

Now the Commonwealth is rushing in where the States have been too timid, too shortsighted, or too parsimonious to tread. In the case of forestry, it would be difficult indeed to get too much of a good thing. In relation to many branches of Australian administration there has been more than a sufficiency of Commonwealth and State overlapping, but duplication in the forestry sphere would not be resented if it meant that the Commonwealth and States were to compete with one another in making two trees grow where none grew before. The newborn zeal of the Federal Government could be applauded if it were directed to stimulating the tree-planting activities of the States, and, if necessary, subsidizing out of its ample resources their existing extremely inadequate expenditure.

Unfortunately, the Federal forestry plans are of a quite different variety. Commonwealth Ministers have discovered that "the one clear direction in which the central government can assist the States" is in the establishment at Canberra of an Australian Forestry School. Commenting a month ago on the original announcement of this proposal, *The Register* suggested that the Federal Academy of Forestry, as compared with the successful and inexpensive School of Forestry at the Adelaide University, probably would be designed along ambitious if not wasteful lines. The scheme outlined by Senator Pearce this morning fully bears out this expectation. On the previous day, a statement from the Prime Minister had lamented the apparent indisposition of the States to notify the number of students for which they would undertake to be responsible, and had recalled that the Interstate Forestry Conference of 1921 had agreed upon 26 students as the prospective enrolment for the new school. Evidently a doubt has arisen whether even so slender a force of pupils will be available. Nevertheless, the Minister for Home and Territories, acting, no doubt, on the recommendation of the Federal Forestry Adviser, has produced an ambitious, even extravagant, plan for the conduct of the school. According to this design, there will be at Canberra a Principal at a salary of £1,200 a year, and two Lecturers in Forestry at £600 each! And all to deal with a maximum of 26 students! If the accompanying plans for the afforestation of the Federal Capital Territory have been framed on a similarly generous scale, the new Commonwealth Department of Forestry is likely to become a tolerably heavy spender of the abundant revenues with which the Federal Treasurer is blessed.

The plain fact is that the Commonwealth Government is beginning at the wrong end of the forestry scale. What Australia needs is not more foresters—there is difficulty in absorbing the graduates of the Adelaide school—but more forests. There is no evidence that the training of a number of young men at Canberra will be followed by such an expansion of tree-planting activity by the States as will enable profitable employment to be found for them all, and, falling such a guarantee, there will be an inevitable dearth of recruits. The Principal and the two Lecturers will be obliged to demonstrate to empty classrooms. The Commonwealth is proposing to do—to overdo—at vastly greater cost at Canberra what is already being satisfactorily and economically done in Adelaide. For a slightly increased expenditure, the pioneer Adelaide school could be expanded so as to provide for the probable needs of the whole of Australia for the next 20 years; but this simple way out does not appeal to a Government which is bent upon having its own forestry department and its own forestry school, no matter at what enhanced cost to the taxpayers. The Federal Forestry Adviser admits that the Federal Capital Territory "lacks demonstration areas where the student may study various methods of forest management" but claims that "in this

respect it is not worse off than any other site in Australia." But, if it is no better off, why abolish the Adelaide school in favour of an elaborate new academy at Canberra? So far from the creation of a forestry school being "the one clear direction in which the central government can assist the States," it is the direction in which Commonwealth intervention is least required.

REGISTER 8-6-25.

CONSERVATORIUM ORGAN RECITAL.

Mr. Harold Wyld, F.R.C.O., gave the first of a series of 10 weekly midday organ recitals at the Elder Conservatorium on Thursday to an appreciative audience. A varied and interesting programme admitted of an effective demonstration of the capabilities of the instrument and the musician, and the result was a particularly happy one. Beginning with a strikingly beautiful "Overture in C sharp minor," by Johnson, the organist played a charmingly rhetorical "Minuet and trio" of Sterndale Bennett, and a diminutive but exquisite "Reverie" by Maurice Besley. A majestic "Prelude" of Karg Elert was followed by a melodious "Rondino" of Wolstenholme, and the florid Cesar Frank "Toccata" made a grand finale. Two songs by Miss Jean Sinclair provided a pleasing interlude, the vocalist's choice being Brahms's "Sapphic ode" and "Cradle song." The musical public are under a debt of gratitude to Dr. Davies (the Director) and to Mr. Wyld for the opportunity which these recitals present to hear good music free of charge, as they constitute a pleasant and profitable means of utilizing the luncheon hour on Thursdays. The recitals begin at 1.15 and end at 1.45 o'clock.

ADVERTISER 6-6-25

Sir Douglas Mawson returned on Friday morning from Melbourne, where he attended an inter-State geological conference.

ADVERTISER 8-6-25.

KUITPO FOREST CAMP SCHOOLS.

