

Continued

### Nation and State

There is another sense of the word "nation" when it refers to the people of a country that is not a self-contained independent State. This is obviously altogether different from the meaning pointed out above. Of the first meaning such a country as France or Japan is an example; the French nation, say, is co-extension with France as an independent State. Of the second meaning the British Dominions are examples; thus we may speak of the Australian nation; Australia is not an independent State, but a partner in a sovereign State, which is the British Empire. In other words, a nation need not be identical with a State proper; and the whole question of relationship and status depends on constitutional law and international law.

### Characteristics of a Nation

If nation is used in the sense of a nation-State, it must possess a common habitat—territory. Unity of race is not necessary. There are few pure races in the modern world; though in a mixture this or that element may predominate, of which many examples readily occur to us. As civilisation progresses, race, in itself, becomes less emphatic; but in national movements it is often a motive force. There have been many leaders of nations who did not belong racially to those nations: for example, Beaconsfield, a Jew, was the founder of modern British imperialism; Kossuth, a Slovak, was the national leader of Hungary; Mickiewicz, of Little Russia, is the Polish national poet; and Treitzschke, by descent a Czech, was a great intellectual leader of Germany.

Unity of language is important; often, when a nation renounces its language its death begins. Germany was aware of this in her policy toward Alsace-Lorraine. But language is not an essential test. Switzerland, for instance, has four languages, but is a distinct, coherent, and unified nation. On the other hand the American colonies spoke English, but this did not prevent their becoming a separate and independent State. Literary and linguistic studies have often stimulated national ideals, e.g., the Czechs, Bulgars, Finns, and Irish. Similarly, unity of religion has had some influence; it has helped to create and to stereotype nations; but it is not indispensable. Further, political independence and a common government are necessary only in the case of a nation-State. But all these are often the result rather than the cause of nationhood. Other factors play a more vital part.

### Common Interests, Spirit, Will

Common economic interests promote and tend to preserve union. International peace frequently depends on economic harmony. But despite the special economic interests of the Southern States, the American Union was saved by the operation of other causes. Similar manners and mode of life are also important, but not essential. Of greater force is the element of common tradition and spirit, which produces a conscious desire for union—a psychological factor. A nation with a common tradition is dynamic as well as static. Nevertheless, there are nations without common traditions, e.g., the United States. Thus, we must look elsewhere to find the determining factor. This is a certain mental organisation of the people, making possible effective group life, collective deliberation, and collective volition. There is such a national sentiment as produces what Renan calls a "moral consciousness." The people possess the consciousness of a special national task to be performed in the world, and desire to live and work together. This, then, is the fundamental criterion of nationhood; the other factors may or may not co-exist; and if they are found they are additional causes favorable to the existence of nationhood. In other words, the real test is not derived from ethnology or political science; the basis is spirit, and this does not necessarily rest on blood, physiognomy, or shape of skulls, but much more on the soul of the people—its will, desires, and aspira-

tions, and sense of a common duty and common task.

Nationality or nationhood is not a mere summation of the various factors mentioned, of which the last is supreme. They are the elements of which a new compound is formed, which is something different from them and is above them. It is a unifying and vivifying principle, demanding the preservation of national identity and continuance. It is the motive force of the community, just as personality or the soul is of the individual.

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## NEW HEALTH OFFICER.

### Dr. E. Angas Johnson

### Notable Medical Career.

Dr. E. Angas Johnson, who recently retired from his position as Chairman of the public health committee of the Adelaide Board of Health—a position which he held for 14 years—was on Monday appointed officer of health at a salary of £500 per annum. His resignation from the Adelaide City Council as representative of Hindmarsh Ward, which was a necessary condition of his new appointment, was accepted with regret, and the usual fine for non-fulfilment of the term of office was remitted. It was also decided to fix February 21 for the closing date for nominations for his successor in the council, and the Lord Mayor was appointed returning officer.

