

ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

Inter-State Congress in Adelaide.

Leading Officials and Delegates.

One of the distinguishing features of the meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science in Adelaide next week will be addresses by presidents of the various sections. These addresses will be authoritative, as those who are to deliver them have been selected on account of their special knowledge of their particular subjects. The sections, with their respective secretaries, are as follows:—A. Astronomy, mathematics, and physics, Mr. R. S. Burdon, University of Adelaide; B. Chemistry, Mr. G. D. Shaw, Department of Chemistry, Kintore-avenue, Adelaide; B. Sub-section, pharmacy, Mr. O. H. Walter, of Devon House, Pirie-street, Adelaide; C. Geology and mineralogy, Mr. C. T. Madigan, of the University of Adelaide; D. Zoology, Dr. O. W. Tieg, University of Adelaide; E. Geography and history, Mr. W. Oldham and Mr. B. J. M. Clucas, University of Adelaide; F. Ethnology and anthropology, Dr. W. T. Campbell, Dental Department of Adelaide Hospital; G. Social and statistical science, Mr. A. L. G. Mackay, University of Adelaide; H. Engineering and architecture, Mr. E. V. Clark, University of Adelaide; I. Sanitary science and hygiene, Mr. S. C. Henning, Central Board of Health, Adelaide; J. Mental science and education, Dr. J. Schulz, University of Adelaide; K. Agriculture and forestry, Mr. W. J. Spafford, Department of Agriculture, Adelaide; L. Veterinary science, Dr. L. V. Bull, Adelaide Hospital; botany, Mr. Geoffrey



Professor A. C. D. Rivett.

of the department of geology and mineralogy of the University of Queensland, 1911-18; Professor of Geology and Mineralogy in the University of Queensland since January 1, 1919. He has written several publications on geological and technical subjects.

Professor W. E. Agar, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S. (Victoria), president of the zoology section, has been Professor of Zoology in the Melbourne University since 1920. He was formerly assistant to Professor Graham Kerr at the Glasgow University. He served in the European war as adjutant, 52nd Regiment Infantry, Base Depot, Egypt.

Captain John King Davis, president of the geography and history section, is best known in connection with his journeys to the Antarctic. He was leader of the Ross Sea relief expedition, which rescued ten of Sir Ernest Shackleton's marooned companions with the polar ship Aurora. The name of Captain Davis is familiar through his association with Sir Douglas Mawson on his voyages of discovery to the Antarctic continent. Since 1907 Captain Davis



Professor Agar.

has made five voyages to the South Polar regions. After the declaration of war he acted as assistant embarkation officer at Sydney, and afterwards took charge of transports on three trips to Europe. His last expedition to Antarctica was undertaken at the combined request of the the manager of the company (Mr. William C. Smallacombe) that the station had reached a state of efficiency whereby daily programmes could be transmitted successfully, and without a hitch. Mr. Gunner was also of the same opinion, and the decision to start daily broadcasting to-day was thus reached.

Last night a further trial concert was given at the Grosvenor, and at its conclusion both Mr. Smallacombe and Mr. Gunner expressed satisfaction at the manner in which the transmitter worked, and said the reports that had come in from round the city showed that "listeners-in" were well pleased with the broadcasting. The following contributed items:—Mrs. Barker, Misses Lorna Fitzgerald, Mobbes Keeling, and Roberts, and Messrs. Reed Mobbes, Barker, Payne, and Fred William



Captain John King Davis.

and is a great authority on the life history of the Maoris, of which he has made a special study. He is expected to supply an interesting paper on the origin and relationship of material and active decorative art of the Maoris of New Zealand.

Professor D. B. Copland, Hobart, is president of the social and statistical science section. He succeeded Dr. Heaton as lecturer on history and economics in the Hobart University. About two years



Professor D. B. Copland.

ago the position was made into a professorship, and Mr. Copland was given the Chair of Economics. Two years ago he was invited to deliver the Fisher Lecture on Commerce at the Adelaide University. He was unable to deliver the lecture, however, through illness, and it was read by Dr. Heaton. Mr. Copland's work has been rather on the statistical side with its application to graphs on economic cycles. He has published a volume on the growth of wheat in New Zealand, of which country he is a native. He has been prominently associated with the W.E.A., and is director of the tutorial classes at the University of Tasmania.

