

bracket of four songs, Schumann's "Evening Song" and "Ladybird," and Schubert's "The Secret" and "Restless Love." In the first-mentioned the contralto entered tunefully upon the beautiful line, "The sun in silence floods the golden west," and rose magnificently to "The placid moon is shedding her silver rays." The singer was in full sympathy with the dainty lightness of "Lady-bird," and "The Secret" and "Restless Love" brought her prolonged applause. Mr. Schilsky, who arranged the programme, withheld the gem of the evening until the end. It was a modern composition, a quintet for piano, two violins, viola, and cello, by Florent Schmitt, a living composer, who is regarded as one of the most gifted among the disciples of Gabriel Faure. The composition, which requires fine musicianship in its interpretation, bears the stamp of great nobility, and the liquid notes of the piano, played by Miss Maude Puddy, and the resonant notes of the cello (Mr. Parsons) set off well the delightful harmony of the violins (Mr. Schilsky and Miss Meegan) and of the viola (Miss Whittington). The presentation was a decided success, and the audience was held enthralled by the singular beauty of its tone coloring.

Chief Entomologist

A long record of successful research work for the eradication of insect pests stands to the credit of Dr. James Davidson, D.Sc., F.E.S., who was recently appointed chief entomologist at the Waite Institute. Born in 1885, he graduated at the Liverpool University in 1908 as a bachelor of science, and obtained the degree of doctor of science in 1915 by publications dealing with research in ticks and other insects. In 1911 he was appointed Wolfe Barry research scholar in economic entomology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, and afterward held a research studentship in agricultural zoology.



DR. J. DAVIDSON

Later he conducted research study in entomology in Germany, Italy, and France. Before coming to this State Dr. Davidson was chief assistant entomologist at Rothamstead Experimental Station since 1920. His work has dealt principally with problems associated with the infestation of plants by insects, such as the influence of plant varieties, soil conditions, and manurial treatment, and the physiological conditions of the plant.

Enlisting in 1914, Dr. Davidson obtained a commission in the Royal Irish Rifles. In the Sinai and Palestine campaigns he organised measures for the control of flies and other disease carriers. He was appointed as an area sanitation officer in France, and afterward, under Gen. Sir William Horrocks and Sir Ronald Ross, investigated the causes of malaria in the eastern theatres of war. He organised and was appointed officer in charge of the War Office Entomological Laboratory. Dr. Davidson was promoted to the rank of captain, and was mentioned in despatches in 1917. Dr. Davidson will investigate and seek to conquer the malignant pests which play havoc with vital plant life in South Australia. The doctor is an enthusiastic golfer. With him are his wife and three children.

EXAMINATION OF SOILS.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has issued an informative pamphlet dealing with methods for the examination of soils. The articles prepared by Professor J. A. Prescott and Mr. C. S. Piper, of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, are designed to secure greater co-ordination between the various laboratories in Australia engaged in advisory or systematic work on soils. The introduction to the pamphlet states that the rapidly-changing outlook in the chemistry of soils brought about in recent years by the newer work on hydrogen-ion concentration and replaceable bases, and the increasing importance of soil investigations in Australia, in connection with the problems being investigated under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, make the present time a convenient one for attaining such uniformity of method throughout the Commonwealth.

ADV. 19-10-28

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS.

The trustees of the Science and Industry Endowment Fund have recently drawn the attention of University authorities throughout Australia to the difficulties which they are experiencing in securing satisfactory candidates for the research studentships which they offer in the biological sciences. Out of seven studentships recently offered two in mathematics and chemistry were satisfactorily filled, there being in each case a strong field of applicants. In the remaining five, however, which were limited to bio-chemical, plant pathological, veterinary, and bacteriological sciences, the trustees have not considered any of the applicants worthy of appointment. The trustees do not make any suggestions for meeting the present situation which they recognise as only a natural consequence of the scarcity of openings in research work in the past for graduates in these sciences. The question of how best to meet the undoubted need which is now being felt must be left to the educational authorities of the universities.