Cr. Cain moved that Dr. Angas Johnson's valued services should be placed on



DR. E. ANGAS JOHNSON,  
who has been appointed Officer of Health  
to the City of Adelaide.

record. He had laboured long and effectively in the interests of the city.

In seconding the proposition, Cr. Lundie said that whatever little disagreements there might have been on some small items with Dr. Angas Johnson they all admitted that he had rendered to the city very capable and efficient service for many years. The council would suffer a serious loss, but he hoped instead to see the doctor occupy another position still under the control of the council which would in some measure recompense the public for the loss of his services as Councillor.

The Lord Mayor added to the tribute, saying they would regret his absence from the deliberations of the council, but possibly his services in his new sphere would be even more valuable than was his work as Councillor.

### DR. ANGAS JOHNSON INTERVIEWED.

#### LOOKING AHEAD.

A representative of The Register sought Dr. Angas Johnson last evening, and in conversation gleaned something of the new health officer's outlook. The reporter enquired whether the doctor had any definite plans for the introduction of new methods, to which he replied that until he had actually taken up his duties he hardly knew what the routine would be.

"You see, I will have to get a list of my duties from the Town Clerk," he added, "and although I have a good idea of what those duties will be, they may consider that, having a new officer, certain alterations could be advantageously introduced."

Dr. Angas Johnson was unstinted in his praise of his predecessor. "I will follow, very probably, closely on the lines of Dr. Borthwick, who has held the position for the last 24 years," he said. "He was my teacher when he controlled the bacteriological department at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, and I have consulted him a great deal on health matters since I have been associated with the Central Board of

Health. He was a man who always kept well up-to-date, receiving literature regularly from Europe and America. He did his work efficiently and peaceably, and he had a good staff of inspectors, both male and female. They are all very keen on their work."

"What influenced you to apply for the position, doctor?" asked the reporter.

"Well, I did so only after very careful consideration," was the reply, "and I sent in my resignation as Chairman, and also as Councillor, several days before applying, so that each candidate should have an equal chance, and so that it would be quite impossible for me to use any undue personal influence by being present at any of the committee meetings; in fact it is over a month since I was at a council meeting."

#### Marvellous Development.

"How long have you been on the council?" queried the pressman.

"Eighteen years," replied Dr. Angas Johnson, "and I have seen very great and very rapid strides in public health matters during that time. I can recall the time, for instance, when the gardens near the City Baths, and the Parade Grounds, on King William road, were dumps for road sweepings, and were bounded by post-and-rail fences; when all the garbage of the city was deposited opposite West terrace, near the cemetery; when the gardens that now adorn the park lands were a grazing ground for tubercular cows—there was no inspection in those days—and I have seen the growth and development of the Metropolitan Abattoirs, the Metropolitan County Board, the up-to-date swimming baths, and rubbish destructor, the beautifying of the park lands, and many other improvements."

"I suppose that health methods are pretty well up to date?"

"Yes, we have to keep abreast of the times, and the board has always been, and I hope will always be, ready and willing to receive suggestions for improvements. I, at all events, will be glad to continue that excellent policy. Then, too, we have the increasing support and co-operation of the public," continued Dr. Johnson, "which has been achieved largely by public lectures; and the press has been particularly helpful in the matter of educating the public on matters affecting public health. It is only by such means that you can get the people to carry out your wishes."

#### A Distinguished Career.

Dr. Angas Johnson was born at Angaston, South Australia, in 1873. He went to Whinham College, North Adelaide, and St. Peter's College, and later to the Adelaide University. He graduated in Melbourne, and afterwards was appointed house surgeon at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. Thence he went to Germany, again graduating at the University of Göttingen, in Hanover. He also studied at the Berlin University. His next move was to Paris, where he worked at the famous Pasteur Institute under Professors Roux and Metchnikoff. Subsequently he moved to London to study at the London, the King's, and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals,

where he took further degrees. He then went to the London School of Tropical Medicine, under Sir Patrick Manson and Sir James Cautley, and afterwards to Cambridge, where he studied preventive medicine with Professors G. H. F. Nuttall and Sims Woodhead. On his return to South Australia he was appointed to the post of hon. physician at the Adelaide Hospital, and later became full physician. At present he is senior physician of the institution, a member of the Botanic Gardens Board, and one of the Governors, an inspector of anatomy at the University of Adelaide, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and President of the Fauna and Flora Board. He is also a member of the Pure Foods and Drugs Board, and one of the medico-legal experts of the Crown Law Department. Dr. Johnson said that the taking up of his new appointment would probably involve resignations from some of the other positions.

