

ADV 12-3-29

VICTORIA-SQUARE FENCES.

The contractors for the removal of the railings surrounding Victoria-square are making progress with the work. The lead jointing has to be melted to allow of the sections being taken down, and gangs of men are engaged in that process and in taking up the granite foundation blocks. The fence is to be erected on the boundary of the Adelaide University property abutting on Victoria-drive.

REG. 13-3-29

50 YEARS AGO TO-DAY

From The Register, March 13, 1879
At the matriculation examination of the University of Adelaide there were 21 candidates—all lads.

ADV. 15-3-29

CO-OPERATION IN RESEARCH.

WORK OF FEDERAL COUNCIL.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

The second annual report of the Federal Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has been released by the Commonwealth Government. Referring to co-operation with State departments and the Universities, the report says:—The authorities of the pathological laboratory of the Adelaide Hospital are affording valuable facilities in connection with work on haematuria in cattle. In Victoria the State Department of Agriculture and the Department of Railways are co-operating in investigations on the storage, preservation, and transport of citrus fruit. The former is also helping in the work on the freezing of meat. For the last two years the University of Adelaide has housed the division of animal nutrition, and has made available the land on which the laboratory of the division is being erected. Very close links have been made with the Waite Agricultural Research Institute of the University of Adelaide. In co-operation with the council and the Empire Marketing Board, the institute is carrying out extensive investigations of the mineral deficiencies of animal pastures. The institute is also the centre of the soils work of the council and of the work being done on virus and soil-borne fungous diseases of plants, notably tomato wilt. The University has passed over to the council and of the work being done in eaten-out pastoral areas, of native vegetation, and is continuing to afford facilities for the investigation. In Victoria the University of Melbourne is co-operating with the Council in the investigations of pleuro-pneumonia in cattle, tuberculosis in cattle, braxy disease in sheep, on the transport, maturation, and storage of bananas, and on the freezing of beef. The University of Sydney is co-operating with the Council in the investigation of poison plants, of parasitological pests of sheep and stock, braxy disease and caseous lymphadenitis of sheep. An agreement has been reached with the Inspector-General of Forests and the authorities of the proposed Federal Forestry Bureau, whereby the Council will undertake researches connected with the utilisation of forest products, and the bureau will assume responsibility for researches in problems relating to the growing tree.

Soil Problems.

Satisfactory progress has been made under the co-operative agreement with the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. Professor J. A. Prescott has been appointed as adviser (part-time) on soil problems to the council, and, as such, and in his capacity of an officer of the Waite Institute, he directs the soils investigations. The work is, naturally, being confined to the more densely settled agricultural areas, namely, the various irrigated districts. The co-operation of the Air Force has been obtained, in order to ascertain whether aerial photographs will be of any use in the general survey of Australian soil types. The board has undertaken to make an aeroplane available during the spring or early summer of 1928.

The investigations carried out by South Australian experts into animal nutrition have prominence in the report, which states that the division of animal nutrition under the direction of Professor T. Brailsford Robertson, has been established to carry out an extensive and fundamental investigation into problems associated with the nutrition of stock in Australia. For many years the work, which is being

carried out in co-operation with the University of Adelaide, will be confined to the study of sheep. The ultimate aim of the investigation is to obtain information, whereby sheep living in various localities and climates of Australia may be so fed as to yield the best economic results. It is also proposed to ascertain the relationship between weight and age of sheep in various typical pastoral districts, and at the same time to correlate these results with the production and quality of the wool. Further, as data regarding the fodder plants, stock waters and underlying geological formation in these districts are obtained, it will probably be possible to correlate definite informations of the growth curves of the sheep, with definite fodder, soil, water, or climatic conditions. As a result, it will probably be possible to ascertain at what age the animal most particularly suffers from a given deficiency, that age being the period at which correction of a deficiency is most essential. In order to obtain these data, field stations have been established at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, at Kolendo station, near Port Augusta in South Australia, at Buln-Gherin, near Beaufort, Victoria, and at Keytah station, near Moree, New South Wales. In each case the owner of the station has agreed to make the necessary small number of sheep available for the work.

Regeneration of Pastures.

In many of the dry regions the effect of continued grazing of the natural vegetation is very marked. Many areas have been over-grazed, and little knowledge is available as to the nature of the re-growth of plant life under such conditions. Investigations have been in progress at Koonamore (South Australia) for some time. They were started by the University of Adelaide on an area of 1,000 acres of eaten-out salt-bush country, vested in the University as a vegetation reserve for research work.

REG 16-3-29

NEW PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Hopes for Commerce Degree

COMMERCE students at the University welcomed new members in the Students' Union Building last night, and took the opportunity to meet Mr. L. G. Melville, the recently appointed Professor of Economics.

