

Advertiser 13/12/21

# THE RHODES SCHOLAR

## MR. THOMAS ASHHURST SELECTED.

There was a full attendance of the Rhodes Scholarship Committee at a meeting held at Government House on Monday morning, under the chairmanship of his Excellency the Governor, for the purpose of selecting the South Australian Rhodes Scholar for 1922, and subsequently it was announced that Mr. Thomas Ashhurst, son of Mr. Thomas Ashhurst, of Bridgewater, had been chosen from among six candidates. He will go into residence at Oxford in October next.

Mr. Ashhurst was born at Bridgewater on December 5, 1898, and is taking the science course at the Adelaide University, which he entered in 1919. The successful candidate has had a distinguished career, both at the school and on the sports fields.



Mr. Thomas Ashhurst.

In 1910 and 1911 he was dux of the Bridgewater Public School, and after securing his qualifying certificate he went to the Mount Barker District High School, and in 1913 he passed, with credit, the Junior Public examination. Then he studied at the Adelaide High School, and in 1915 and 1916 respectively passed in subjects for the Senior Public and Higher Public examinations. Joining the Education Department, he studied privately afterwards, and in 1917 secured third position (first class) in the examination in the Principles of Teaching (departmental), and also passed in chemistry for the Senior Public examination. In 1919 he attended the Adelaide University for five months, passed in physiography (first class), physics i. (top position of second class), chemistry i. (second position of second class), elementary botany (third class), mathematics i. (exemption). In 1920 he secured a first-class pass (second position) in elementary organic chemistry (theoretical and practical), first class (second position), chemistry (part ii, theoretical), third-class chemistry (part ii, practical). He also attended lectures in physics ii. and maths. ii. as laid down in syllabus. At the recent University examinations he secured first class (top position), third year, with honors, in the chemistry course, consisting of first class, top position chemistry iii. (theoretical), first class, top position, chemistry iii. (practical).

Mr. Ashhurst plays tennis, cricket, and football, and has also taken part in rowing contests, and engaged in boxing and swimming. His record in regard to leadership in sports bodies is as follows:—Captain of the Bridgewater school football team, 1910 and 1911; captain Bridgewater Boy Football team, 1914; captain Cottonville Tennis Club, B team, 1917 and 1918; captain University tennis team (metropolitan association), and member of committee, 1921; member of committee Adelaide High School Old Scholars' hall, 1920; member of committee Adelaide High School old scholars' hall, 1921; assistant and minute secretary, Adelaide High School Old Scholars' Association, 1921; sub-treasurer Adelaide University Sports Association, 1921; sub-treasurer Adelaide University tennis tournament, 1921; hon. treasurer and hon. secretary Adelaide University Science Association, 1921, and elected for 1922; auditor of Bridgewater institute committee, 1921; selected as head supervisor for the public examinations; leadership in church work.

An interesting feature in connection with Mr. Ashhurst's career was mentioned yesterday by Mr. L. R. Scammell, of Messrs. Faulding & Co. He said Mr. Ashhurst's brother joined the staff of the firm as a boy, and went through all the departments, in which he showed great

ability. He lost his life at the front. Mr. Thomas Ashhurst also went to the war, and on his return he asked Messrs. Faulding & Co. if they would take him in his brother's place, to the extent of the time he had to spare from his studies at the University. This the firm agreed to, and for the past 2½ years he has been working in the firm's laboratory in his spare time and during all the University vacations.

### The Cost of Living.

The following has been communicated by the Trust to the chairman of the South Australian selection committee:—The Rhodes Trustees have reviewed the whole question of the value of their scholarships in relation to the present cost of living. They have lately done something to meet the new conditions by granting a bonus of £50 over and above the value of the scholarship to those scholars who had been elected or had come into residence without warning of the change in the purchasing power of money. They have also warned future candidates that the scholarship of £300 is no longer sufficient to carry them through the year, and that a candidate should be able to produce at least another £60 annually from his own resources. The Trustees have now decided, however, to extend the £50 bonus for the present to all Rhodes scholars, and not to limit it to those cases where a scholar might reasonably misunderstand the real value of his scholarship. The amount, therefore, of all Rhodes Scholarships henceforth and until further notice will, in effect, be £350 per annum. It is not suggested that even this sum is sufficient to meet the existing increase in prices, and candidates should still be warned that they may well need some small addition to it.

