

Adv. 5-6-31  
**FEDERAL FORESTRY SCHOOL**

Student Costs £857  
 Yearly

**CANBERRA OR ADELAIDE?**

"The Federal authorities should close the Canberra forestry school immediately, and restore it to the Adelaide University, where it rightly belongs," said Mr. Anthony, M.P., yesterday. Mr. Anthony, who is a member of the University Council, said it was not a question of a calamity if the Federal institution were abolished, as Senator Daly had suggested; the calamity was in its having been started.

Mr. Anthony protested that the establishment of the Commonwealth school was one of the excrescences which had resulted from what was, at one time, an embarrassment of riches in Federal revenue.

Tracing the history of the school, he said, Adelaide was allotted the teaching of forestry some years ago when, by an arrangement between certain State Governments and University authorities, instruction in veterinary science was made the function of the Melbourne University and military science that of the Sydney University. In Adelaide the lectureship in forestry was established under the supervision of Mr. Hugh Corbin, now Professor of Forestry in Auckland. Adelaide students held important forestry positions in Australia and elsewhere.

**A Convenient Centre**

The school, said Mr. Anthony, was considered by competent authorities to be ideal, from both theoretical and practical points of view. The Kuitpo forest, only a few miles from the city, was available to the students for practical afforestation work, and Adelaide was a convenient centre for students from other States.

"Later," he said, "the Federal Government fastened covetous eyes on the school, and an agitation was promoted for its transference to Canberra. A canvass of all the States was made for support of the movement. The members of the University Council indignantly resisted the proposal. I also ventilated the protest in Parliament, and later, accompanied by other members of the Forestry League, waited on the Prime Minister. The agitation, however, succeeded. An expensive school was built at Canberra, where the curriculum was seriously altered. Instead of a degree, as in Adelaide, the student gets only a diploma."

**£857 a Student**

Mr. Anthony said, apart altogether from the inferior standard of the qualification to the student, the much more serious aspect, from the taxpayers' standpoint, was the substantially increased cost. The Adelaide school cost the University practically nothing. The lecturer's salary was paid by the Government, as part of his duty consisted in the management of Kuitpo Forest.

"The whole cost of the school was under £1,000 a year," said Mr. Anthony. "One lecturer did the whole of the work. Contrast this with the expenditure upon the Federal Forestry Department, whose expenses, including the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, amounted last year to £8,577, with a staff, at the head of which is an Inspector-General of Forests, receiving £1,262 per annum. The principal of the school receives £950, and three lecturers £1,953 altogether. There is also a secretary and other officers, and all this for 10 students. A very simple calculation will show that each student is costing the country £857 per annum. I think these facts will, in some measure, justify the demand the public are making for reduction in Federal Government expenditure, and if our parliamentarians are really serious in their desire to lighten the taxation burden, a second glance at this department should not be necessary."

Adv. 5-6-31

**Control of Disease in Tomatoes**

A bulletin on "Tomato Diseases in South Australia and how to Control them, with special reference to Glass-house Tomato Culture" has been issued by Mr. Geoffrey Samuel, M.Sc., Plant Pathologist of the Waite Research Institute. Beginning from next week this will be reproduced in "The Chronicle" in article form.

The bulletin deals with the general growth of tomatoes, including manuring, as well as with disease, and in view of the fact that one of the most important points in disease control is to prevent diseases in the earliest stages of growth, the articles should prove of particular interest to growers.

The bulletin can be obtained on application to the Department of Agriculture, or the Waite Research Institute.

Adv. 5-6-31  
**SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**COST OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

To the Editor.  
 Sir—For "Taxpayer's" information, the Minister's report for 1930 shows that 308 scholarships were awarded at a cost of £8,106. At the same rate 5,000 would cost approximately £129,000. But, if the State high schools were eliminated, extra provision would be required to meet the fees charged by private schools, resulting in a still further increased cost to the State.

Mr. Parsons's first statement concerning the cost of secondary education was grossly exaggerated. Although shown to be in error, he persisted in trying to give the impression that the cost is enormously high. The cost per head of population for high schools was 3/7 in 1930, compared with 1/7 for the University and 1/5 for other institutions such as the Observatory and Public Library. It should be readily admitted by all that these respective costs are reasonable and indeed low, when compared with the benefits resulting from the expenditure.—I am, Sir, &c.

F. R. FORGAN,

General Secretary, S.A. Public Teachers' Union.

News 5-6-31

**FORESTRY WORK DEFENDED**

**"Expense Justified"**

"Ridiculous," is how Senator J. J. Daly characterises any suggestion that the standard of the student in forestry now is inferior to that before the Commonwealth intervened.

"Science has never been permitted to play its real part in the development of Australia," said Senator Daly today on his return to Adelaide from Melbourne. "I am not concerned with the location of the forestry school. All I am concerned with is the scientific development of forestry."

"The problems are too big for any one State to handle. They are not State problems; they are national. The dividing up of the various boundaries of science among the States lauded by Mr. E. Anthony, M.P., proved to be a failure. Co-operation could not be secured, and as a result the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research was established."

