

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

MAJOR-GENERAL HORE-RUTHVEN.

A VICTORIA CROSS WINNER.

V.C. C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O.

LONDON, January 6.

The announcement was made today that Major-General the Hon. Alexander Gore Arkwright Hore-Ruthven, had been appointed Governor of South Australia in succession to Sir Tom Bridges.

Like Sir Tom Bridges, Major-General Hore-Ruthven has had a distinguished military career. It will indeed be pleasing news to people of this State that they are to have as Governor a Victoria Cross winner. This decoration was awarded him for gallantry when he commanded a camel corps detachment at the Battle of Gedaref and in subsequent operations in the Soudan in 1899. In the Great War he also played a prominent part, both in France and Gallipoli, and he was severely wounded.

Major-General Hore-Ruthven, who is the second son of the 8th Baron Ruthven, was born at Windsor on July 6, 1872, and therefore is 55 years of age. In 1908 he married Zara, a daughter of Mr. John Pollok, of Lismany, County Galway, and they have one son. The new Governor was educated at Eton. His military career dates from 1891, when he joined the 3rd Battalion of Highland Light Infantry. In 1898 he was attached to the Egyptian army in the Soudan, and besides winning the Victoria Cross at Gedaref, he

was awarded the English and Egyptian medals with clasp, and was three times mentioned in dispatches. He was gazetted to the Cameron Highlanders in 1899, and remained a member of that famous regiment until 1903, when he was appointed special service officer in Somaliland, a post which he filled for about a year. Back in England he received the position of military secretary to the Viceroy of Ireland, and when the Earl of Dudley became Governor-General of Australia in 1908, Major-General Hore-Ruthven came out to Australia as his military secretary. It will thus be seen that Australian life and conditions will not be new to him. He was, while in the Commonwealth, attached to the First Dragoon Guards, but he transferred to the Welsh Guards in 1915. His record during the Great War is one of which he can be proud. He served during 1914 and 1915, and after recovering from his wounds returned to the front and remained there from 1916 to 1918. His war decorations include the D.S.O. and bar, C.B., and C.M.G., and he was mentioned in dispatches five times. He commanded the Welsh Guards between 1920 and 1924, since when he has been in charge of the 1st Infantry Brigade of Guards at Aldershot. He now holds the rank of major-general.

ADELAIDE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1927

WHERE SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE MEET

It has long become a trite observation that the prosperity of South Australia depends in the main upon its agricultural industry. The passing years but serve to emphasise the need for assisting to foster and expand the operations of the man on the land. It was gratifying, therefore, to find complete unanimity among members of all parties in Parliament regarding the necessity and value of the Agricultural Education Bill.

The measure provides for an annual grant to the University of Adelaide to extend agricultural research work at the Waite Agricultural Institute. The amount for the current year is fixed at £5,000, that for next year at £7,000, after which it will be increased by £1,000 annually, so that by 1936-7 it will be £15,000.

The step taken by the Government is the direct outcome of a recommendation by Dr. A. E. V. Richardson (Director of the Waite Institute) following a world tour which he made at the request of the late Labor Government.

In providing the money South Australia is following in the footsteps of South Africa, Canada, Japan, Germany, Sweden, Java, and other countries.

Since, as Edward Gibbon has emphasised in his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," "all taxes must at last fall upon agriculture," it becomes the duty of the Government to harness science and agriculture in order to ensure maximum production.

In developing our agricultural lands the practical must always go hand in hand with the scientific. That is just where the Waite Institute comes in. The value of the work already accomplished there by Dr. Richardson and his capable staff cannot be overestimated, but it has only just begun.

Already the cause of the tomato wilt disease has been ascertained. But such pests and diseases as lucerne flea, codlin moth, dried fruit grub, and other enemies of the agriculturist remain to be investigated. Top dressing of pastures, soil analysis, and many other subjects are receiving attention. Scientific research is necessarily slow and money is required for it. The Government is taking the first step toward providing it.

Brilliant scientists have been produced by South Australia, among whom Dr. Richardson ranks high. It is reasonable to assume, therefore, that the Government will realise its ambition to secure for the State highly trained scientific agriculturists through the operation of the provisions of the Act, which has received the well-deserved blessing of every member of both Houses of Parliament.

