

ENGLISH FOLK-SONG.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

THE LATE MISS DOROTHY KENTISH.

Fine Worker For the Y.W.C.A

LECTURE BY MR. CLIVE CAREY.

(By Harry Thomson)

To make people better acquainted with their very great heritage of folk-song, and to stress the tremendous value of its educational aspect, were the primary aims of last evening's lecture-recital given by Mr. Clive Carey, B.A., Mus. Bac., before a large gathering at the Prince of Wales Theatre, of the Adelaide University. Mr. Carey presented the first of a course of three lectures upon English folk-song. It was stressed by him that such primitive musical works should be perpetuated, for they were of tremendous value in expressing the characteristics of the English people and their national spirit. It was evident that these songs had been started as a spontaneous expression of emotion, and hence must be sincere. They had been passed on from mouth to mouth in those untutored times, and were a true inspiration—the impress of the real English mind in folk song. Their educative value was appreciated in the land of their birth, for to-day they were largely used in the English schools. As Mr. Carey proceeded to outline what exactly constituted a folk song, he illustrated his remarks by means of vocal passages which he personally accompanied upon the piano. The actual songs, he explained, would say so much more than words could express.

In the good old days when knights were really bold, as distinct from being merely political, it was the custom for the knight errant to upholster himself in tin and wear his "faire ladye's" gage on his left breast. His opposite number today decks himself out with a motor—and probably has the hire purchase agreement over his left breast. Between whiles his workaday dress is more often than not a suit of overalls, and his time is devoted not so much to tilting at windmills as making them. It is an age of science and industry. The world is demanding more machines and the conventional measure of the wealth of the country is the number of such devices it can make or buy. "The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," but man is a sharefarmer who is demanding higher dividends from it.

It would be sheer waste of time and money, for example, where there are a bequest like that of Peter Waite and a trained investigator like Dr. Richardson, for the Federal Institute to attempt to cover the same ground in, say, diseases of wheat. Wherever proper facilities for research exist, whether in particular industries (as the Steelworks at Newcastle) or in the Universities, they should be left to do the work. They should be utilised and, if necessary, subsidised by the Institute to prosecute researches required by the latter.

Widespread grief was caused by the news, published in The Register of Tuesday, that Miss Dorothy Kentish, B.A., a secretary of the Young Women's Christian Association, had been knocked down by a motor car on Monday evening, and had died shortly afterwards. To her fellow workers on the staff of the Y.W.C.A. the fatality seemed almost incredible. Miss Annie Bignell, the general secretary, had parted with Miss Kentish at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the accident, after discussing with her a particularly arduous day's work, and Miss Kentish, who was to go to a party in the evening, appeared particularly well and happy. It was returning from the party that she met her death.

Science and industry have joined hands in an ever closer co-operation to produce an ever greater diversity of things. And the measure of success is the measure of the closeness of this co-operation. Science has become the handmaid of industry, but must be continuously wooed and won that she may continue to confer her favors.

The Institute should have auxiliary laboratories for conducting check investigations or those where no other facilities exist. It should be a co-ordinating and directing board to classify results and to suggest lines of development. It should above all be a clearing home for information.

Work With Senior Girls.

The Y.W.C.A. in Adelaide has lost a particularly valuable officer. Miss Kentish's work, which she had carried on for 18 months, was the secretaryship of the senior girls' clubs. Members of the Y.W.C.A. are roughly divided into age groups, consisting of those under and those over 18 years of age, and the senior clubs are largely self-governing bodies of the latter. The aims of the club members are self-development and community service, and under Miss Kentish's direction a number of activities had been planned and carried out. Two clubs are doing first aid, one is studying aesthetics, and a fourth, which specializes in handicrafts, concerns itself with home planning and home decoration. In addition, each club makes a feature of social service, and members work for one or several charitable institutions. During Miss Kentish's term of office, the work of the clubs has been consolidated, and members have shown increasing enthusiasm. She also directed the thrift department of the Y.W.C.A., which brought her into touch with more than 2,000 girls in shops and factories. It was a feature of her direction that she came into personal touch with all the collectors, and brought them in turn into the general stream of Y.W.C.A. activities.

Never Popular

Such remarks are prompted by the recently resuscitated Institute of Science and Industry. Nominally it has been in existence for several years. Actually it has been a puling infant, over god-fathered at birth and underfed since. It never became popular with the industrial magnates who are supposed to be the salt of the earth. It had much too ambitious a programme mapped out for it, and money was lacking.