**"RIDICULOUS NONSENSE"**

"It is this body," continued Senator Daly, "and not the Victorian Government, as Mr. Anthony would have us believe, which deals with the major veterinary problems. It is ridiculous nonsense to suggest that the standard of the student in forestry is today inferior to that in existence before the Commonwealth intervened."

"The work accomplished justifies every penny which has been spent. 'Some politicians,' added Senator Daly, 'will adopt a cheese-paring policy where science is concerned. If more money were spent in scientific investigation to the detriment of some other activities Australia would be in a better position to carry some of the excrescences to which Mr. Anthony referred.'"

Mail 6-6-31

**BRILLIANT CAREER**  
**MAIL. — 6 JUN 1931**  
**Rise of Macclesfield Boy**

**KNIGHTED THIS WEEK**

Macclesfield, a small country township 28 miles from Adelaide, provided one of the knights announced in the King's birthday honors list this week.

Roy Robinson—now Sir Roy Robinson—after a brilliant scholastic career, was appointed Commissioner of Forestry in London.

He was born at Macclesfield and educated at the local school, where his grandfather, the late Mr. George Lowe, was head master.

While at that school he secured a bursary entitling him to three years' tuition at St. Peter's College, where he continued his studies with such marked success that he was awarded the second Rhodes Scholarship given to a South Australian.

At Oxford he again distinguished himself by gaining the Barlett Coutts Scholarship, entitling him to an income of £300 a year for three years. He also received his blue.

Leaving Oxford, he went to India with Mr. Norman Jolly, the first South Australian Rhodes Scholar, and took up forestry.

Returning to London, he successfully applied himself to his profession, and was appointed to his present position in London.

Sir Roy is a son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Robinson, of Perth.

Adv. 6-6-31  
**NOTABLE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING**

**Professor Chapman's Work DISTINGUISHED STUDENTS**

The award by the Melbourne University of the Kernot Memorial Medal for the period 1926-30 to Professor R. W. Chapman, Professor of Engineering at the University of Adelaide, directs attention to a school of science which has, in a little over two decades, won a position in the world of engineering of which any university might well be proud.

The University of Adelaide and the School of Mines, which have long been closely linked in instruction in engineering and metallurgy, have given many notable men to mining and engineering industries throughout the world. Professor Chapman is the man who has been responsible for the initiation and development of the University School of Engineering, and has been closely associated with the School of Mines since its inception. In these two institutions many notable engineers have been trained; men who have

New South Wales, and manager of the B.H.P. Steel Works at Newcastle.

**Succeeded Professor Bragg**  
 Professor Chapman, after an education, concluding with Trinity College, Melbourne, degrees of M.A. and B.Sc., with final first class honors, entered the University of Adelaide as a lecturer on mathematics and physics when but 23 years of age. He became also lecturer in applied mechanics at the Adelaide School of Mines. He has been Professor of Engineering since the chair at the University of Adelaide was established in 1907. He succeeded Professor Bragg in the Chair of Mathematics and Mechanics, and carried on that department until 1919.

**Worked in a Wide Field**

A rather retiring man, Professor Chapman has been content with the knowledge of work well carried out. He has done much public lecturing, and his services have been readily given in a consultative capacity whenever sought. Genial, frank, and friendly, he has won the esteem of the hundreds of students who have come under his influence, and his personality has been stamped upon the engineering school as indelibly as his scientific achievements. Owing to the pioneer character of a young university his activities have been spread over a wide field and, in addition to his engineering work, he has taken a keen interest in astronomy, mathematics, and related sciences.

He was the first to investigate the tides along the south coast of Australia, and the predictions of our local tides are still made on the basis of his calculations. He was written "Astronomy for Surveyors," which has become a text book, now in its fourth edition. "Reinforced Concrete" and papers covering investigations in numerous others subjects. Governments have availed themselves of his knowledge in the designing and execution of big works, and the Adelaide City Council appointed him and his eldest son to the advisory committee in respect to the construction of the City Bridge. Professor Chapman is chairman of the sectional committee of the Standards Association, which is fixing reinforced concrete regulations for Australia. This committee will decide on the methods to be employed in the calculations to be made in preparing designs for all reinforced concrete structures in the Commonwealth. He has been connected with many scientific institutions and has been president of the Institution of Engineers, Aust., of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, and of the Astronomical Society of South Australia. He was president of the South Australian Institute of Surveyors for many years.

**A Former Award**

In 1929 Professor Chapman was awarded the Peter Nicol Russell Medal for a notable contribution to the Science and Practice of Engineering, and the honor now conferred upon him by the Melbourne University for distinguished work in the field of engineering education is acknowledged by his associates to have been well earned. He is very proud of the achievements of the graduates, both of the School of Mines and of the University, and holds strongly that men who are employed in leading technical positions should all possess the training essential to progress upon scientific lines.



Professor Chapman