

Before returns are available that private investors are never likely to be numerous, however immense the returns may be made from them. Therefore, the bulk of forestry work must be done by the State or not at all, and the scale on which it is undertaken and its success must depend on financial considerations. Fortunately it is within the scope of the State, under which, in return for the Dominion relieving her of some of her surplus population, the motherland is ready to issue loans at low rates of interest in the developing countries. Judging from experience elsewhere, the Government probably do not take too optimistic a view of the financial advantages to the State, direct and indirect, likely to accrue from a vigorous policy of arboriculture. These do not end with the growth and sale of timber; or the manufacture of paper-pulp on a large scale in one of the coming industries of the Commonwealth, which will open a new avenue of employment for many hundreds. Politicians are so apt to have short views, or no views at all, on great national questions that the Government may be commended for their attempt to add appreciably to the timber resources of the State. But it is with no small satisfaction that they will be viewed by the public if, by means of the closing of existing forest reserves and an exclusive concentration on the South-Eastern project. It is true that the State has the Ayers reserve with a view to its reclamation for agricultural purposes, which the Legislative Council recorded an emphatic protest last month, appears to have been advised by the Conservator of Forests. But the reserve is a non-paying proposition, the case might have been met, as the Legislative Council suggested, by its transfer to the local bodies who have signified their readiness to be responsible for its maintenance and to pay for the replacement of any trees every tree removed. Perhaps in the case of the Ayers reserve it might be possible for these terms to save at least a portion from destruction. Mr. Pascoe speaks from practical experience of the value of existing reserves generally have proved remunerative propositions, some more and some less; and, after all, as a means of affording the young a half a little to do with the original planting of a good many, the desire being to enhance the beauty of the landscape, and perhaps also to offer neighboring settlers an example to be followed. In any case, afforestation has been a difficult battle to fight, and the public will not view with patience the loss of any of the hard-earned ground.

In wartime a gallant soldier and in peace a legal light, Dr. Donald Kerr, M.A., LL.D., of the South Australian Bar, is a well-known figure in the State. He was born at Knightbridge 33 years ago, and began his education at the Public School, Adelaide. He was educated by the Rev. Donald Kerr who was headmaster. Subsequently he attended the Glenelg Grammar School, where his father conducted, and concluded his school career at the University of Adelaide.

Logarithms and mathematical calculations, a base of life to the average citizen, are as food to Mr. L. G. Melville, A.I.A.A., Lecturer, the Public Actuary. A man not only of letters, but of figures, he makes his work his life interest. Born at Marsfield, near Sydney, in 1902, Mr. Melville is probably the youngest actuary in Australia holding such an important Government position. He received his early education at the Sydney Church of England Grammar School, completing his studies at the Sydney University. In 1922 he gained his degree as Associate of the Institute of Actuaries, London. In the same year he was appointed Lecturer at the University in Insurance Mathematics. A year earlier he received a position in the actuarial staff of the New South Wales State Superannuation Fund Board. As a member of the Union Board of Directors at the Sydney University he did good work. Mr. Melville prepared a range of mortality tables, which are in use in connection with the compensation funds throughout Australia. The Commonwealth and different State Actuaries have also adopted the table.

A great impetus has been given to the important subject of economic research during the past year, and many distinguished economists have visited the Commonwealth with the object of making a close inspection of Australian resources and devising means of effective co-ordination. Embro and Dr. Clark Wisler, of the Rockefeller Foundation, visited the Commonwealth in the company of the professorial staff of the Adelaide University. They also visited each of the other academic centres of the Commonwealth. As the outcome of their visit it is expected that plans will be projected for scholarships to be made available to Australian students of the leading American universities. Professor D. B. Copland, head of the University Department of Commerce, Melbourne, has been granted a tenured leave of absence by the university council to enable him to proceed to the United States and investigate with the Rockefeller Foundation authorities the conditions under which the Foundation scheme for a reciprocal system of economic research may be inaugurated there. Before submitting concrete proposals to the several universities of the Commonwealth, Professor Copland will inspect the larger universities of America, and will also spend two months in England. Prior to leaving Australia Professor Embro, who is director of economic studies for the Rockefeller Foundation, hinted that the sums which would be made available for Australian students would be such as would cover the cost of the passage to America, and the expenses incidental to the effective presentation of research, plus a living allowance of from £200 and £250 per annum.

DR. DONALD KERR

one of the most brilliant scholars at St. Peter's College. He gained many prizes, one being the coveted McCulloch History Scholarship.

He graduated in law at the Adelaide University in 1918 and won the Stow Prize. The following year he enlisted and did saw service in Egypt. From there he went to France.

Although he asserts that soldiering does not appeal to him he was given the reputation of being one of the most daring, Armentieres, the Somme, and Pozieres camps for courage amid the strencher carriers, and Dr. Kerr was awarded the Military Medal. He was wounded at Pozieres, and invalided to Britain. He was further honoured with a card of commendation from Major-General Cox (commander of the 4th Division).

