

WOMEN GRADUATES.

THEIR PLACE IN BUSINESS.

A meeting of the South Australian branch of the University Women's Federation was held at the University last night to welcome Mrs. F. Thorn, the newly-appointed chairman of the Federal Council of that body. Mrs. B. H. Jones presided, and introduced Mrs. Thorn, who gave a brief outline of the recent conference of University women at Perth.

Referring to the research fellowships for women, which have recently been granted, and under the terms of which Dr. Jordan Lloyd will pursue her studies next year at Professor Brailsford Robertson's laboratory, Mrs. Thorn was most enthusiastic. She pointed out that a woman who came to Australia to work would get to know her fellow-graduates in a way which would be impossible otherwise. She hoped eventually there would be 30 such scholarships granted. It was necessary that there should be a central fund of about £6,000 to carry out the fellowship scheme on its present basis. The Federal Council, which was composed of three representatives from each State, had allotted the £400 to be raised in the Commonwealth, according to the membership of each State. This meant that South Australia would contribute £27. Not only would the fellowships encourage scholarship and research, they would do much to bring about the international viewpoint. Highly-educated women were a comparatively new force in the world, and one of their great problems was to see how they could be of the best use to the community. After all, they had the moulding of the next generation in their hands, and they must try to combat those forces which in the last generation was at the back of the war, and of the industrial strife which followed it. Here in Australia they were so far removed from the world's centre that she feared sometimes they were apt to have their outlook on international affairs narrowed. They should realise that the Federation of University Women was world wide. The number of meetings held in a year was no criterion of their success or usefulness. They must keep in touch with one another and have the international outlook as an ideal before them.

Speaking of work at the Perth Conference, Mrs. Thorn said one of the subjects discussed was whether it was possible for a woman to combine a professional career with domestic life. The same subject had come up at the international conference at Amsterdam, where they had the example of a consulting engineer in America who had followed her profession and raised a family of 11 children. Many employers took the view that it was useless to train women for administrative posts, because they almost invariably married and someone else had to be trained. It was plain that the ordinary professions could not absorb all the university graduates to-day, and the conference was anxious to find out any new avenues for them. It was interesting to know that it was the suggestion of a university woman which had led to the stabilising of the mark.

South Australian Delegate.

Mrs. J. C. McKail, of Walkerville, who was the delegate from South Australia to the conference, returned from Perth on Tuesday evening. She said the conference had been particularly helpful and any doubts the delegates might have had about its being completely overshadowed by the Science Congress proved groundless. The object of the University Women's Federation was the linking up of women graduates all over the world, with a view to giving their best service to the community, and this idea was continually stressed. Miss Nan Whittam and Miss Annie Menz were South Australian delegates to the International Conference of University women now sitting at Amsterdam, and the conference in Western Australia had received a cabled greeting from that body. It had been surprising to learn the number of women who had contributed to the scientific research of the world. As a South Australian delegate Mrs. McKail spoke of the work being accomplished in this State with regard to the care of the feeble-minded, the classification of children in schools, and of the stand taken by women in leading public opinion in this direction. Western Australian university women manifested great interest in this subject, and its importance was fully recognised by the conference. Mrs. McKail also gave a general outline of the work done by the South Australian branch, which has an average roll call of 50.

Delegates from the other States were delighted in hearing of the hall which is to be built for the women students here, and considered they had been extremely lucky. A proposal was made to move headquarters from Melbourne to Sydney, but it was decided that they should remain in Melbourne two years longer. Dr. Hilda Gardner, Miss Milvain Good, and Mrs. Thomas a'Beckett, all South Australian graduates resident in Melbourne, being the representatives of this State. The next conference will be held in Brisbane in 1928.

DR. HEATON IN CANADA

Appearing as Amateur Actor

ENJOYS LIFE TO THE FULL

Dr. Herbert Heaton, writing to friends in Adelaide from Kingston, Canada, tells in interesting fashion something of his diversions and work.

"We're just back from buying an ice-cream," he said, "and then we had to fetch a block of ice from the ice house, carrying it in the back of the car which takes us all round the place. From this you'll gather that summer is here and that again we are adapting ourselves to new conditions in a strange land.

"Our infants during winter learned to skate. We grown-ups had no time for skating, but our evenings were fully occupied with dances, concerts, bridge parties, amateur theatricals, and quiet times reading at home.

