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ADELAIDE, FRIDAY ADELAIDE, SATURDAY.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

PRESERVING ORANGES

New Process ADELAIDE DISCOVERY

After exporting fruit for a long time for unsatisfactory prices owing to the high cost of shipping oranges under refrigeration, growers will welcome the latest report of the experimental researches of Mr. H. R. Marston in the preservation of citrus fruit—especially of the adoption of a process for navel oranges. It is claimed that oranges treated by the process keep in excellent condition for more than two months, and can be shipped as ordinary cargo, thus saving 2/6 a case to exporters to London.

Credit is due to Mr. Marston, who is a young chemist working at the University, for his discovery. Various processes have been tried during the past, but without success. Mr. Marston, however, displayed oranges which had been treated two months ago, and were still as good as when picked.

Mr. Marston began his experiments three years ago, and has gradually developed the process to its present stage. Last year he was successful in his treatment of lemons, and with a modification the same process has now achieved success with oranges.

Two and a half months ago Mr. Marston joined forces with the affiliated citrus growers' Association of Australia. Each week for the past two months he has treated a certain number of cases, leaving always untreated a case picked at random from the same lot under the same conditions and on the same day.

The results, in the words of Mr. J. A. Parkes (secretary of the Murray Citrus Growers' Association) are simply wonderful. Figures drawn up by him show that of 108 oranges in a case which were untreated 67 were untreated 67 were mouldy at the end of five weeks, whereas of 108 treated only three were mouldy. Similarly 31 out of 83 mouldy in another untreated case, whereas only one out of the same number of treated oranges was bad. The treatment does not spoil the oranges.

Generally, said Mr. Parkes, "untreated oranges kept a long time in the experiments have shown tremendous waste, but those treated have stood the test magnificently. The discovery will put orange growing in this State on a firm basis. Growers will now be sure that their fruit will reach London in good order when sent as ordinary cargo. Now they have to export their fruit under refrigeration, which means paying 2/6 a case. When the oranges are treated they will go for 2/6 a case under the ordinary cargo rates. That extra half-crown saved will make all the difference to growers who have found that freight charges almost did away with their profits.

Last season in London the realisation price was approximately 21/ a case, which left a margin of 6/ a case to the grower. If growers get the freight reduction the additional 2/6 will mean the difference between an unsatisfactory price and a profit. Fruit sent his year has realised from 24/5 to 25/2 a case. This is the second payable shipment growers have had—the other being one two years ago. One cannot rely on the price in London being more than from 21/ to 23/. Speaking generally, Australia exports from 50,000 to 250,000 cases a year. With proper development this should be a million cases."

"Beside the experiment mentioned," said Mr. Marston, "I have treated about 25 cases of fruit and exported them to various parts of the world as ordinary cargo. I am waiting for further reports, which will be published later."

THE ONE BIG LOAN, THE WAITE INSTITUTE.

THE PROSPECTUS ISSUED. PREPARING FOR THE OPENING.

Melbourne, September 4. The prospectus of the Commonwealth 6 per cent. loan of £10,000,000 for the States for public works, was issued by the Federal Treasury to-day. Instalments will be payable as follows:—10 per cent. deposit with the application, on or before October 15, 20 per cent. on November 10, 20 per cent. on December 1, 25 per cent. on January 5, and 23 1/2 per cent. on February 2. All or any instalment may be prepaid. The banks will not charge exchange on cheques sent for payment of loan. If the deposit and all instalments are paid in full at the time of the application, or not later than October 15, interest on the nominal amount of the subscription at 6 per cent., calculated in each case from the actual date of payment to March 15, 1925, will be paid by the Commonwealth on March 15, 1925. Where all instalments are not paid in full an application but are paid on or before the due dates, interest amounting to 30/ each £100 will be paid on March 15, 1925. Thereafter the Commonwealth will pay interest half-yearly on March 15 and September 15, at 6 per cent.

Each State has undertaken to pay to the Commonwealth annually a sinking fund contribution of 10/ per cent. of the loan raised on its behalf. These contributions will be paid by the Commonwealth into the national debt sinking fund, and to the redemption of the Commonwealth debt. After March 15 holders of stock in the new loan will have the right to exchange for bonds. Applications for stock or bonds will be accepted at the banks and money order and post-offices as from Monday, also through members of the Stock Exchanges.

