

DENTAL BILL

"STANDARD MUST BE MAINTAINED"

To the Editor Sir—There has been much discussion with regard to the Bill introduced by Mr. Tassie to amend the Dental Act and after reading the case for the Operative Dental Assistants' Association I think the issue is quite clear—that they (the operatives) wish to enter the ranks of the registered dentists by the easiest possible method, without inconvenience to themselves.

Mr. Alford states that some of these men have had from eight to 20 years' practical experience. If that is so, by now they should be quite capable of taking the present Dental Board examination; otherwise they have not been making the best use of their time.

Many other registered dentists have passed the examination, and were able to earn their livelihood at the same time as they were preparing for the dexams. I trust Mr. Tassie and the Government will leave the matter in the capable hands of the Dental Board. I am, Sir, &c., F. W. O. CHEESMAN.

"AGAINST INTERESTS OF PUBLIC"

Sir—The Dental Bill now before Parliament is a clever attempt to foist upon the public certain men as registered dentists who shall conform to an examination, which was the law some thirty years ago. If the public wishes to be treated by men who have passed an examination which was required thirty years ago, one can only say that the public is a superlative ass. Both the University and the Dental Board require a very much advanced status in preliminary education and pre-examination studies for candidates for the dental profession, and this is entirely in the best interests of the public.

All the present candidates knew quite well that they were not entitled to registration as dentists except through the prescribed channels, and they have known it for thirteen years. This is obvious, because the Dental Board has refused them, and thus they must resort to political measures. This in itself is the most damning evidence against them.

Since these men knew quite well that they had no standing, nor hope of registration during the past thirteen years, the best that can be done for them is to take their names and allow them to be assistants for so long as they wish to remain in that calling. The idea of making them registered dentists upon a system which is some thirty years behind the times, even for Adelaide, with neither preliminary educational requirements, apprenticeship, nor conformity to modern ideas of training, both academic and practical, is in itself nothing more than a retrograde movement and certainly not in the best interests of the public.—I am, Sir, &c., ARTHUR CHAPMAN, North-terrace.

Adv. 31-10-30

The death occurred yesterday, at the Memorial Hospital, of Dr. Walter Henry Russell, aged 49 years, of Semaphore-road, Semaphore. A son of Mr. Walter Russell, he was born at Port Adelaide, where he attended the local public school. At St. Peter's College he was a champion sprinter, and a leading member of the football team. He secured his medical degree at the University of Adelaide in 1905. At Kadina he was associated in practice with Dr. H. A. Powell for six years. During 15 years at Yorketown he closely identified himself with the public life of the district. For five years he was mayor and was also president of the local racing club. As president of the Hospital Association, he did much to promote efficiency and extend the facilities of the hospital system in country towns. In 1926 Dr. Russell settled in practice at Semaphore. He was a member of the Port Adelaide and city racing clubs. He was married to Stella, the eldest daughter of Mr. A. H. Skinner, of Alberton. The widow and a daughter and son survive.

Adv. 31-10-30

SOUTHWARD HO!

Discovery Leaves on November 22

STAFF TO MEET IN HOBART

Melbourne, October 30.

The Antarctic Expedition ship Discovery will leave Williamstown on Saturday at noon for Hobart, on her way south.

staff are on board, and the remainder will join the vessel at Hobart, with Sir Douglas Mawson, the leader of the expedition.

The Discovery will leave Hobart on November 22. The last of the general stores are being taken aboard, and loading operations will be completed to-morrow.

ORGANISING FOR VOYAGE

Sir Douglas Mawson's Work

NO LEISURE HOURS ON BOARD

The vast organisation necessary for an expedition to the Antarctic was revealed by Sir Douglas Mawson, leader of the expedition, on Wednesday morning when he returned from a meeting of the expedition committee in Melbourne.

He said that it would be necessary for him to be in Hobart eleven days before the Discovery sailed from there in order to make a personal check of the stores and scientific instruments carried, and also their accessibility. That was most important, because on a journey where there would be no ports of call for many weeks it was essential that not one item of the necessary foodstuffs and equipment was omitted.