The trustees prefer to continue the practice of regarding the additional payment as a bonus and not as a permanent addition to the scholarship, because they cannot be certain either of the value of money in future years or of their own capacity to continue the payment indefinitely. At the same time they wish it to be clearly understood that the bonus will not be withdrawn without adequate notice, and certainly not in any case where a candidate has been elected in expectation of receiving it. It is proposed to pay the bonus in two half-year instalments of £25, beginning in midsummer, 1921.

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From Mrs. E. J. TUCKER, Strathalbyn:—Dr. Lucas Benham refers to Adelaide University as the only one in the British Empire without a coat-of-arms. It may be of interest to your readers to know that in connection with the Toronto University, in Canada, a building costing some millions of dollars, has been given for the social use of the students, and is called the Hart Memorial. It is completely fitted for the rest and recreation of the male students, and has rooms for music, reading, and receiving guests; also small sitting rooms, large gymnastic halls, a beautiful swimming bath, with a running track, and a perfectly appointed theatre, where the students perform plays at intervals; but the dining hall is the chef-d'oeuvre—it is capable of seating, I believe, 600 people, and a dinner for 400 was to take place on the evening of the day I was there. Everything is designed so far as possible in the antique style, even to the andirons in the fireplace, and the lighting arrangements. The walls are panelled a certain height, with wood divided into squares about 18 in. high, and in each panel around the room the coat-of-arms of every known university has been painted by an old student. The effect of the different colours is most artistic and lovely, but two panels are left blank, and stand out conspicuously as an ever-present reproach—one is for the coat-of-arms of the Adelaide University. Dr. Fraser, who kindly showed me over the building, said an application had been made for it a long time ago, but the blank still awaits its adornment—owing, I am informed, to the want of local funds. The question of designing one is, I believe, to be considered immediately by the Adelaide Senate, and possibly our University may soon have its coat-of-arms, in which case the reproach will be removed so far as Adelaide is concerned.

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Miss Muriel Laidlaw, of the Teachers' College in connection with the University, was the successful competitor for the Robert Whinham prize for elocution. The examiner commended as showing much promise Mr. T. G. J. Mitchell, and Miss Jessie E. Tank.

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# THE RHODES SCHOLAR.

Speaking at the annual demonstration in connection with Scotch College on Tuesday evening, his Excellency the Governor referred to the value of energy and pluck in the pursuit of education. He said he had just had a fine illustration of this in connection with the Rhodes scholarship. The winner, Mr. T. Ashhurst, had been educated at a State school. At the age of 14 he went on the land, and continued his educational course simultaneously. By sheer grit he climbed the ladder. In addition to acquiring the knowledge and furthering his education he found time to spend a year at the front in France, thus showing that he recognised that he had a duty to others as well as to himself. He also managed to give time to social and religious matters while at the University, and spent his Sundays in the service of the church. Mr. Ashhurst would not be in the proud position he now occupied if he had not recognised that he had a duty to his country, to his fellow-students, and to the community.

## Register 15/12/21 GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.

### PROPOSED UNIVERSITY CLUB.

The Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide, formed on August 7, 1920, hit upon a happy idea when it decided that its annual luncheon should be a fresco in character, and be held at the Botanic Park. No more ideal situation could have been chosen. Truly, Adelaide is fortunate in having so many and such extensive and beautiful public breathing spaces. The lungs of the city as typified in the park lands are indeed healthy. It is a heritage of which the citizens may well be proud. The second luncheon was held in delightful weather on Wednesday, and under the fascinating shade and picturesque surroundings of plane and other trees which grace the park. The arrangements made by the hon. secretary (Mr. D. H. Hollidge, M.A.) left nothing to be desired. An excellent repast was served. The President (Professor T. Brailsford Robertson) was master of ceremonies. Among those present were Sir George Brookman, members of the professional staff of the University, and Professor A. Strong (who was recently appointed jury professor of English at the University, and who will take up his duties in the new year). The object of the gathering was to welcome the new local graduates and those from other universities, and the President was the first to do so, briefly but right heartily.

