

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Both in Victoria and New South Wales there are well-known schools for girls which have their quarters in the country, and thus give the pupils all the advantages of country life besides an excellent education. One is Frensham, near Bowral, in New South Wales, the other is Clyde, at Woodend, Victoria. Both these establishments are well and worthily known. In South Australia there is no girls' school of quite that type, but one is about to be founded. Miss Patience Hawker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hawker, of Clare, has secured that charming property at Mount Lofty known as Arthur's Seat, and in the ideal surroundings of the hills the school will be established. In the healthy and invigorating atmosphere near the summit of the mount the pupils will be able to enjoy over 90 acres of school ground. There is a grass and a hard tennis court, and ample space for hockey and basket ball grounds, which will be made ready for the winter. Pupils will be allowed to cultivate their own garden plots. Sleeping-out accommodation during the summer will be provided for those who want it. The house has all modern conveniences such as electricity, hot and cold water laid on, and excellent systems of sanitation and central heating.

It will be the aim of the principals to impart to their pupils a broad culture so that girls who pass through their hands will not only have received a sound general education up to leaving honours standard, but will also have inculcated in them an appreciative taste in art, literature, and music, and their minds trained to an intelligent understanding of current world, social, and political events. A sense of responsibility both in work and conduct will be fostered especially among the older girls.

The school will be in charge of the principal, Miss Mabel Hardy, B.A., vice-principal, Miss Patience Hawker, B.A., and a carefully selected staff of resident and visiting teachers. Miss Hardy took her B.A. at Adelaide University in 1912, winning while there the Tinline Scholarship in history and the John Howard Clark Scholarship in English literature. Since that date she has had teaching experience with St. Peter's Collegiate Girls' School and Sydney Church of England Girls' Grammar School, and has been acting head mistress at Woodlands Glenelg Church of England Girls' Grammar School. She has been, during 1925, on a visit to England and the Continent, and while there has enquired into recent educational practices.

Miss Hawker was a pupil at the Geelong Girls' Grammar School and subsequently at Frensham, New South Wales, where she was head girl until she left for London to go to Bedford College University, or London, from which she obtained her B.A. degree in 1924 with honours in history. Since then she has been on the teaching staff of Woodlands and Girton Proprietary School.

A provisional prospectus is being issued and after September 1 next Arthur's Seat will be open to inspection by appointment with the vice-principal.

ADV. 18.6.26

ORGAN RECITAL.

The weekly organ recitals at the Elder Hall maintain their popularity. An excellent programme was submitted on Thursday, and was made additionally interesting by some brief explanatory remarks concerning the composition to be interpreted by Professor Harold Davies, Mus. Doc. In the opening number, "Pastoral sonata in G major," Opus 88 (Rheinberger), which is based on an ecclesiastical plainsong, the principal theme was brought out with distinctness, and the audience were able to follow the development of the musical ideas as the work proceeded. Each of the movements was played with the fine taste always displayed by Dr. Davies. The graceful writing in the "intermezzo" was particularly charming. Brilliant pedalling and fingering characterised the whole rendering, and the audience gave effective expression to their appreciation. Miss Hilda Gill, A.M.U.A., received a cordial reception. Her song, "Chant Indien" (Bemberg), which was presented in impressive style, won for her unstinted applause. Her fine contralto voice blended beautifully with the strains of the violin, played by Miss S. Whitington, A.M.U.A., and with the violoncello, played by Mr. Harold Parsons, Mus. Bac., while the organ gave color effects to the scene. "Chanson triste," a charming work from the pen of Tchaikowsky, made a thoroughly enjoyable contribution, and the recital was brought to a close by a masterly presentation of "Suite Gothique" (Boellman). The distinctive character of each of the four short movements was well illustrated. The recital at 1.15 p.m. on Thursday next will include compositions by Gaultier, Lemaire, and Handel, and a solo for violin, with organ accompaniment, by Mendelssohn. Mr. Charles Schilsky will play the violin part.

RHODES SCHOLARS.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

LONDON, June 17.

The average age of the Rhodes scholars was 23, compared with 19 years of the other scholars. Hence the Rhodes scholars had an unfair advantage in University sporting teams, in which they had practically a monopoly, as they composed half the teams. This point was made by Mr. A. E. Porritt today at the annual dinner of the Rhodes trustees at Oxford, in replying to the toast of the scholars. He thought the difficulty could be solved by the Rhodes scholars coming over earlier. Dr. M. J. Rendall, detailing his experiences during his recent world tour on behalf of the trustees, dwelt particularly on his experiences in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. He said he was convinced that the Rhodes Trust was the greatest educational scheme that man had ever devised.—Reuter.

REG. 18.6.26

THE RHODES ATHLETES.