"Folk here make their own fun in winter, and the typical evening out was bridge until nearly midnight, and then a supper, large and varied, at which one slowly became less clumsy at cutting lettuce leaves with a blunt fork.

"It is funny how this country goes in couples and the man is dominant. It is of little good going to a dance on your own. You must have a mate. Then either by telephone beforehand or at the dance the men prowled among the other men and fill up their cards. 'You dance with my wench for No. 7 and I'll dance with you.'

"Then when the card is full the man stows both his card and his partner's in his pocket and at each dance hauls her off to a sort of market place where he finds his destined victim and her guardian, and the temporary barter takes place. There are few wallflowers, and the music is usually excellent.

Strong Dramatic Society

"Another outburst of the winter was my appearance in amateur theatricals. The staff here has a dramatic society called the Faculty Players, which puts on a monthly play-reading and play-acting night. The programme is usually well chosen, and at least 60 or 70 people are accustomed to taking parts and doing their best.

"I was 'nabbed' early in the session, although I had done no acting since I was 18 when I played Shylock—me with my shape of nose to do a Jew! Finally we wound up with a three-night public performance of 'Fanny's First Play,' with a stage setting that would have made Adelaide Repertory Theatre die of envy and sell its solitary fireplace.

"I played Mr. Gibbey and for Darling Dora we had a professor's wife, who acted the part of a pretty lady so well that her husband began to have doubts about her pre-nuptial life. Next year we shall probably do 'Outward Bound' or 'The Farmer's Wife,' and intend to have a little theatre permanently set up in the new students' union building.

Interesting Motor Tours

"For the rest, work—lecture courses—five of them to get ready in one session, nine lectures a week for 25 weeks, everything cleaned up by the end of April and a glorious long 'vac' until the end of September.

"When we saw the spring coming we bought a used sedan in pretty good order and since then have run about 2,000 miles, including trips to Niagara, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and shorter runs down the banks of the St. Lawrence and among the lakes round Kingston.

"We are in the thick of a veritable scenic splash and tourist area, with good boating, fishing, and camping grounds. The roads are good, in places excellent concrete ribbons, smooth and broad. So the going is easy, but we cannot find a hotel that gives decent afternoon tea, so we take the lunch basket with us and picnic by the road or lake side.

"If my wife found time to write she would tell you that she doesn't like the occasional rain days we get in late spring and early summer, that she prowls round waysides and forests digging up ferns which transplant quite well, that she has done no gardening whatever here and refuses to compete with the ever-present dandelions until she gets a house of her own. She finds that housekeeping money goes just as quickly here as it did in Adelaide."

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Miss F. M. Sharman, M.A., formerly of the staff of the Methodist Ladies' College, is at Nova Scotia, Canada, where she is instructor in history and economics at the Acadia University. In a letter to Miss Patchell she said she had met Miss Eileen Reed, B.Sc., daughter of the Rev. W. Reed another former member of the college staff, who had been working with Professor Thomson on an important paper to be given at a botanical congress at Cornell, and was also preparing a thesis for her Ph.D. degree.

STATE ORCHESTRA

Greatly Appreciated Concert

The high musical standard attained by the South Australian Orchestra since its inception was fully maintained last night, when the fifth concert of the season was given in Adelaide Town Hall.

Mr. W. H. Foote, A.R.C.M., conducted, and the orchestra was led by Miss Sylvia Whittington, A.M.U.A., who displayed her usual decision of attack and led her associates safely and well through the rhythmical difficulties with which the programme bristled.

The overture "Tannhauser" opened the programme, and was given with solidity and sureness, and excellent brass ensemble being maintained. The contrasting sections of the Venus music with the impressive Pilgrim's Hymn were finely brought out, and the work ended on an inspired note.

A novel inclusion in the programme were two dances from Borodin's Russian Opera, "Prince Igor," which included "Danse des jeunes filles Polovtsiennes" and "Danse Polovtsienne." The music is part of the oriental ballet of the opera where the Khan gives a banquet in honor of his captives. The first number was gorgeously rhythmic, and fantastically florid, and was a fine example of oriental writing. In the second dance the theme was introduced on various wind instruments, the bizarre second section being introduced by the timpani, and leading up to a barbaric riot of color and sound in its conclusion.

Heard for the first time here, it was listened to with great interest and enthusiasm, the last section being repeated.

