

FENCES THAT MAR VICTORIA SQUARE

Citizens of Adelaide still await an announcement of the intention of the City Council concerning the proposal that the iron railings round Victoria Square should be removed at the expense of the University and re-erected on the property of that institution facing Victoria drive, near Torrens Lake.

A sub-committee of the Markets and Park Committee of the corporation has not yet submitted its report on the subject. A question of this nature should be decided without delay, and when it is borne in mind that the offer was made by the University authorities more than a month ago, it is to be hoped that the attitude of the council will be revealed at its meeting this afternoon.

The enhanced beauty of other reserves which has resulted from the removal of enclosing fences provides a precedent which should serve to dissipate any hesitancy on the part of the council in consenting to the scheme. The lawn-covered areas at Brougham place and between St. Peter's Cathedral and City Bridge have been the subject of much admiration since the barriers about them were removed.

Hurtle Square was enclosed by an iron fence of a design similar to that at Victoria Square, but the council in its wisdom saw fit to order the removal of the structure, and no regrets have been expressed at the action. Any person who visits Hurtle Square is immediately struck by the added beauty of that reserve through an untrammelled view being given of grassy swards and shady trees. An inspection should persuade the visitor of the urgent need for like improvement to Victoria Square.

Ideas concerning city beautification have changed greatly since the inartistic iron structure was erected in the heart of Adelaide. People have come to realise that much of the charm of this metropolitan oasis is destroyed by the railings which have in them a hint of prison bars.

Objections in the past to the proposal for their removal have been chiefly of a financial nature, and the city authorities have been unwilling to incur expenditure in doing away with the unsightly palisade.

The offer of the University to remove the fence without cost to the city clears away this difficulty, and provides an opportunity which is not likely to recur. Citizens therefore await with eager anticipation an intimation from members of the council that they are agreeable to the proposal. The enhancement of the beauty of the central square would then soon be an accomplished fact and the comeliness of the city still further advanced.

REG. 2-10-28

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION

Sir Douglas Mawson Interviewed.

The Byrd Expedition.

Sir Douglas Mawson, Professor in Geology and Mineralogy at the University of Adelaide, who has been absent from the State almost from the beginning of the year, resumed his duties at the University on Monday.

In The Register of Monday a short interview appeared with Sir Douglas, who said that during his trip abroad he had investigated the possibility of further exploration in the Antarctic, but at the present time he was not in a position to discuss any project. However, in the course of a chat with a representative of The Register on Monday, he gave interesting particulars regarding a sojourn he made in New Zealand when on his way to England.

"While I was in New Zealand," said Sir Douglas, "I had an opportunity of making a geological examination of a portion of the famous sounds in the South Island, where there are very fine examples of former glacial erosion. The fjords there are similar to the well-known Norwegian fjords, but are much more magnificent, owing to the fact that black beech forests, intermingled with pine trees shaded by tree ferns, clothe the mountain sides right to the water's edge. These wonderful dense forests are stocked with red deer, and more recently with moose and wapiti, a species of large Canadian deer. These 'fellows' are rapidly increasing in number, so that the region is a perfect paradise for the hunter and the fisherman. This portion of the South Island is an enormous national reserve; indeed, as a wonderful playground the world has nothing better. When an adjoining port is opened it will be only a three days' run from Australia, and the jaded business man or the invalid



SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON.

will be able to spend a delightful week on these fjords amid a vista of snow-capped mountains and entrancing valleys, lakes, and forests."

Rivers Over-run with Salmon.

"Which are the principal lakes?" "Te Anau and Manapouri. From these lakes the River Waiau—pronounced 'Y.O.'—runs away to the sea. It is heavily stocked with Atlantic salmon—the best of the salmon species. Experiments were carried on for many years with a view to the acclimatization of these salmon, and they eventually proved successful, so much so that the fish are now spreading to other rivers. Further north in the South Island many of the rivers are stocked with Pacific salmon, and the fish are being netted in great quantities. They are not so choice for eating as the Atlantic salmon, but there is little difference between the two when they are canned. I do not know what New Zealand is doing in the matter of salmon canning, but if they have not started it, I should imagine that it will

not be long before they commence the industry, as the rivers are being over-run with the fish. In view of the large quantity of tinned salmon imported by the Commonwealth from America, I can see no reason why our friends in the Dominion should not enter for this trade."

Wonderful Water Power.

"Another thing with which I was particularly struck," continued Sir Douglas, "was the immense water power resources of New Zealand. There are water power propositions available which offer electric power, through the medium of turbines, at the phenomenally small figure of about £1 per h.p. a year, and, furthermore, this power is available on the water front in deep harbours. I am convinced, on account of this, that there will be extensive industrial developments in New Zealand, particularly in such directions as the fixation of nitrogen from the atmosphere. By this means nitrogenous fertilizers will be available for use in the Dominion, and, no doubt, also, for export abroad. There is no question but that power can be developed at the deep water harbour fronts in New Zealand at a lower price than any other place in the world."

Exploring the Antarctic.

