

The Council of the University of Adelaide, in its meeting on Friday received reports from Professor Chapman that Mr. G. J. Dawson had presented to the Engineering School a set of 20 volumes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Professor Wood Jones reported that Dr. E. Angus Johnson had also presented several important anatomical books to his department. The Council accepted the gifts and directed that the donors be cordially thanked for them.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCHOLAR HONOURED.

Advice has been received from England by the Registrar of the University of Adelaide that the commissioners of the 1851 Exhibition have awarded a science research scholarship to Mr. J. G. Wood, B.Sc., demonstrator in botany in the University. The scholarship (which is worth £250 per annum for two years) is one of two offered annually for competition among persons nominated by the various Australian universities, the final selection being made in England. The candidates are required to show special promise in research work. Mr. J. G. Wood graduated B.Sc. in 1922, with honours in chemistry. In 1923 he was appointed student demonstrator, and in 1924 full demonstrator in botany. He has published several papers in conjunction with Professor Osborn, and independently, on the physiology and ecology of plants from the "salt bush." His work in this field has formed part of the scheme of research that is in progress in the Department of Botany on the native fodder plants of the arid and semi-arid districts. Mr. Wood intends to proceed to Cambridge where he will continue his researches on plant physiology.

A BUSY CLERGYMAN.

Rev. A. G. B. West Returned to Australia.

It is 26 years since the Rev. A. G. B. West, M.A., relinquished work in South Australia, and for the past 17 years he has fulfilled the duties of a clergyman in a centre of activity in London. He is now visiting Australia, and will probably remain until the end of the year.

The fine work which Mr. West performed for the Church of England during his stay in South Australia will be remembered by many. His editorship of The Church News made his name familiar to many readers, while his term as rector at St. Augustine's, Unley, was productive of splendid results. He is a big man, in figure and in outlook. Allied with his scholarly gifts and knowledge of practical affairs, is a bright brotherly nature, which has enabled him to win friendships and assist in solving the problems which perplex his fellows. As rector of the historic church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, London, which was burnt down in the great fire of London, and rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, he has had his time fully occupied.



REV. A. G. B. WEST.

Fifty thousand people enter the parish, and they represent many types of life. No Sunday services are held, but the church is filled on week days by worshippers. He conducts a series of services, one day addressing rubber merchants and their clerks, on another occasion custom house officials, while crowds from Billingsgate, or elsewhere, are ministered to in turn. While he works in St. Dunstan-by-the-Tower, his friend, the Rev. T. B. Clayton, the Toc "H" founder, is at All Hallows, at Barkings-by-the-Tower. Mr. West took a lead-part in the inauguration of Australia Day celebrations in London 15 years ago, and the work has been continued with marked success since. During the war he was engaged in chaplaincy and organizing work.

Mr. West, after spending a few days in Western Australia, continued his journey to Adelaide by the mailboat, and arrived on Saturday.

In an interview with a representative of The Register he spoke of church work in London. It was with a feeling of regret that he told the pressman of the possibility of a number of historic church buildings being demolished. Six years ago a commission was appointed by the Bishop of London, and it was proposed to pull down 19 old churches, and sell the valuable sites. The site on which his church stood was probably worth £250,000. He thought it a great pity if historic places, embracing wonderful architectural features, were lost. A Bill was now going through Parliament, but the agitation was so great that a number of modifications in the original scheme had been made. The Lord Mayor and the Corporation of London were opposed to the Bill.

Shortage of Clergy.

The recent sermon at Westminster Abbey by the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. Barnes), on "Catholicism and Christianity," was touched upon. Mr. West said that the Bishop was a very capable man, but his greatness did not lie so much in the direction of theology as science. He was a remarkable mathematician. While some people accepted his views to a great extent, many others thought they were too strong, and had been expressed hastily. The Archbishop of Canterbury was usually consulted in respect to the appointment of bishops, but in that particular case he took no part. It was generally admitted, with the Bishop,

just there was a shortage of clergy, but they had never caught up the shortage since the war. Endowed churches were gone for ever, and the tendency now was for churches to become more congregational than ever before. Because of the greatly increased expense in upkeep, there were many incumbencies in England which a man could not accept unless he had a private income of his own. One clergyman, for instance, was offered a position worth about £600 a year, but he preferred a church in Australia with a stipend of £250 a year, for that reason.

Toc "H."

Questioned as to Toc "H," the movement for fellowship and service among men, which originated during the Great War, and had been continued with encouraging success by the founder, Rev. P. B. Clayton, the visitor said one of the reasons for his presence in Australia was to assist in promoting the movement out here. Its advocates recognised that prayer and fellowship should not be confined to Sunday observance, but should find practical expression in the ordinary workaday affairs of life. Every man should have something to contribute for the good of his fellows. Since the war there had been a greater emphasis placed upon spiritual values. At a recent mission in London in which Mr. West took part, he was supported by the Salvation Army Band and a Congregational minister. They had 15 clergymen living in a separate hostel in one place, and doing very effective work. At one big meeting at Hatfield House, Geo. Sir Talbot Hobbs, of Australia, was present. It was proposed to have a special constitution for the movement in Australia, where local conditions would be taken into consideration. Although the work was started by the Church of England among soldiers, its aims were so wide and embracing that all classes of men could be included. He found that much interest was being taken in the movement in Western Australia.

Immigration.

