

News 30-1-31

Brilliant Students

Stephen Parsons, Adelaide.—In my reminiscences published in "The News" about eight months ago of the early days of the University of Adelaide and of students with whom I was then associated...

News 3-2-31

N. ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY

Annual Report for Last Year

In the annual report of the University of Adelaide for 1930, made available today, it is stated that the number of undergraduates was 994, and that there were 994 non-graduating and 127 post-graduate students.

The number which studied for the Bachelor of Arts Degree was 544, Master of Arts 68, Bachelor of Science 133, Bachelor of Engineering 108, Bachelor of Laws 95, Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery 116, Bachelor of Dental Surgery 20, and Bachelor of Music 8.

Observatory Work

At the request of the Hon. L. L. Hill (Minister of Education) the council appointed a board to co-operate with Mr. G. F. Dodwell (Government Astronomer) in guiding and supervising the work of the Observatory.

The functions of the board will be to consider and advise upon the general astronomical programme to be undertaken, and to make recommendations concerning the use which the University may desire to make of the staff and equipment.

It is expected that the Barr Smith Library, for which Mr. T. E. Barr Smith provided £34,000, will be available for use early next year.

Mr. H. R. Marston (acting director of the Division of Animal Nutrition) has continued researches initiated by the late Prof. T. Brailsford Robertson. It has been proved that the wool producing capacity of many Australian pastures is limited by the quality and quantity of protein materials available.

Importance of Protein

It has also been ascertained that important economic returns are to be expected from the supplementary feeding with protein concentrates containing relatively high concentrations of cystine.

A deep X-ray plant has been installed at Adelaide Hospital, but some difficulties have yet to be overcome to ensure its smooth and efficient working. Mr. R. H. Stock has been appointed technician for this department. During the 18 months it has been established 685 patients have been registered for treatment.

News 4-2-31

SCHOOL BOOKS DEARER

N. 4/2/31

20 Per Cent. Added

COST OF EXCHANGE

The cost of textbooks to scholars this year will be 20 per cent. higher than that of last year. Primage duty and the increased exchange rate are responsible for the extra cost. The sales tax is not passed on.

"Every effort has been made by Mr. W. J. Adey (Director of Education) and other officials to save parents as much expense as possible when purchasing the necessary books for their children," stated Mr. J. Morley Bath (manager of Rigby Limited).

"As far back as June," he added, "conferences were held between educationists and booksellers, and the outcome was that all schools were advised by circular letter in August that, notwithstanding the then heavy increases in cost, booksellers had determined to keep the prices of textbooks for University examinations at the same price as in the past."

INTENTIONS FRUSTRATED

"However, these good intentions were frustrated by the sudden and drastic increases in exchange rates in the past few weeks. This necessitated further conferences with the education authorities, who

commended the booksellers for the generous attitude they had adopted. "At the time booksellers made their decision in August the publishers had offered to share some of the extra expense in exchange. This concession was withdrawn, and, to add further to the costs of booksellers, the primage rate was increased to 4 per cent., while the bank rate had advanced in January to more than 25 per cent.—the rate of exchange in January, 1930, was only 3 per cent."

PAYMENT BY DRAFT

Mr. Bath explained that under the system adopted by the trade in Adelaide orders for 1931 requirements had to be lodged in September and October of last year, so that they arrived in time for the compilation of orders and delivery to the schools before the opening day.

The payment for these supplies was made by draft on the booksellers soon after the books were shipped, and these drafts matured for payment during the first three months of the year. As exchange had to be effected at the rate current at maturity of each draft, the cost had already gone beyond the normal profit of the bookseller.

Mr. Bath stated that as many of the textbooks set were used by pupils for two and three years the total amount expended in books was a nominal one.

Adv. 6-2-31

STATE DISABILITIES

Public Accounts Committee

VISIT TO WAITE INSTITUTE

Members of the Federal Public Accounts Committee, enquiring into the disabilities suffered by South Australia under Federation, visited the Waite Agricultural Research Institute yesterday. They were accompanied by Mr. W. J. Young, chairman of the State Finance Committee, and were received by the principal of the Institute (Dr. A. E. V. Richardson), who, with members of the staff, showed the visitors over the grounds. Much interest was exhibited in the laboratory and the experimental plots.

The committee met privately at the Legislative Council in the morning, and was joined by Messrs. P. E. Coleman (chairman) and J. A. Guy, M.H.R.'s. In the afternoon the committee inspected the Islington workshops, being received by the Chief Mechanical Engineer (Mr. F. J. Shea).