## POPULAR DOCTOR

### New City Health Officer

(By "Professional.")

In the register of medical practitioners will be found:—Johnson, Edward Angas, M.B., B.S. Melb. 1897; M.B. Adel. 1897; M.D. Ch.D., Gott 1899; L.R.C.P. Lond.; M.R.C.S. Eng. 1900; M.D. ad eundem Adel. 1910.

This official record refers to an able and well-known Adelaide physician and surgeon and a specialist in gynecology. Though he does not actively practise his profession he has for some years had charge in an honorary capacity of two wards at the Adelaide Hospital, and has used his professional knowledge for the benefit of the public as a member of the Central Board of Health and as chairman of the Local Board for Adelaide.

To one who knows him as the writer has for more than 20 years, both as a professional ally and personal friend, how easy it should be, yet how difficult is, to sum up his many good qualities. He is stanch in his friendships, an ideal host in his home, generous to a fault, and never breaks a promise.

As to hobbies, Dr. Johnson has a fine library of Australian literature, is a specialist in botany and floriculture, and well versed in astronomy. His principal hobby is the Botanic Garden, of which he is one of the governors. It is a great treat to stroll through the garden with the doctor. He knows the botanical name and history of every plant and tree in that beautiful domain. He had much to do with the appointment, of Mr. Bailey the present director.

It is fortunate for the Crown Law Department to have Dr. Johnson as its medico-legal expert in all big criminal

trials. He was the first expert in Australia to go in the witness box and prove human bloodstains. This was on the trial of Hadji Khan at Port Augusta for the murder of a fellow-Afghani. The defence set up was that certain stains found on the accused's clothes were goat's blood, but by using what is known as the precipitin test Dr. Johnson proved that they were human. He gave most valuable expert evidence on the trials of Budd, Lee, and Grindell, all of whom were convicted of murder. In the Grindell case it was essential for the Crown to prove that the bones found in the fire near Wortrupa were human ones. After spending many hours in consultation with Professor Watson, Dr. Johnson gave evidence in the affirmative. Without his testimony there would have been no conviction.

Dr. Johnson has always been at the call of the police, and sometimes at short notice. Some months ago the Farina police received a report of suspected murder at Yudnamutina, 80 miles east of Farina. The authorities in Adelaide called him at his private house on a Sunday afternoon. Next morning he and Mr. A. C. Thomas, of the Crown Law Department, went by the train to Quorn. Arriving there at 7 p.m., they jumped a cattle special and reached Farina (more than 400 miles from Adelaide) next morning. Then they went with Inspector McCarthy and a coroner in motors over rough country, reaching Yudnamutina on the Wednesday. There the body was exhumed and examined and an inquest held. The party returned to Farina on the Thursday. By catching another cattle special Dr. Johnson and Mr. Thomas connected with the Broken Hill express and were back in Adelaide on the Saturday morning. Rail and motor mileage aggregated in all more than 1,100 miles.

The municipal authorities can be well satisfied that Dr. Angas Johnson in his new position will bring to bear energy, enthusiasm, and a wide experience in health matters.

## FOR CHILDREN'S SAKE

### Miss Naylor's Offer

Miss Margaret Darnley Naylor has resigned her position as secretary to the South Australian branch of the League of Nations' Union. Miss Naylor offered her services as an independent healthy citizen to the Save the Children Fund in London. This offer has been accepted, and Miss Naylor will leave for London by the Aeneas at the end of April.