

AN UNTIMELY DEATH.

The Late Mr. Sherlock Gillman.

Brilliant Young Engineer.

On Wednesday a cablegram was received in Adelaide announcing the death, in the Santa Fe Hospital, Los Angeles (U.S.A.), on Sunday, of Mr. Sherlock Gillman, at the age of 26 years. The young man was regarded as one of the most promising engineering students that South Australia has produced. It is customary in an obituary notice of an elderly public servant or some other person who had been prominent for many years for the demise shadowed a career of outstanding value to the land of his birth? That sentiment might justly be applied to the death of Mr. Gillman.

Sad Circumstances.

Mr. Gillman was the eldest son of the Assistant General Traffic Manager in the South Australian Railways (Mr. B. H. Gillman) and left with his father on June 26 of last year, when the latter, accompanied by Mrs. Gillman and the Divisional Superintendent of the South Australian Railways (Mr. C. B. Anderson) departed on a departmental trip to Europe and America. Mr. Gillman, sen. and Mr. Anderson had finished their enquiries and

1917 with a fine record, and left without an even better one. Certainly no one did better than he did at civil engineering, and he showed a special taste for engineering design and reinforced concrete work. At the end of 1920 he obtained the degree of Bachelor of Engineering, another brilliant student, Mr. R. C. Robin, winning the Angas scholarship. Mr. Gillman did not enter a thesis, and was therefore ineligible for the scholarship. Nervousness seemed to handicap him in examinations at the start, but he appeared to recover from that weakness as time went on. Although reserved and hard-working, he had a genial nature, and made many friends at the University. It is a great pity."

Valuable Service.

After leaving the University, Mr. Gillman joined the South Australian Reinforced Concrete Company as assistant engineer to Mr. H. G. Jenkinson. Later he was associated with Mr. Jenkinson in the consulting engineering firm of Jenkinson & Stanley, Adelaide. Mr. Jenkinson stated on Wednesday that Mr. Gillman had given very valuable service in the design of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company's power house at Osborne, and in other large contracts in Adelaide and elsewhere, notably the Liberal Club building on North terrace. "He was a young engineer of most brilliant attainments and great promise," he added, "and in his death those who were associated with him have experienced a deep sense of loss. I had a great liking and respect for him, and he took a deep interest in his work. When the chance came for him to make this trip to England and America he was reluctant to go, as he said it would inconvenience us, and it was only when I told him that he would be regarded as being on leave, and that the firm wanted him to go and get experience, that he consented to do so. His death is a big loss to engineering in this State."

It is expected that Mr. and Mrs. Gillman will leave for Australia on February 25. Mr. Anderson was due to depart on Wednesday.

News 12/2/25

SCHOOL OF OPERA

Conservatorium Work

The formation of a school of opera in connection with the Elder Conservatorium has long been planned as a natural completion of the existing curriculum, embracing a comprehensive study of the art of music.

The student orchestra, which has now existed for three years under the experienced guidance of Mr. W. H. Foot, was a necessary preliminary, and its valuable training has greatly increased and is continually adding to the number of competent orchestral players.

It is the intention of the director to initiate the study of opera along thoroughly sound lines. Much has to be learned by students of gesture, deportment, and purely dramatic work before even the simplest opera can be staged with such completeness as the tradition demands. For this reason the preparatory classes, which will be inaugurated next month, are an essential training, and only those who undertake the prescribed course of study will be fitted for subsequently taking part in actual reproductions.

Mr. Clive Carey is singularly qualified for the important task assigned to him. His years of association with Jean de Reszke, his experience in this work at the Royal College of Music, his practical knowledge of the business of producing operas at the "Old Vic" and at Cambridge, together with his eminence as a teacher of singing, combine to fit him for so responsible an undertaking.

It is hoped to bring the course within reach of all earnest singing students by charging only the most reasonable scale of fees for their training. Enrolments should be made without delay, and all necessary information may be obtained at the office of the Elder Conservatorium.

Adv. 13/2/25

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS MADE.

The following appointments to the Medical inspection staff of the public schools were made by the Executive Council on Thursday:—Medical Inspector, Class 1—Dr. H. E. Pellew. Medical Inspectors, Class 2—Mrs. Dorothy S. Adams, Edith Clement, Mavis V. Grant, and Mary C. Puckey. School Dentists—Messrs. A. D. Cooks, J. W. E. Monfries, and C. B. Maddern. Nurses—H. J. L. Abbott, V. R. Coombs, and H. Jackson were also appointed to the staff.