Visit to Eyre Peninsula

The committee left by the Minnipa for Eyre Peninsula last night, and today will inspect the Tod River waterworks and the freezing works. The members will spend the night at Port Lincoln, and discuss local problems. On Saturday the Wudinna district will be inspected, and they will journey from there across country to Kimba. On Monday the committee will proceed to Iron Knob and Port Augusta, returning to Adelaide on Tuesday. On Wednesday Goolwa will be visited, and the site recommended by the Murray River Commission for the works to exclude sea water from Lakes Alexandrina and Albert, will be inspected. On Wednesday afternoon the committee will journey up the river to Murray Bridge, and on Thursday inspect the reclaimed swamp areas at Myponga, Pompana, and Neeta, returning to Adelaide that night. An inspection will probably be made of the McLaren Vale and Willunga districts, the party leaving for Canberra on Saturday.

At a later date the members of the committee expect to return to Adelaide, when evidence will be given by Dr. A. E. V. Richardson, of Waite Institute, and Mr. W. G. T. Goodman, general manager of the Tramways Trust. The committee may then visit the South-East, and return by way of the River Murray irrigation areas.

News 30-2-31

UNIVERSITY TERMS

Terms at the University of Adelaide this year will cover the following periods: First term, March 9 to May 23 (lectures begin on March 16); second, June 9 to August 15; third, August 31 to December 12 (lectures end on October 24). The Easter vacation will be from April 3 to 7, inclusive.

Elder Conservatorium terms will be as follows:—First term, February 23 to April 25; second, May 4 to July 4; third, July 20 to September 19; fourth, October 5 to December 12.

Adv. 9-2-31

STOMACH CAMERA

Photographs Inside of Body

INVENTED BY TWO AUSTRIANS

LONDON, February 7.

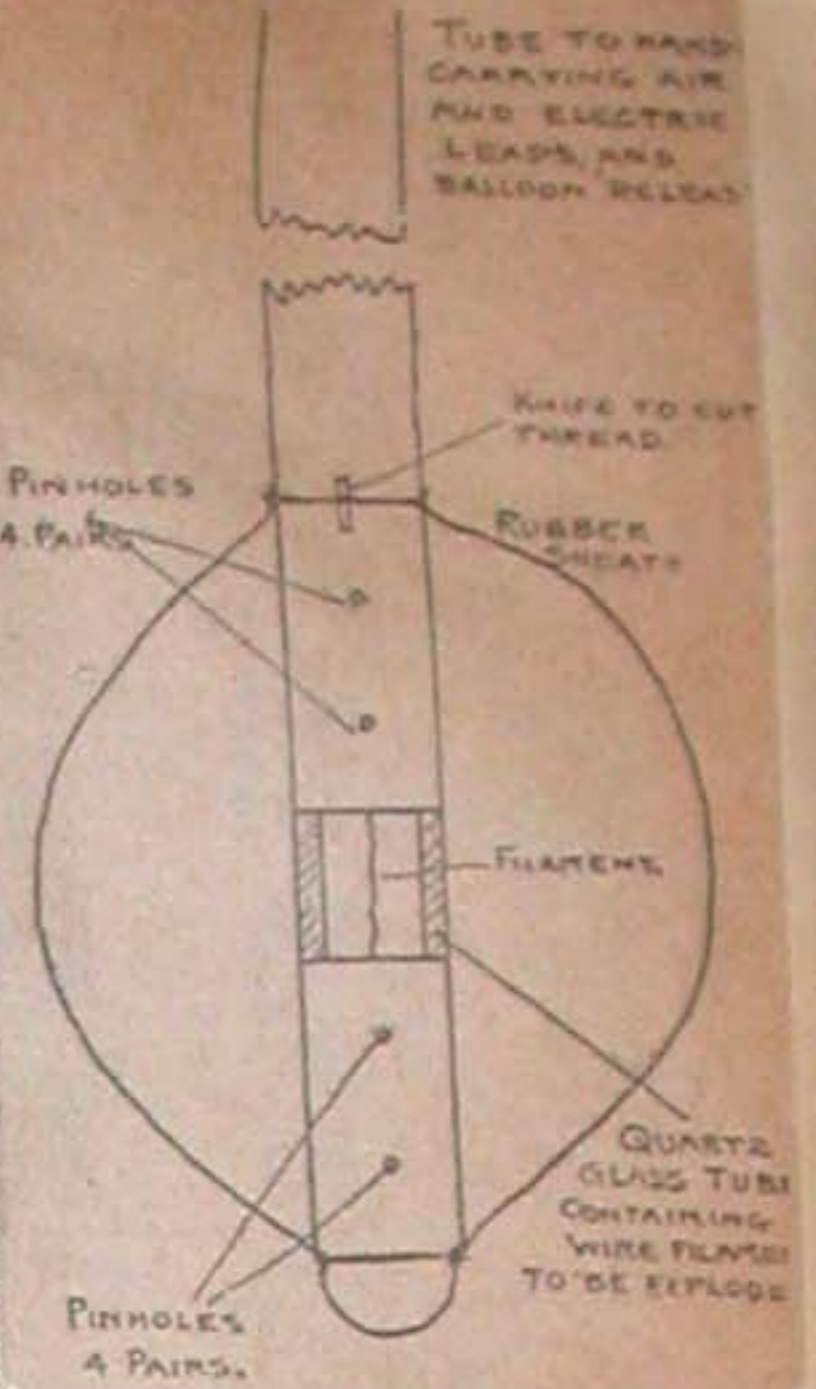
A camera, which the patient swallows, and which photographs the interior of his body, has been demonstrated successfully at Saint Mary's Hospital.

