

Also Adv. 8-7-27

NEWS 7-7-27

RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

ADELAIDE MAN SUCCEEDS

Mr. M. L. E. Oliphant, B.Sc.

By winning the 1851 Exhibition Science Research Scholarship, Mr. Marcus Lawrence Elwin Oliphant, B.Sc., has crowned a brief but distinguished career in which an infinite capacity for taking pains has played an important part.

This will entitle him to spend two or three years in research work in Britain. He will leave for Trinity College, Cambridge, in September.

The scholarship was founded with the surplus funds of the famous exhibition to promote post graduate research. Two scholarships are awarded annually to Australia.

Mr. Oliphant is a son of Mr. H. G. Oliphant, who is engaged in the Auditor-General's Department, and is a tutor in economics at Adelaide University. His son has inherited his father's scholastic qualities and capacity for hard work.

Born in Kent Town 26 years ago, he completed his education at Unley and Adelaide High Schools. While working in the Public Library he undertook a course of night lectures in physics in 1919 and was admitted as a cadet in the physics department of Adelaide University.

In June, 1923, he took his ordinary degree of Bachelor of Science, and in the following November obtained a first class honors degree in physics.

For the past three years he has done research work under the direction of Prof. Kerr Grant. Lately he has been unraveling problems connected with the surcession of mercury with Mr. R. S. Burdett, B.Sc. He has had no time for sport, for he was working in the daytime and studying at night, before he became thoroughly engrossed in scientific research.

and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research was investigating problems of this character from the basis of many secondary industries. He did not think Professor Laby's criticism had any justification.

NEWS 8-7-27



MR. M. L. E. OLIPHANT, B.Sc. Successful Adelaide student, who has been awarded the 1851 Exhibition Science Research Scholarship. He will leave for Trinity College, Cambridge, in September.

ADV. 9-7-27

OPENINGS FOR AUSTRALIAN STUDENTS.

The trustees of the Science and Industry Endowment Fund are offering a further five studentships to graduates (or people of equivalent training), who, in the opinion of the professors or others under whom they have been trained, are likely to develop into first-class research workers. Each studentship is of the value of £300 per annum, and tenable for two years. Travelling expenses are provided to and from the country in which the required training will be sought. In addition, a sum of £100 will be made available during the two years to permit of visits being made to other laboratories, attendance at congresses, and so on. Successful students are required to give the trustees an option over their services for three years after the conclusion of their training at salaries of not less than £400, £450, and £500 each year respectively. In making an appointment, the trustees will be guided almost solely by the advice given them by the principal teacher under whom the applicant has studied, either at a University, or a technical college, or other institution. The five studentships at present available are in entomology, food preservation, tropical agriculture, agrostology, and plant pathology. Applications should be made immediately, since it is desirable that appointees who may be sent to the northern hemisphere, should commence work in October. Further information may be obtained from the secretary of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Albert-street, North Melbourne.

REG. 9-7-27

REFRIGERATION RESEARCH.

BRISBANE, Friday. The University of Queensland has received a windfall in the shape of a complete experimental refrigerating plant to assist in investigating problems relating to disease of fruit and transport of food and fruit. The plant has been given by Lightfoot Refrigerating Company, Limited, London. A similar plant to assist the meat industry has also been given by the firm to the Royal National Agricultural Association.

Mr. Kenneth Lightfoot (managing director of the company, who is on a tour of the world, said to-day that during the past two years his firm had spent about £20,000 in developing a small machine which would be an entirely British production, and should prove a big success in Queensland. He was experimenting with another machine specially designed for use on refrigerated railway wagons. This would enable fruit and perishable produce to travel to and from the interior in a fresh condition.

REG. 9-7-27

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

The next concert to be given at the Elder Hall will be an orchestral concert by the Elder Conservatorium Student Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. W. H. Footo. The tickets and plans will be available at Cawthorne's, Limited, from Monday, July 18.

MAIL 9-7-27

Canon Poole

There is no finer type of the cultured courteous citizen, and the Christian gentleman than Rev. Frederic Slawey Poole, M.A., of Audley avenue, Prospect, who entered upon his eighty-third year today. Born at Maidstone, Kent, England, son of Thomas Slawey Poole—the same Christian names were borne by his son the brilliant judge, who died a few weeks ago—the canon was educated at Manchester Grammar School and St. John's College, Cambridge, where he was Sizar and Somerset Exhibitioner, and took his B.A. Degree in 1869.