The Minister of Education (Hon. L. L. Bill) said Dr. Pellew was a well-known South Australian, but of the four lady doctors three were from New South Wales, the only South Australian applicant being Dr. Adams. The nurses appointed were also South Australians.

NOTES FROM LONDON

Dogs and Coinage

(By T. S. Opie)

LONDON.

There is another London craze beside that of bobbed or shingled hair—namely, the vogue of the pup.

Dogs are lovable animals—that is, when they are in their right place. But a continuous procession of foolish toys served, as it were, "on the sash," rouses one to the murderous frenzy experienced by W. J. Locke's character "Doggie Trevor," when viewing his former cherished collection of little china dogs.

There is something dignified about "the man and his dog" of the Australian outback, and something ludicrous in the London parody of "taking the little darling out for his daily constitutional."

Dr. H. H. Heaton spent a happy time in Canada, returning to England by Christmas Eve. He lectured in six Canadian universities, and regards our isolation as affording the main contrast between Canada and Australia—and prefers the isolation. Meeting Stephen Leacock must have been in itself a liberal education.

At the conference of economic teachers held at Cambridge in January, 1925, he put forward a scheme for the better instruction and assistance of overseas graduates. At present the time of well-known teachers is more or less wholly occupied with undergraduates and their work, and there is a great need for a special research school, the energies and resources of which would be devoted entirely to research men.

Otherwise there is a real danger that students from the Dominions will seek other and more comprehensive spheres, especially America, wherein to do their advanced work.

A Canadian acquaintance asked me recently when Australia was going to change over to the decimal system of coinage. Such a question is not altogether a new one to Australians, the disadvantages and advantages of the scheme having been discussed in detail at various times.

American magazines and the "movies" have paved the way for its adoption here, but the problem is not merely local. It would be an indisputably excellent move if the countries of the world adopted a uniform currency, which would necessarily be a decimal coinage. A deal of avoidable confusion would be abolished.

But if Australia is to change her present coinage system on her own account I believe that the reform will be a long time in coming. If Great Britain took the initiative all would be well, but as long as she clings to the sterling and the present fractional currency Australia will cling likewise.

Nevertheless we are not entirely at one with Great Britain in regard to coinage matters. For instance, the Commonwealth Act of 1909 eliminates the half-crown from our coinage, but many people in Great Britain wish to do away with the florin. Again, contrary to Australian usage, small change is given and received in pennies, the threepenny piece being regarded as too small for easy handling, and hence that coin can hardly be said to be in active circulation.

Adv 13/2/25

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

DR. RENDALL TO VISIT ADELAIDE

Dr. M. J. Rendall, formerly headmaster of Winchester College, England, who is on a special mission on behalf of the Rhodes Scholarship Trust, is expected to reach Adelaide on Sunday week.

Information to this effect was received yesterday by the Registrar of the University (Mr. F. W. Kardley). Dr. Rendall is accompanied by two young men from Balliol College, and expects to remain in Adelaide about a week. He has just finished a tour of South Africa and Rhodesia, and proposes to visit all the Dominions participating in the Rhodes Scholarship Fund. Dr. Rendall, who in his 63rd year, is the chairman of the League of the Empire. The date of his arrival is subject to alteration. An change will be announced later.

THE TREATMENT OF ORANGES.

A REPORT BY MR. QUINN.

It was stated in Melbourne on Wednesday by Senator Wilson, in opening the third annual inter-State conference of growers of citrus fruit, that the Commonwealth Government were awaiting a report by Mr. George Quinn (Government Horticultural Expert in South Australia) in regard to the Marston process of treating citrus fruit for export, and that if the report was favorable consideration would be given to the request of the Citrus Fruitgrowers' Association in Victoria to make the process available.

