

Rec. 10:6:25
NATIONAL BAND
PROPOSED.

Chairman of the Mitcham District Council, Mr. A. T. Sutton (Mayor of St. Peters), and Messdames T. R. Bowman and K. H. Weston supported the request.

Municipal Band Suggested.

The Chief Secretary, in reply, stated that he hardly needed to inform them that their arguments in favour of the virtues of and necessity for musical education had struck a responsive chord in him personally. He had discussed the matter with the Premier—in whose behalf he was acting that morning—and he could inform them that the Government had to take the view that the most necessary things in the way of requests would receive first consideration. He emphasized the requirements and demands in the way of education, hospitals, assisting the needy, upkeep of roads, matter of prison reform, and the police and other services. He congratulated Dr. Davies upon his admirable speech. Although he would send the matter on to Cabinet, he could not hold out any hope to them that the Government would give the assistance for which they had asked. It seemed to him that the proposal to have a national band was one more for the municipal bodies than for the Government. During his recent trip to New Zealand he had learned of an excellent municipal band at Auckland, and the authorities there were pleased with the results being obtained. The Government, representing the whole of the people, had to safeguard the interests of all the taxpayers. He was convinced that the citizens who did not reside within the metropolitan area would not regard the proposal of the deputation in the same light as did the people within the city and suburbs. He, respectfully, expressed the view that the Government was justified in asking the municipal councils to consider the matter further with the view of informing it regarding what they themselves would do towards the project. That suggestion was concurred in by the Premier. If, however, when the matter was submitted to Cabinet there was a difference of opinion in favour of the deputation's request they would be advised to that effect.

Mr. Blackwell—Would the Government subsidize a municipal band?
The Chief Secretary replied that if a tangible scheme were submitted in that respect the Government would consider it. He was, certainly, of opinion that the councils should put their hands into their own pockets before asking Cabinet to grant any assistance in the project.

Deputation to Government.

Minister's Suggested Scheme

A deputation representative of the metropolitan area waited upon the Chief Secretary (Hon. J. Jelley) on Tuesday, and asked that the Government should give assistance towards the formation of a national band. The Minister, in reply, said it was a matter more for the municipal bodies than the Government, and that if a tangible scheme for a municipal band were submitted, the Cabinet would consider whether it could grant a subsidy.

Mr. C. Wyatt (secretary of the Suburban Municipal and District Councils' Association) stated that at a meeting of citizens held at the Adelaide Town Hall recently, the following resolution was adopted:—"That this meeting approves of the formation of a National Band of professional players, for the benefit of the State as a whole, and that the Government be asked to undertake this responsibility in the interests of our general culture and education as a people." He said the communications had been received from the majority of the suburban councils in favour of the scheme. It was estimated that the cost would be about £15,000 a year.

The Lord Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. C. R. J. Glover) pointed out that the citizens of the metropolitan area had viewed as a calamity the disbanding of the Tramways Band. He could vouch for the fact that the people had highly appreciated the efforts of the organization, and in support of that contention it could be stated that each of the concerts given in the Town Hall and Exhibition Building by the band had attracted crowded audiences. It would be a serious loss to the State if the Tramways Band were not retained, or replaced by another. Personally, he was strongly in favour of its continuance, but just on what lines that should be done was, to a great extent, a matter for the Government to decide.

Ald. Wright (President of the association) urged that it was advisable to take action to either retain the Tramways Band or to form another of symphonic character. He referred in detail to the steps that had been taken in the matter. The association, he added, comprised 20 councils, and, with the City Council, they represented approximately half the population of the State, which fact should be a good recommendation to the Government concerning the proposition they had submitted.

Value of Music.

