

The herald 1/4/25.

SAVE THE BAND

VIEW OF MR. FOOTE

Corporation Levy Favored

Music has no more devoted champion in this State than Mr. W. H. Foote, A.R.C.M. The disbandment of the Municipal Tramways Band, of which he is conductor, and all that it represents, he regards as a great loss to the State.

"When Mr. W. G. T. Goodman (chief engineer and general manager of the Tramways Trust) formed the Tramways Symphonic Band he undoubtedly placed a gem in the crown of this city of culture's intellectual pursuits," said Mr. Foote in an interview today. "Now that it is



MR. W. H. FOOTE, A.R.C.M., who suggests the levying of a municipal rate to subsidise the Municipal Tramways Band.

lost who is going to replace it? Adelaide is under a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Goodman for providing concerts of the highest and most popular class. Nowhere in Australia has such music been given, particularly by amateurs such as are the members of this band, which, by the way, is composed of almost every known wind instrument, including flutes, oboes, clarinets, saxophones, bassoons, French horns, fluges, trumpets, trombones, euphoniums, tubas, string bass, tympani, and xylophones. Why, no city in the southern hemisphere possesses anything like this combination.

"Questions have been asked why the band does not give more concerts. It is simply because it cannot. Even so, I do not know of any place on earth where so many concerts, namely, 60 or 70 a year, are given by an amateur band, and it is obviously a prodigious waste of ability for the band to burn the candle at both ends; in fact, it is a physical impossibility for the men to stand the strain of additional concerts." Parenthetically Mr. Foote added, "Last year I had about 15 men on the sick list, and I attributed this sickness to overwork."

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS

"Every member of the band has to labor at some other occupation during the day and is consequently more or less fatigued when he comes to practice at night, therefore the magnificent programmes which give such delight to so many are the result of much nervous strain and privation. If there are to be more concerts, and I think there should be, then the band must be a permanently employed body of professional musicians.

"By this I do not in any way wish to minimise the magnificent efforts of the numerous brass bands in this city, and my own band in particular," Mr. Foote explained. "If this scheme should come to pass a roster could be made out, providing a musical programme for four or six days a week. Performances should be given once a week at the Botanic Garden, the Zoo, and at the Rotunda by the Torrens Lake. One weekly mid-day concert should be given at the Town Hall from 12 to 2 p.m., with an interval from 12.30 to 1.15 to allow of the hall being cleared and both sections of the lanching public to enjoy the performance."

Reverting to the present state of affairs he said, "There is no doubt but that a city possessing a first-rate musical organisation has an asset of incalculable value. Apart from the pleasure derived therefrom by the citizens, it is a good intellectual argument for visitors to admire."

To emphasise his point Mr. Foote continued:—"The pride of a crack regiment is generally the excellence of its band, and it is known that a good band enables a regiment to maintain a higher standard of discipline and give status superior to that of a regiment without a band. In fact, a regiment without a band seems to have lost its cap badge, which is an emblem of achievement and history. Similarly, a city possessing a permanent musical organisation is in a better position, from a communal point of view, than a city muddling along and trying to pose as a patron of music with no pretensions to such a claim. These conditions exist in Adelaide I am sorry to say, and the stigma of this unworthy pretence can be effectively obliterated by establishing a permanent musical organisation and thus enabling this city of culture to obtain its fullest intellectual development."

PLAN TO KEEP BAND

Asked the best means of preserving the band Mr. Foote replied:—"If a first-rate orchestra or band is wanted the best way of preserving it is to put it in the same category as the Art Gallery, the Museum and kindred institutions, and subsidise it. There are three ways by which this could be done: by Government subsidy, by levying a municipal rate, or by getting a body of wealthy citizens to guarantee a fund for its maintenance, such as is done in Capetown, where the band is maintained by a select committee of citizens."

Of these three methods of subsidy Mr. Foote expressed a preference for the corporation levy.

"For instance," he said, "if a farthing rate were decided on its payment would only amount to the sacrifice of a packet of cigarettes, and would at the same time permit of the engagement of local singers. If this were accomplished both singers and band would be enabled to attain a degree of excellence never before achieved, as they would then be able to devote themselves wholly and solely to the art and practice of music."

In concluding Mr. Foote expressed the hope that one or other of these means would be adopted to preserve for both the citizens of the present and the generations to come, "a living testimonial to the culture of this country."

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GRADUATES IN UNION

Community Spirit Prominent

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

With the number of young men and women who desire to study at the Adelaide University ever increasing, the need for co-operation among them and the necessity for bringing them into closer touch with the community become apparent.

In 1920 the Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide was formed, the first president being Professor Brailsford Robertson. He held office for four years, and was succeeded by Professor Harold Davies, who holds the position a present.

The objects of the association are to secure publicity of the needs and the achievements of the University, and to promote recognition by the State of the services of the University; to suggest new and desirable fields of University activity to act in aid of the Council of the University in matters affecting the physical, moral and social welfare of the students; to use influence to promote the social aspects of University life among the faculty, students, and graduates, and to promote such other advances and reforms as may appear advisable in their interests; to advocate measures for the provision of residential accommodation for the students; and to assist graduates to obtain useful and profitable employment.

GREAT PROMISE

Interviewed regarding the association this morning, Dr. Davies said that one of the out-comes of the movement had been the establishment of a University Club which was now fully formed and occupying a fine suite of rooms in the top floor of the Liberal Club building, North terrace. Professor Brailsford Robertson was president and Mr. N. Hargrave secretary.