The camp schools held at Kuitpo Forest during the summer were concluded at the end of May. These schools were begun in the summer of 1921 and 1922, and have been continued during each successive year. They were inaugurated, stated the Minister of Education (Hon. L. L. Hill) on Saturday, with a view to stimulating a deeper interest in forestry amongst the secondary school boys in South Australia. The work, however, has been considerably extended, and the schools were held continuously from last December till May. Eight successive schools were conducted, in which 200 boys from the High Schools at Adelaide, Woodville, Unley, Norwood, Gawler, Port Pirie, Mount Gambier, and from St. Peter's College were instructed in elementary forestry and allied sciences. It has been customary to destroy the natural forests of South Australia without due consideration for the needs of posterity. The boys in these schools, living for a period of from ten to fourteen days in the forest, learn to appreciate the value of forests to the State, and it is hoped that the camps will exert an influence that will help to protect and extend the State's timber resources. Further, in the camp life, the students learn much in the way of self-discipline, initiative, and unselfish effort. The morning work consists of a study of the various species of trees—their habits, soil requirements, and uses; the functions of the various parts of the tree; the historical study of botany; the effects of forests on soil, climate, and water conservations; silvicultural work, nursery, broadcasting, and planting. The afternoon is employed in practical work, which consists of chaining and pacing, plane-tabling, pruning, measuring the heights of trees, and the assessment of volumes of standing trees. Trips are made to the saw mills, so that the students may see for themselves how the saw mill is laid out and how transport is effected. They watch the whole process of the log taken from the landing stage, passing through various stages of treatment, and finishing as a product of commercial value. Each student provides himself with a notebook, and on returning to the camp, he makes a permanent record of his observations. Adjacent to the camp, and surrounded by trees, an area of about three acres has been cleared for the students for a sports ground, and daily matches are played. About half a mile from the school there is a fine swimming pool, and a dip is much enjoyed by the students at the end of the day's work. In the evenings campfire talks, lantern lectures, and sing-songs pass the time happily and profitably. The master in charge, Mr. W. M. C. Symonds, B.Sc., has been specially trained for the work of instructor, and is a science graduate in the forestry course at the University of Adelaide.

FOREST CAMP SCHOOLS.

Work Done at Kuitpo.

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Camp Routine.

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NEWS 6-6-25.

Owing to ill-health Mr. J. G. N. Wauchope, secretary of the Adelaide Cement Company Limited, has been compelled to resign. Mr. Wauchope has been secretary of the company for a number of years, and his valuable services and organising ability have had much to do with the progress and prosperity of the concern. He will relinquish his position in about a month's time, and acting upon medical advice will seek an open-air life in the country.

NEWS 9-6-25.

ADULT EDUCATION

More Than 950 Students

Rapid growth had been made by the Workers' Educational Association of South Australia since its establishment in 1917. There are 950 students attending classes. Of these 600 are in the metropolitan area. Mr. A. Blagghal, B.A., holds four classes at Renmark and one at Berri. Mr. A. C. Garnett, M.A., lectures at Murray Bridge more than 60 students. Gawler is visited weekly by Mr. C. T. Madigan, M.A., B.Sc., and Mr. A. L. G. MacKay, M.A., has fortnightly classes at Freeling and Riverton. There are circles at Cadell and Bordertown, making 23 classes and two circles. In addition periodical lectures are given in various parts of the State. In 1917 there were 231 students, and the enrolments each year since then have been:—1918, 255; 1919, 263; 1920, 315; 1921, 328; 1922, 645; 1923, 693; 1924, 772; 1925, approximately 1,000. Much of this progress is the result of the work of Mr. G. McRitchie (secretary).

STREET FATALITY

KNOCKED DOWN BY MOTOR

Death of Miss Kentish, B.A.

Miss Dorothy Kentish, B.A., secretary of the Senior Girls' Department of the Young Women's Christian Association, died last night within an hour of having been knocked over by a motor car. She was 28 years of age.

The police report states that at 10.45 last night a motor car owned and driven by James C. Johnston, of Newbon street, Prospect, collided with and ran over Miss Kentish, of Beverley, fracturing her skull and causing abrasions



MISS DOROTHY KENTISH, B.A.

Secretary of Senior Girls' Department of the Adelaide Young Women's Christian Association, who died last night as a result of a motor car accident.

and injuries from which she died in the Adelaide Hospital at 11.30 the same night.

"The motor car was travelling along North terrace west in an easterly direction," continues the report, "and when at the intersection of King William road collided with the woman. The car struck the head of Miss Kentish, and ran over her. It then went on several yards before it was brought to a standstill. The woman was found by the constable lying on the roadway bleeding from the head and mouth. She was taken to the guard-room, Government House, and later in the police ambulance to the hospital."

GRADUATED AT UNIVERSITY

Miss Kentish was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kentish, Port road, Beverley, and her parents are prominent workers in the Baptist Church. She graduated Bachelor of Arts at the Adelaide University and went to the National Training School of the Young Women's Christian Association in Sydney after having had practical training at the Adelaide branch of the association.

Her first appointment was in Dunedin, New Zealand, where for four years she was secretary of the Girls' Department of the association. When she resigned her position to come to Adelaide to visit her parents the local association secured her services as secretary to the Senior Girls' Department. She was in the second year of her office and was also in charge of the Thrift Club.

When seen this morning Miss Annie M. Bignell (general secretary of the Adelaide Association) said:—"Miss Kentish's death has come as a terrible shock to us. We can hardly realise it. She left me yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock and told me she was going to a delightful party last night."

"She was one of the quiet workers of the world, absolutely devoted to personal service among the girls, who were extremely fond of her. Her place will be difficult to fill, as she was a woman of high ideals, and always had some plan in her mind which when executed would be in the interests of the girls in her charge."

PLANNING FIRST RALLY.

"It is a pathetic circumstance that she was busy only yesterday planning details for the first rally of the senior girls to be held on Saturday. She had arranged an impressive little ceremonial to conclude the rally, at which all the clubs will again swear allegiance to the association. We shall adopt her plans," added Miss Bignell, "and now the ceremony will have a deeper significance." Speaking as one of the board of directors, Lady Verso (honorary treasurer) said, "I frequently came in contact with Miss Kentish, and was much impressed by her quiet, unobtrusive, but cheerful manner when she met the girls of the association. Her death has come as a great shock to us all, and she will be sadly missed."