There is a prospect of the Waite Research Institute, which is to be established at Urrbrae, as the result of the munificent gifts of the late Mr. Peter Waite to the University of Adelaide, will be opened shortly, but the council of the University has not yet been advised of the exact date on which the recently-appointed Director of the Institute (Dr. A. E. V. Richardson) will arrive from Melbourne. Dr. Richardson has been for some time Superintendent of Agriculture in Victoria, and has to complete his engagements in that State before taking up his new position. This was understood at the time of his appointment. He did not make a definite announcement, as he was expected to do, when in Adelaide last week attending the Science Congress.

Preparatory work has been put in hand at Urrbrae, where part of the estate is being cleared and made ready for the establishment of experimental plots. Dr. Richardson is to reside at Urrbrae. It is expected that all the buildings on the estate will be used in connection with the institute, but whether additional laboratories will be erected will be decided later.

Professor J. A. Prescott, who was in June appointed to the second professorship, will arrive in Adelaide on Monday by the B.M.S. Moldavia. He is accompanied by his wife. He will probably take up his duties straight away. Professor Prescott, who is 34 years of age, is a Master of Science of the University of Manchester, with first-class honors in chemistry. He continued his studies there as private research assistant to Professor W. H. Parker, and has devoted himself since to the study of the application of chemistry to agriculture. After a period at Leipzig he proceeded to the Rothamsted Research Institute, where he remained from 1912 to 1916, when he was appointed superintendent and head of the Chemical Department of the great Baitin Experimental Station in Egypt. Early in the present year, when the vice-chancellor of the University of Adelaide (Professor Mitchell) and Sir George Brookman (a member of the council) visited Rothamsted, Sir John Russell (who had seen Professor Prescott's work in Egypt) strongly recommended his appointment to the Waite Institute. Professor Prescott will concern himself mainly with the chemistry involved in research work, such as the chemical analysis of soils, manures, and seed.

Mr. Geoffrey Samuel, a plant pathologist, now on the staff of the University, will be transferred to the Waite Institute. Other appointments to the institute staff will be necessary, but will be deferred.

THE SCIENCE CONGRESS.

SIR EDGEWORTH DAVID PLEASSED. EXCURSIONS TO RADIUM MINES.

Sydney, September 5. With a big canvas gripsack packed with assorted rocks, Sir Edgeworth David returned to Sydney to-day from the Science Congress at Adelaide. He spoke enthusiastically of Sir John Monash's masterly inaugural address upon power development. It was not so much the lectures that impressed the professor, but the geological excursions that his presence in South Australia enabled him to make. He spoke eagerly of the radium mines and barium mines that he was able to inspect. It appears that in South Australia there are mines of radium compounds, barium, monazite, copiapite, and other rare and interesting minerals. It was expected that by the saving of by-products, such as titanium, radium extraction would become a profitable process.

Sir Edgeworth David drew a wonderful picture of the glaciated pavements of an inland valley. The grooving of the rock by an ancient ice-sheet 2,000 ft. thick was plainly visible. This ice-sheet had come from a lost Continent at the south of Australia. That Continent had foundered in the far past at a time immediately preceding the formation of our extensive coal measures.

The most important feature at the Science Congress in the professor's eyes, was the proof afforded of the need for afforestation. The congress recommended that the present forestry school at the Adelaide University should become a central school for the Commonwealth.

The Elder Hall was crowded to overflowing on Monday evening when Handel's oratorio "Judas Maccabeus" was performed by the university choral class and full orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Frederick Bevan, whose association with the choral work of the conservatorium dates back 25 years. The really fine presentation of this great work was a fitting tribute to the advance made during his term of office. Every member of the choral society and orchestra seemed to be throwing heart and soul to give a rendering of the music in a manner fitted to its sacred associations. The atmosphere of reverence and sincerity of the whole performance added much to the effect. The ensemble was well preserved, the chorus work was consistently good, the volume of tone, rich and even, and the attack clean and decided, without any of the abruptness which sometimes marks an undue stressing of this feature of choral singing to the detriment of the general musical effect of the voices. There was a full orchestra, led by Miss Sylvia Whittington, which gave just the right background to the voices.

