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SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON'S RECORDS

Work of 1911-14 Expedition PRINTING RETARDED

Sydney, September 25. Although the New South Wales Government has already spent £6,500 in printing the records of the Australian Antarctic Expedition of 1911-14, it has decided that it will spend no more. It is seeking legal advice whether it can recover certain assets of the expedition from Sir Douglas Mawson.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Davies) today explained that in 1920 the Holman Government entered into an agreement that the work should be published. The Lang Government considered it a waste of money to continue printing the records, even if there were no depression. Sir Douglas Mawson wrote to the Government some months ago stating that the Government was doing nothing to complete the work. He was not sending the original material.

Mr. Davies, in reply, said that the State should print the records and reports of the expedition at a cost not exceeding £5,000, within five years of the completion.

Later, added the Minister, Sir Douglas Mawson complained that the slow rate of printing had discouraged contributors, and the preparation of some of the sections had been delayed by the recent Antarctic expedition. He thought that the publication could be arranged for less than £2,000. He suggested a vote of £500 for printing in Adelaide, the balance to be obtained from sales. He did not agree to hand over records or notes until Sir Douglas no longer required for the manuscript.

Sir Douglas Mawson Explains Position

Sir Douglas Mawson explained yesterday that, because war had broken out at the South of the expedition, publication of the scientific reports had been greatly delayed. The greatest obstacle at that time had been the finding of funds to defray the expenses of printing.

"When the war ended I approached the New South Wales Government which came to the assistance of the expedition and agreed to do the printing in its spare time at the Government's printing office," said Sir Douglas Mawson. "In consideration the Government was to receive the expedition's collections, manuscripts, notes, books and records of the return of the expedition, a national collection at the Public Library and Museum, Sydney. A clause of the agreement was that, in the event of the Government's expenditure of up to £5,000 was to be incurred. This was estimated to be ample to complete the printing. All the reports have been prepared by the New South Wales Government, which is concerned only with the printing and sale of parts. Proceeds from sales returned a large sum."

"My own work and that of several scores of specialists in particular branches of science throughout the world, who are collaborating in these reports, has been given without charge. I have had to find a large sum to defray incidental expenses, and even salaries, for such back work as the completion of the records of the publication. It is printed, but unfortunately owing chiefly to the rise in the cost of paper and printing, the Government has not been able to complete the work. I am informed that the Government is not prepared to carry on, and in the past few days Mr. Lang's Government is not agreeable to spend more. I am sorry the Government has some to be in hand for a long time, awaiting printing."

"A note for the production of the volumes yet remaining to finish the work has been received from a leading Australian publishing firm. This firm offers that for about £1,000 the work should be completed. Evidence reports can be looked elsewhere for assistance to finish this national work. As such collections, manuscripts, and notes have not already been sent to me, I have been as the report on them in the past been finalised for publication," concluded Sir Douglas.

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Few men have led the South Australian bench with more dignity than Sir George Murray, Chief Justice and Lieutenant-Governor of the State,



who will be 80 tomorrow. Born at Murray P. & K. Magill, where he still lives, Sir George Murray was educated at St. Peter's College, and studied at the Adelaide University, of which he is now Chancellor. At the age of 20 he won a S.A. scholarship and proceeded to Cambridge, where he had a brilliant career. He was called to the Bar of the Inner Temple in 1888, and later called to the South Australian, New South Wales, and Victorian Bars. The son of a prominent sheep breeder, he has taken a keen interest in primary production. After a long period in private practice, Sir George Murray was appointed to the South Australian judiciary in 1912, and was elevated to the senior position on the bench in 1916. He has acted as the State's viceregal representative on several occasions.

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Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., the most successful criminal pleader in South Australia in his day, and one of the best Constitutional lawyers in the Commonwealth, will be 85 tomorrow. After an exceptionally strenuous professional life, Sir Josiah Symon has retained much of physical vigor and mental alertness, and attends his office in the city almost daily. He has the honor of being the senior K.C.M.G. in Australia, and he was one of the founders of the Commonwealth, a foremost member of the memorable Australian National Convention which framed the Constitution, and chairman of the judiciary committee responsible for the Commonwealth judicial system. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, he arrived in South Australia in 1866, and was called to the Bar 60 years ago. He was a Federal Attorney-General in the Reid Ministry. He has written extensively on Federation and legal and constitutional subjects. He was a member of the Senate for 12 years, and retired from politics to devote his time to his profession.

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Perth University Lectures Free. Perth, September 28. By nine votes to five, the University Senate decided today that attendance at lectures will continue to be free. The decision was reached after consideration of motion by the Administration (Mr. Justice Northmore) to provide sufficient revenue to carry on the University efficiently. The Senate should approve of fees being charged for attendance at lectures.

