

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE A SOUTH AUSTRALIAN STATION.

29 NOV 1921

The proposal to invite a British astronomical expedition to study the total eclipse of the sun, in September next, from a far northern station was supported at a meeting in the Lady Mayoress' room at the Adelaide Town Hall on Monday. The Lord Mayor (Mr. F. B. Moulden), who presided, said it would be a great advertisement for the State if the British expedition could be induced to come to South Australia. The meeting had been called in order that an early invitation might be sent to the British authorities to make their observations from this State. (Applause.)

His Excellency the Governor said:—I am delighted to be here in order to show by my presence my interest in the matter that this meeting is asked to forward. I can well believe that there are those who are materially-minded and who may say "Why make this fuss about an eclipse of the sun? Is it going to shorten our hours or increase our wages?" But I can well believe that in an occasion almost unique in the lives of most people may be made of importance if we, as materially-minded sections of the community, will place at the disposal of scientists opportunities for research in such matters as these. After all, there is no one who is not benefited by the activities and researches of scientific men. I commend the objects of this meeting to you, and urge you to place the desired opportunities at the disposal of those who are equipped to turn them to material advantage.

The Chief Justice (Sir George Murray) moved—"That this meeting extend an invitation to the British Joint Permanent Eclipse Committee to send to the South Australian station an expedition to observe the total solar eclipse on September 21, 1922." He understood total eclipses of the sun occurred every year in some part of the world, but there would not be another in Australia for 50 years. South Australia had a much clearer atmosphere than Christmas Island, to which part the British expedition was arranging to go, and South Australia should offer hospitality to the expedition if it would come to this State. Before the invitation was issued, however, the committee should be in possession of full information regarding transport, &c. (Applause.) Sir William Sowden seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Lord Mayor said he had received apologies from all the members of the Ministry, who were engaged in a Cabinet meeting. Mr. Peter Waite had written commending the idea, and intimating that he had arranged with the manager of the Bellana Pastoral Company to report fully to him what was required in order that he might be able to give his quota of assistance. (Cheers.)

Professor Mitchell (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide) moved:—"That this meeting support the project of sending a South Australian expedition to make observations on the eclipse in the far north of this State." He said there were many reasons why next year's solar eclipse would be of value. First, there was the value which the mind of the whole scientific world attached to it. There was no philosophy nor science that was not looking for the photograph, to see if they would confirm the general theory of relativity. That test alone would not prove the theory, but Einstein said he would surrender his theory if the test failed. It was a sporting offer. A disturbance had been created by that theory, the reason being that it meant a revolution in physics, and therefore in the foundation of all science. However, that did not mean that existing science would be found in error. During the past generation there had been two great revolutions in physics—one, the analysis of the atom, and the other, that electricity consisted of particles. But the new knowledge had destroyed none of the old. It simply rose to a new height and could look down on the old, giving it a new reading and making intelligible the parts of it that were obscure before. Science always moved in two directions. In one it discovered new facts and laws; the other direction was that of theory. Its task was to gather facts and the empirical laws into a system so that they were seen to hang on one another. That meant intelligibility. The importance of Einstein's theory was that it might be said to displace the older philosophy. The new theory was no sudden discovery. It

came after years of labor by many scientists to meet certain problems that so far had no answer. It was a very sporting offer Einstein had put before the world, and so far he held the theory. (Applause.) Australia would naturally take a sporting interest in the outcome of its first total solar eclipse. (Applause.) Next year the University hoped to excite more intimate interest. Early in the session Professor Wilton would give three public lectures for the Extension Lectures Board, and if they were fortunate enough to secure the British astronomers' visit they would have accomplished something.

Professor Chapman, in seconding, said this would be the first total solar eclipse in the history of Australia, and they should not show themselves lacking intellectual interest, or be indifferent to their obligations to science. (Applause.) The motion was carried.