It is the invention of two young Austrian scientists, and consists of a flexible tube carrying 16 pin-hole cameras, the whole occupying about 2 inches. When the patient swallows the cameras, light, lasting a fraction of a second, and giving a flash of 200,000 candle-power, is introduced into the body by means of a tube. This is sufficient to enable 16 photographs, each the size of a piece of confetti, to be taken. When the photographs are enlarged a hundred times and pieced together they give a complete picture of the interior of the body.

Each camera costs £160. They should be invaluable in cases of cancer in the stomach and abdominal ulcers, and should often prevent the necessity for an operation.

The inventors have overcome tremendous difficulties, including the pulsations of the stomach, and the provision of a flash giving light without creating heat. One wire within the tube carries the current for the flash and the other operates the tiny shutters.

Continued 101



It reached the spot where it was desired to take the photograph a rubber sheath or balloon was inflated to 4 in. or more in diameter to push the walls of the stomach the correct distance from the camera. At a given moment by the pressure of a trigger the rubber sheath flew away from the apertures in the camera, and at the same instant a delicate wire in the middle of the camera, protected by a quartz glass, was exploded similar to the blowing of an electric fuse. The separating of the high tension current created a brilliant flash, and exposed the film. After taking the pictures the camera was withdrawn and the films developed and enlarged.

Advantages Over X-Ray

The whole operation, remarked Professor Hicks, was carried out under X-ray, and the cavity made by the blowing up of the balloon and the camera could be easily seen. The great value of the stomach camera was that it enabled the doctor to take photographs of the whole of the stomach, and so far it was the only device that could be used without inconvenience to the patient, as the operation was so quick. He was present on every occasion that such photographs (about 30 in number) were taken during his stay in Vienna. The study of the human trunk by means of the apparatus, he said, was intensely interesting. The value of the instrument, compared with the present use of X-ray for this purpose was that the operator could tell the difference between a cancer and an ulcer by means of the photographs. Its possibilities for research were considerable, and Professor Hicks thought that its full value in the early diagnosis of cancer of the stomach would be apparent when suitable patients were photographed.

The high cost of the device (about £160) was mainly due to the apparatus necessary for the protection of the patient from the high tension electric discharge.

Adv. 10-2-31

STOMACH CAMERA

HOW APPARATUS WORKS

INTENSELY INTERESTING, SAYS PROFESSOR HICKS

Professor C. S. Hicks, Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology at the University of Adelaide, explained in detail last night the working of the stomach camera, which a cable message in "The Advertiser" yesterday stated had been successfully demonstrated in St. Mary's Hospital, London.

Professor Hicks returned to Adelaide last October, after having worked for six months with Professor Otto Porges, acting Director of the Wenkerbach clinic, Vienna. Professor Porges has been responsible for the development of the stomach camera. He has specialised in diseases of the stomach and the intestines, and has been interested for years in the early diagnosis of cancer of the stomach.

Camera Almost Perfect

Professor Hicks said the apparatus was now more or less perfect and two young Viennese doctors had been taking photographs with it for some years. The latest form of the apparatus took 16 photographs, but the essential point was that they were eight pairs which were stereoscopic. The films were about 1 in. by 3-16 in., and they were carefully enlarged, and prints made from them. The photographs being stereoscopic, experts were able to view perfect photographs of the stomach in high relief. In fact, a photograph of a gastric ulcer could easily be mistaken for the crater of a volcano taken from an aeroplane. The camera took eight views of the stomach with one operation and simultaneously.

Little Discomfort to Patient.

The apparatus, said Professor Hicks, was swallowed by the patient like an ordinary stomach tube, and the only discomfort suffered by the patient was a slight inclination to retch. The apparatus was about the same size as the little finger of a man. The camera was encased in a rubber tube, which protected it on the way down into the patient's stomach. When

Adv. 12-2-31

The following have been reappointed members of the Dental Board of South Australia:—Sir Wallace Bruce (chairman), Mr. H. T. J. Edwards, Dr. P. S. Messent, Dr. A. R. Southwood, and Mr. F. M. Swan.

Adv. 13-1-31

Probate has been granted under the will of Mrs. Georgina Maud Dowling, of Esplanade, Glenelg, who died there on November 29 last. The estate has been sworn not to exceed £27,780 in value. Certain gifts have been made to relatives and other bequests made on trust. After the death of the beneficiaries by trust the then residue of the estate will form a trust to be controlled by the council of the Adelaide University to form the Georgina Dowling Research Fund, for the prosecution of scientific research into the prevention, cure, eradication, and mitigation of diseases and conditions inimical to the health of human beings.