

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.

The Annual Meeting.

Advice by the Administrator.

The annual public meeting of the South Australian Public Teachers' Union was held at the Price Hall, Adelaide High School, on Friday evening. His Excellency the Administrator (Mr. Acting Chief Justice Poole) presided over a large attendance. He was accompanied by Mrs. Poole, and attended by Mr. Leigh Winsor. The platform were the Minister of Education (Hon. L. L. Bill), the Director of Education (Mr. W. T. McCoy), the President of the Union (Mr. F. J. Gartrell), the President-elect (Mr. H. M. Lushy), Professor Darnley Naylor, and C. C. Charlton (Deputy-Director of Education).

His Excellency said he thought the teaching profession one of the most important in the community. They would like that he styled their work a profession, and he really thought it was such. There was no profession worthy of the name which was content to exist on a purely commercial basis. A lawyer who undertakes for a fee to do certain work, if he were true to the ideals of his profession, would not only do the work he thought equivalent in value to what he thought he was receiving, but would give of his best work. There was in every profession the underlying idea that the work was done not simply for oneself, but for the community as a whole. If a member of a profession strove to live up to that ideal he raised himself and his work to a higher plane. If the only nexus that existed between one's work and oneself was a cash nexus, his work ceased to become a profession, and became merely a matter of L. S. D. "Your profession is an important one," resumed His Excellency. "The intellectual development of three-fourths of the youth is in your hands. It can be made, and it has been made by many, a noble profession." He thought it was the monotony and the routine work that killed the schoolmaster. He was glad to learn that greater freedom in teaching was being given to the teachers. In such a great system as that of education in the public schools in this State, there had of necessity to be some limitation on the individual tendencies of each teacher. But so far as room could be given for individual effort it should be given. He was glad to hear it had been found that greater room could be given both the teacher and the taught. He would venture to give a word of advice. He had been a professional man himself, and might be allowed to do so from that standpoint. There was a means of getting away from the monotony of teaching, and it was to be found in the manner in which they used their leisure. They should not be content to be teachers only. During their leisure hours they could share in the general life of the community. Some would do well to spend their leisure among the young, and thereby endeavour to keep themselves in touch with the oncoming generations. Those whose work was necessarily with the young should spend their leisure hours, so far as possible, with the co-equals, and thus avoid the possibility of getting into a fixed rut. (Applause.)

The remarks of the President (Mr. Gartrell) are given in another column.

The Minister's Address.

The Minister of Education said he took a great interest in the work of the Teachers' Union. As Minister he wanted to give the union all the encouragement possible, because he believed it was an organization that had been established on sound lines, and with such an organization very many benefits could be obtained, not only for the teachers, but for the general welfare of the education system of the State. The President's address had shown that the union was not only out for benefits for its individual members—in the direction of salaries, but was caring for the welfare generally of education. He thought as a Minister he should not be backward in encouraging them at the earliest possible moment. Apparently, it was thought in the past, he assumed, that the public school was a charity for the children of poor parents. He was thankful such an idea was now out of date. The State recognized the great advantages that were to be derived from an educated community.

It was stated that if a develop secondary education schools from a well organized primary system, the Government of Australia would repay the State for the money that was being spent on education. With the aid of money they could compete with

the world and sell their goods on the world's markets; but they could not do that without a scientific development. Further remarks by the Minister are given in another column.

An interesting lecture on "The meaning of words," was given by Professor Darnley Naylor.

A vote of thanks to the Administrator was carried on the motion of Mr. F. J. Gartrell, and one to the speakers on the motion of Mr. H. M. Lushy (President-elect) and Miss L. A. Lamb (President W.T.P.L.).

A musical programme was rendered by Miss Elsie Woolley and Mr. Frank Charlton.

REG. 22.8.25.

TEACHERS' UNION.

The Annual Conference.

The annual conference of the South Australian Public Teachers' Union was held in the Price Hall of the Adelaide High School on Saturday morning, when the President (Mr. F. J. Gartrell) occupied the chair.

The President referred to the work of the executive committee during the year and the general progress of the union towards the objects for which it existed. The reports of the secretary and treasurer and the balance sheet were adopted.

Secretary's Report.

It was stated in the report of the minute secretary (Mr. J. W. Odgers) that the union had lost valuable supporters as a result of the death of a Vice-President (Mr. Charles Maley) and a former President (Inspector T. H. S. Nicolle). Mr. Maley was a strong unionist and regular in attendance, often under severe indisposition. He gave valuable advice, and was faithful to every duty. When correspondence secretary Mr. Nicolle was so attentive to every detail that there was seldom any letter left for a week. Later he was President, and all knew how thoroughly he discharged the duties of that office. During the year Mr. E. Allen (Vice-President) was promoted to the inspectorial staff and resigned. Mr. C. Maley filled that position until his death, and since that time Mr. E. W. Skitch had been Vice-President. The past year had been strenuous for the President, for not only had he to preside or prepare for 19 ordinary and special meetings, but also over a large number of committee meetings. That he had filled the position ably and satisfactorily was shown in his selection as President-elect. The amount of time, knowledge, and energy he had put into the Industrial Court proceedings was remarkable, and the union was to be congratulated in having him in office at such an important juncture.