Sir Douglas Mawson

Sir Douglas announced that he would leave for Hobart on Saturday week. It had been planned, he said, that the Discovery should make its departure from Hobart on November 15, but a postponement to November 22 had been necessary because a whaling vessel which was to have supplied the Discovery with coal could provide only 100 tons instead of 150. He said that the committee had appointed Lieutenant Oom as naval surveyor and Mr. A. L. Kennedy in place of Commander Moyse, who was unable to make the trip for health reasons. He added that the Discovery's mascot would be "Nigger," the cat which made the last trip to the Antarctic. On the last trip the cat fell overboard in the icy waters of the south and was saved by a member of the crew. On the next trip he will be the special responsibility of the boatswain.

EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING

Discussing the equipment, Sir Douglas said that a most careful survey was necessary of the scientific instruments because the whole purpose of the voyage might be frustrated if something were not included in the kit. Special attention would be given also to clothing for members of the party. Furs of a special type were imported from Europe, but the other articles were made in Australia. Part of the clothing would be made from Vicar's Pilot cloth, a Sydney-made material of outstanding quality. It was so heavy and pure that it defied the chilliest of the iceberg breezes.

Asked what he would do on the boat in his leisure hours, Sir Douglas replied that there would be no leisure for him, and for a few other members of the party. Once she set sail from Hobart the Discovery would be enabled to employ two unqualified operative assistants. At last, we are making progress. There would be no slack periods. In the limited time available it would be necessary to take every advantage to study conditions and make observations.

It is expected that the party will be absent from Australia until April next year. Sir Douglas said that once the water began to freeze, which occurred at the end of March or early in April, it would be impossible to carry out further work. This would necessitate the Discovery's return.

Adv. 7-11-30

The Nobel literature prize for 1930 has been awarded to the American writer Mr. Sinclair Lewis.

PIANOFORTE RECITAL

Advanced Students Do Well

(By "M. G. G.")

The third, and final, recital by advanced students of Mr. I. G. Reimann was given in Elder Hall last night before a large and enthusiastic audience.

Mrs. Florence Human opened the programme with Henselt's "Etude, No. 5," exhibiting excellent style and poetic feeling. In the Dohnanyi "Rhapsody" the pianist played with good interpretative sense.

Miss Joan Bensley chose the Brahms "Rhapsody No. 1" (Opus 79) as her first number. Although well done, a rather excessive tempo marred her performance, as a consequence of which much of the requisite dignity of the work was lost. The Liszt "Trovatore Paraphrase" was well played, the pianist showing excellent technical qualities.

Too Much Speed

In conjunction with Miss Lucy Daenke Miss Bensley also gave "Polonaise" (Op. 77), by Saint-Saens. Although otherwise a creditable performance, the speed at which the number was taken was much too great for a polonaise.

Miss Lucy Daenke selected the rather ambitious "Carnaval" of Schumann. At times her technique was not equal to its heavy demands, although, apart from a few lapses of memory, Miss Daenke secured a fair measure of success. The Chopin "Nocturne in C Minor" suited her much better. She played this with artistic restraint. In the well-known "Black Note Study" Miss Daenke's memory failed again. It is much better to play from the music if one's memory proves unreliable.

Miss Joan Bensley joined Miss Daenke in a sparkling "Scherzo" by Saint-Saens. This was excellently done, the ensemble being particularly well balanced.

Brilliant Pianist

Miss Marjorie Adamson must be selected as the most successful of the pianists, her work with Miss Gwen Adamson, who gave excellent support at the second piano, in Liszt's "Hungarian Fantasia" calling for high praise. This was brilliantly played, with clean technique, rhythm, and style, the climax being gradually built up in most effective fashion. Miss Adamson also played Schumann's "Fantasia" (Op. 17), and gave a virile reading of Chopin's "E Major Scherzo."

Vocal relief was afforded by Miss Gwen Paul and Mr. Noel Stephens. Miss Paul's pleasing soprano voice was heard to advantage in the difficult "Vocal Polka" by Muller. Mr. Stephens has a fine baritone voice and much dramatic instinct. His well-chosen songs, "Had a Horse," "Far and High," and "Shepherd See Thy Horse's Foaming Mane," were sung with artistry.

A word of praise must be given to Miss Jean Painter, whose artistic accompaniments were of invaluable assistance to the singers.

