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A STUDENT HONOURED.

THE JOHN BISHOP CONCERT.

A galaxy of local talent was concerned in the farewell concert tendered to Mr. John Bishop on Wednesday evening in the Adelaide Town Hall. It was a memorable occasion in the life of the brilliant young South Australian pianist, for prominent musicians supported that central figure in the presentation of a programme that was received with every manifestation of delight. There was a crowded attendance, and included in the gathering were Lady Bridges and party from Government House, and the Director of the Elder Conservatorium (Professor E. Harold Davies, Mus. Doc.), and Mrs. Davies.

Mr. Bishop has shown signal promise in his homeland that augurs optimistically for the wider sphere now opening out in London. When only 12 years of age he won the William Silver Scholarship, and subsequently secured the Alexander Clark Scholarship at the Elder Conservatorium. In December, 1920, Mr. Bishop went to England with his master, and was absent for a period of 13 months. Now he has crowned his scholastic career in Adelaide by winning the Elder Scholarship of the Royal College of Music. The John Bishop Fund has been formed of admirers of the young man's progress, and their financial support has enabled the student to arrange to leave on July 18. Mr. Charles Cawthorne, as the hon. secretary, has performed splendid service, and the excellent concert arrangements were likewise in his hands. Seven years have elapsed since the last local student took advantage of the scholarship, which is usually awarded every three years—so additional interest centres about the present occasion.

Mr. Bishop made two appearances, but had to supplement the set numbers in order to gratify the audience's ovations. Upon his first entry he was accorded a great welcome, as was also Mr. Silver, who accompanied him—the gathering evidently realizing the important part Mr. Silver has had in aiding his pupil's progress. The introductory item was Grieg's "Concerto in A minor" (first movement), Mr. Silver supplying the orchestral parts on the second piano. A thoughtful and scholarly reading of this classical composition was given, Mr. Bishop's technique calling for a special word. His encore number was that delicate and melodious Schumann gem, "F sharp major romance," which revealed the temperamental possibilities of the interpreter. Later on, Mr. Bishop played a bracket comprising Chopin's "Chant Polonais in G flat," and Verdi's "Rigoletto fantasia"—both being arrangements by Liszt. The executant excelled himself in these contrasting compositions, and again had to give an extra item, "F sharp major nocturne," of Chopin, which further indicated the delightful touch possessed by the young instrumentalist.

Assisting artists comprised:—Misses Maude Puddy, Mus. Bac.; Alice Meegan, A.M.U.A.; Katie Joyce, A.M.U.A.; Hilda Gill, A.M.U.A.; Messrs. Gerald Walenn, H. Brewster-Jones, Harold Parsons, Mus. Bac.; Harold Wyde, F.R.C.O.; T. H. Jones, Mus. Bac.; Fred Stone, Richard Watson, William Silver, and George Pearce. Mr. T. H. Jones played the introductory National Anthem on the grand organ, and the same instrument was the medium of a musicianly solo by Mr. Harold Wyde, "Rhapsodie sur des Cantinques Bretons" (Saint-Saens). Miss Hilda Gill then sang a group of three contralto numbers, "Chant Hindoo" (Bemberg), "Golden slumbers" (Corder), and "My life's delight" (Quilter), with customary taste and expression. One of the outstanding renditions was given by Miss Maude Puddy and Mr. Brewster-Jones, of "Le Rouet d'Omphale" (Saint-Saens), arranged for two pianos. Mr. Fred Stone was in capital voice for his bracket of tenor songs, "A spirit flower" (Tipton) and "Entreaty" (Wilson Smith). Miss Katie Joyce also won her share of applause for an artistic interpretation of "Mon coeur s'ouvre a la voix" (Saint-Saens). A group of violin solos were ably presented by Mr. Gerald Walenn, "Air on the G string" (Mattheson), "Caprice Viennois" (Kreisler), and "Harlequinade," an original and brilliant composition by the player. Mr. Richard Watson added to his local popularity with Mozart's song from "The Magic Flute," "Qui Sdegno," which was well given. Mr. Harold Parsons also repeated former successes with the cello solo "Kol Nidrei" (Max Bruch), Mr. Harold Wyde supplying the organ accompaniment and Mr. George Pearce the harp par on the piano. The evening's accompaniments were shared by Miss Alice Meegan, Messrs. Harold Wyde, William Silver, and George Pearce.

At the interval Mr. George Whittle auctioned a number of blossoms, which realized £8 10/6. Flowers were also sold by a number of girls. The Beale piano used was lent by Savery's.