His first teaching appointment after leaving Cambridge was at Stockport Grammar School. There he corrected exercises by Horace Lamb, who in 1875 became Professor of Mathematics at Adelaide University, and thence went in 1885 to Manchester, since becoming one of the most distinguished men of the time. It was a coincidence that two or three years after Prof. Lamb entered upon the duties of his chair at Adelaide, Canon Poole should be acting Professor of Classics at the same university.

Canon Poole arrived in Adelaide 60 years ago during the bishopric of Dr. Short. He was in the South-East for a time, then incumbent of Christ Church, Strathalbyn, rector of St. John's, Adelaide, for 13 years, and from 1895 to 1899 vicar of St. Peter's Ballarat. He has been a force in the religious and intellectual life of the community.

Prof. Harold Davies

Adelaide enjoys a reputation throughout the Commonwealth for its high standard of music and for cultivating the art in the highest degree. For this reputation the city is greatly indebted to the teachers of music and others whose talents have contributed to the advancement of the art of music. The University was the first in Australia to confer degrees in music. The first graduate in music in an Australian University was Mr. T. H. Jones, who received his Mus. Bac. in 1889, and who has been theory teacher at Elder Conservatorium for nearly thirty years.

The first to obtain the degree of Doctor of Music in the Commonwealth was Dr. E. Harold Davies, who has been Elder Professor of Music in the University of Adelaide and Director of Elder Conservatorium since 1919. He took his Bachelor of Music Degree at Adelaide in 1896 (first class) and the higher distinction in 1902. Prof. Davies was born at Oswestry, England, on July 18, 1867, so that he will celebrate his sixtieth birthday on Monday week.

Music runs in the Davie family. Sir Walford Davies, the well-known British composer, late Professor of Music in the University of Wales, is his brother. The Adelaide professor has been almost a lifetime associated with the musical culture of Adelaide, so that it is impossible to estimate the value and extent of his influence in the development of music in this State. One at least of the enduring monuments to his name is the Adelaide Bach Society, which he founded and has conducted many years. He was also the founder and first conductor of the South Australian Orchestra.

MAIL 9-7-27

String Quartet

The Conservatorium string quartet gave the first of its three winter recitals in the institute hall last Wednesday evening. No change in the personnel has taken place since last year, and its members are Mr. Charles Schilsky (first violin and leader), Miss Kathleen Meegan (second violin), Miss Sylvia Whittington (viola), and Mr. Harold Parsons (cello).

Three numbers were performed, the first being Schubert's string quartet in A minor, which exhibited all the melodious qualities associated with this composer's writing; a Haydn minuetto made a vigorous interlude of strongly marked rhythm, between the Schubert number and the more modern piano quartet in G minor of Gabriel Faure, the noted French composer, who died in Paris in 1924. The quartet was last played here in 1925 under Mr. Schilsky's leadership, with Mr. Harold Wylde at the piano.

Miss Alice Meegan took this important part on Wednesday, and showed a skill in the difficult role. Smoothness, delicacy, robust, and varied tone, marked her performance, and the four artists combined in a delightful ensemble, in which the melodic themes were individually and harmonically treated in a masterly manner. Congratulations were showered upon the performers at the close of the recital.

NEWS 11-7-27

Mr. H. Kingsley Lewcock, M.Sc. (mycologist for the Commonwealth Government), who has been in America for the past two years doing research work in connection with the prickly pear, has been granted an extension of 12 months to continue his investigation.

ADV. 16-7-27

THE EVOLUTION OF CONTINENTS.

LECTURE BY DR. L. KEITH WARD.

In the Institute lecture hall, North-terrace, on Friday night, the Government Geologist (Dr. L. Keith Ward) delivered a lecture on "The plan of the earth and its origin" to members of the Royal Geographical Society. The president (Mr. A. A. Simpson) occupied the chair. The Chairman, after introducing the lecturer, said he desired publicly to express the society's appreciation of the action of the Adelaide City Council in adopting the historical memorials committee, which was inaugurated by the society. He referred to the resolution to erect suitable memorial tablets to commemorate places of historical and geographical interest. One was to be placed on the wall of Sir Langdon Bonython's garden on Montefiore Hill, North Adelaide, to commemorate the departure of John McDouall Stuart on his transcontinental expedition, and others near the southern banks of the Torrens to mark the sites of Governor Hindmarsh's residence and the site of Colonel Light's office. He felt sure the society would be assisted by residents in the north in their proposed work of erecting memorial cairns along the routes of Stuart and Eyre.

