

112  
Advertised  
5.1.23

Register  
6.1.23

(ould.)

112  
Elder Scholar  
Royal College  
of Music  
Register 6.1.23

### W.E.A. SUMMER SCHOOL.

The summer school now being held under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association at Mount Lofty is proving a great success. Professor T. Brailford Robertson was the speaker on Wednesday night, his subject being, "Food values." There was an attendance of about 50 students and visitors, who found the discourse an educational one. On Thursday morning the Rev. G. Hale, B.A., delivered a lecture on "Some Persian poets." He remarked that as it had been said every Irishman was an orator, so might it be contended that every Persian was a poet, and at one time there had been no fewer than 400 poets officially attached to the Royal Court of Persia. Even when writing on every-day topics, Persians often expressed themselves in verse, and so musical was the language itself that many of the words might be described as "fossilised poetry." The substance of the lecture dealt mainly with the "Golden Age" of Persian poetry, which occurred between the years 950 and 1500 of our era, as represented by the brilliant constellation consisting of Firdausi, Nizami, Rumi, Essedi, Sa'di, Hafiz, Jami, and Omar. The first-named was the author of "Shah-Nameh," of the "Book of Kings," the longest poem on record, which consisted of 60,000 couplets, and had taken 60 years to complete. The poet had prophesied that he would write what no wave would ever wash away, and what men unborn would read o'er oceans wide, and he had kept his word, for although much Persian poetry had perished this wonderful work had travelled down to the present day intact. Fitzgerald's translation of Omar had been described by some authorities as nine-tenths Fitzgerald, but through the translation could be discerned, despite the scepticism and mysticism, the grand transparent sincerity and courage of its creator. Essedi, the tutor of Firdausi, was noted for a beautiful poem called "Night and Day." Rumi owed his reputation to a religious poem on the uplifting power of human and divine love, which he had written for a religious order of which he was the founder. Sa'di, who was a popular poet at the present day, was noted for the "Rose Garden," which was as fresh and beautiful to-day as when its petals first felt the kisses of the sun. "Yusuf and Zulekia," by Jami, was the Biblical story of Joseph and Potiphar's wife, transformed by Eastern imagery so that the man represented the emblem of divine perfection, while the woman personified the redeeming power of suffering.

## STIMULUS TO EDUCATION.

### South Australia at Imperial Conference.

#### Mr. McCoy to Attend.

The Minister of Education (Hon. T. Pascoe) states that the Government has appointed the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy) to represent South Australia at the Imperial Education Conference in London, on June 25.

The advantage gained by sending public officers abroad has been demonstrated more than once. Such officials may have an adequate knowledge of their particular duties to successfully carry on their work, but when they meet and discuss matters with others overseas, it seems a natural corollary that the result would be a mutual benefit. Therefore, it will be pleasing to educationists in the State to learn of the Government's decision that the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy, B.A.) will represent South Australia at the Imperial Education Conference



THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (MR. W. T. MCCOY, B.A.), who will represent South Australia at the Imperial Education Conference in London on June 25.

in London, on June 25. That announcement was made by the Minister of Education (Hon. T. Pascoe) on Friday afternoon. The Director of Education in Victoria (Mr. F. Tate, M.A., I.S.O., C.M.G.) will also make the trip.

#### —Previous Conferences.—

In New South Wales and Victoria many of the leading officers of the Education Department have had the advantage of studying system abroad, and the late Mr. Alfred Williams, a former director in South Australia, had a similar opportunity, after having attended the 1907 conference as the representative of this State. The first Imperial Education Conference was held in 1907, the invitation having been issued through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia were represented by their directors. A second conference was held in 1912, when New South Wales and Western Australia sent their officials. Australia is peculiarly in need of a stimulus of such conferences, owing to its isolated position in the world. The 1923 conference, which will be the third of its kind, has been convened to discuss educational questions of direct interest to the Dominions; for instance the interchange of teachers, the establishment of a central information bureau for the dissemination of information to each part of the Empire, concerning what is being done in other parts, the form of school buildings most suitable to various climates and their costs, vocational training in higher secondary work, the scope of medical inspection, the cinema in education, the training of teachers, and so on.

—The Value of Travel.— Many experiments are being made under the London County Council in school organization, and in the methods of instruction, which, if proved successful, will considerably modify the work done in schools generally throughout the Empire. Mr. McCoy will have the opportunity to hear these experiments discussed, and to see them in operation. It is understood that the authorities in England have provided for the delegates visiting educational institutions, both in the United Kingdom and on the Continent. Visits to such institutions will form an important phase of the trip. The chief value of any conference is derived, not so much from listening to addresses and papers, as from the unreported discussions and exchange of views among the delegates. Failures are conferred as well as successes proclaimed, and a representative at a conference realizes that he cannot learn from published reports what things are to be avoided. It is stated that many parts of the Empire, including Nova Scotia, Manitoba, South Africa, Cape Colony, Victoria, and many of the smaller dominions will be represented, and the presence of all the eminent English educationalists is assured. Mr. McCoy expects to leave for London in March.

