

ADV. 2.10.26

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Professor N. W. Jolly was yesterday officially advised of his appointment as Com-

The appointment of Professor N. W. Jolly, the head of the Federal School of Forestry at the University of Adelaide, as New South Wales Forest Commissioner, was confirmed on Friday. Mr. Jolly is a native of South Australia, and was the first Rhodes scholar from this State. Born in 1882 he attended Prince Alfred College and the Adelaide University, and, before winning the Rhodes scholarship,



Professor N. W. Jolly.

missioner of Forests for New South Wales. Professor Jolly will probably take up his new duties at the end of this month.



PROFESSOR N. W. JOLLY.

he was a master of mathematics and science at the Townsville (Q.) Grammar School. In 1907 he received an appointment in the Indian Forest Service in Burma, but he relinquished the position on account of ill health. He returned to Adelaide a year later as a lecturer in forestry at the Adelaide University. In 1910 he was appointed first instructor of forestry, resigning in the next year to accept the position of Director of Queensland Forests, which he occupied for seven years. He then became Assistant Commissioner of Forests in New South Wales, the State to which he now returns. In September of 1925, Mr. Jolly was appointed head of the Federal School of Forestry, when the Federal Government asked that the school should be conducted by the Adelaide University until the necessary buildings were ready at Canberra.

DEATH OF JUDGE MITCHELL.

CLOSE OF A USEFUL CAREER.

The death occurred at the Memorial Hospital, North Adelaide, yesterday morning about 7.30, of his Honor Judge Samuel James Mitchell. He presided at the sitting of the Bribery Commission for the last time on September 23, on which occasion the proceedings were adjourned until the following Monday. Before that time, however, he was taken seriously ill with an attack of pneumonia and little hope was entertained of his recovery.

Judge Mitchell was a capable magistrate, who as Commissioner and then Judge of the Court of Insolvency, was the arbiter of many complex problems on which his sound judgment was brought to bear. He was a shrewd judge of character, and to



Judge Mitchell.

those whom genuine misfortune had brought before the court he was often a kindly adviser. Those who flouted their obligations, and treated their creditors without consideration seldom passed through the court without receiving a reproof from the bench. Judge Mitchell's impartiality was beyond question, and his decisions in the Police Court, Local Court, and Insolvency Court were based on such a sound knowledge of the law that they were seldom upset on appeal. He was respected by members of the bar and litigants, and was popular with his fellow magistrates. His judicial mind, combined with unflinching courtesy, gentlemanly instincts, and fairness, fitted him well for the positions he held. He had hosts of friends, who admired him for his lovable and kindly disposition.

He was born at Mount Barker in 1852, and after his early education at Mitton's Academy, Adelaide, he was engaged in commercial employment at Mount Gambier, whence he proceeded to Melbourne and Port Augusta, establishing himself as an auctioneer at the last mentioned place. He took an active interest in public affairs at the northern seaport, and after serving for some years as town councillor he was elected mayor, and retained the office until he left Port Augusta to study for the legal profession in Adelaide. He was articled to Messrs. H. E. & H. F. Downer, and though he entered upon his studies later in life than most students his course at the University was a brilliant one. Before graduating he was appointed manager of the office.

In 1889 he took the degree of LL.B., and in the following year entered into practice as a barrister and solicitor, achieving considerable success in that sphere. He was associated for a time with Mr. Paris Nesbit, K.C., and Mr. Rupert Ingleby. In 1901 he was elected as member for the Northern Territory, in the House of Assembly, and occupied the seat until a little while before the Territory was transferred to the Commonwealth. In 1909, prior to the transfer, he resigned from Parliament—after having for a few months occupied the position of Attorney-General in the Peake Government, in which position he was a conspicuous success—to assume the position of Government Resident and Judge of the Northern Territory, and upon the Commonwealth taking over the Territory he was appointed Acting Administrator.

Explaining why he left Darwin, Mr. Mitchell said that during the time the State held the Territory the court over which he presided was not clothed with all the powers of a Supreme Court. After the Federal Government acquired the Territory it created a Supreme Court, of which he was the first judge. He also became Administrator after the Commonwealth took possession. In May, 1912, he relinquished both offices and returned to Adelaide. His reason for this was that, although he had arranged with Mr. Batchelor (the then Minister Controlling the Territory) that he should be

of the Supreme Court, and naturally assumed that he would be appointed (as other judges were) for life, he found after Mr. Batchelor's death that the Ministry regarded his position as not permanent, and he therefore immediately resigned. The Government offered him double salary if he would remain four months longer, but he was pleased to think that he had sufficient strength of mind and determination to refuse to allow the high office of a judge of the Supreme Court to be thus belittled. Besides, he considered it favored too much of a return to the old system when a judge was under the control of a king. In his case, he said, the judge would have been under the control of several "kings," and the outlook was too appalling for him.