NEWS 20-10-28

OPENING OF LABORATORY

Prime Minister Will Attend

The official opening of the laboratory of the division of animal nutrition will be performed by Mr. S. M. Bruce (Prime Minister) on Monday morning at 10.30 o'clock.

After the ceremony the laboratory will be open for inspection by the general public, members of which are cordially invited to attend. Entrance will be from Victoria Drive, where cars may be parked. The laboratory, which will be devoted solely to research work, was erected by the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research on a site provided by the University of Adelaide. It is a fine example of co-operative effort between the University and the council.

MAIL 20-10-28

Medicine and Mollusca

The announcement of the retirement of Sir Joseph Verco from his Adelaide University and various other well-known activities is not untimely in relation to one who has entered upon his seventy-eighth year. The name is one of the oldest in association with the colonisation of South Australia. James Crabb Verco (father of Sir Joseph) migrated to Adelaide from England in 1840, in the same vessel that brought to these shores Sir R. R. Torrens, author of the Real Property Act, the Hon. Philip Santo, six times Commissioner of Public Works, and George Morphet, the barrister. The father represented West Adelaide in the Assembly for one term, and was a director of the Commercial Bank and of the South Australian Insurance Company.

Sir Joseph Verco was born at Fullarton, and completed his scholastic career in London before starting to practise in Adelaide exactly 50 years ago. His reputation as a physician has spread far beyond the bounds of his native land. Conchology has provided the principal hobby in private life, and for a long time Sir Joseph has acted as curator of mollusca at the Adelaide Museum. The late Samuel Mills, sen. (grandfather of Lady Verco) would have been the original owner of the Moonta Copper Mine if old-time litigation had gone his way.

ADV. 17-10-28 ALSO REG THE KELLOGG PEACE PACT.

LECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

Under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association a lecture on the Kellogg Peace Pact was delivered by Mr. H. Burton in the Anatomy Theatre of the University on Tuesday evening in the presence of a large attendance. The chair was occupied by the president of the association (Mr. E. R. Dawe).

Mr. Burton said on August 27 last 15 nations, including the six Great Powers, joined in a "general treaty for the renunciation of war," whereby they pledged themselves to renounce war as an instrument of national policy, and to seek the settlement of disputes by pacific means. The treaty was open to all nations that cared to subscribe to it. As many of the Powers signed with reservations, and the building of armaments continued, the ordinary person wondered how much the treaty was worth, or whether it was worth anything at all. Cynics were reminded of the Holy Alliance, which was set up after 1815, to preserve the peace of Europe. Might not the Kellogg Pact also be an instrument of reaction?

The proposals made by Mr. Kellogg, he said, were inspired by M. Briand's plan to outlaw war between the United States and France. Mr. Kellogg suggested that the two countries might sponsor a multilateral treaty for renunciation of war. France was afraid at first that such a treaty might conflict with the obligations of the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Locarno Treaties, and her neutrality treaties with Belgium, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia. France was afraid of Germany, who had twice invaded her territory since 1870. So, though she subscribed to the League Covenant, she also relied on the old pre-war system of alliances. Consequently, when the United States persisted in her original proposals, France prepared an alternative draft treaty with reservations. The Kellogg principle was accepted, providing it did not conflict with France's treaty obligations. Great Britain sought to reconcile the French and American attitudes. But she was won over to the French view of reservations, and also added some of her own. When she accepted the Kellogg principle she reserved the right of free action towards those countries "whose welfare and integrity are of vital interest to the British Empire," e.g., Egypt. It was perhaps regrettable, said Mr. Burton, that Great Britain felt obliged to whittle down further the scope of the renunciation of war, but America issued a fresh draft treaty to try to reconcile all interests. This new draft was accepted by the Great Powers, and also the smaller States which were parties to the Locarno Treaties.