The soloists were also most successful—and this says much in so great a work. The opening part in which the Jews lament the death of Mattathias (the father of Judas Maccabeus and Simon), and recognise his son as their leader, was strikingly impressive given by the fresh young voices of the choral class, the balance of parts being admirable. From the opening chorus onward this level was well preserved. Miss Jean Sinclair's sympathetic contralto gave expressively the first recitative, and Miss Alice Mallen, A.M.U.A., followed with her pure clear soprano. The duet, "From this dread scene," by Miss Mallen and Mr. Fred Williamson, was distinctly good. Mr. Arnold Matters sang the bass part of Simon, his chief numbers being "Not vain is all this storm of grief," and "Arm, arm, ye brave." Miss Elsie Cook sang effectively the recitative "To heaven's Almighty King we kneel," and air "Come ever smiling liberty." The closing chorus of this part was especially well given. In the second part Miss Ada Wordie, A.M.U.A., was happy in her rendering of "O let eternal honours crown His name," and the air "From mighty kings." Mr. Walter Wood was also heard to advantage in the part of Judas, the air "How vain is man," and the recitative introducing it, and also "Sound the alarm," being given with good vocal effect. Miss Jean Sinclair's singing of "Ye worshippers of God" was another marked feature, while the chorus following Miss Wordie's solo "Wise men flattering may deceive you," made a fitting close to the part. In the absence of Miss Hilda Gill, A.M.U.A., Miss Mabel Sigiegle sang the opening air of the third part of the oratorio. The semi-chorus "See the conquering hero comes," chorus and final choral march brought to a close a concert that will long be remembered.

It was followed by a particularly pleasing ceremony of recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Bevan during a quarter of a century of wholehearted work.

Presentation to Mr. Bevan.

The Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray) said he had been asked to perform a pleasant task by the past and present members of the choral class, and he did so with added pleasure after hearing the splendid performance that night which marked the twenty-fifth year of Mr. Bevan's connection with the choral class, and he had been sole conductor, so that they felt, indeed, that the conquering hero had come. He had been asked to hand over, as the marks of esteem of members, a cigar holder and an armchair in which he had been sitting so that Mr. Bevan should not guess what was going on. (Laughter.) Twenty-five years was only one-half of the time which he hoped Mr. Bevan would be connected with the choral class, and he trusted he would be present when that gentleman fulfilled the 50 years. He wished Mr. Bevan many hours of rest in the armchair, which he would ask him to accept.

Mr. Walter Wood handed over the gifts from the choral class.

Mr. Bevan, who was received with prolonged applause, said that words failed him to convey his thanks for the gifts and the expressions of esteem and regard of which they were the token. He thanked the council for all the help and sympathy it had given him in connection with the choral class. As a matter of fact the story of choral class was the history of the Conservatorium.

News, Sept. 6. CHORAL CLASS

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary PRESENT FOR MR. BEVAN

University Choral Class will celebrate the twenty-fifth year of its existence on Monday evening, the occasion being a performance of Handel's "Judas Maccabeus," under the conductorship of Mr. Frederick Bevan, who first formed the class on his arrival in Adelaide to take up the duties of teacher of singing at the Conservatorium.

An effort was made to gather together some of the original members of the class, but this was found, with a few exceptions, to be practically impossible, as they are now scattered the world over. But the thoughts and good wishes of his many vocal children will come to Mr. Bevan on this auspicious occasion, when a presentation from his friends and well-wishers will be made.

The happiest relations have always existed between the members of the class and their conductor, Mr. Bevan taking a personal interest in his large family. Some of them, like Otto Heggie and Peter Dawson, names to conjure with in the life of the great musical world, have gone overseas, and at the close of the twenty-fifth year of the existence of this fine body of singers, Mr. Bevan must look back with satisfaction over a quarter of a century spent in the best interests of choral music.

A lover of oratorio, he has well grounded his singers in the art of fine massed singing, and the compositions performed in past years have included such works as Handel's "Samson," Cherubini's "Requiem," Mendelssohn's "First Walpurgis Night," "Athalia," "Elijah," "The Hymn of Praise," "St. Paul," Sterndale-Bennett's "The Woman of Samaria," Bach's "Christmas Oratorio," Dvorak's "Stabat Mater," as well as Sullivan's "The Martyr of Antioch," "The Golden Legend," and many others.

Mr. Bevan served his own apprenticeship as a chorister, and afterward as a gentleman of the Chapel Royal. He was the possessor of a fine bass voice, and fulfilled many important engagements in London before relinquishing public work and devoting himself entirely to the art of teaching. He is regarded with affection by the many students who have passed through his hands.

Mr. Bevan is an enthusiastic exponent of the compositions of English song writers, whose work will invariably be found upon his programmes.

At the performance on Monday evening Miss Sylvia Whittington will lead the orchestra, with Miss Alice Mallen at the piano and Mr. Harold Wylde at the organ.