YOUNGER ENTRY ADVOCATED.

LONDON, June 17.

The average age of the Rhodes Scholars is 23 years, compared with an average of 19 years for other scholars. Hence they have an unfair advantage in the universities' sporting teams, in which Rhodes Scholars hold such a monopoly that they compose over half of the teams. This point was made by the New Zealand Rhodes Scholar and athlete, A. E. Porritt, at the annual dinner of the Rhodes Trustees at Oxford University, in replying to the toast of "The Rhodes Scholars." He thought the difficulty might be solved by the Rhodes Scholars coming to England at an earlier age.

Mr. M. J. Rendall, detailing his experiences in the recent world tour in behalf of the Rhodes Trustees, dwelt particularly on his experiences in Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. He said he was convinced that the Rhodes Trust was the greatest educational scheme that man had ever devised.—Reuter.

NEWS. 17.6.26

PREMIERS' CONFERENCES

Solving Finance Problem

THIRTY-FIVE ATTEMPTS

(By A. L. Gordon Mackay, M.A., M.Ec.)

The recent conference of Premiers was of unusual importance. An unsuccessful attempt was made to solve the problem of the control of the finances of Australia. Control of finances is of particular importance because the controller will control everything else of importance.

Since 1900 there have been about 35 conferences at which attempts have been made to solve the problem. Premiers, Prime Ministers, and Treasurers all supported by the advice of their experts, have looked at the issues involved from every conceivable angle.

Difficulties have arisen because the Commonwealth Constitution is a compromise between two conflicting points of view. On the one hand the framers wished to have an instrument of Government in the hands of a strong central power with decentralisation in administration as in Canada. Others wished to have all power in the hands of the States, with the minimum delegated to the federal Government. The Constitution represents a compromise, and like so many compromises it is unsatisfactory.

Basis of Control

What were these misunderstandings? This takes us to the heart of the problem of control in national affairs. In a modern community control springs from three sources—knowledge, force (civil, naval, military, and air), or finance. A community desirous of controlling its destinies must control all three.

Knowledge in Australia is under the control of free and independent universities, tempered by State control of the bulk of the education of its citizens up to the age of, say, 14 years. Such a system has its merits and defects; for it leads us to "polish pebbles rather than dia-

monds," but it does give the "pebbles" some polish and that is all to the good. Force (naval, military, and air) is under the control of the Federal Government, but civil force is wielded by the States, save in the phantom form of the Federal police.

Financial control, the most effective in our present stage of development, was not understood by the framers of the Federal Constitution, though its nature was not unfamiliar to the shrewd and penetrating brain which drafted the "Braddon" clause.

Today we are more experienced and know that financial power and its control lies in four sources—taxation, exchange, capital, and credit. And the greatest of these is credit. In fact, the term credit if given its widest meaning can be made to include all four.

Effect of the War.

When the financial clauses of the Constitution were drafted few able economists or financiers were consulted. In consequence, the meaning of finance in its broadest connotation was not defined, neither was its control properly arranged. Portion of the control was left to the Treasuries, both Federal and State, the larger part to the banks and some of it to the joint stock companies.

One advances this explanation in a spirit of neutrality as to who should control financial power, and there is no suggestion of imputing a motive to any of the parties concerned. In all financial discussions at the conferences the spirit of unselfishness and disinterestedness shown during the last 25 years in which we have been in the fiscal wilderness, has been one of the best proofs of our fitness for self-government.

Up to 1909 this question of financial control was the main one for the conferences, and under the shadow of the "Braddon" Clause all Federal Treasurers barked their shins on the obstacle of economic State rights. By 1909 a temporary settlement was reached under which certain moneys were returned to the States by the Federal Treasurer on a per capita basis. With the outbreak of the war the arrangement was upset because the Federal Government took the view that the soldiers were citizens of the Commonwealth and not of the States, and therefore no per capita payments in respect of the soldiers were due to the States.

Conflict Prevented

Our vigorous patriotism, reinforced by the persuasive powers of an adroitly wielded War Precautions Act, prevented any outward conflict between the States and the Commonwealth, though silence on the part of the States did not mean acquiescence.

As yet no great advance in the great problem of financial control has been made, though the concentration of attention on delimiting the spheres of taxation and on the methods of raising money indicates that we are moving slowly. A solution of these matters alone can be of a temporary nature only, because the real solution is wrapped up with the bigger and more difficult problem of "Who is to control?"

The problem in the near future will appear before the public in many guises, such as the Federal Government against Tasmania and Western Australia, the future of the Commonwealth Bank, the raising of loans from London or New York, the vacation of the field of direct taxation by the Federal Government, and Unification versus State rights.

