

DR. H. C. C. RENNIE DEAD

Expressions of Regret

Expressions of regret at the death of Dr. H. C. C. Rennie, second son of Professor Rennie, of the Adelaide University, were made today by members of the Tubercular Soldiers' Association and the Tubercular Soldiers' Aid Society. Dr. Rennie, it was stated, did everything in his power to make the lives of the inmates of Myrtle Bank and Bedford Park brighter, and in not one instance would he inject any serum or vaccine in a patient until he had first tried it on himself. He was of great assistance to the committee in compiling appeal cases for the Repatriation Commission.

Dr. L. Hayward stated that Dr. Rennie was wonderfully popular with the "boys" at Bedford Park, and he felt keenly his passing, as he was an intimate friend. Dr. Rennie, he said, had a brilliant university career and went to Britain to pursue his studies. While there war broke out, and he joined the British Army Medical Corps. He saw active service in the trenches in France, and there contracted tuberculosis, later being invalided to Australia. He was the first medical superintendent of Bedford Park Sanatorium. Dr. Rennie at first had to exercise a good deal of restraint with the patients, but afterward, as the men grew to understand him, he became their boon companion, and his advice and guidance were sought on all matters. He was a conscientious worker, and was always willing to assist the diggers. A man with a lovable character, and a clear, original, and deep thinker he kept himself right in the forefront in the latest treatment of tuberculosis, and his death was a matter of deep regret. Dr. Rennie had lived at Victor Harbor for the past 12 months where he was nursed through his long illness by Miss Brooks.

A keen student of animals he was interested in breeding Cocker Spaniels and Jersey cattle. He exhibited at different shows and was successful in obtaining several prizes for his animals, of which he was justly proud.

An announcement appeared in The Register on Wednesday morning of the death at Victor Harbor on August 28 of Dr. Henry Charles Cadell Rennie, at the age of 34 years. The late Dr. Rennie was a son of Professor Rennie, of the Adelaide University. He was educated at Queens' School, North Adelaide, and later at the University of Adelaide. After having taken his degree at that institution as Bachelor of Medicine in 1910, and headed the first-class list in his final examination, he became house surgeon at the Adelaide Hospital. He later spent some time at the Broken Hill Hospital as assistant to Dr. Birks. When he returned to



THE LATE DR. H. C. C. RENNIE.

Adelaide Dr. Rennie decided to visit England to continue his medical studies. He arrived there shortly after the declaration of war, and after having obtained his M.R.C.S. diploma he enlisted for active service, and became attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps. After service in the trenches he was (in 1916) invalided back to Australia. In June, 1917, he was appointed as medical superintendent of the Bedford Park Sanatorium. He later engaged in private work at the Nunyara Sanatorium at Belair, but his health began to fail, and after having rejoined the Bedford Park Sanatorium for some time he was forced to relinquish his association with that institution. Dr. Rennie's death has occasioned deep regret to a wide circle of friends, and he was highly esteemed by all who knew him. His was a most promising career, and great sympathy is felt for his bereaved relations. Dr. Rennie's untiring efforts for the welfare of the inmates of the Bedford Park Sanatorium and of the Myrtle Bank institution, gained him the love and esteem of all who knew of the skill and sympathy he displayed in his ministrations. To the Tubercular Soldiers' Association and the Tubercular Soldiers' Aid Society he was a valuable helper, having given great assistance in the framing of appeal cases for the consideration of the Repatriation Department. Dr. L. W. Hayward expressed on Wednesday the deepest regret at the announcement of Dr. Rennie's death. He said that when Dr. Rennie was appointed medical superintendent at Bedford Park he had some difficulty in dealing with the men, unused as they were to restraint. As the men grew to understand him, and to realize the utter unselfishness of their doctor they took him to their hearts. His knowledge and sympathetic manner made him a valued confidant, and his advice was sought on all matters. He was a conscientious worker, and was always willing to assist the diggers. A man with a lovable character, and a clear, original, and deep thinker, he kept himself right in the forefront in the latest treatment of tuberculosis, and his death was a matter of deep regret. Dr. Rennie had lived at Victor Harbor for the past 12 months, where he was nursed through his long illness by Miss Brooks. He was a keen student of animals, and interested in breeding cocker spaniels and Jersey cattle. He exhibited at different shows, and was successful in obtaining several prizes for his animals.