He is to do with law he resumed his practice and in 1919 took the degree of Doctor of Law. He has made distinct additions to the literature of law in his work "The Law of the Australian Constitution." Glowing accounts of this work have been expressed by the author from legal luminaries in all parts of the world. His second work, "The Australian Lands and Forests System," is a graduate of the Law Book Company. He served a term of office as Federal vice-president of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers' Imperial League and assisted in laying the foundations of the Federal body of the League.

MAN OF FIGURES

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MR. L. G. MELVILLE

As Lecturer on Statistics at evening classes at the Adelaide University he finds plenty to occupy his time. He has been debater in the University debating contest in 1922. The event was won by Adelaide, with Sydney second. He also represented Adelaide University in the contest against the Oxford team of debaters. His duties include the administration of the State Pension Fund and the supervision of accounts of registered friendly societies in South Australia. There are also numerous questions of superannuation and many other matters to be attended to.

Mr. Melville was a member of the committee that entered into the proposed new superannuation scheme for the Public Service. When in Sydney he took a keen interest in football, cricket, swimming, and athletics. He now occasionally plays tennis, but admits that his chief pastime is reading and study.

DR. 22-1-26

Mr. E. F. Gray, president of the Pharmaceutical Society, holds a unique record. He is president of the Australian Pharmaceutical Conference; he was the first pharmacist to win the society's gold medal; he has been a member of the council of the society with a mandate for 22 years, and for 10 years has been a member of the board of examiners. He is also lecturer in pharmacy at the University of Adelaide.

Ado 27-1-26

MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN.

The Registrar of the University has received full particulars of the William Gibson research scholarship for medical women. Miss Maud Margaret Gibson has placed in the hands of the Royal Society of Medicine a sum of money sufficient to provide a stipend for a period of three years of £200, in memory of her father, Mr. William Gibson, of Melbourne. The scholarship was originally intended to be given by the society to qualified medical women who are subjects of the British Empire, and has tended in a period of two years, but may in special circumstances be extended to a third year. The next award will be made in June 1926. In choosing his choice "either by research work already done by her, or by research work which she contemplates. The scholar shall be free to travel at her own will for the purpose of the research she has undertaken." Applications should be made in London not later than Tuesday, the 10th of April, and full particulars of the method of application may be had from the Registrar at the University.

Ado 21-1-26

AFFORESTATION.

From "TREE LOVER," Jamestown: In spite of all the talk about forestry and the need for scientifically trained men, there is little indication of any intention to stay in South Australia. For years this State has been supporting a School of Forestry, the Rotaroad Sallee, and graduates there have been at least twenty, and yet there have been at least twenty graduates of the "Forestry System." In South Australia, which is a forestry State, the resignation of Mr. D. R. Moore, B.Sc., brings this number down to three. The reason for this is that men who have gone through the course in obtaining their training are offered such miserable salaries and opportunities that the other States have no difficulty in inducing them to join their staffs. Western Australia now has six of these trained men from our State, and it is not surprising that the State which will attract suitable men from South Australia, whose position is far more favourable than that of the State which is to retain these men. It is generally accepted principle that science must be applied to industry, business, agriculture, and so forth. It is not surprising that it is so today in seeing that it is applied to forestry. Foresters competent to express an opinion are becoming scarce, and a world shortage of timber is approaching, and point out the urgent need for trained men to take their place. It seems to be doomed to prophesy truly without being believed.

Ado 25-1-26

GIFT TO WAITE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

Mr. J. T. Mortlock has forwarded to the Chancellor of the University a gift of £2,000, to be used either for building purposes or the equipment of a laboratory at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. The council at its meeting on 1st inst. accepted the generous help and expressed its appreciation of the interest shown by Mr. Mortlock in the work and progress of the Institute.

Ado 19-1-26

JOHN CREWELL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Applications will be received till noon on Saturday, February 6, from the sons and members of the Cricket Association and the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies for the John Crewell Scholarship, for the Diploma in Commerce course at the Adelaide University. Candidates must have passed the intermediate commercial, leaving commercial, or leaving examination of the same commercial course at the age of 19 years on March 1. The scholarships are tenable for five years.

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News 21-1-26

DR. RICHARDSON PRAISED

Will Victoria Steal Him Back?

N 21

Recognition by Sir Frank Heath of the work done by Dr. A. E. V. F. Richardson (former Superintendent of Agriculture in Victoria) in the development of our wheat crops brings back the old regret that this capable scientist should have been lent to the State (says a Melbourne writer). For a year or more since Dr. Richardson returned to South Australia. We stole him; they stole him back.

DR. A. E. V. F. RICHARDSON

the loss of whom is regretted in Victoria.

The point of it is that Victoria, richer than South Australia, could not offer degrees of Agriculture to its Superintendents of Agriculture to remain. Perhaps the visit of Sir Frank will for research that he shall be able again to have in his own country. Fortunately we have in Mr. H. J. Mallett, who is also rendering the State good service.

News 23-1-26

GENEROUS PASTORALIST

£2,000 for Research Work

GIFT OF MR. MORTLOCK

N 23

Mr. J. T. Mortlock, the well-known pastoralist, has forwarded to the Chancellor of the University a gift of £2,000, to be used either for building purposes or the equipment of a laboratory at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. The council at its meeting yesterday accepted the generous help, and expressed its appreciation of the interest shown by Mr. Mortlock in the work and progress of the Institute.