Mr. West also intends taking up the matter of immigration during his stay. There were two million more people in England than the old country would be able to support in the future. The Church Assembly had appointed a committee which was to link up with a committee representing all the Bishops in Australia, to decide upon the best policy in respect to immigration. There were great possibilities in the group nomination scheme. They had 12,000 incumbents in England who, if their services were availed of, could each send out a family a year to Australia. The system had never been properly organized. He had emphasized to the officials at Australia House that the best immigration advertisement would be the clergy. They should receive far more incentive from Australia, and it was up to congregations and other local bodies to indicate what were the right classes of

people to be sent out. It was more difficult to secure the unemployment dole in England now than hitherto. Certain sums of money were being made available for the construction of new roads and other works to relieve the situation. So far as the present Government was concerned, everybody recognised that Mr. Baldwin was wise in including in his Cabinet such men as Lord Birkenhead and Mr. Churchill. Mr. Baldwin was trusted because of his sincerity, and in a National Government they could not afford to have intellect left out. The two Ministers he had mentioned had brains and debating power, and also the qualities of leadership.

Tudor England.

To illustrate a series of lectures which he proposes to deliver here, Mr. West has brought out a large number of lantern slides featuring Tudor England in the reign of Henry VIII. Leading architects at home had spoken of the loss which England would suffer if many of the old historic churches were demolished. Australians and Americans appeared to have a greater knowledge of, and displayed keener interest in, the old city churches than Londoners themselves.

Mr. West will be visiting the other States in due course, and expects to remain in Australia for several months.

STATE WATER SUPPLY

EVERY DROP NEEDED

Importance of Afforestation

Arising out of reports received by the Hon. L. L. Hill (Commissioner of Public Works) from Mr. H. E. Bellamy (Hydraulic Engineer), the former stated that the question of afforestation around reservoirs would be referred to the Forestry Department.

For the better control of the water works of the State, the Government had approved of the scheme to divide the State into three sections, with an engineer in charge of each. Applications for these and other positions had already been advertised.

Absence of rivers and timber are two things that impressed Mr. Bellamy on his recent tour of the State, during which he visited all the chief water districts except the South-East. It impressed him with the great need for the conservation of every drop of water it is possible to store in the interests of the development of the country, and decentralisation.

Mr. Bellamy said today that much had already been done in regard to the provision of water supplies in various parts of the State, and he desired to pay a tribute to the work accomplished by his predecessor, the late Mr. C. Bayer, in that respect. There was a great deal still to be done, however, as water storage was of such great importance to the State he hoped to be able to undertake remedial measures in regard to leaking reservoirs.

Mechanical Filters

He pointed out, also, that at present there was no filtration of water for public purposes in the State, and said that it was considered that before long mechanical filters would have to be installed to ensure purity of water at some of the country supplies.

Arrangements had been made, Mr. Bellamy said, for bacteriological and chemical tests to be made every month of water from the Torrens and Onkaparinga, and all the reservoirs, to determine the change due to storage.

The absence of timber Mr. Bellamy found most noticeable. He had had the opportunity of inspecting one small area planted by the Forestry Department at Kepunda.

From the point of view of water conservation in the country, the scientific planting of trees was most important. It was well known that where the ground was well timbered and covered with vegetation the mould formed by the leaves absorbed and retained moisture. It acted like a reservoir, so that the run off took place slowly and denudation and erosion of the soil were checked.

Possibly the most extensive and scientific system of afforestation in connection with water supply in Australia was adopted by the Water Commissioners at Ballarat. Last year more than 20,000 two-year-old conifers were planted on water reserves.

Enlargement of Schemes

Mr. Bellamy was surprised at the absence of running water, particularly at the foothills of the ranges. That rendered it of the utmost importance that every means be taken to conserve all the water possible. That was the object he had in view in endeavoring to make the best of reservoirs by treatment to prevent leakage.

"I am fully seized of the importance of water in the development of the country," he said, "and to assist in decentralisation."

During his inspections he had found great need in some places for the enlargement of some water schemes to keep pace with development.

Mr. Bellamy said that no Venturi meters were fixed to any of the State's main supplies, and it was impossible to know the actual quantities of water passed to the consumers. He regarded this as important, as it was desirable to know the actual rate of consumption, and he hoped that such meters would be installed.

In connection with the reorganisation of the staff applications were being called for several engineers. The department also wished to employ University graduates, with the object of training them in design and construction, so that in the event of vacancies in the future there would be no need to call for applications outside.

The principal works in hand are the Red River scheme, the laying of the steel tank main from Warren to Paskeville at an estimated cost of £338,000, and the augmentation of the Murray Bridge water supply.

RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP EXHIBITION OF 1851.

Advice has been received by the Registrar of the University of Adelaide, that the Commissioners of the 1851 Exhibition have awarded a Science Research Scholarship to Mr. J. G. Wood, demonstrator in botany in the University. The scholarship (which is worth £250 per annum for two years) is one of two offered annually for competition among persons nominated by the various Australian Universities, the final selection being made in England. The candidates are required to show special promise in research work. Mr. Wood graduated B.Sc. in 1922, with honours in chemistry. In 1923 he was appointed student demonstrator, and in 1924 full demonstrator in botany. He has published several papers in conjunction with Professor Osborn, and independently on the physiology and ecology of plants from the "Salt-bush." His work in this field has formed part of the scheme of research that is in progress in the Department of Botany on the native fodder plants of the arid and semi-arid districts. Mr. Wood intends to proceed to Cambridge, where he will continue his researches in plant physiology.