But all are merely symptoms of the one central problem, for finance is a curious power, and its nature is that of an irrefragable unity. If finance is to be controlled by the Australian democracy, as some wish, then how is that control to be devised?

Key to the Solution

We have been given to understand that at the recent conference little progress was made. We need not wonder at this. The key to the solution does not lie in the Premiers' Conferences alone, but rather in the future relations of the Bank of England with the Federal Reserve Board of the United States; in the problems to be discussed at the Imperial Conference this year; in the nature and control of our banking and credit system; and in the intelligence and character of the Australian people as these characteristics will be revealed in the referendum.

The future is obscure. Vital interests are involved, and we have little light with which to illumine our darkness. Two facts, however, stand out clearly. The first of these is that financial control is of the nature of an irrefragable unity, and that its privileges carry with it grave responsibilities. The second is that these responsibilities can be carried and borne only by our princes of character and intelligence. And these men must be found.

NEWS. 18.6.26

The Elder Conservatorium String Quartet will give a series of concerts this year in the Public Library Lecture Room, beginning on Tuesday, June 22.

GREATER KNOWLEDGE

Education for Citizenship

The third conference of the Education Society is to be held in Adelaide at the Institute Hall, North terrace, from July 7 to 19. Many will remember the remarkably successful meetings held two years ago.

The speakers this year will include Mr. Wallace Bruce (Lord Mayor of Adelaide), and Mr. W. T. McCoy, B.A. (Director of Education), who, together with Prof. J. McKellar Stewart, will give addresses at the opening meeting on Wednesday evening, July 7.

At subsequent meetings the speakers will include Sir Archibald Strong, Prof. Darnley, Naylor, Chapman and Hancock, Dr. F. S. Hone, the Hon. L. L. Gill (Minister of Education), Messrs. J. G. Duncan Hughes, M.H.R., W. J. Adey, W. R. Bayly, B.A., B.Sc. (head master of Prince Alfred College), D. H. Hollidge, M.A., and A. E. Clarkson.

Among women educationists who will take an active part are Mrs. T. G. Osborn, M.Sc., Dr. Helen Mayo, Miss D. Gillam, M.A. (head mistress of the Woodlands Church of England Grammar School, Glenelg), and Miss A. Miethke, B.A.

The general subject to be discussed at the conference is "Education for Citizenship" and the various addresses will be under the headings of "Health and Citizenship," "Vocation and Citizenship," "The Past and Citizenship," "Politics and Citizenship," "The Preparation of Boys and Girls for Citizenship," and "Culture and Citizenship."

A strong committee under the chairmanship of Prof. J. McKellar Stewart comprises Dr. A. J. Schulz, M.A., Miss D. Gillam, M.A., Miss W. Berry, M.A., Dr. Gertrude Halley, Mr. A. C. Cattle, and Mr. A. B. Ellis, B.A.

The honorary secretary is Mr. Richard Holtham, B.A. (senior modern language master at St. Peter's College).

NEWS. 18.6.26

Rhodes Scholarship Stipend

(SPECIAL TO "THE NEWS")

WASHINGTON, June 17.

The annual stipend of the Rhodes scholarships has been increased from £390 to £400.

ADV. 19.6.26

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

THE COUNCIL APPOINTED.

FIRST SESSION NEXT WEEK.

Melbourne, June 18.

In the House of Representatives to-day the Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce) said the first session of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, appointed under legislation recently passed, would be opened at the council's offices in East Melbourne by him next Tuesday. The Commonwealth nominees are:—Executive committee, Mr. G. A. Julius, B.Sc. (chairman), Mr. W. J. Newbigg, Professor A. C. D. Rutt, D.Sc. The heads of the State committees are Professor R. D. Watt (Sydney), Professor Sir David Masson (Melbourne), Professor H. C. Richards, D.Sc. (Department of Geology and Mineralogy, University of Brisbane), Professor T. Brailsford Robertson (Adelaide), Mr. B. Perry (Perth), Mr. P. E. Keam (Broadbent, Tasmania). Other members are Mr. E. J. Goddard (Department of Biology, University of Brisbane), Professor H. A. Woodruff (Department of Veterinary Pathology, Melbourne University).

The Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government were fortunate in having secured the services of so many eminent men in various branches of science and industry. The council as constituted was of a very representative nature, without preponderance in any direction. It comprised two engineers (Messrs. Julius and Newbigg), two chemists (Sir David Masson and Professor Rivett), two biologists (Professor Brailsford Robertson and Professor Goddard), one representative of agricultural science (Professor Watt), one geologist (Professor Richards), one representative of veterinary science (Professor Woodruff), one representative of manufacturing industries (Mr. Perry), and one representative of agricultural and pastoral industries (Mr. Keam).