Soon after his return to Adelaide, Mr. Mitchell was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate at Port Pirie, and in September, 1915, he became police magistrate at Adelaide. While Mr. Commissioner J. G. Russell was prevented, through illness, from carrying out his duties as magistrate of the Adelaide Local Court, Mr. Mitchell took over the work, and upon the death of Mr. Russell, early in 1918, he was appointed to the office of Commissioner of Insolvency and Stipendiary Magistrate of the Adelaide Local Court. In that dual position his business training and wide judicial experience served him well, and he discharged his duties with satisfaction to the public and credit to himself. Early in 1923 Mr. Mitchell, accompanied by his wife, left Adelaide on a trip to England. After he returned and resumed his official duties he had a severe illness, which strangely enough, was also pneumonia.

Prior to his departure he was entertained by members of the Justices' Association, and warm tributes were paid to his ability and to the courtesy he had extended to justices who sat with him in the Local Court. Speakers said he was ever clear, cool, and decisive, and honorary magistrates never looked to him in vain for advice. His was no light work, but the fair and impartial manner in which he discharged it could be gauged by the esteem in which he was held not only by his intimates, but by the citizens generally.

The estimate of Judge Mitchell's ability held by those in authority was shown by his appointment as Royal Commissioner to enquire into two important issues. The first was the Thousand Homes, and the second the bribery charges against the police. The latter enquiry opened on May 3, 1926, and so wide did its scope become that it imposed a great strain on the Commissioner, who at the same time carried on his work in the Court of Insolvency. In 1926, consequent on a revision of the constitution of insolvency courts, his title was altered from Commissioner to Judge of Insolvency.

Judge Mitchell left a widow, one son (Mr. G. Mitchell, of Goulburn, New South Wales), and two daughters (Mrs. McDonald, of Goulburn, and Nurse Jean Mitchell, of Adelaide). Another son, Mr. Harold Mitchell, was killed in the Great War.

The funeral will leave Holy Trinity Church, North-terrace, at 4 p.m. to-day, for the North-road Cemetery. There will be a memorial service at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday morning next.

Ministerial Sympathy.

The Premier (Hon. L. L. Hill) expressed sincere regret when he heard of the death of Judge Mitchell, by which, he said, South Australia would suffer a great loss. Judge Mitchell was a man of many parts, and he had a wide experience in South Australia and also the Northern Territory. As a stipendiary magistrate and as a judge he was capable and impartial. On behalf of the Government the Premier expressed sincere sympathy with the relatives.

The Attorney-General (Hon. W. J. Denny) said:—"The announcement of the death of Judge Mitchell will occasion very deep regret to the public, and especially to a large circle of friends. He had filled many public offices with great distinction. As a member of Parliament, Administrator of the Northern Territory, a Special Magistrate, and a Judge in Insolvency he carried out his duties with conspicuous success, ability, and fearlessness. His aim was to do substantial justice, irrespective of all other considerations. At the same time he possessed a very lovable disposition, which made him a kindly and genial companion. He had a very intimate knowledge of the works of Charles Dickens, and revelled in the recital of the characters of the famous novelist. By his death South Australia has lost a great public servant, and his family an ideal husband and father. I express my most sincere sympathy to his widow and children."

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UNIVERSITY ARTS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the University Arts Association was held in the Union hall at the University on Friday night. There was a good attendance, the president of the association (Mr. A. E. M. Kirwood) occupied the chair. Professor Sir Archibald Strong delivered an address on "Some impressions of post-war Europe." He told of his tour through Europe last year, and dwelt particularly upon the various styles of ancient architecture and painting in Spain and Italy. Spain, he said, was quite unlike any other country in Europe, and those who visited it in the future would never regret having done so. His description of a bull fight he had witnessed and an interview with a matador was most entertaining. Spain, as a nation, to him seemed to present the remarkable phenomenon of not having "made good," as that term was generally understood in modern times, and yet the Spanish were by no means a decadent race. He thought, perhaps, the failure of Spain to assert itself as a nation was due to the form and method of its Government.

REG. 2.10.26

It was persistently rumoured in the city yesterday that Professor F. Wood-Jones, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the Adelaide University, had accepted a Rockefeller Foundation research appointment which will necessitate his leaving Adelaide at no very distant date. It is understood that his new headquar-



PROFESSOR WOOD-JONES.

who is reported to have accepted an appointment which will mean his early departure from South Australia.

ters will be the University of Hawaii at Honolulu, and that the research work contemplated relates to the evolved racial problems of the Hawaiian Islands.

Mr. Stanley Baines, the Adelaide flautist, who has just completed a tour of 14,000 miles, playing for Signorina Toti Dal



MR. STANLEY BAINES.

Monte during her Australian and New Zealand season, returned to Adelaide this week. The tour included all the cities and the principal towns of Australia and the Dominion, and Mr. Baines expressed pleasure with the reception he received from audiences in every place visited.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

The council of the University has adopted the recommendations of the examiners that the following theses and exercise be accepted:—For the degree of M.E. on "A variable speed induction motor," by Mr. Rex Whaddon Parsons, B.E.; for the degree of M.Sc., on "The spot-hole disease of *Clasterosporium carpophilum*," by Mr. Geoffrey Samuel, B.Sc.; and the final composition for the degree of Mus. Bac., presented by Mr. Dalley-Scarlett, of Brisbane.