

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

RESEARCH COUNCIL'S WORK.

Chairman Explains Programme.

The aims of the reorganised Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry, some of its achievements, and the programme upon which it is embarking, were outlined at the Modern School yesterday by its chairman, Mr. G. A. Julius.

The speaker reviewed the circumstances following the initiation of the original institute, the reorganisation scheme submitted at the instance of the present Prime Minister, and the advice on the point given by Sir Frank Heath, executive head of the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

A Permanent Institution.

Such officers would be exempt from the provisions of the Public Service Act, but arrangements were to be made by which the officers of the council might secure the benefits of the Superannuation Act.

"There is, I think," Mr. Julius continued, "a clear realisation that results in the field of research cannot be expected in a week, or a month, or even yearly, and that probably long periods of time will elapse before many of the problems are solved, if they are ever solved."

Research Students Abroad.

The Government had invited applications from various educational establishments in the Commonwealth for research students, and had endeavoured to offer such inducements as would secure the services of the best men.

Problems to be Attacked.

The council had decided, Mr. Julius continued, that for the present work should be concentrated mainly in the following five major divisions:—Animal pests and diseases, plant pests and diseases, forest products, fuel problems (especially liquid fuels), and preservation of food (especially cold storage).

Forests and Fuels.

The council had appointed a committee to investigate problems affecting viticulturists and citriculturists in the Murray River settlements. The late institute was already engaged in the field of forest products, and the council had practically completed its work in regard to paper pulp and chemical pulp and tannin.

Cold Storage and Cattle.

The council regarded the whole question of cold storage of foods as of great importance. It was not much use, however, carrying on extensive work in connection with meat transport until much more work towards improving the breed of our cattle was under aken.

Among problems dealt with by the council and executive committee, Mr. Julius named mineralogical work. Dr. Stillew, working at Melbourne University, had gained, the speaker said, much experience in a comparatively new technique for the microscopical determination of opaque minerals.

Details regarding entomological work and measures concerning the buffalo fly pest and prickly pear were enumerated in regard to the second, an investigator, Mr. Murnane, had been about ten months at Wyndham, Mr. Julius said.

bourne, via Darwin, and the Gulf Coast country, to ascertain the prevalence and distribution of the pest. Great progress had been made with regard to the prickly pear problem and great hopes for its solution were held out.

ADV. 31.8.26

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM ASSOCIATION.

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS.

There was a good attendance at the Elder Hall on Monday evening, when the Elder Conservatorium Association presented a programme of original musical compositions.

Mr. I. G. Reimann, who presided, said the presentation of original compositions should be intensely interesting. It was part of the policy of the association to encourage original work, and the concert that evening would take the place of the usual social.

A group of five pianoforte compositions by little Miss Miriam Hyde, performed by the young composer herself, was a novel opening, and both in technique and interpretation the work was worthy of a much more mature performer.

The case of radium, for instance, said the professor, illustrated the gradual formation of matter. Radium, through a long period of time, was changed into lead. It was certain that if a literally true account of the Creation had been given in the time of Moses it would have been quite unintelligible.

RELIGIOUS SCIENCE.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR RENNIE.

Perth, August 30.

Professor E. H. Rennie (president of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science), addressing a large congregation at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church last night on religious science, said it had been advanced by modern science that the material world was composed only of two elements, positive and negative charges of electricity.

REG. 31.8.26

STORY OF CREATION.

"Much Improbability."

PERTH, Monday.

Professor E. H. Rennie (President of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science), addressing a large congregation at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church last night on religious science, said that there was much improbability in the story of the Creation told in Genesis.

The case of radium, for instance, said the professor, illustrated the gradual formation of matter. Radium, through a long period of time, was changed into lead. It was certain that if a literally true account of the Creation had been given in the time of Moses it would have been quite unintelligible.

There was a great danger, the speaker remarked, in allowing children to be brought up to a verbal and literal interpretation of Scripture, as scepticism was its natural result. So far as miracles and the supernatural were concerned, they were not able to judge of these, for the reason that they did not know all of nature's laws.

MAIL 4.9.26

Western Australian Judge

Mr. Justice Northmore, who has been a judge on the Supreme Court Bench at Perth for the last 12 years, was born at Adelaide 61 years ago this month. His Honor is a son of the late J. A. Northmore, and was educated at St. Peter's College and Adelaide University, where he was awarded several scholarships and took the LL.B. degree.