"It gives abundant promise," said the doctor, "of an extremely active existence, and it is anticipated that the present quarters of the club will speedily have to be enlarged. Herberto the facilities



Prof. Harold Davies, Mus. Doc., president of the Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide.

for social life among the students have been limited, and it is a general belief that social intercourse is a great advantage to a University course. The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge leave an indelible mark on the life and character of graduates by reason of their association with men of outstanding calibre.

"A further delightful opportunity for social intercourse, though of transient nature, is that which has been established by the annual commemoration luncheon of the Graduates' Association. This takes place in the open air, the Botanic Park being the chosen spot, and it gives the faculty and the graduates a chance to meet the new graduates, welcoming them into the fold and making them feel the goodwill of their fellows.

"Although we as an association make no claim that we have been in any way directly instrumental in the establishment of St. Mark's Residential College," continued the doctor, "it is none the less a source of great satisfaction that such a college is now an accomplished fact—as a realisation of one of the definite objects of the Graduates' Association."

STUDENTS' UNION AN OBJECTIVE

"Our present objective is the formation of a Students' Union, plans for which have already been fully discussed and approved. Such a building as is contemplated will provide an up-to-date theatre which will be available for lectures, debates, dramatic and operatic performances. There will be a full suite of club and dressing rooms and a commodious refectory in which professors, lecturers, and students will meet daily in the lunch hour and enjoy the fullest opportunity for friendly social intercourse. Already owing to the fine efforts of Professor Henderson, £6,000 has been subscribed, and the only difficulty in the way of an immediate forward movement has been that of procuring a suitable site. However, with the departure of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society from the Jubilee Oval this obstacle will shortly be removed and the realisation of this objective will be made possible.

VISION OF FUTURE

"I have a vision of the Adelaide University of the future," continued the doctor, "occupying the whole of the present area and including the Exhibition Building and grounds, the School of Mines—which is already an integral part of the University—and stretching down Frome road to Victoria Drive, thus including the whole of the Jubilee Oval and with the river and University sports ground as a delightful background.

"It is easy to visualize the fine accommodation that would thus be secured for future development, the spacious grounds of the Jubilee Oval affording ample room even for the erection of residential colleges as well as much needed new buildings. After all, what better way is there of fulfilling the prime objects of the Graduates' Association as well as realising the ideals of the far-sighted and generous citizen who has so liberally endowed the University, and to bring it more nearly in touch with the life of the community than an urban site, which is surely the truest and best ideal for this purpose? The University would thus be planted in the very hearts of the people."

Referring to the desire to assist graduates in the direction of employment, Dr. Davies said that the association wanted to bring together men who had been specially trained, to let them come in contact with the industrial needs of

the community, and put them in positions where they rightly belonged. On the other hand, the association wanted men of business and enterprise to bring their problems to the University and to further that object, it was hoped shortly to establish a bureau which would be effective in securing the most useful employment for the special talents of the men and women who had been trained in the University.

JUBILEE NEXT YEAR

In conclusion Dr. Davies said: "The activities which are thus represented in the objects of the Graduates' Association are especially timely at the present juncture, seeing that the University of Adelaide will in 1926 reach its jubilee. Such a momentous anniversary in its history may well constitute a fresh starting point for new and greatly enlarged activities, so that by the aid of further generous provision on the part of our wealthy and public-spirited citizens, the succeeding 50 years may show a far more glorious achievement."

The officers of the Graduates' Association are:—Sir George Murray, Chancellor of the University, patron; Professor Harold Davies, president; Mr. Cecil T. Madigan, vice-president; Mr. F. W. Eardley, treasurer; Mr. D. H. Hollidge, secretary; Dr. Helen Mayo, Professor Brailsford Robertson, Miss K. Magarey, Mr. E. W. Holden, and Mr. S. H. Skipper (committee).

The first meeting for this year will be held on Tuesday evening next in the Prince of Wales lecture room at the University, when Dr. R. W. Cilento will give an address on "The Development of New Guinea."

Advertiser 2/4/25.

"FRESHERS" LUNCHEON.

In order to break the ice for country students to the Conservatorium of Music, the Students' Common Room Committee yesterday organised a luncheon in entertainment of new students, of whom there are nearly 100 this term. Professor Harold Davies (Director of the Conservatorium) presided and referred to the various activities of the University and the Conservatorium.

Reg. 2/4/25.

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY DEGREES.

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.

The Consul-General for France in Australia has advised the Prime Minister's Department that certain university degrees conferred in Australia entitle graduates to be candidates for certain French degrees. Those who possess the degrees of LL.D., Adelaide or Sydney, or the LL.M. Melbourne or Tasmania can take the French degree of Docteur en Droit. The B.Sc. of Adelaide, Melbourne, Queensland, Sydney, Tasmania, or Western Australia is equivalent to that of Docteur es Sciences, while the B.A. of the same group of universities compares with that of Docteur es Lettres.

Advertiser 3/4/25.

Dr. R. W. Cilento, a distinguished alumnus of the Adelaide University, is visiting his native city. After graduating in medicine Dr. Cilento was appointed demonstrator in anatomy, and was the first to hold such a position under Professor Wood Jones. Afterwards he visited the Malay States to study tropical medicine, and was later sent by the Federal Government on a world tour to continue his studies in this branch of medicine. On his return he was made director of the Institute for Researches in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. In carrying out the duties of this position he has travelled extensively in New Guinea, and on Tuesday next he is to give to the Graduates' Association an address on development in New Zealand.

Advertiser 3/4/25.

GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.

TUESDAY, April 7, at 8 p.m.

in PRINCE OF WALES LECTURE ROOM, LECTURE BY

DR. R. W. CILENTO

"Development in New Guinea."

All Graduates and their Friends invited.