—Three Hundred Members.—  
Dr. Harold Davies, Mus. Doc., in proposing the health of the guests, said he hoped they would in the hospitality of the occasion read something of the warmth of the welcome. It was good to know that year by year their ranks were being recruited so successfully, and that the influence of the University was growing and increasing throughout the community. He emphasized the benefits of knowledge and education in the widest and best sense. The new graduates were torchbearers of the future, and the association wished them godspeed in their life's mission. It desired their support. The constant aim was to increase the value and the efficiency of the University at every point, and chiefly the phase of corporate life in all its faculties. The association looked forward to the erection of a University Union, or club building. Professor Henderson had done a great deal to further the object, and about £5,000 in promises and actual subscriptions was in sight. Next year he hoped they would be able to enter upon a successful campaign for the completion of the scheme. There were about 220 members in the association, and with the entry of the 70 or so new ones, this year, the total would be 300. He wished the fresh graduates every success, and offered them heartfelt congratulations on their achievements. (Applause.)

Dr. Helen Mayo, speaking in support, referred to the excellent work of graduates of the Adelaide University, and stressed the value of personal and community co-operation.

The toast was enthusiastically honoured. —The Social Aspect.—  
Mr. F. E. Piper, LL.B., responded. He thanked the speakers for their congratulations and best wishes. The method of introduction had been most pleasing, and acceptable, and was highly appreciated. The social aspect of the University was being built up more and more, and must be promoted and greater results as a result of the work of the graduates. (Applause.)

# DEGREES CONFERRED

## THE UNIVERSITY COMMEMORATION.

The annual commemoration of the University of Adelaide was held in the Elder Hall on Wednesday afternoon. There was a large attendance, and those present included his Excellency the Governor, the Commissioner of Public Works (Hon. W. Hague), the Speaker of the House of Assembly (Sir Richard Butler), and many other prominent men. The Chancellor (Sir George Murray) presided. The Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mitchell) received his Excellency and escorted him to the platform, on which were seated members of the Council and the Senate, the professors and lecturers, and the candidates for degrees and diplomas wearing academic robes. The members of the Council present, in addition to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, included Sir Langdon Bonython, Sir George Brookman, Sir Joseph Verco, Mr. Justice Angus Parsons, Professors Chapman and Rennie, Mr. Frederick Chapple (warden of the Senate), Dr. W. T. Hayward, the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy), Dr. F. S. Hone, Messrs. J. R. Fowler, W. R. Bayly, S. Talbot Smith, L. L. Hill, M.P., and E. Anthoney, M.P. During a procession through the hall, marked by dignity and picturesqueness lent by the colors of the academic hoods and gowns, "The Song of Australia" was played on the grand organ, and the National Anthem was afterwards sung.

The Chancellor, in addressing the assembly, said he desired in the first place to convey to his Excellency the Governor the thanks of the University for again honoring it with his presence. Last year he had ventured to hope that his Excellency would address the University in that hall on some date to be arranged. A recent announcement had shaken that hope, but had not altogether destroyed it. His Excellency had found it necessary to shorten his term of office as Governor of the State—a decision which had caused deep regret and disappointment to the members of the University no less than to the general public. (Applause.) His Excellency's work in South Australia had been of striking importance in many ways. He had attempted to bring employer and employe closer together. He had sought to arouse a more widespread sense of public duty. He had initiated a movement to secure the early utilization of Mr. Peter Waite's splendid gift to the State for secondary education in agriculture, and he had done many other valuable things. To lose his Excellency so soon was a real misfortune. (Applause.) His intention to depart was understood to be unalterable, and there was nothing they could do except most sincerely to wish his Excellency and Lady Weigall godspeed and a happy and prosperous future. (Applause.) If he could find time before he went to deliver an address when the University session began again, they would be most grateful. (Applause.)

Gift for a Great Hall.  
In referring to outstanding events connected with the University during the past year, the Chancellor said first in order of time as well as of distinction was the magnificent gift of £40,000 by Sir Langdon Bonython for the erection of a great hall similar to the halls in other universities. (Applause.) Sir Langdon had most reasonably postponed the date of payment to ten years hence because no suitable site for such a building was yet available. He had generously left the selection of the site to the council of the University, and, no doubt, one worthy in every way of his splendid liberality would in due course be chosen. (Applause.) The hall would be the meeting place of the University on all ceremonial occasions. It would be a thing admirable in itself for its beauty of design and adornment. It would be a shrine wherein memorials of famous men and women connected with the University would be gathered together. It would preserve the name of Sir Langdon himself, not merely as the donor, but as an earnest advocate and worker in many branches of education. Their sincere hope was that Sir Langdon would live to contemplate with satisfaction the result of his munificence. (Applause.)