Nov. 3-9-25. A FEDERAL FORESTRY SCHOOL.

The importance to Australia of a national scheme of afforestation is an old story. All the States are vigorously prosecuting schemes for the conservation of existing forests and the propagation of indigenous and exotic timber trees. But the rate of destruction is swifter than that of replacement, and though the States have between them some 28 million acres specially reserved for timber, the area actually planted falls far short of this, as it does even of the 24,500,000 acres which an inter-State conference at Hobart five years ago held to be the minimum of our requirements of merchantable timber. At the Australian Forestry Conference in Sydney last year it was stated that, whereas a few years ago the Commonwealth was spending £1,000,000 a year on imported timber, the sum was now £3,000,000. With the example of New Zealand before them, it is not surprising that the Australian States are enlarging their schemes of afforestation and planting. At the Sydney gathering it was reported that New Zealand had in four years increased from 4,000,000 trees to 16,000,000 the number annually planted, and within the same period had increased the receipts of its forest department from £7,500 to £95,000, with the result that the department has become self-supporting, and is expected in a few years to prove a handsome source of revenue to the Dominion.

But if the States are to realise their arboricultural potentialities they will need a considerable number of men skilled in practical and theoretical forestry, and it is to provide training in the higher branches of the science that, at the instigation of their Forest Adviser, Mr. C. E. Lane Poole, the Federal Government are proposing to establish a special school at Canberra, where, after a two-years' course at his own university, a student would do another two years. With regard to the principle the States are at one, excepting Queensland, which has a system of training of its own, whereby a student after a two-years' science course at the University and a year's practical work in the forest, spends a final year at the Forestry School at Oxford. As the Oxford school exists mainly to serve the needs of India and the tropical colonies of the Empire, it is hoped by the Minister for Home

affairs that when the Federal School is inaugurated Queensland will fall into line with the other States and give the preference to an institution which specialises in Australian forestry. The only exception that can be taken to the Federal School is its location; and since no vital question turns on the selection of Canberra, the South Australian Government are to be commended for their efforts to secure its establishment in this State, where, in a mixture of University work with an equal amount of outside practical forestry in the Department of Forests, the necessary groundwork exists for a national school which would serve the needs of all the States. South Australia was the first of the States in this continent to devote any attention to forestry, and it deserves some recognition for its pioneering work. Incalculable good has been done by its establishment of State nurseries, whence seedling trees are distributed to settlers who will go to the trouble of planting them. As pointed out by Mr. Lane Poole in a report published three months ago, South Australia is the one State of the Commonwealth possessing a school that purports to give a full course in forestry, and it speaks well for our system that the same authority is able to testify to the number of "enthusiastic and fine young foresters" it has been able, with means none too extravagant, to turn out. It has also to be added that the much-talked-of "forest conscience" exists in South Australia to an extent unknown in any other State, having been kindled and kept alive by public discussion extended over many years and reinforced by the labor and influence of the public-spirited members of the State branch of the Australian Forest League.