The Government Astronomer (Mr. G. F. Dodwell) moved for the appointment of a large South Australian General Eclipse Committee, with representation of the scientific societies; the general committee to be:—Patron, his Excellency the Governor; president, the Chief Justice; vice-presidents, the Premier, the Lord Mayor (Mr. Frank Moulden), the Lord Mayor-elect (Mr. Lewis Cohen); the president of the Observatory Board of Visitors (Sir Langdon Bonython); joint secretaries, the Government Astronomer and Professor Kerr Grant; hon. treasurer, Mr. Fred Johns; and the following to be the executive committee:—The officers of the general committee, the Observatory Board of Visitors, the Vice-Chancellor of the University and Professor J. R. Wilton, the committee of the Astronomical Society, the president of the Public Library Board, Sir Sidney Kidman, Hon. P. McM. Glynn, Hon. D. J. Gordon, Mr. C. H. Angus, Mr. J. A. Breaden, Major L. Lewis, Mr. H. H. Dutton, Captain S. A. White, Mr. E. Bromley, Mr. M. B. Iye, Mr. H. R. Adamson, and Mr. V. H. Ryan. Mr. Dodwell explained the phenomenon that would occur, and spoke of the beauty of the sun's corona and the scientific ends to be achieved by photographing the stars. The committee was seeking the loan of one or more such telescopes as New Zealand had secured from Yale University. In Central Australia the eclipse would last four minutes, which was enough to take accurate photographs of the sun and its background of stars. The same region would be photographed some months later, when the sun was no longer there, having moved on in front of different stars. The two sets of plates would be superposed, and meticulously careful measurement would show how much the sun pulled out of its usual path the ray of light from the star. The eclipse of next year was awaited with great interest by the scientific world, in order to confirm or contradict results formerly secured, with the exact amount of deflection of light through gravitation predicted by the Einstein theory. Delicate and careful the work must be. Sir David Gill had said that to measure such an angle was like measuring the width of a threepenny-bit a mile away. Of course, astronomers did measure angles much smaller than that, and at the present time the interferometer, by measuring the interference of waves of light, was giving marvellous results at the Mount Wilson Solar Observatory.

During the eclipse it was not only the distant heavenly bodies that were studied. Important observations were made on variations in the earth's magnetism; the propagation of "wireless" waves through the shadow-region; the times of incidence of the shadow at the observing stations; the alterations of the electric conditions of the atmosphere; and varying intensities of heat and other radiations received from different portions of the sun's surface. In fact, the scientific field extended from the almost infinitesimal electrons of the tiny atom. (Applause.)

Professor Kerr Grant seconded the motion. He added that all the advances of science had finally led to discoveries of the utmost importance to mankind. The theory of the round earth, for instance, led Columbus to set sail in quest of another world. There were difficulties in the way, but he hoped they would be overcome, and that South Australia would rank among the countries which had sent out expeditions. (Applause.) The motion was adopted.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

FAULTY OF MEDICINE.
EXAMINATION RESULTS, NOVEMBER, 1921.

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF MEDICINE AND BACHELOR OF SURGERY, NOVEMBER, 1921.

PASS LIST
(In order of merit.)
First Year.

First Class.—None.
Second Class.—Cocks, Alfred Sydney de Bolum; Costou, James Murray; Glanville, Reuben; and Smith, Gordon Wearing, equal. Chester, Harry Leonard; Chinner, Melville Ernest; Stamp, Frances Marion; and Hornbrook, Reginald Denis, equal. Hamilton, Reginald Howgill; and Merland, Jack, equal. Pica, Hector; Orlin, Oyst Brook; Morey, Geoffrey Wilson.
Third Class.—Barnett, Samuel Powell; Kaines, Raymond Hannay; and Mullen, Leonard Ross, equal. Kohler Theodore Carl; Finley, Thomas Dixie; Grows, Albert Walter; Tazde, Gemmel; Rolison, John William.