If it attempts more than these functions it will become too large and too unwieldy.

NEWS 6-5-25 TEACHING FORESTRY

Schools for Boys

Obsessed with the idea of "the practical man," the magnates regarded the institute as nothing but a pious aspiration. Assuming that a man had climbed the ladder from the bottom, taking rung by rung, and that his finger tips are sufficiently square and his thumb sufficiently flat (for he must live by rule of thumb), the practical man is the one for the magnate's money. There has been a tendency, happily much less in the past few years, to regard the theoretically trained man, whether University or School of Mines, as too much of a visionary.

The Hon. L. L. Hill (Minister of Education) stated this morning that the camp schools at Kuitpo Forest during the summer months were concluded at the end of May. These schools were begun in the summer of 1921 and 1922 and had been continued each year. They were inaugurated with a view to stimulating a deeper interest in forestry among the secondary schoolboys in South Australia.

The Institute of Science and Industry was founded to foster avenues of industry that required development, to disseminate knowledge of new methods, and for original research. The reasons at the back of its establishment are unassailable. Industry cannot live without direction and the most up-to-date knowledge. The discovery of a new method or the manufacture of a new product may ruin a competitor—and we may be the competitor.

The work, however, had been considerably extended. Schools were held continuously during the past summer from December to May, and eight successive schools were conducted, in which about 200 boys from the High Schools at Adelaide, Woodville, Unley, Norwood, Gawler, Port Pirie, Mount Gambier, and from St. Peter's College, were instructed in elementary forestry and allied sciences.

Increased Production

Where a high standard of living is required there comes a point when only increased production will secure it. Two blades of grass must grow where one grew before. The whole of the German dye industry, which in pre-war times had secured a monopoly of the world's dyes, was the product of the German laboratory.

It has been customary to destroy the natural forests of South Australia without due consideration for the needs of posterity," said the Minister. "The boys in these schools, living for a period of from 10 to 14 days in the forest, learn to appreciate the value of forests to the State, and it is hoped that the camps of two or three hundred boys yearly will exert an influence that will help to protect and extend our timber resources. Further, in the camp life, the students learn much in the way of self-discipline, initiative, and unselfish effort.

Wireless has become one of the world's great industries. It was created and developed in the first instance by the student. The Western Union in America has spent several million pounds in the past three or four years developing and perfecting its wireless apparatus.

"The morning work consists of a study of the various species of trees, such as soil requirements and uses; the functions of the various parts of the tree; the historical study of botany; the effects of forests on soil, climate, and water conservations; nursery, broadcasting, and planting. The afternoon is employed in practical work, which consists of chaining and pacing, plane-tableing, pruning, measuring the heights of trees, and the assessment of volumes of standing trees.

War was a practical thing. But Bragg was hauled from a University to perfect the sound-ranging device that disclosed the position of all the enemy's artillery. Another student perfected an apparatus to detect submarines, and a Don at Balliol College, Oxford, for his scientific knowledge, came to be in charge of the anti-gas organisation on the Western front. Were it not for the student all our export trade in canned goods would have been impossible.

"Trips are made to the sawmills so that the students may see for themselves how the sawmill is laid out and how transport is effected. They watch the whole process of the log taken from the landing stage, passing through various stages of treatment, and finishing as a product of commercial value. Each student provides himself with a notebook, and on returning to the camp he makes a permanent record of his observations. Adjacent to the camp and surrounded by trees, an area of about three acres has been cleared by the students for a sports ground, and daily matches are played. About half a mile from the school there is a fine swimming pool, which is much enjoyed by the lads at the end of the day's work.

Limited Functions

It would be easy to misconceive the functions of an institute such as that in question. It would take far too much money and staff to attempt to run large laboratories for experimenting in all branches of industry. And a Government Department

"In the evenings," Mr. Hill concluded, "camp-fire talks, lantern lectures, debates, and sing-songs pass the time happily and profitably. Mr. W. M. C. Symonds, B.Sc. (master in charge), has been specially trained for the work of instructor. He is a science graduate in the forestry course at the University of Adelaide."

ADVERTISER 11-6-25 A NATIONAL BAND.

From A. R. BOLLARD, Semaphore:—Mr. Foote says:—"South Australia has a genuinely intellectual community." If such is the case he should realize that the intellectual but long-suffering public of South Australia should no longer be pestered by the dread of a burden of extra taxation to provide a luxury for the minority. South Australians are not prepared to shoulder such a burden as the national band scheme would necessarily incur, when the State is already staggering beneath a load of debt and general expense.