Anatole Liadow's "Valse Badinage"—"A Musical Snuff Box" also gave a novel and humorous note to the programme. The flutes and clarinets gave out an interpretation of the sweet but monotonous themes of the primitive forerunner of the gramophone, with pizzicato by the strings, while the dulcitone, played by Miss Bessie Frances, simulated the mechanical sounds produced by a musical box, in jerky precision. The number received hearty applause.

A work of special interest, previously played by the orchestra, was McCunn's "Ship o' the Fiend," a ballad for orchestra. The storm scene was most impressive, and rose to tremendous heights. A furor of applause ensued and the last part was repeated.

Grainger's clog dance, "Handel in the Strand," for piano and strings built on some variations of Handel's "Harmolous Blacksmith," was in this composer's novel style, Miss Bessie Francis being at the piano. Miss Sylvia Whittington was the soloist in Rimsky-Korsakov's "Hymn to the Sun," from the opera "Le Coq d'Or," which she gave in refined style and with much expression, the orchestra supplying a subdued background to a number which is a favorite in the Kreisler repertoire.

The orchestral programme closed with Wagner's magnificent overture to his great music drama, "Die Meistersinger," in which the whole forces of the orchestra were employed. Good scope was offered for the wood wind section, which made the best of its noble opportunities, and owing to continued applause the last part had to be repeated.

To orchestral accompaniment Mr. Fred Stone sang "The Steersman's Song" from Wagner's "Flying Dutchman," compassing the vocal difficulties with commendable ease, and giving a highly intelligent rendering of its musical content. He was called on to repeat the number which he generously did.

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THE REV. F. SLANEY POOLE, M.A., shortly after his appointment to St. John's. 1974

FOLK SONGS AND DANCES

Mr. Clive Carey Enthusiastic

REVIVAL IN ADELAIDE

Mr. Clive Carey, B.A., Mus. Bac., is president of the recently-formed Folk Song and Dance Society in Adelaide, and has had wide experience in Britain in the interpretation of folk songs of different countries.

Speaking on the subject this morning, Mr. Carey said:—"Folk songs and dances are the direct and natural outcome of the emotions, not the expression of a conscious art. They emanate from the unlettered, and are the result of their desire for self-expression. For this reason they are intensely valuable, because they are intensely sincere, and in this and in their naivete lies an immense charm.

"They bear the impress of the national character very strongly, for they are an outgrowth of the peasant stock, which is the solid structure on which the nation is built. They have been passed down through generations, and, except in few cases, have never been written down. The result is that they bear the impress of the community in general for every-



Mr. Clive Carey, B.A., Mus. Bac., president of Adelaide Folk Song and Dance Society.

one who has sung the songs has put the stamp of his individuality on them. In fact, though one takes down the same song from hundreds of different singers, the words and music are never identical. There is an immense interest in the variants. Sometimes the tunes and often the words become corrupt, but in many cases the tunes attain an exquisite perfection of form.

"The songs of England are as a rule characteristically straightforward and bold in type, simple and without sentimentality when serious, most rhythmical and with plenty of blunt humor when gay. When singing them, point must be given to the words, but the tune must be allowed to sweep along without halt. Any exaggeration of sentiment or interruption of the march of the song entirely kills its character.

"Folk dances are of two kinds—Morris, to which are allied sword dances, and country dances. The Morris and Sword are survivals of some old ritual and in many cases are connected with mummers' plays. They were performed by a picked team of men-at-festivities and wakes.

"In some parts of England they are still danced and are strenuous and manly rather than graceful. Their grace is the natural grace of the human form in movement without artificiality. There are endless references in Elizabethan literature to the Morris, which was at the height of its popularity at this period.

"The country dances are purely social, danced by couples of men and women in rounds, squares, and long formation. The survivor in ballrooms of late years is Sir Roger de Coverley. They are graceful and gay and a pleasure both to watch and to dance.

"In London one frequently sees large gatherings dancing them in Hyde Park or Kensington Gardens on a summer day. When I was in England last year I took part in a country dance ball at which 1,000 people were dancing—a gaiety much removed from the so-called gaiety of jazzing in night clubs which I also witnessed.

"Some of these dances will be given in Adelaide Town Hall next Friday at my illustrated lecture on folk songs and dances, and they should be of special interest to folk in this city, as Mr. Cecil Sharp, the great authority and founder of the English Folk Dance Society, worked for many years in Adelaide."