Professor H. E. Whitfield (Western Australia) practised as a mining engineer on the Western Australian goldfields, 1902-12, holding positions as metallurgist, general manager, &c. He has been Professor of Mining and Engineering in the University of Western Australia since 1912. He worked under the British Ministry of Munitions from March, 1916, to February, 1919, for the first two years of this period as an inspector of munitions in U.S.A., and for the latter portion as a technical adviser on K. B. Quinan's staff in the Explosives Supply Department in London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dr. J. S. Purdy.



Professor H. E. Whitfield.

D.S.O., M.A. (Cambridge), D.P.S. (Cambridge), who is president of the sanitary science and hygiene section, has been

metropolitan medical officer of health and city health officer, Sydney, since 1913. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute. He saw active service in the South African war, and also in the



Dr. J. S. Purdy.

European war with the A.I.F. He is well known for his pioneer work in regard to the role of insects as carriers of disease, having written the first article which appeared on this subject in 1909.

Mr. J. Nangle, O.B.E., F.R.A.S., president of the section covering mental science and education, has been superintendent of technical education in New South Wales since 1914, and is regarded as one of the leading authorities on this subject in Australia. He has frequently called attention to the lack of proper training for the youth of the nation, between the time they leave school and are called upon to take part in the battle of life. He is an architect by profession, and is a Fellow of the Senate of Sydney University, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, London, Associate of the



Mr. J. Nangle.

Australian Institute of Engineers, Fellow of the Institute of Architects of New South Wales, and president of the Royal Society of New South Wales.

Professor R. D. Watt, M.A., B.Sc., F.C.S. (New South Wales), president of the agriculture and forestry section, has been Professor of Agriculture in the Sydney University since 1910. He is a member of the Advisory Council of the Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry. He holds the national diploma in agriculture with honors, and in dairying of the West of Scotland Agricultural College.

Dr. S. Dodd, president of the veterinary science section, is in the forefront of veterinary pathologists. He obtained his membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1902, and his Fellowship in 1907. He went from England to South Africa, where he worked on stock diseases with Dr. Theiler. He was for some years principal veterinary officer and bacteriologist in the Department of Agriculture, Queensland, and conducted research into animal diseases at the Yerongpilly Research Station. Relinquishing his position in Queensland, he spent some time as a lecturer at the veterinary school in the University of Melbourne. About this time he obtained his doctorate of veterinary science in the Melbourne

University. In 1909 he joined the staff of the veterinary school in the University of Sydney as lecturer in veterinary pathology and bacteriology. He has made very valuable contributions to our knowledge



Professor D. M. Sommerville.

Samuel, University of Adelaide. Brief personal particulars concerning the presidents follow.

The Sectional Presidents.

Professor D. M. J. Sommerville, president of the section embracing astronomy, mathematics and physics, is attached to the staff of the University at Wellington, New Zealand. He is an expert mathematician, and an authority on non-euclidean geometry. He was lecturer in mathematics and applied mathematics at St. Andrew's University, Scotland, and is the author of several publications on scientific subjects.

Professor A. C. D. Rivett, president of the chemistry section, is a Rhodes scholar, who has had a distinguished University career, having secured first-class honors at the Oxford and Melbourne Universities. He was the general organising secretary for the visit to Australia of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1914. He was registrar No. 5 of the Australian General Hospital in 1915, and No. 11 Australian General Hospital in 1916. He is now lecturer in chemistry at the Melbourne University.

Mr. E. F. Gryst, of Exeter, president of the subsection of pharmacy, was first elected president of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia two years ago, and has just been elected for a further term. He has had about 21 years' experience as a worker in pharmacy in this State. Mr. Gryst has always taken an exceptionally keen interest in the students, and has for a number of years acted as one of the examiners in the final course. On the retirement of Mr. Hendry as lecturer to final students, Mr. Gryst, at great sacrifice to himself, took up the work, and has now 23 young people under his care.

Professor H. C. Richards, D.Sc. (Queensland), graduated at the Melbourne University in the Science Course at the end of 1906, and gained the Doctorate of Science in 1915. He has been lecturer in charge of the chemistry in mining department of the Technical College of Brisbane since 1910-11; lecturer in charge