meeting of the council last Friday.