



VISITING COMMONWEALTH RESEARCH EXPERTS INSPECTING NUTRITION LABORATORY

Under the guidance of Prof. T. Brailsford Robertson (Professor of Physiology at Adelaide University) an inspection was made of the laboratory at Victoria Drive. Left to Right—Prof. Robertson, Dr. A. E. V. Richardson (director of Waite Agricultural Research Institute), Prof. A. C. D. Rivett (chief executive member and deputy chairman of Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research), Mr. G. Lightfoot (secretary of council), and Sir George Julius (chairman and inventor of the totalisator).

NEWS 24 4 29
WAITE INSTITUTE

New Buildings for Research

Tenders have been called for the erection of two additional glass houses for Waite Agricultural Research Institute. The houses will measure 84 ft. long by 25 ft. wide, and will be divided into insect proof compartments, in which experimental research work will be conducted. The plans also show a brick building measuring 84 ft. by 36 ft. This will be devoted mainly to the preparation of soils required in the experimental glasshouses. It will contain seven rooms, including compartments for root washing, mixing of soils, and general laboratory work. Messrs. Woods, Bagot, Jory & Laybourne Smith are the architects.

REG. 1-5-29

Professor R. W. Chapman, who, it was announced some time ago, had been awarded the Peter Nicol Russell Memorial Medal by the Australian Institute of Engineers, will be presented with the honour by Mr. A. A. Watkins (Chairman of the Adelaide Division) at the annual meeting of the Division on Friday night. The medal is awarded annually to the person who, in the opinion of the Federal Council of the Institute, has contributed most to the general advancement of engineering science.

REG. 3-5-29

EXHIBITION LAND FOR 'VARSITY

Govt. Considering Bill

The Government is considering the preparation of a Bill turning over to the University the whole of the Exhibition Building land on North terrace, so that extension of its buildings will not be hampered.

This information was given to Mr. Coneybeer by the Premier in the Assembly yesterday.

"The transfer," Mr. Butler explained, "will be subject to certain restrictions, such as the Government's retaining the right to use the building or the oval until needed by the University."

Mr. Butler added that the rights of the School of Mines would not be overlooked in connection with the matter.

HANDSOME ADDITIONS

The preparation by the Government of a Bill this year is the outcome of long negotiations. Successive Governments have promised that the land would be made available. The proposed measure will bring the matter to finality, and ensure that expensive new and important buildings which the University will erect will not be spoiled by lack of suitable grounds.

These buildings are the Barr Smith Library—work upon which will begin immediately—and the Bonython Great Hall, for which funds will become available at the end of next year.

The Bonython Hall will be an imposing building facing Pulteney street. Later, when the old Exhibition Building is demolished, there will be an appropriate amount of ground on either side of the hall.

The new library will be on the site of the old showgrounds, between the Jubilee Oval pavilions and the anatomy building.

NEWS 3-5-29

Examination in Geography

"Observer," Highgate:—Mr. G. G. Newman, B.A., hardly does justice to the examiner in geography.

In the first place the "too many textbooks" which he mentions are not set as such for the examination, but are mentioned in the syllabus as being "useful to teachers," as those which "teachers should consult," or as "books which should be in every school library." The examiner has performed a real service to teachers by his constant efforts to introduce to them up-to-date and reliable information on the subject matter of geography.

Would Mr. Newman be bold enough to recommend any book or books as sufficiently concise and adequate in content and method of treatment to be set for this examination? It would be a distinctly retrograde step were geography to become a "cram" subject as it was in days now happily past. The present examiner allows scope for the individuality of both teacher and candidate. So far as one can judge, full credit is given for every piece of geographical knowledge and of deductive reasoning.

The strictures in regard to the choice of language in the "notes by examiners," even if justified, are beside the point. However, this section of the notes is invariably not only entertaining, but stimulating and instructive.

G. G. Newman, B.A., Kingswood:—My main contention is for a definite number of specified books, and not a long reference library.

Some of my critics have misunderstood me. I said, "I like this examiner." For several reasons I admire him. His graph idea was good. His phrases were unusual. At once they marked him out as a genius. Having boy friends shows that he is kindly disposed. Moreover, he is an enthusiast.

This examiner has converted me. An enthusiast always gains adherents. Leaving geography will now be a special subject with me.

[This correspondence is closed.]

Adv. 3-5-29

UNIVERSITY BUILDING EXTENSIONS.

The Premier (Hon. R. L. Butler) informed the Hon. F. W. Coneybeer in the Assembly on Thursday that the Government were considering a comprehensive scheme to hand over the Jubilee Exhibition Grounds to the University, retaining the right to use the Exhibition Building and the Oval until those sites were required for building purposes also. The University could then go in for the extensive building programme which it had in view. A Bill for that purpose would be introduced. In reply to Mr. Anthony, the Premier said the Government would conserve the interests of the School of Mines in connection with the allocation of those lands.