Dr. Harold Davies (Director of the Elder Conservatorium) said it was suggested that to make the band of the fullest value and service to the community it should be a professional body, and consist of about 40 players, who could give, say, 150 concerts a year, or two each week during luncheon hours in the city and the balance in surrounding districts or in the more populous country towns by request. It would be an educative and social influence of the highest value to the people. The Government spent generously in support of educational institutions and many other projects for the national welfare, but it did not do anything for music, which was one of the greatest and most widely appreciated of all the arts, although it taxed it. Music was not only permanently recreative, but in a high degree restful. It was nothing less than sheer hypocrisy to say that the people could not afford a few thousand pounds sterling annually for music, when they were spending millions on amusements and personal luxuries. Such a band as they urged would surely create a definite status for musicians, and be of assistance to the Musicians' Union (numbering throughout Australia a membership of 5,000) and also to the many gifted young Australians who spent years in acquiring a difficult art. It was not flattering to their pride as Britons that, while Munich alone could support three national theatres devoted to music and classic drama, there was not even one such establishment in the whole of the British Empire. He asked why should not South Australia lead the way in that matter and to a fuller recognition of the value of art in the national life. The creation of a national band would not, as some feared, be detrimental to the amateur bands, but should prove an inspiration to them. The deputation asked the Government to consider the establishment of a national band on the lines indicated, or, failing that, to consider doing something for the support of music in the State in the way of a subsidy.

Professor Darnley Naylor, Mr. Blackwell, M.P., (who introduced the deputation), Mr. Whitford, M.P., C. A. J.

Educative and Social Influence.

Dr. Harold Davies (director of the Adelaide Conservatorium) said it was suggested that to make the band of fullest value and service to the community, it should be a professional body, and consist of about 40 players, who could give say 150 concerts a year, or two each week during luncheon hours in the city, and the balance in the surrounding districts or in the more populous country towns by request. It would be an educative and social influence of the highest value to the people. The Government spent generously in support of educational institutions and many other projects for the national welfare, but although they taxed musicians the Government did nothing for music, which was one of the greatest and most widely appreciated of all the arts. Music was not only permanently recreative, but in a high degree restful. It was nothing less than sheer hypocrisy to say that the people could not afford a few thousands annually for music when they were spending millions on amusements and personal luxuries. Such a band as they desired would surely create a definite status for musicians, and be of assistance to the Musicians' Union, numbering throughout Australia a membership of 5,000, and also to the many gifted young Australians who spent years of their lives in acquiring a difficult art. It was not flattering to their pride as British people that while Munich alone could support three national theatres devoted to music and classic drama, there was not even one such establishment in the whole of the British Empire. He asked why should not South Australia lead the way to a fuller recognition of the value of art in the national life. The creation of a national band would not, as some feared, be detrimental to the amateur bands, but should prove an inspiration to them. He asked the Government to consider the establishment of a national band on the lines indicated, or failing that to consider doing something for the support of music in the State by way of a subsidy.

Professor Darnley Naylor, Messrs. Blackwell and Whitford, M.P.'s., Councillor A. J. Penno (chairman of the Mitcham District Council), Mr. A. T. Sutton (Mayor of St. Peters), and Messdames T. R. Bowman and K. H. Weston spoke in support of the request.

NEWS 9.6.25
HEALTH RESEARCH

All the world knows that good health is the greatest good, but all the world does not take the necessary care to ensure its possession. In fact, in a free and easy way people pursue the mode of life which appeals to them most from the standpoint of business or enjoyment or both until disease calls a halt. Then there is an energetic effort to be cured. The popular idea of medical skill is that it is simply curative. Science declares that the first great activity must be in the direction of preventing disease and that cure is the last ditch.

If the first cause of the various ailments to which flesh is heir can be ascertained big strides will have been made toward curative treatment when it does occur. The ferreting out and definite determination of those first causes is a long and arduous study.

"Prevention is better than cure" is a sound maxim, but the costs attaching to it and the volume of work it engenders are exceedingly great. Cost and effort, however, are inconsiderable compared with the infinite benefit to be derived therefrom. Prevention must be the main line in all research work, although there are many other branches in the field to be covered which will repay attention.

The funds which the Commonwealth Government is proposing to provide for research will therefore require to be handled wisely and efficiently. Professor Brailsford Robertson told the Health Commission that any fund which the Commonwealth Government supplied should be administered by scientific men and laymen who could make practical suggestions. General approval may be given to that proposal, as well as to the recommendation that research scholarships should be established.