Second Year.
First Class.—Formby, Myles Landseer; Munday, Nell Horace; Johnston, Benjamin George; East, Raymond Jack; and Wigg, Neil Melrose, equal.
Second Class.—Piper, Oyst Thomas; Stephens, Kenneth Owen; and Swann, Eric John, equal. McManney, Rita Margaret, and Kocz, H. Ash Mitchell, equal. Porter, John Ellison, and Reid, Arthur Douglas, equal. Lambphoe, Allan Dunstan; Formby, John Edward, and Gregerson, Gerald Jenkin, equal. Bone, Garton Maxwell.
Third Class.—Hamilton, Ian Aylife, and Priest, Henry Gordon; Tasse, Thomas Wilson; Schneider, Michael; Forgan, Sydney Bayly.

Recommended for the Elder Prize.—Formby, Myles Landseer.
Third Year.
First Class.—None.
Second Class.—Hoeking, Herbert Champion; Tostevin, Alfred Ladyman; Wicks, Frederick Ralph; Thyer, Frederick Lewis; Birch, Hugh McIntyre.
Third Class.—Angus, William Roy and Howling, Donald Augustus, equal; Appley, Harold Henry; Christie, William; Cowling, Lionel Aencalon; Mitchell, Thomas Oswald; Binns, Raymond Thomas; Cornish, Joseph Ruskin.

Fourth Year.
First Class.—None.
Second Class.—West, Frank Esmond; Clark, Annie Winifred; Jose, Gilbert Edgar, and Solomon, Isaac Barnes, equal; Fisher, Harry Medical; Souter, Robert John de Neufville; Adams, Dorothy Sorby and Terrill, Frederick Edward, equal.
Third Class.—Sumner, Donald James Robert; McLaughlin, Eugene; Quinn, Thomas Vincent.
Fifth Year.
First Class.—None.
Second Class.—Forey, Howard Walter; Gartrell, Eric Frank; Michell, Charles Francis.
Third Class.—Wells, Clarence Gordon; Jones, Alan Thomas Britten; Branson, Harold Randolph; Jones, Brynmor Beveridge; Gillian, William; White, Alan Hubert; Tonkin, William Richards; Cooper, Donald Couther.

FAULTY OF ARTS.

FOR THE HONORS DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS.
Classics (5).
Second Class.—Grosvenor, Edna Mary.
David Murray Prize in Classics.
Recommended for prize, Grosvenor, Edna Mary.

FOR THE ORDINARY DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS.
(In alphabetical order.)
Greek (1).—First Year.

Division I.—Hollidge, Alfreda Faith.
Division II.—Leidig, Ludwig Adolf Emanuel; Piper, Flora Elizabeth.
Division III.—Crocker, Walter Russell; Daltry, Kate; Watson Percival.
Recommended for the Barr Smith prize, Hollidge, Alfreda Faith.

Greek (1).—Second Year.
Division I.—None.
Division II.—Brawn, May; Crampton, Mary Hope St. Clair.
Division III.—None.
Greek (1).—Third Year.
Division I.—None.
Division II.—None.
Division III.—None.

Latin (2).—First Year.
Division I.—None.
Division II.—Brown, George; Burnett, Baltimore Edward Thackeray; Buttery, Roland Richard; Campbell, Douglas; Gun, Lancelot Townsend; Harris, Sophie Dora; Hawker, Mildred Ivy; J. J. Kathleen Ellnor; Johncock, Ernest Harry; Kelly, Ocell James St. Leger; Kelly, Patrick Joseph McCarthy; Peter Paul; Morriss, Elsie; Piper, Flora Elizabeth; Robertson, Iris Esther; Wauchope, Diosa Marie.
Division III.—Adams, Frederick Penoyre; Cartwright, Lancelot; Chalklen, Gwendoline Elizabeth; Coombe, Alec Holloway; Crocker, Walter Russell; Daenke, Eric; Davoren, John Joseph; Gates, Pearl Winifred; Hall, Hilda May; Hardy, John Scott; Haywood, Edward Leo; McNeill, Margaret Graham; Martin, Amalia Anna; Noblett, Hedley Lindsay; Pattinson, Baden Powell; Sanders, Charles Arthur; Saunders, Pepita Gerda; Stanley, Laurence John; Tilley, Edith Louise; Wade, Audrey Francis; Walt, Gladys Marguerite; Yates, Mary McKinnon.