Finances.

The treasurer's annual report stated that the volume of business transacted for the year ended July 31, 1925, had eclipsed all records. The bank balance was £911 1/7, the legal defence fund balance was £124 16/1, and the amount invested in Commonwealth loans was £470, of which £266 was held in trust. The total financial credit of the union was £1,505 17/8. Receipts for the year amounted to £2,851 5/2, and the expenditure was £1,546 3/. The duties of the treasurer had been added to in several important respects. The general fund had grown considerably in volume and scope. The legal defence fund made a bigger demand now than formerly owing to the tendency to use legal aid in the administration, and to the suggestion of 1924 conference to advance the amount of the fund and a limit of £500 by an annual addition of 5 per cent. of all subscriptions. Various relief funds had been administered by the treasurer, whose services had been made available for that class of work. Office expenditure, including salaries, rents, lighting, and requisites, involved an expenditure of £700. Travelling expenses of association delegates was a recurrent and increasing item of expenditure, and had advanced from £20 in 1924 to more than £80 in 1925.

Installation of President.

Mr. Gartrell then installed Mr. H. M. Lushy as President. Mr. Lushy referred eulogistically to the work of his predecessor and the retiring treasurer, Capt. L. H. R. Gordon.

Decisions Arrived At.

The following motions were carried:—That Rule 20 be amended by adding after the word "shall" in the first line, the words "be an executive officer of the union, &c." That the whole of Part VII. of the rules be deleted. That subsection (b) of Rule 30 be amended by deleting the word "over" before the figures 100, and by adding after the word "representatives" on the fifth line the words "and one representative for each additional 100 members." That Rule 37 be amended by striking out the word "midwinter" in the second line and substituting for it the word "August." That Rule 28 be amended by adding to it the words "otherwise they shall not appear on the printed agenda paper of conference, but may be considered at the discretion of the President." That Rule 29 be deleted.

That this conference desires to express its hearty approval of the development of the education system in the establishment of Central Schools.

That this conference desires to express its appreciation of the work accomplished by the salaries committee in preparing the log for Arbitration Court claim.

In view of the recent amendments and additions to the rules of the union to comply with the conditions of the Industrial Code Acts 1920 and 1924 for purposes of registration, it is advisable that they be revised, and the executive committee is hereby requested to submit such a revision for the approval of next conference.

That the executive committee be asked to consider the establishment of a sick relief fund in connection with the union.

That a subcommittee to the executive be formed for the purpose of enquiring into (a) rotation of subjects to allow evening students to complete their degree; (b) tutorial courses for students unable to attend lectures—and approach the University Council in the matter. This ended the conference.

REG. 22.8.25.

ECONOMIC SOCIETY.

South Australian Branch Formed.

It is generally conceded by people of varying shades of thought that present-day economic problems offer a wide field for profitable research. With the advance of civilization life is becoming more complex, and the solution either wholly or in part of our community difficulties whether in industry or commerce, is becoming daily a matter of more vital interest. With the object of enabling economic research to be carried out effectively in Australasia, the Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand has been formed, and on Friday a meeting of persons interested in the establishment of a South Australian branch of the organization was held at the history lecture room of the University of Adelaide. In the absence, through indisposition, of Dr. Jethro Brown, the chair was occupied by Mr. G. E. Sunter, and the secretarial arrangements were carried out by Mr. A. L. G. MacKay. The main immediate objective of the society, which is modelled on the lines of similar societies in England, is to render practicable the publication of a bulletin annually, or if funds permit more often, under the authority of an editorial board on the following plan:—1. Four or five articles containing original research or expert-treatment of the following topics:—(a) Economics of immigration; (b) banking and exchange situation; (c) public finance—loan policy and financial relations of States and Commonwealth; (d) the fixation of wages, and (e) a topic of special interest to New Zealand. 2. A digest of important legislation of economic interest in the States, the Commonwealth and New Zealand. 3. Notes on any events of economic interest other than the topics dealt with under (1) and (2). 4. Book notes and reviews. It might be possible to give a list of the best economic articles on Australia and New Zealand appearing in journals. It is proposed that the publication should consist of about 120 p.p., at a cost of probably £180.

A South Australian branch was formed, and a draft constitution was approved. The minimum annual subscription was fixed at £1/1 for ordinary, and 12/6 for student members, which will entitle members to copies of the research publications. There is no academic qualification for membership, all that is required being an interest in the subject. In addition to the research work which it is proposed to carry out, it is intended to hold public meetings during the year at which matters of economic interest will be discussed. The first of these will be held on November 17, when the subject for consideration will be loan policy. It is also proposed that pamphlets on economic subjects shall be issued periodically, together with business barometers, particularly of prices, on lines adopted by London and other economic societies similarly constituted. The suggestion was advanced that some of the best research work of students in economics at the University of Adelaide might be published in the form of a South Australian supplement to the research volume issued by the Federal council of the organization. Consideration is to be given to this matter.