The Federal School, wherever established, should be productive of immeasurable benefit to the Commonwealth. Though possessing no rights over the forest lands of the States, the central authority, as Mr. Lane Poole properly insists, may render the latter great assistance in their forestry activities. Evidence of the value of concerted effort need not be sought outside the records of the inter-State conferences which have been held for many years. Apart from a Federal Forest School which, while aiming at uniformity, would be elastic enough to serve the special needs of the States, there is room for co-operation in such matters as more uniform methods of planting, a standard nomenclature for trees, a glossary of technical forest terms, to say nothing of the question of financially assisting States at a disadvantage in carrying out afforestation programmes. But all other help the Commonwealth can give the States sinks into insignificance beside that which the school will furnish in the adequate training of forest staffs. Even if the money problem were solved for all the States and they were able to launch out on elaborate schemes of planting, they would have their money and labor wasted were the expenditure not controlled by knowledge and wisdom. The Commonwealth, as Mr. Lane Poole does not neglect to show, is at a great advantage in having a climate peculiarly adapted to the rapid growth of trees, which arrive at a marketable stage in less than half the time required for their maturity in Europe. It was long before our hardwoods were recognised as having any value except for the roughest work; but with proper care in their selection and milling they are found superior to many oaks, and almost equal to the old English oak. For beauty the Queensland walnut is not excelled, or even, perhaps, equalled by the American walnut, and of maple no other approaches the Queensland variety. As for softwoods, the soil of Australia affords a perfect field for their cultivation; and it is particularly in relation to its softwoods that the world is threatened with a timber famine. In Europe trees are destroyed more rapidly than they are replaced, which accounts for the immature condition of much of the deal that reaches Australia from the Baltic, the young, sappy wood having evidently come not from full-grown trees, but from comparative saplings. And in America the depletion of stocks is quite as rapid. Half a century ago America possessed 800 million acres of timber, and to-day only 137 millions are left. Forestry has a great future in Australia, and the establishment of a Federal School is the most urgent of the preparations to be made for it.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHESTRA.

The chairman of the executive of the South Australian Orchestra, Professor Harold Davies, announces with great regret, that owing to illness Mr. William Silver will be unable to perform at the concert on Saturday next. This will necessitate a further postponement of the Mozart Concerto until Saturday, October 2. Those who have booked seats specially for the concert may, if desired, transfer their reservations to the later date. As many requests have been received for a repetition of the famous Clock Symphony (No. 4), Hadyn, which created such a remarkable impression at the first concert of the season, it has been decided to concede to those requests and include this symphony on Saturday's programme in lieu of the concerto. The rest of the programme will remain as already advertised. Plan at the Aeolian Company.

NEWS. 3-9-25. University Extension

Since its foundation the Adelaide University has been handicapped by lack of a common meeting-ground for students. Negotiations are in progress between the University Council and the Government regarding land on which it is proposed to erect a Union Building and Memorial Theatre.

Plans for a two-storey building, with ample accommodation for men and women students and a fully equipped theatre, have already been drawn up and are on view at the University.

The Students' Council asks that suggestions from students for improvements and alterations to the plan, be handed in by today.

NEWS. 3-9-25. University and Colt Cricketers

"Student," St. Peters:—It is rumored that those responsible for the selection of the South Australian Colts' cricket team will create a precedent this year and draw from the University. One naturally asks for what reason?

One conjecture is that the 'Varsity by playing off for the premierships last year showed a high standard of cricket, and that it would be a source of strengthening the Colts, as nearly all University players are young. This leads one to ask, "Is the Colts' team fulfilling its mission?"

I understand that one of its objects is to give promising young players who are overshadowed by seniors in their tub a chance to make good on their own. This does not apply to Universities where there are no senior players. If new cricketers are wanted surely there must be dozens of promising young men among our junior teams. Are they given a chance to make good?

Having no district 'Varsity depends chiefly on the colleges for its cricketers. If these players are selected for the Colts' Eleven they are lost to the University altogether, for at the age of 21 they would probably have completed their course and would go from the Colts back to a district club. This threatens the very existence of the University team.

A case in point is Colin Alexander, a brilliant young player. Apart from the loss to University it would be unfair to the lad, as it would deprive him of an opportunity to gain his "blue," which is the ambition of every University player.

The association cricket rules allow students to play for two years after graduating, but the policy recently has been to play the same team in district cricket as in inter-university contests. L. T. Gun, who, although eligible to play for University under the South Australian Cricket Association rules, is not eligible for inter-university matches, being no longer an undergraduate. He has decided to play for a district club. This policy weakens the University eleven and strengthens the district clubs. The 'Varsity eleven, which is really a college team, brings out the best that is in a young player.

It is to be hoped that those in authority who have the interests of South Australian cricket at heart and are not prejudiced by club interests will consider this question fully before they allow the selectors to disorganise the students' team.