#### —Mr. McCoy's Career.—

Mr. McCoy was appointed Director of Education in South Australia in October, 1919. The Government had had submitted to it a resolution of the South Australian Public Teachers' Union, suggesting that applications should be called from all the Australian States to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the late Mr. Maughan. This was done, with the result that out of 37 received by the Public Service Commissioner, the Government decided to appoint Mr. McCoy, Director of Education in Tasmania, to the vacancy. Mr. McCoy is 55 years of age. He is a Bachelor of Arts of the Sydney University. He received his professional training as a teacher at the Sydney Training College, going through the full course, and received the I.A. Teachers' Certificate of the New South Wales Education Department. He served as a teacher of all grades from pupil teacher, teacher of small schools, assistant teacher, to the head mastership of schools from classes IV. to I. He was for six years an inspector of schools in New South Wales, and five years in charge of the Lismore District.

## TALENTED MUSICIAN.

### MR. JOHN BISHOP'S SUCCESS.

The South Australian Scholarship (the capital for which was placed with the Royal College authorities by Sir Thomas Elder) is a coveted honour in the realms of music-studentship. The funds having accumulated, it was possible, at this last examination, to award two scholarships, instead of one, as is usually done. The winners are Mr. L. A. J. Bishop, a pupil of Mr. William Silver; and Miss Helena



MR. JOHN BISHOP, winner of the South Australian scholarship.

Fisher, pupil of Miss Nora Kyffin Thomas, a notice of whom recently appeared in The Saturday Journal. Mr. Bishop has made rapid advancement as a pianist under Mr. Silver since he won his open scholarship in December, 1916. Prior to that, Miss Waye, of Willunga, was the teacher. Mr. Bishop, who is 19 years of age, is a native of Aldinga, and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Bishop. In 1919 he won the Alexander Clark scholarship, and further proved his musicianship. Since 1918 the gifted pianoforte player has resided with Mr. Silver, and accompanied him, in December, 1920, upon a round-the-world trip. Much of the time was spent in musical circles in England. Mr. Bishop has not confined his talents to one instrument, for he has also studied the cello with Mr. Harold Parsons, Mus. Bac., and, after about 15 months' tuition, played the cello part in a Haydn Trio at one of the students' concerts at the Elder Conservatorium—a most creditable work for such a short time of study. While away in England last year he "rubbed" many beautiful impressions of old memorial brasses. These rubbings were taken from many of the finest and oldest brasses in England—the earliest being from Stoke d' Abernon and dated 1277. Mr. Bishop has other hobbies, for he is an enthusiastic gardener and bridge-player. Mr. Lindo (one of the English examiners) predicts that "he will be a credit to British music and to Australia." Early in March a concert will be arranged, at which both he and Miss Helena Fisher will perform. Among others who have won this same scholarship are Gull Back (now Mrs. W. A. Magarey), Brewster Jones, Clara Serena, and Merle Robertson. Miss Robertson was the last to use the scholarship, and was also Mr. Silver's pupil. Mr. Silver is thus the first teacher to have prepared two successful pupils for this scholarship.

Advertised  
6.1.23

The Rev. J. A. Ford, B.A., B.D., the popular pastor of the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, has been appointed chaplain of Scot's College, Sydney, and will leave for his new post at the end of January. Mr. Ford was recently nominated for the position of Moderator of the State Assembly for 1923-4. He



The Rev. J. A. Ford.

is a native of Melbourne. He took first place in philosophy, psychology, and ethics in his B.A. course at the Adelaide University. Prior to accepting a call to the Mount Pleasant and South Rhine Churches he had charge of the churches at Murray Bridge and Monarto.

See Register  
30.12.22  
re Miss Fisher  
the other Elder  
Scholar

Advertised  
Register 5.1.23.  
Rev. J. H. Allen, B.Sc.

A large number of friends of the Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Allen met on Thursday at the residence of Mr. T. Padman, St. Peters, to bid farewell to Mr. Allen, who is about to leave for India. Mr. and Mrs. Allen, after spending about 14 years at Lucknow and Benares, India, doing missionary work, returned to Australia on furlough 12 months ago. A large portion of the year was spent on aputation work in this State and Victoria. He will leave on the steamer Naldora on Monday for a further five years' service in charge of the Wesley High School, at Azamgarh. Mrs. Allen will remain in Adelaide and attend to the children's education.

Secondary  
Education

Advertised 6.1.23.

### TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

With the object of improving the standard of women teachers in secondary schools, the Women Teachers' Association in South Australia has decided to inaugurate a special training course. This will begin on March 5 and will be continued throughout the year for University graduates. Teachers who hold primary certificates will have the advantage of a two years' course. Miss E. Carson, B.A., of the Education Department, Victoria, has been engaged as supervisor.