Recommended for the Andrew Scott prize, Piper, Flora Elizabeth.
Latin (2).—Second Year.
Division I.—Hazel, Kathleen Lillian.
Division II.—Brawn, May; Daltry, Kate; Hollidge, Alfreda Faith; Holmes, Edna Lucy.
Division III.—Barbour, Graeme Madona; Brown, George; Caldwell, Emma Victoria; Ceggett, Doris; Lade, Norman Edgar; Mortimer, Cecil Leonard; Oden, Olive Isabel; Richards, Archibald Charles; Robjohns, Annie Joan; Shaw, Kate Hamby; Tiley, Edith Louise; Topperstein, Irwin; Tregezza, Sydney Lloyd.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PROCESSION.

From "PRO BONO PUBLICO":—Not one of the correspondents who have criticized my remarks on the contemplated University students' procession have attempted to justify the reason of such an overdose of absurdity, but have simply and weakly pleaded the exigencies of rebellious youth. If they want to parade themselves in public and attract cheap notoriety, why do they not stage something worth looking at and of an uplifting and educative nature? They simply attempt to satirise some current local topic, and are so crude in the production that they are compelled to placard the item with large untidy notices to give the public some idea of what they intend.

From "MED. STUDENT":—A couple of doubtless well-meaning old gentlemen have written epistles casting grave suspicions on us poor students as disturbers of the public peace, polluters of the public morals, and various other types of undesirable. I know not who "Cecil C. Crump," "Xerxes," and "Varsity Student" may be, but I endorse their views to some extent. Abuse is not in my line, otherwise I would designate "Pro Bono Publico" as a Puritanical prohibitionist, translate his cognomen as "for the boody-roody public," and call him many kinds of "wower." "Wellwisher" I could wish at the bottom of his own well; but I want to argue the case for the students, not against the opposition. There is, perhaps, no collection of people in this country who live such a difficult life as we students do. Life to us for 10 months out of 12 is a grueling round of work all day and half the night. Two nights a week, perhaps, we can feel really free. Who, then, can blame us if, when we take our dissipations, we take them properly? Who can blame us that we are friends of the noble Bacchus? After examinations, like a piece of elastic kept on a gradually increasing stretch, and now suddenly released, we must fly back and expend the enormous energy we have accumulated; and, if any one be struck in the process, can we be blamed? As the physicist says, "Every action engenders an equal and opposite reaction." The enormous strain and confinement of action whereunder we labour for so long engenders an equal and opposite reaction, and if it should appear in the form of a procession, which is really quite innocuous, and which gives amusement to a large section of the community, and small offence to a still smaller number, are we to be abused? If the whole University instead were to hold a prolonged drinking bout, lasting a week, as another means by which we could rid ourselves of our superfluous energy, there would indeed be cause for complaint.

From "VERITAS":—"Pro Bono Publico" and "Wellwisher" write concerning the students' procession, and the former has come in for some undeserved abuse from two or three of those misguided youths for his worthy efforts. My age is 47; I am a member of the Methodist Church; I believe in Prohibition, especially for irresponsible children; I am married; I have been known to stay home and mind the children; I do not need to be put into a tramcar on such occasions, since I am the proud owner of a Ford. Having now leprived "Xerxes," "Varsity Student," and "Cecil C. Crump" of some of their weapons of abuse and insinuation, I shall now proceed to my argument. The University students as a body are a fine set of young men. I have had contact with them enough to find this out; but they have their faults. Some of them, I am afraid, possess queer views upon the graver responsibilities of life. To some chastity in speech and act is a joke, a thing of ridicule, instead of the grave responsibility which it really is. The abuse of alcohol is, I fear, sadly rife, and gambling at racemeetings is not among the least of their sins. Now it is a feature of mob-psychology (especially in an excited crowd with examinations behind them and a rowdy evening in front of them) that the higher characteristics of the mind not common to all are suppressed, and the lowest fundamental common ones are proportionately excited, so that all the students are reduced to their lowest common level. These three things I mentioned above. The result is the objectionable nature of the procession.