That report, it was learned on Thursday, was forwarded by Mr. Quinn some days ago, but for several reasons it will not be found so conclusive as might be desired. Mr. H. R. Marston, who is the demonstrator in the bio-chemistry department at the Adelaide University, has been experimenting with the treatment of citrus fruit for several years to render it immune from decay while being exported abroad, and latterly he has devoted his attention to a gas treatment. Mr. Quinn points out that the work was in progress some time before he had an opportunity of inspecting the process and of noting the results, and he feels that it would be wrong for him to claim that he had followed the experiments for a sufficient length of time to pronounce a definite opinion on the success of otherwise of the process.

"It certainly appears as if the gas used will protect sound oranges from mould," said Mr. Quinn on Thursday. "Practically the whole of the decay in oranges and lemons is due to infection by mould. This does not penetrate the skin of normally healthy fruit, but should there be the slightest abrasion due to friction or contact with decaying fruit the skin is at once weakened, and the ubiquitous mould finds ingress. As has been pointed out by Mr. Marston, he does not claim that the gas treatment will prevent an extension of the disease when once it has made its appearance; but, of course, the treatment may destroy the mould spores on the skin of the sound fruit, and therefore restrict the possibility of infection. For several years experimental shipments of oranges have been made, and a considerable quantity has always decayed on the voyage, but the adoption of oiled paper wrappings, latterly has limited the extent of the decay apart from any gas treatment.

"The experience of the past has tended to show the necessity for vastly greater care by the grower, the harvester, and the packer of oranges intended for export. In California no person connected with the handling of citrus fruit, from the tree until it leaves the packing sheds, is allowed to touch any unless gloves are worn in order to prevent scratching."

GIFT TO UNIVERSITY

At a private luncheon early in December in the New College Library of Edinburgh University, which was attended by the Prince of Wales, Principal Sir Alfred Ewing announced that Sir Alexander Grant, of McVitie and Price, Limited, biscuit manufacturers, Edinburgh, had given £50,000 toward Edinburgh University extension scheme (says "The Weekly Scotsman").

Principal Sir Alfred Ewing said the Prince's visit was a coming event which cast before it not a shadow but a radiance. Professor Sir James Walker had obtained a gift of £2,500 from a friend interested in chemical manufacture. This donor desired to remain anonymous. That beginning gave them courage to approach other possible donors. One of them had promised £1,000, another £1,500, and another £5,000. Other sums brought the contributions up to £10,000. The Carnegie trustees were considering their accounts, and he had reason to expect that there would be a supplement to the usual grants which they made to the Scottish universities, and that Edinburgh's share would be something like £15,000.

The best had yet to be told. He went to the office of another citizen and stated briefly the case for the university. The man listened and put a few questions, and after a few pleasant words passed into an adjoining room, remarking that he would like to consult his wife. He returned and said with characteristic directness and simplicity, "My wife thinks I should give you £50,000. You may use it," he added, "for any university purpose." His name was Sir Alexander Grant. All these promises had been given since the address of welcome to the Prince at the King's Building was written. Altogether they amounted in round figures to £75,000 or rather more. They were the direct fruits of His Royal Highness' visit.



THE LATE MR. SHERLOCK GILLMAN, whose death has occurred in Los Angeles, U.S.A.

to be described at "a loss to the State;" but how much more appropriately can that phrase be used when the death is announced of one whose attainments forewere about to leave for Australia when the son was taken ill. He was admitted to the Santa Fe Hospital, but the nature of his complaint is not definitely known by his relatives here. His death will cause regret to a wide circle of friends and to those with whom he came in contact during his scholastic and too brief professional life.

Fine School Record.

Mr. Gillman was educated at St. Peter's College, and was regarded as one of the most brilliant students who have studied there. In 1923 he passed the junior public examination with eight subjects and five credits, and the next year got through the senior public examination with seven subjects and three credits. In 1916 he was dux of the school, and headed the general honours list for the higher public examination, with credits in chemistry, arithmetic, algebra, trigonometry, and geometry. He was awarded a Government bursary for tuition at the University of Adelaide, and also the Hartley scholarship from the college. While he was at St. Peter's College he won numerous bursaries, and was particularly distinguished by his aptitude for scientific subjects.

Promising Career Cut Short.

"It is regrettable," remarked Professor Chapman, of the Adelaide University, when acquainted with the news, "that when acquainted should be cut off just as one so brilliant should be so carefully tended the plant that has been so carefully tended is beginning to flower. Mr. Gillman was perhaps the most distinguished young man that we have had. He came here in