Adv. 3-11-30

DENTISTS BILL

"PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE THE BEST SAFEGUARD"

To the Editor

Sir—The statement by Dr. Moore (president of the Dental Association) to the Dental Board that 90 per cent. of the dentists were opposed to any alteration of the Dentists' Act, was exposed by the figures I gave that a majority of the dentists exercising their vote in connection with the secret ballot taken six months ago favored the abolition of the employment of unregistered assistants. Dr. Moore, in his letter in Wednesday's "The Advertiser," admits that the B.M.A. and the majority of dentists favor the repeal of the clause in the 1917 Act, which enables each registered dentist to employ two unqualified operative assistants.

At last, we are making progress. There would be no slack periods. In the limited time available it would be necessary to take every advantage to study conditions and make observations.

It is expected that the party will be absent from Australia until April next year. Sir Douglas said that once the water began to freeze, which occurred at the end of March or early in April, it would be impossible to carry out further work. This would necessitate the Discovery's return.

No sane person can, therefore, justify the hysterical opposition to the main objective of Mr. Tassie's Amending Bill—the repeal of sub-sections 2-5 of section 13 of the 1917 Act. If that purpose is achieved, what is to become of the 15 operatives now practising dentistry in the full sense of the word? They cannot be thrown into the street

to swell the ranks of the unemployed. They are the product of the 1917 Act—an Act which gave them a definite status as dentists. That Act was never closed. Accordingly, dentists must accept the responsibility of the present position.

To talk of closing the Act and giving operatives permits to practise as operators is not a solution of the problem. That would still leave operatives in the position of losing their means of livelihood if the Dental Board succeeds in reducing all the large practices to one-man practices. These operatives as Dr. Moore and others will admit, are experienced and capable dentists. Therefore, the only just thing is to extend to them the same privileges as were extended in 1917 to less experienced men. Moreover, it would be doing much less than was done in England and Victoria to clean up similar positions, where large numbers of operatives were registered without any examination.

To say that the registration of those 15 experienced operatives would lower the status of dentistry and be unfair to graduates is the sheerest nonsense. These operatives could not treat any more patients as registered dentists than they are now doing as operatives. Finally, men over 30 years of age, mostly married and working full time, could not do the board course, which is on all fours with the B.D.Sc. course, under about 10 years. Moreover, their many years of practical experience in dentistry is a better safeguard to patients than the theory of the inexperienced graduate who only begins to learn—like the medical practitioner—when he graduates—I am, Sir, &c., F. S. ALFORD, St. Peters.

Adv. 1-11-30

Colonisation

From Albert J. Mitchell, Alberton:—Our unemployed men and women are daily increasing, while party politicians wrangle over petty matters and do not suggest any productive scheme that would help to lift the out-of-works to a higher level. Colonisation is one way out. What has been done in the past and proved successful can be done today without much capital. This State has thousands of acres of land awaiting use, with a good rainfall, close to markets. This land could be leased, cleared, and fenced into moderate holdings. Could not a public reproductive loan be raised by the insurance companies for such enterprises? The Government has large experimental farms, far in excess of the acreage required for plot testing, &c. The Waite Research Institute can do all the scientific work necessary, and the balance of the lands could be profitably leased to private individuals on colonisation and co-operative methods.

News 1-11-30

VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

Message to Sir Douglas Mawson

LONDON, October 31.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald (Prime Minister) has cabled to Sir Douglas Mawson on behalf of the Imperial Conference, as follows:—

"I send to you and your companions in your Antarctic adventure best wishes of the conference for a successful voyage and safe return. God speed you all."

Sir Douglas in the Discovery will leave Hobart on Saturday, November 22, on a voyage to the south.

Adv. 6/11/30

DENTISTS BILL

Discussed in Council

The Bill dealing with the registration of dentists, introduced by Mr. Tassie, was further debated in the Legislative Council yesterday.

Mr. Prosser said the Council should not ignore the opinion of the Dental Board and the Adelaide University, both of which bodies were opposed to the registration of operatives. Those men had no just claim for registration.

The Bill was supported by Mr. Mills, who said the legislation would probably have the effect of cheapening dental services. Dentists wished to keep out opposition.

Mr. Cowan regretted the attempt to lower the standard of the profession by the admission of operatives. If those men were ambitious and enterprising they could pass the examination.

Mr. Condon said that some dentists, in opposing the Bill, were adopting a "dog in the manger" attitude, because they had been admitted to the profession under conditions similar to those proposed in the Bill. The debate will be resumed to-day.