Speaking on the subject of further Antarctic exploration, Sir Douglas Mawson said:—"While in England I made enquiries in regard to a possible extension of exploration in the Australasian section of the Antarctic. Certain arrangements have been made, but nothing has been finalized. However, I am hopeful that something may be done next year, and it is expected that the beautifully fitted, scientific vessel, The Discovery, will, through the good offices of the Colonial Office, be available. In regard to Commander Byrd's expedition, some portion of it has already set out, and are making their headquarters at Dunedin. It is a strongly equipped effort, and consists of three ships, furnished with five aeroplanes. The total number of men engaged is said to exceed 200, and the expedition is well supplied with funds from the Rockefeller Foundation and Mr. Henry Ford. It is understood that a large body of scientists of high standing are members of the party, so it is reasonable to assume that important scientific results will accrue from their work. They will work in the Southern Ross Sea, and their main base will be where Amundsen made his headquarters at the Bay of Whales. It is known that calm conditions prevail in the vicinity for the greater portion of the year, consequently the inclusion of the aeroplanes in their equipment may prove of great advantage. It is the only place known to-day where I would be inclined to use aeroplanes from a land base."

REG. 3-10-28

AMERICAN GENEROSITY.

Princely Gift to Cambridge.

LONDON, October 1.

Cambridge University is to receive a gift of £700,000 from the educational board of the Rockefeller Foundation. This offer includes the contribution of £250,000 towards the new university library designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, the building of which will be undertaken without delay. The remainder of the gift will be devoted to a larger proposal, providing for developments in the physical and biological studies of the university. The condition is attached that the university should raise the balance of the sum required for the completion of the whole scheme.

The Vice-Chancellor (Rev. G. A. Weekes) announced to-day that it would be necessary to raise £229,000 from outside sources.

NEWS 4-10-28

Dr. Brailsford Robertson (Professor of Physiology at Adelaide University) arrived in Sydney yesterday on his way to Queensland. He will visit Queensland pastoral areas in connection with his investigations for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research into the nutritive values of fodders for sheep.

ADV. 5-10-28

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

The council of the University of Adelaide has decided to create a professorship of economics, and steps have been taken to invite applications for the chair.

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GRANTS FOR RESEARCH.

The trustees of the Commonwealth Science and Industry Endowment Fund have decided for the calendar year 1929 to make £1,500 available for distribution to provide assistance to persons engaged in scientific research. Applications, which should be submitted to the acting secretary to the trustees (Mr. H. P. Breen, 314 Albert street, East Melbourne) not later than November 1 of this year, are invited for grants under the headings:—Personal payments to investigators made only to investigators of proved powers to enable them to devote to some specific research time which would otherwise be given to paid work; preference given to persons whose careers lie in research work. It is not intended, for example, to assist persons who are seeking research degrees as avenues to employment which will not include research. At end of the period for which payment is made the investigator will be required to report on the progress of the investigation. Interim reports may be called for. Grants for the provision of laboratory or clerical assistance—The trustees will recommend grants under this heading only for the purpose of assisting an investigator in a specific research in which he is personally engaged. Grants for equipments, &c.—All apparatus of a permanent character purchased out of a grant is and remains the property of the trustees, who will determine, in consultation with the investigator, its disposal when the research is completed. An applicant must state fully the nature of the work which he or she proposes to undertake, the amount of grant sought, and, as accurately as may be possible, the manner in which the grant will be spent. Though the sum now made available is an increase on that granted last year, it is still comparatively small, and it is obvious therefore that no big grants can be made; but it is believed that there are many experienced scientific investigators in Australia to whom some small measure of assistance will be very acceptable. Such aid is intended for workers of proved powers, not for beginners.

REG. 5-10-28

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

The Council of the University, at a special meeting held on Thursday, resolved to postpone the last day of entry for degree and diploma examinations to Friday, October 12, and the date on which degree and diploma examinations begin has been postponed to November 19. No alteration has been made in the dates of public examinations.

ADV. 5-10-28

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

The council of the University on Thursday resolved to postpone the last day of entry for degree and diploma examinations till Friday next, and the date on which degree and diploma examinations begin has been postponed till November 19. No alteration has been made in the dates of public examinations.

ADV. 5-10-28

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY.

FUND REACHES £103,649.

Sydney, October 4. After 12 months the controllers of the Sydney University Fund have obtained £103,649 towards their appeal for £250,000 to help the funds of various faculties.

REG. 6-10-28

"COMMERCE."

The October issue of Commerce, the magazine of the Adelaide University Commerce Students' Association, contains a number of exceptionally informative articles, and admirably fulfils the intention of its editors to interest business executives as well as the large student body. The special articles are of topical interest, and merit the attention of commercial men, reflecting in some cases the results of special research work. Some of the subjects dealt with are as follows:—"The Economic Outlook of Australia," by L. G. Melville (which is reprinted in this issue); "Causes of Business Failures in South Australia—a Research Project," by W. M. Ashby; "Bankruptcy," by B. D. Whitwell; "Federal Taxation," by A. B. Giles; and some trenchant remarks by R. J. M. Lucas on mistakes made in South Australian development because of a lack of contour maps. The issue also contains an account of the growth of the manufacturing business of Foy & Gibson's, and much other interesting matter.