In his discussion of the evolution of continents and oceans, Dr. Ward, after drawing attention to the inconsistency of geographical features over periods of time that were to be measured in millions of years—changes that were revealed in a varying strand-line, the rise of mountain chains from former ocean beds, the alternative advance and retreat of the sea on the continental areas, and the erosion of mountain chains—reviewed the chief facts and deductions that must be borne in mind when the attempt was made to give a full explanation of the evolution of the continents as they knew them to-day. With the help of the lantern slides a short account was given of the chief facts known with regard to the ocean bottom, the bulk of the sea, and the nature of marine deposits and their distribution.

The structural features of great mountain ranges, such as the Alps and Himalayas, were described so far as concerned the problem of the origin of the rocks of which they were composed. The evidence of the balance between continents and ocean basins and between mountain ranges and plains was then reviewed. After mentioning the measured proofs of the shortening of the crust when the rocks of mountain ranges were crumpled, the lecturer passed on to the discussion of the distribution of related types of animals and plants on lands now separated by deep seas. Finally mention was made of the rhythmic recurrence of periods of mountain building and climatic variations. After a preliminary discussion of underlying facts and principles, the lecturer proceeded to the critical review of a number of hypotheses regarding the evolution of the earth's plan. Attention was drawn to the tetrahedral theory, to the great work of Edouard Suess, of Vienna, and to the variations proposed by W. H. Hobbs in those hypotheses. The doctrines of displacement or "continental drift" were dealt with, beginning with the views of F. B. Taylor and proceeding to the more elaborate and spectacular hypothesis of A. Wegener. The weaknesses of this hypothesis were exposed, but the lecturer pointed out the need for exact measurements of latitude and longitude in regions where crumpling was in progress, as in the East Indies, and in places where there had been a relatively recent development of rift valleys, as between western and eastern South Australia. The doctrine of the "permanence of continents and ocean basins" was next discussed, and then some later hypotheses that had been brought forward by Professors J. Joly, R. T. Chamberlin, and R. A. Daly.

A series of original lantern slides was shown to illustrate the changes in the geographical features of Australia during geological time. The lecturer concluded with the statement that the time had not come for the formulation of a logical account of the evolutionary process that was complete and satisfactory for every continent at each stage in its history, but science would not rest until such an account could be given.

ADV. 8-7-27

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

From A. OLIVER BADMAN, Kensington Park:—Dr. Richardson, director of the Waite Institute, is to be highly commended for his attempt to bring before the Government the need for funds to augment the income of the institute for the furtherance of scientific research in agriculture. Dr. Richardson points out that in other countries agricultural research is receiving assistance from Governments far in excess of that given in our own State. In Victoria a scheme was inaugurated several years ago which has been the means of greatly assisting research work. The directors' report comes to hand at a time when we have a Government in power whose aim is a 50,000,000-bushel harvest for this State. I believe the Premier realises the urgent necessity of greater production. As this is primarily a wheat-producing country the first aim of any Government should be to assist the man on the land, not by bounties and bonuses, but by showing him how to gather greater returns from the soil. As one who has attempted in a small way to increase the wheat yield, I have found that this can be done by the selection of wheat suitable for climatic and soil conditions. By this means alone, I have increased my average yield by three or four bushels per acre during the past eight or ten years. This is only one means; there are many others, and we are looking to the Government to assist us. They should adopt Dr. Richardson's recommendations for training graduates in agricultural science who will become agricultural specialists and investigators, and advisers to the man on the land.

ADV. 8-7-27

GENERAL NEWS.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Emphasising the view that industrial efficiency depended largely upon the application of scientific research to industry, Professor T. H. Laby, dean of the faculty of science at the Melbourne University, recently deplored the failure in Australia of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to give adequate encouragement to research in physics. The question was discussed yesterday by Professor Brailsford Robertson, of the Adelaide University, and he does not altogether agree with the contention of the Melbourne professor. He remarked that from his knowledge the allocation of funds for scientific and industrial research affecting primary and secondary industries was proportionate to the relative value of those industries. Problems of manufacture involved chemistry no less than physics, and in some instances biological problems as well.