Several weeks ago Professor Sir Baldwin Spencer and Mr. L. Keith Ward (Government Geologist for the State) left Adelaide on a scientific mission to the centre of South Australia. In a letter to a friend in Adelaide Mr. Ward, writing on June 9 from Alice Springs, mentioned that the expedition was most interesting. Sir Baldwin Spencer had added further data to his previous extensive collection of facts regarding the aborigines. Mr. Ward remarks:—"I question whether one could match the hideous ugliness of some of the old ladies of the Arunta tribe anywhere in the world. The men are much better favoured, and their dignity is magnificent. Some of the children are really good-looking." The party expects to be back in Adelaide early in July.

HERALD 29.6.23

BLOW FLY PEST

APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

A fair number of people attended at the Prince of Wales' lecture hall at the University, on Tuesday night, to hear the second lecture of Professor Harvey Johnston. At the outset Professor J. B. Cleland said that Professor Johnston was compelled to keep his bed, owing to an attack of the prevalent epidemic, influenza, but he was glad to say that the attack was slight, and the sufferer would soon be well again.

Professor Cleland opened his address with an earnest appeal for funds, to enable research to be carried on into the blowfly pest. Professor Johnston was prepared to plan and supervise these researches, if funds were forthcoming to purchase the necessary apparatus. Hundreds of thousands of pounds were lost annually owing to the blowfly pest. He thought that the private individuals who suffered, and the Pastoralists Association, who protected them, should contribute the small amount necessary, say, £1,000 for a period of ten years. He was sure that great benefit would accrue from the professor's researches. He would leave it to the people of South Australia to take further steps.

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MR. PETER BOARD.

A GREAT EDUCATIONIST.

Mr. Peter Board, who was formerly Director of Education in New South Wales, is to be the principal speaker at the Public Teachers' Union Conference in Adelaide. He is recognised as the foremost educationist in Australia. It is 50 years since he joined the education service of New South Wales as a pupil teacher at Glebe, and he worked his way to the head of the department. He was the youngest headmaster ever appointed to a first-class metropolitan school.

Interest in the education systems propounded by Mill, Ruskin, and Carlyle influenced Mr. Board at an early stage of his career. He put into effect their advice that teachers should see the work done in countries other than their own, and a result of his first trip abroad was a report which attracted much attention. The impetus he gave to the education movement in New South Wales won for Mr. Board the appointment of Under-Secretary and Director of Education in February, 1905.

Under the auspices of Mr. Board the primary school work in New South Wales was reorganised, and the method of training teachers underwent improvement. Secondary education was developed and the system of inspection was remodelled. Coincident with that was a raising of the status of teachers. As a result of Mr. Board's advocacy, the way has been made clear for a child to go from the primary school to the University, and education has been provided for every family in New South Wales. He has promoted harmony between the State and private schools, and has founded a modern system of technical education.

UNIVERSITY LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society on Tuesday evening, an extremely interesting case was argued. The question was set by Dr. D. Kerr, and gave ample scope for all speakers to exercise their ingenuity. The facts of the case were:—"On the 1st of April 1923, A was registered proprietor of sections X and Y, hundred of Adelaide, under the provisions of the Real Property Act, 1886. The sections at the date were occupied by B under an agreement contained in a letter dated the 1st of June, 1921, from A to B for three years' tenancy. On the 2nd of April, 1923, C offered to purchase both sections from A. A then informed C that B was a tenant under a verbal agreement for a term of three years, which was still running, and that he would consider the offer. On the 3rd of April, 1923, B with the approval of A, sub-let by letter, for the balance of three years, less one day, to D, and gave possession to D. On the 10th of April A accepted C's offer as to section X, and C then requested A not to mention to any one that you have sold the section to me." The question of the purchase of section Y was left over for consideration by A. A transfer from A to C of section X was registered. On the 30th of April A accepted C's offer to purchase section Y, and a transfer on this date was executed and lodged for registration. Before actual registration, on the 1st May, D lodged a caveat which was entered against the titles of both section X and Y forbidding the registration of any dealing with the estate of C in section X, and the estate of A in section Y. The Registrar-General refused to register the transfer of section Y until removal of caveat. D takes proceedings to establish his rights as caveator and for a declaration that the estate or interest of C in the sections was subject to D's tenancy. C counter-claims possession." Mr. J. R. McCabe and Mr. H. N. Tucker appeared for D, while C was represented by Mr. F. P. Adams and Mr. M. J. McLeay. After counsel had argued, the matter was thrown open to general discussion, and the diversity of opinion was a tribute to the ingenuity displayed in selecting the case. The speakers were Messrs. Krieweldt, McCarthy, N. Bednall, Mathews, P. A. Ohlstrom, W. Reeves, and C. C. Crumps. After counsel had replied the adjudicator gave his decision. He said that in his opinion D was entitled to a verdict in his favour in regard to both sections X and Y. He cited a number of cases bearing on the subject, and particularly condemned the decision given in the South Australian case of Rounsevell v. Ryan. In his opinion the High Court case of Berry v. Hieder could be applied as regards the caveats in this case. The adjudicator complimented counsel on their arguments, and paid a special tribute to the way in which Mr. Adams handled his side of the discussion.