Again, it was to be regretted that Russia was not invited to be one of the original signatories, as many people considered that disarmament was impossible while Russia was not included. The treaty, as finally signed, contained no reservations in the text, but it is understood to be subject to the reservations made in the French and British Notes. Though the Kellogg Peace Pact was shorn of much of its value by reservations, it marked an important advance. It virtually closed the "gap in the Covenant," whereby, in the event of arbitration failing, members of the League of Nations retained the right of private war. Any nation which resorted to war would now incur the moral, if not the active hostility of all nations which had subscribed to the Pact.

NEWS 18-10-28

UNIVERSITY PASSES

Engineering Examination

University of Adelaide advises that in an examination for the degree of Bachelor of Engineering and for the diploma in Applied Science, Arthur Sangster Lewis passed with credit in engineering Geology (60).

Those who passed were Clifford Geoffrey Bartholomaeus, Frank Harvey Finlayson, Hugh Douglas Fleming, Eric Baxter Mills, Donald Thomas Mitchell, William Matheson Morgan, Ernst Adolph Schulz, Donald William Taylor, David John Saint Thomas, Leonard Rosslyn Ward, Stanley Kenneth Woodman, and Donald Scott Young.

REG. 18-10-28

Musical Adelaide.

Sir—Is "Viola" interested directly or indirectly in the South Australian Orchestra? Will he tell us? How many string players has Mr. Foote trained? None. Mr. Sellick is an expert violinist, and has trained all the violin players in his orchestra. Any musician knows that an orchestral conductor who is a string player has an immense advantage over any other. Then what about the fine result achieved by Mr. Lionel Baird, with The News Orchestra. They were only two points behind Unley for the championship, and won the operatic selection.—I am, Sir, &c., "TUBA."

NUTRITION OF SHEEP.

Professor Brailsford Robertson, who returned to Adelaide on Sunday, stated that he had been visiting Queensland in connection with the selection of sites for the establishment of institutions for the field study of the question of the nutrition of sheep under natural conditions. Springcure, in Central Queensland, had been chosen for that State. This makes the fourth station to be used for this purpose, the others being at Beaufort (Victoria), Keelenda, west of Port Augusta, and Moree (New South Wales).

REG. 24-10-28

WOOL RESEARCH.

British Experts Visit.

The Empire Marketing Board has made a grant, in aid of an Empire wool survey, to the British Research Association for the woolen and worsted industries. In this connection Dr. J. E. Nichols (formerly of the Animal Breeding Research Department, Edinburgh University, and now appointed to the biological department of the association is visiting Australia. While the projected survey is primarily concerned with considerations of wool production and utilization in the Empire it is necessary that the numerous closely allied industries also be explored and that systems of administration, education and research, in so far as they bear upon the major subjects, be examined. The chief countries to be visited will be Ireland, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, South Africa, and Canada, and it is expected that Dr. Nichols will be in the Commonwealth until next June. The scope of his enquiry here will include:—1. The study of breeds and management of sheep. 2. Production and utilization of wool. 3. Production of mutton and by-products of the sheep industry. 4. The educational and research work conducted in regard to the sheep industry.

In the suggested itinerary of Dr. Nichols's visit to South Australia the following places are proposed:—1. Roseworthy College to study details of lamb-raising tests. 2. Kybybolite farm and a typical station in the south-east to study fine-wool merino sheep. 3. Booboorowie farm and stations in the north and north-east to study strong-wooled sheep and red wools. 4. The animal nutrition laboratory at the University and Waite Research Institute. 5. Wool stores at Port Adelaide. 6. Mr. W. S. Kelly's Dorset Horn Stud at Giles Corner. 7. Tweedvill mills to study the utilization of wool. 8. Buckland Park. 9. Koonamore flora reserve.

REG. 26-10-28

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

CANBERRA, Thursday. The Commonwealth Gazette announces the acceptance of a tender of £22,982 19/9 for the erection of a School of Public Health at the Sydney University. The successful tenderer was Mr. G. Hogen, of Enmore.