That would afford encouragement for research among those who were disposed to undertake such labors, and should achieve results. In other branches of research, especially in chemical activities which have a commercial aspect, there are substantial rewards in store for successful work, but in the field of medicine there are only honor and esteem at the end of it, and therefore the assistance and incentive to prosecute such studies should be ample.

Health is such an imperative adjunct of national efficiency that it is impossible to overestimate the value of money expended in that direction. Australia's standard of living has been set so high that in the struggle for industrial supremacy her people must be equipped as supermen. To all that is best in the way of education, both practical and theoretical, must be added the indispensable condition of good health.

Company Secretary

Born at Hoyleton 38 years ago, Mr. J. G. N. Wauchope, A.C.U.A., A.I.A.S.A., quickly gained prominence in the commercial world. He received his early education at city and country schools, and later at the Adelaide University. During his four years' study there he was among the most brilliant scholars, and was popular with the masters. He gained the diploma of Commerce and was



MR. J. G. N. WAUCHOPE

also a Joseph Fisher medallist. Commerce and the study of accountancy came easily to Mr. Wauchope. Following his success as a student he was for a number of years tutorial assistant in accountancy at the University.

He is best known in Adelaide and by interstate businessmen as a company secretary. Much of the success of the Adelaide Cement Company, Limited, is said to be due to his intimate knowledge of manufacturing and industrial problems. He has also held the secretaryship of Austral Plaster Limited, Pitt Limited, Federal Lime Company, Limited, and Foundries Limited, in addition to smaller companies. His services in these positions have been invaluable consequent upon his knowledge of the intricacies of commerce. Early in his business career he earned the esteem and regard of business men.

Mr. Wauchope has had little time for recreation other than tennis. Much of his spare time is devoted to a study of economics, industrial problems, and literature. He is also a lover of music. Outdoor games appealed to him in his younger days, but they were put aside when he began study at the University.

Continued

Acting upon medical advice Mr. Wauchope will spend 12 months in the country. He will probably interest himself in pastoral matters. Business men will regret his departure from the city, but his knowledge should prove invaluable in the sphere he intends to adopt temporarily. He will resume secretarial work upon his return to Adelaide next year.

NEWS 10-6-25

Mr. Alexander Wyllie, who died at Auckland, New Zealand, on June 6, was born in Adelaide in 1863, and was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. Wyllie. Mr. Wyllie was educated at Prince Alfred College and the Adelaide University, where he took his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1888 and Bachelor of Science degree in 1891. He was the third student to win the Angus Scholarship, which he was awarded in 1892. He went to England and studied at King's College, University of London. After he had gained practical knowledge in a large firm in England, he was appointed clerical engineer to the Wallall Municipal Council. He supervised the installation of the electric light plant and put down a system of electrical tramways for the council. He held that position for many years, and then went to Auckland as city electrical engineer. When the New Zealand Government acquired control of the electrical supply of the Dominion, Mr. Wyllie became chairman of the Auckland Board, a position he held at the time of his death. He was a brother of Mr. R. J. Wyllie, of Currie street, Adelaide.

ADVERTISER 10.6.25

ORGAN RECITALS.

From V. STOCKHAM, Henley Beach:—I am a stranger to Adelaide, but during the last few months have attended nearly all the musical functions. Some of the music, Conservatorium and otherwise, is extremely good, but in my late home (Glasgow) organ recitals, either arranged privately, professionally, or of a municipal nature, are all worthy of the word "recital," and of the vast audiences they draw. The people in my late home city would not tolerate anything but the best in any musical program. The organ music presented by a conservatorium teacher the other six was fine and I enjoyed it. The only fault was the brevity of the program. Two or more hours of such playing would not have been too long. From the recital at the Town Hall on June 1 I gather that Adelaide is a city of great storms, for one is offered at each recital. Surely Adelaide as a musical city owes better than this of organ music?