The following officebearers were elected:—President, Mr. President Brown; Vice-Presidents (10), Professor Richardson, Messrs. A. E. Clarkson (subject to consent), E. W. Holden, E. H. Cornish, C. R. Moyes, A. Grenfell Price, W. McCabe, R. T. Foster, J. G. Thomas, and Dr. Dorothy Pavey (subject to consent); Honorary Secretary, Mr. A. L. G. MacKay; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. L. G. Melville; Chairman of Committee, Mr. Russell Booth; Committee, Messrs. C. Harding Browne, W. E. Rogers, H. Thompson, E. F. Hamilton, and W. T. Wainwright; Editorial Board, Mr. President Brown, Professor Hancock, Principal Kick, Messrs. H. Thompson, L. G. Melville, A. L. G. MacKay, and A. E. Clarkson; Delegates to Interstate Conference to be held in Melbourne on August 27, Professor McKellar Stewart and Miss E. Holmes.

ECONOMIC SOCIETY.

STATE BRANCH FORMED.

A branch of the Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand was formed at a meeting in the history lecture-room at the Adelaide University on Friday night. Mr. G. E. Sunter occupied the chair.

It was explained that section G of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science had appointed a committee during the last congress to draw up a report on a proposed economic society. This committee had drawn up a constitution which was approved by the section on August 29, 1924. The objects of the society were:—To prepare and publish digests of information upon published material, legislation, and administrative and legal decisions bearing upon economic conditions in Australia and New Zealand; to conduct and publish research into economic conditions in Australia and New Zealand; to publish such other matter of general economic interest as may from time to time seem desirable. The constitution provided for a branch in each capital city of Australia and the four chief cities of New Zealand, with a central council, consisting of one delegate from each branch, whose chief functions would be the initiation of schemes of economic research and the co-ordination of the work of the branches.

It was decided that the society should be called The Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand, South Australian branch. The draft constitution prepared by the preliminary committee was accepted.

The following officers were elected:—President, Dr. Jethro Brown; vice-presidents, Professor A. E. V. Richardson, Messrs. A. E. Clarkson, E. W. Holden, E. H. Cornish, C. R. Moyes, A. Grenfell Price, W. McCabe, R. T. Foster, and J. G. Thomas; hon. secretary, Mr. A. L. G. MacKay; hon. treasurer, Mr. L. G. Melville; chairman of committee, Mr. Russell Booth; committee, Messrs. C. Harding Browne, W. E. Rogers, H. Thompson, E. F. Hamilton, and W. T. Wainwright; editorial board, Dr. Jethro Brown, Professor Hancock, Rev. E. S. Kick, Messrs. H. Thompson, L. G. Melville, A. L. G. MacKay, and A. E. Clarkson; delegates to Federal conference, Professor J. McKellar Stewart and Miss Edna Holmes. Dr. Dorothy Pavey was elected as the temporary vice-president, subject to her consent.

A proposal had been forwarded from the Melbourne branch that a Federal bulletin should be issued in November to contain four or five expert articles on the economic topics of immigration, banking, and exchange, public finance, fixation of wages, a topic of special interest to New Zealand; also a digest of important economic legislation in Australia and New Zealand; notes on other events of economic interest, and book notes and reviews. The first publication was provided for financially, and it was proposed that it should be an annual one, possibly supplemented by smaller branch publications at shorter intervals. A motion approving of the proposal was carried.

The question of including a supplement in the Federal bulletin, containing some of the best research work done by South Australian students, was put to the meeting for discussion by Mr. A. L. G. MacKay. Several members spoke in favour of the scheme, some, however, suggesting that the work be published locally instead of sending it to the Federal bulletin.

REG. 24.8.25.

"CHRISTIANITY AND LEISURE."

Diocesan Social Union Addresses.

At St. Peter's Cathedral on Sunday evening the series of addresses on social questions, arranged by the Adelaide Diocesan Social Union, was continued, the subject being "Christianity and Leisure."

The Rev. A. Depledge Sykes spoke from the texts "Come ye yourselves apart . . . and rest awhile" (St. Mark, vi. 33), and "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day" (St. John ix. 4). He said that through complexity of human experience was to-day called to find its way. To clarify the rhythm of life was to accentuate its vitality. Without work there was no such thing as leisure. The right to work was among the primary laws of life. The right to leisure was its corollary. No normal, healthy man had the right to sit at the feast of life without feeling the bill whose currency was service.

"Cry for a Six-hour Day."

The tendency to-day, continued the preacher, was in the direction of shorter hours. Having achieved an eight-hour day, the cry now was for a seven-hour day, even for a six-hour day. The release of new energies through applied science offered