REG. 4-5-29

PROF. CHAPMAN HONoured

Highest Engineering Award

THE highest honour which the Institute of Engineers, Australia, can confer on one of its members, the Peter Nicol Russell Medal, was given to Professor R. W. Chapman, of the University of Adelaide, at the Institute's annual meeting last night.

The past-chairman (Mr. A. A. Watkins), in making the presentation, explained that the medal was given by the Association in honour of the late Mr. Russell—

and for the transport and maintenance of cases from distant country places. Nor can anyone say how far the research now started may extend. The visit of Sir Neville Howse is intended to launch the public appeal. He will spend May 16 and 17 in Adelaide and address several public meetings.



PROFESSOR CHAPMAN

a prominent supporter of the Engineering Association of N.S.W., and a contributor to the Engineering School of the Sydney University.

The Association awarded the medal annually to the member who made the most notable contribution to the science or practice of engineering in the Commonwealth. Prof. Chapman, he said, had been consulted repeatedly by Australian and other Governments, and had been associated with the University and the School of Mines for 40 years. One of his outstanding traits was his kindly attitude towards the young men who had studied under him.

Professor Chapman said a few years ago it would have been inappropriate to so recognise a teacher of engineering and regard him as an engineer. The days of the opposition between theory and practice had past, however; and they now recognised the profession could only progress as it kept in touch with the latest scientific development.

Adv. 6-5-29

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

In view of the proposed visit of Sir Neville Howse to Adelaide in a fortnight, special interest attaches to the news cabled recently regarding the National Radium Fund in England. It has been officially stated that those who desire to make thank-offerings for the King's recovery from his recent illness may contribute to the fund. This affords additional evidence of the extent to which the value of radium in the treatment of cancer has been recognised. In Australia the Commonwealth Department of Health has spent £100,000 on the purchase of radium, which has been loaned to the States for standardised research into the possibilities of radium treatment for cancer. Each State is conducting a campaign to raise funds to supplement this. During the past two years Queensland has raised over £50,000, part of which has been spent on the purchase of deep X-ray therapy plants for three different hospitals. About £7,000 has also been spent in procuring additional radium. In the last few months South Australia has raised more than £3,000 for the purchase of a deep X-ray therapy machine for the Adelaide Hospital. Other subscriptions, together with the State and Commonwealth subsidies, have raised the contributions to £15,000. The committee of the local anti-cancer campaign is anxious to increase this. It is evident that money will be required for additional radium and X-ray therapy treatment,

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THE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS.

There is truth in the saying that where you have a teacher and a learner sitting on the same log there you have the seed of a university. It is true that the inner life of a university is in the intimate personal influence of teacher upon student, and student upon student. Those alumni of the University of Western Australia who have shared the enthusiasm of its early years, an enthusiasm maintained under such arduous conditions, have no cause to feel that their education was of less value than that of their more privileged successors. As the Premier said yesterday, although the beginnings of the University of Western Australia were humble, every one associated with them would be proud of that fact. But as the years went on, depressing conditions, if they had continued, must have had a depressing effect. Enthusiasm can maintain itself under difficulties, but no less can it flourish when able to breathe spaciouly, and make to itself habitations that answer to its aspirations.

Fine buildings are eloquent. There is something of silent finality and conviction in good architecture. The energies of the human spirit are fitful—the wind bloweth where—and when it listeth. But when work requiring constant spiritual energy is surrounded with the perpetual presence of beauty, it absorbs a steady and sustaining influence, the more so when noble buildings embody the hope and faith of a man who served his own generation the more faithfully in that he built for the future.

"Let all who enter this hall honour the memory of Sir John Winthrop Hackett," reads the inscription on the foundation stone of the Winthrop Hall. It is a well-phrased reminder of one who was a faithful public servant, free from sectional pettiness, a man of magnanimity in his work for the community. That motive he has perpetuated, for as the Chancellor justly said in his brief account of the Hackett bequest, there is no home in the State so humble but that the influence of the university reaches it in some degree.

It is particularly fitting that the foundation stones of the permanent buildings of the University should have been laid in the Centenary year, as the Premier, Mr. Collier, pointed out in his generous tribute to Sir John Winthrop Hackett. They will long be the most impressive architectural group in the State, and in their bold introduction of a style designed and house work done in this Mediterranean climate, and to harmonise with its light, and prevailing tones of landscape, they may well become a powerful influence in the evolution of our architecture. Certainly their erection will be among the most important events that give distinction to this Centenary year, which is to be regarded as a year of beginnings. The