Agricultural Education and Research.

Importance to the State.

Address by Dr. A. E. V. Richardson, M.A., Before the Rotary Club.

President Goadless once said: "At the head of civilization and progress stand agriculture, not commerce—the art that secures whatever industry and the maintenance of human life. It is the foundation of trade and industry, and the physical and material prosperity of the State. Australia is a comparatively young agricultural community and the production of food is much better than the surface area under cultivation today. In the last five years, the production of wheat and other crops has increased by from 25 to 50 per cent. "

The wheat growers of this country have found that the most important factor in increasing the yield of wheat is the application of phosphate. Phosphate is a natural fertilizer and is derived from the by-products of the manufacture of superphosphate, which is the foundation of a large section of this country's culture. Since the introduction of phosphate, the yield of wheat has increased in all parts of the colony, and the value of the wheat produced has doubled.