REC. 12. 1. 28

Professor Walter C. Howchin, F.G.S., to-day celebrated the eighty-third anniversary of his birth. He is one of South Australia's oldest scientists, and had a long connection with the University of Adelaide. He has specialized in geology, and is one of the greatest authorities upon that subject in the State. His research work concerning the glacial period has attracted world-wide attention. From 1899 to 1904 he was lecturer on mineralogy at the Adelaide School of Mines. From 1902 he was lecturer in geology and palaeontology at the University of Adelaide. In 1918 he received the appointment of honorary professor of geology, a position he resigned in 1920, and he was permitted to retain the title of honorary professor. Subsequently he was appointed Emeritus



PROFESSOR WALTER HOWCHIN, F.G.S.

professor. Professor Howchin is a native of Norwich, England. He began his career as a Methodist minister, but later on turned his attention to geology, in which he had been always greatly interested. Not only has the esteemed octogenarian done much for Australian science by his researches, but he has perpetuated many of his discoveries in a series of profound articles. For many years he was secretary, locally, for the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. One of his favourite branches of activity in recent years has been the South Australian branch of the Royal Society for the Advancement of Science. He has edited their publication for 27 years, and still fulfils that post with undiminished ability and vigour. Outside his own State he has secured recognition, the Royal Society of New South Wales having awarded him the Clarke Memorial Medal. In London, the Geological Society specially recognised his work, and the Association for the Advancement of Science bestowed the coveted honour the Ferdinand von Mueller Medal. The South Australian Royal Society's annual volume has become of great repute, and its pages are always enriched by articles from the pen of the editor. Professor Howchin continues to follow the latest discoveries in palaeontology and geology at his home, Erskine street, Hyde Park, and keeps wonderfully active.

ADV. 12. 1. 28

THE DIPLOMA IN COMMERCE.

The prospectus for the current year issued by the Board of Commercial Studies of the University of Adelaide, states that the course for the diploma in commerce has been revised. Several of the optional subjects have been removed, and advanced courses in accountancy, commercial law, statistics, and public finance and administration have been substituted for them. The new optional subjects substituted for the old are of a higher grade in difficulty and importance, and are designed to provide specialised training. It is hoped by the revision to meet the demands of the commercial world, which (the prospectus states) more and more require special attainments, but students may qualify in one or more of the branches of study. Experience has shown that, in addition to the specialised advanced work, students require help in developing their powers of verbal expression. To develop their command of English and to assist in creating at the same time a taste for good literature, a special course in English composition has been provided. It is expected that this course will prove of great value, and will raise the standard of general education of those whose training is under the direction of the Board of Commercial Studies. The lectures for the diploma number in all approximately 330. The course of study occupies four years, but students who desire to do so may extend the work over five or more years. All the lectures are given in the evening, and begin in the middle of March, ending in October.

NEWS 17-1-28

LAND PROBLEMS

More Science for Adelaide

DR. DAVIES, OF WALES

One of the most recent acquisitions to the staff of Waite Agricultural Research Institute is Dr. G. G. Davies. Like most of the men whom Prof. A. E. V. Richardson (director) has selected for the important investigations conducted at the institute, Dr. Davies is young, enthusiastic, and has an excellent record of achievement.

Dr. Davies is a graduate of the University of Wales, where he obtained his doctorate of philosophy. He did research work at a well-known Welsh plant breeding station.

Founded 10 years ago, when the British Government began to realise the importance of scientific agriculture, this station has achieved much in its comparatively brief history. The problems of the Welsh agriculturist, however, are not the problems of the Australian.

"Perhaps the only problem the two have in common is that both want feed from February to April," said Dr. Davies, "and even there the circumstances differ. During those months it is winter that makes feeding difficult for the Briton, while the Australian is fighting against summer conditions."

Labor Costs Greater

Dr. Davies exploded a popular belief when he said that the labor costs of the British farmer were not only as great but even greater than those of the Australian.

"The British farm laborers take three times as long as the Australians to turn over an acre," he explained. "They cannot do things on such a large scale as the Australians. Suppose a farmer tried to take a 10-furrow plough into an average British field. From 75 to 100 acres is the usual size of a holding—he could never get it out again."