Register 30.6.23 Literary Table

The Island State.

"The Tasmanian Environment," by Gordon L. Wood, M.A. (Rigby, Limited, Adelaide).

That valuable little work, "South Australians and Their Environment," by Mr. A. Grenfell Price, has inspired another. Mr. Wood was teaching at Hobart before he came to Adelaide. He has looked about him, and done some wide reading, as a result, he gives in fewer than 100 pages an all-round description of the island, for which he has neatly borrowed the classic phrase concerning a quite different isle, "This precious stone set in the silver sea." South Australia knows a too little about Tasmania, except as a pleasure resort. It appears in this book as a land of timber, fruit, and mines, now becoming also a great manufacturing community, owing to the application of falling water to machinery, the most economical of all sources of power, and this is "probably the most generously endowed country of her size in the world in this respect." It is interesting to know that wheat growing is declining, the crop being only a quarter of what was grown 20 years ago. It is now realized that the ideal wheat climate is dry summer and wet winter, as in South Australia. On the island, now, "by far the most important farm crop in point of value is the potato." The minerals are astonishing in variety and quality. The little State, under 200 miles each way across, gets from two to three million sterling each year from its metals. Forestry receives some strong language: "the one State that is wholly forest. . . The real land question for Tasmania is forestry. . . Never has a people so misused a wonderful environment. . . The saddest page in our national history. . . The ruin and waste beggar description. It has cost £15 to £30 per acre to destroy timber worth 10 times as much." This attractive little volume has over 20 diagrams and maps. The opening essay is singularly interesting, claiming as it does that "History is but geography set in motion," and that man is moulded by the nature of the country in which he finds himself.

"The Tasmanian Environment." By Gordon L. Wood, M.A., Senior Modern Master at St. Peter's College, Adelaide: Rigby, Limited.

Mr. Wood, who was formerly master in charge of economics and geography at the Hobart High School, has produced a valuable work for students in the form of a Geography of Tasmania, with the twofold object of bringing the conditions of life in that State into relation with other world regions, and of emphasising the human side in the handling of the subjects. The book is intended primarily for high schools, and is a companion volume to Mr. A. G. Price's "South Australians and Their Environment." It contains much beyond what in past years was understood to be the scope of a geographical treatise for school teaching purposes, there being an ably written general consideration of man's relation to nature, and chapters on the early history and the situation of Tasmania, its geology or rock structure, physiography, weather and climate, vegetable and animal life, population and industries, and trade and communications. Mr. Wood points out how the interaction of man and his environment is nowhere better illustrated than in the case of Tasmania. People from Western Europe on migrating to it found conditions both like and unlike those to which they had been accustomed. Settlers from the British Isles encountered a climate closely resembling that of their homeland, but in place of a busy and densely settled industrial community they found a land of virgin forests, untouched valleys, and rugged uplands which demanded all their resource and initiative before a home could be made. In response to such primitive conditions the country became typically agricultural and pastoral, but at the present time can be seen a transition to a stage where human effort and capital are co-operating to use the natural resources of the State as the basis of great industries. Reference is made to the unique physical structure and conformation, the countless hills and mountains, not too high, yet high enough; a multitude of lakes and rivers; rainfall ample, and no more than ample; "a land without too much or too little for human need, where nature yields her store, but not too easily." All these features Mr. Wood regards as making Tasmania perhaps the most generously endowed State of the Commonwealth. The work is well provided with maps and diagrams, which bring out in an appropriate manner many salient points of interest in the text. The author is to be congratulated upon a contribution of economic usefulness to the cause of Australian education.

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WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY AND TELEPHONY.

At the present day when there are signs of the swelling of the wave of "wireless" enthusiasm, which has swept over America and England, and when the voice of the broadcaster is already heard in the land, the announcement of a special course in the principles of this fascinating art to be given by Professor Kerr Grant, at the University, in the third term of this year, will surely be welcomed. We understand that the lectures will not assume any profound acquaintance with the theory of electricity on the part of those attending. The principles expounded will also be amply illustrated by experimental demonstrations. There will also be a course of laboratory exercises in measurements of the various factors involved in a wireless transmitting or receiving set. An advertisement, which appears elsewhere in this issue, invites those who desire to attend both or either of these courses to make early application to the Registrar, University, North Terrace.

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Professor Geoffrey Duffield, D.Sc., was passenger by the express on Friday afternoon to Melbourne, where he intends to interview Federal Ministers in connection with the establishment of a solar observatory at the Federal capital site. The professor will leave for Great Britain at an early date in connection with the work obtaining instruments for the new observatory.