He was introduced by Mr. E. W. Holden, a member of the board of students, and Mr. C. W. Andersen detailed the objects of the union.

Professor Melville spoke on the commerce course and the rapid expansion of the teaching of commerce. "It is one of the most important advances in academic work of recent years," he declared.

The functions of a university course, he said, were twofold, the development of the reasoning faculty and the inculcation of knowledge. He expressed the hope that ultimately the commerce course would be established as a degree course.

NEWS 16-3-29

REFECTORY FOR STUDENTS

Modern Quarters at University

Modern and spacious quarters are provided at the refectory for members of the Students' Union at the rear of the University of Adelaide. Finishing touches are being applied to the edifice, which it is hoped to use for the opening of lecture classes next week.

The building was erected at a cost of about £14,000, which was collected and provided by friends of the University, members of the council and professorial staff, and students.

Members of the Men's Students' Union will make use of the premises for classes until a special building for that purpose is erected on space adjacent to the present building.

Included in the refectory is a spacious main hall, kitchen accommodation, and quarters for a caretaker. Modern appliances have been installed throughout, including refrigerators and cooking and heating conveniences.

Attractive designs are seen in the exterior and interior decorations. Cloisters form an attractive feature on the northern side of the structure, and they adjoin a lawn.

Another fine building adjoins the refectory. It is the Lady Symon Hall, which is a gift from Sir Josiah Symon for the Women Students' Union. This building is to be opened shortly.

ADV. 22-3-29

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD.

The manual of the Public Examinations Board of the University of Adelaide for 1929, which has just been published, contains the regulations and syllabus of examinations for this year, as well as the examination papers and examiners' remarks for last year. The last day of entry for the intermediate, leaving, and leaving honors examinations will be October 1. Candidates who fail to give notice on or before that date will be allowed to present themselves only on receiving special permission and on payment of an extra fee of five shillings. The examinations will begin on Tuesday, November 26, and finish on Monday, December 9. The full time-table for the examinations is contained in the publication, as is also a list of those candidates who were successful in last year's tests. In his remarks on the English papers in the leaving examination the examiner states that this year's results show a decided improvement on last year's, and that many faults that were singled out last year for special comment have disappeared. Referring to the unnecessary use of inverted commas, the examiner states:—"Perhaps the inverted commas appeared all the more prominent in the essays because of the unusual abundance of slang. Candidates seem to have forsaken the jargon of the formal essay for the opposite extreme of loose colloquialism, but in most cases they enclose in inverted commas the unlawful phrase as if to apologise for its use."

ADV. 23-3-29

THE ANTARCTIC.

MAWSON EXPEDITION.

PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL.

Canberra, March 22.

The leader of the Opposition (Mr. Scullin), resuming the debate in the House of Representatives to-day, on the printing of the papers in relation to the proposed Australian Antarctic expedition, said that men who ventured into unexplored regions should do so with the knowledge that Parliament was behind them. When compared with the cost of the previous expedition, the estimated cost of this venture, namely, £16,000, seemed rather small. The previous expedition, led by Sir Douglas Mawson, had cost £60,000; but in regard to this expedition it had to be considered that the ship was being furnished free of cost. That had been a big item of expenditure in the previous expedition.

There was also the question of the possible financial results that might accrue if our flag were planted in a certain portion of the Antarctic. Ships recently returned had brought back £200,000 and £300,000 worth of whale oil, and the Australian people should have the opportunity to exploit that product. However, he did not support the project from the financial point of view, which was only a secondary consideration. Australasia led the world in discoveries in the Antarctic, and Sir Douglas Mawson led all other explorers. Australia owed a duty to future generations, in gathering knowledge of conditions in the Antarctic.

Mr. Mann said that to his mind the most important aspect of the expedition was the gathering of information regarding meteorological records, as Australia required to investigate in every possible way information in that connection in the Antarctic regions. He also advocated a system of co-operation with South Africa, so that the earliest possible information regarding climatic conditions might be obtained from that country. It would be of immense value to Australia.

The motion for the printing of the papers was agreed to.

Adv. 18-3-29

The position of Forestry Officer at Canberra has been filled by the appointment of Mr. C. R. Cole, of the Woods and Forest Department of this State. Mr. Cole entered the latter service in 1915 (when Mr. Walter Gill was Conservator), and served four years with the 32nd Battalion, A.I.F. After the close of the war he was appointed forester at Wirrabara, and was subsequently transferred to the South-East. He was educated at the Gawler High School and Prince Alfred College, and graduated at the University of Adelaide in 1914. He was the second student to obtain the B.Sc. degree in forestry in this State. The first was Mr. R. G. McKail, who was killed in the war.