The Definition.

Mr. Carey spoke of the revival of folk song during the past 15 years at home. As a definition of his subject he said a folk song was actually the song of an uneducated person, and not only the product of one person, but of many minds. Somebody uncultured, moved by some kind of emotion, started singing about an event, and that particular singer was followed by others, until the edges were rubbed off and the song received the stamp of the whole community. That was why folk songs were characteristic of any particular nation, and these were English because they possessed all the characteristics of that nation. The lecturer dismissed the communal theory that folk song had never been invented, but were germinated in many minds. Our own folk song arose through the people, in centuries past, having no other mode of expression, for they could neither read nor write. Nowadays other forms of amusement were available in the country, and the folk songs were steadily disappearing. There was not the same incentive for self-expression through music. Mr. Carey said he had been asked if New Zealand were likely to have folk song, but he considered there was not sufficient antiquity for even the Maori folk songs were much spoilt by coming into contact with modern music.

Influence of Old Scales.

Continuing, the lecturer said that many of the songs were to be found in old scales, which had disappeared from the art music of the last few centuries. These scales were founded upon the Greek scale, and bore the same name. They were, St. Ambrose, of the fourth century, and St. Gregory of the sixth century. St. Ambrose reconstructed what he believed to be the Greek scale. Mr. Carey then dwelt upon the various modes employed in the formation of those old scales, and illustrated the minor influence permeating them. The question to be answered was why those scales had existed so long in that class of music. Reviewing the birth of music, the speaker dealt with music as being firstly, merely an expression of emotion. It might be then merely a shriek. It developed through savage music, just in expression repeated over and over again. Then a gradual lengthening and balancing completed a tune. But, for a long period, only one note was sung at a time. Then the advantage of introducing harmony was discovered, and was the outcome of a recognised difficulty resulting from voices of different ranges. This was an advance upon the period when music was sung in unison, and was the basis of harmony. Gradually the ear became more sensitive, and steadily developed our modern harmony from this scheme. The transposition of scales from one key to another was spoken of, and the difficulties encountered in harmonising some of the modes—because of the intervals—were also referred to. The popularity of the Aeolian (like our minor scale) and Dorian scales was discussed. A few singers still sang folk song in England, and there was a district in America quite untouched by modernism. Hence the scales survived from quite 300 years ago. Folk song, added Mr. Carey, was never intended to be accompanied. Having explained the initial ground, the lecturer proceeded to illustrate vocally the Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, and Aeolian modes employed long ago, and still surviving. The plaintive beauty of the various themes was adequately expressed by the sympathetic singing of Mr. Carey. He was warmly applauded at the conclusion of the recital.

General Secretary's Tribute.

Miss Kentish, who was born in South Australia, and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Kentish, of Port road, Beverley, came of a family noted for missionary enterprise and devotion. She graduated in arts from the University of Adelaide, and went straight to the National Training School of the Y.W.C.A. in Sydney. Her practical training she completed in Adelaide, and she was then called to Dunedin to work among the younger association members there. After four years in New Zealand she returned to see her relatives, and was then induced to take up senior club work in Adelaide. Miss Bignell, the general secretary, on Tuesday paid a high tribute to Miss Kentish's work. "It would be impossible," she said, "to estimate how far her personal influence went. She had the imagination to see what people could do, and utter confidence in them that they would do it, and she was seldom, if ever, disappointed. She had the most wonderful gift of getting into touch with people, and bringing out all that was best in them. Her death is the greatest grief to innumerable club members and club workers, many of them girls and women whom she brought into the association herself, either to work for it or to benefit by it. She was a most valuable officer of the Y.W.C.A. To us, who worked with her, she was not only that, but our very dear friend."

Details of the Accident.

The police report regarding the accident to Miss Kentish states that while crossing North terrace, at about 11 o'clock, she was struck by a motor car owned and driven by Mr. J. C. Johnston, of Newborne street, Prospect. The car was proceeding along North terrace in an easterly direction. Miss Kentish was conveyed to the Adelaide Hospital in a police ambulance and died at 11.30 o'clock. Dr. Tassie, who admitted her to the institution, stated that Miss Kentish had a fractured skull, and there were several abrasions.

ADVERTISER 10-6-25

WYLLIE.—On the 10th June, at Remuera, Auckland, N.Z., Alwyn Wyllie, B.A., B.Sc., M.I.E.E., formerly of Adelaide.