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UNIVERSITY LECTURE FEES. Referring yesterday to the decision of the Perth University Senate that attendance at lectures would continue to be free, Mr. F. W. Eardley (Registrar of the University of Adelaide) stated that the Perth University was the only one in Australia where fees for lectures were not charged. In question had evidently been reconsidered there, probably by the decision at the Perth University works, as a means, and the decision of the Senate, as a means, was to continue that policy. However, examination and degree fees were charged over there. Fees for lectures were always charged at the Adelaide University, and produced a considerable amount of revenue. The question of not charging fees for lectures was not likely to arise here, as far as the University Council was concerned.

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PROFESSOR MELVILLE LOST TO STATE

Accepts Position With Bank Board

Professor I. G. Melville, professor of economics at the University, has resigned to take up a position as adviser in economics to the Commonwealth Bank Board.

His resignation was accepted at a meeting of the council of the University on Friday afternoon.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University (Sir William Mitchell) stated last night that one of the most important of the University was to give a head on matters of public welfare, and Professor Melville had served well of the community for his part in that respect. He hoped the University would be able to carry on the chair of economics, of which Professor Melville had been the first occupant. Whether that could be done would depend very largely upon the Government which he had assisted as well.

Professor Melville has been assisting the Commonwealth Bank Board since last March, when he was lent to it for a year. He was appointed Professor of Economics at the University in March, 1929, at the age of 26, and was probably one of the youngest professors of economics in the world before his appointment. He was Public Actuary, a position he had filled since 1924. As a member of the advisory committee on State finance, Professor Melville assisted the Government greatly in its endeavor to put the finances of the State on a sound basis, and he rendered exceptionally valuable service in preparing the cases for South Australia which were placed before the Disability Commission and the Commonwealth Public Accounts Committee respectively in support of South Australia's claim for a special grant from the Commonwealth.

Before coming to South Australia in 1924 to take up the position of Public Actuary, Professor Melville had a brilliant career at the University of Sydney, where he won various distinctions, including the George Allen scholarship in mathematics, Professor L. O. Cotton's prize for field work in geology, the H. E. Russell prize for astronomy, and the Norber Quirk prize for mathematics. Before joining the university he was for two years a member of the actuarial staff of the New South Wales Superannuation Board.

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Departure of Prof. Melville Deplored

"I think that the resignation of Prof. L. G. Melville from the chair of economics at Adelaide University to accept a position with the Commonwealth Bank in Sydney means a very great loss to South Australia," today said Mr. J. W. Walbridge (Assistant Auditor-General), who was associated with Prof. Melville on the Advisory Committee on State Finance.

"Prof. Melville was always ready to assist the Government in many ways," he said. "Much work was done by the professor without any recompense, in his own time. He had quite exceptional ability, and I wish to hear that this State would lose him."

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SIR GEORGE MURRAY ESSAY

Prizes of £5 5/- each for the Sir George Murray essay competition, which was open to members and associate members of the Institute of Public Administration, have been awarded by the judge, Professor J. McKellar. The Stewart, Mr. C. G. Lewis, secretary to the Director of Education, won in the category of "The Principles of Water-gate in Education," and Messrs. I. Miller (Superintendent) and Messrs. G. H. G. Pope (estimating) and W. S. Supply (Department) tied in the associated category. A survey of the application and operation of the principles of Public Administration under the South Australian Government was the subject of a paper read by Mr. McKellar. The quality of the essays submitted.

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MELBOURNE NOW MORE LIKE ADELAIDE

An Increase from five to six years has been made in the medical course at the Melbourne University, bringing it more in conformity with those at Adelaide and Sydney.

The change was felt necessary because a number of special subjects, such as eye, ear, nose, throat, skin, mental and children's diseases, had been included in the curriculum. Now these special subjects will be taken in the sixth year, but with the exception of the children's diseases, there will be no examination required. In Adelaide, however, will still differ from Adelaide, and Sydney. However, the course taken without any grouping of subjects; in Sydney the special subjects are all taken in the fifth year. In both instances the final examinations are held in the sixth year.

The Adelaide course is considered by Professor Wilkinson, Professor of Anatomy at the University, to be a well-balanced one. He thought that the steps taken in Melbourne would be the first of a series to bring that university into line with this State. He said: "Even with a six-year course it is difficult to cover the work." He said: "After our men have graduated they are often employed in the public health or as resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital. Many go abroad, and it is in three or four years after they obtain their M.D. degree that they begin practicing."

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Mr. Justice Northmore, of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, has been appointed Chief Justice of that State in succession to Sir Robert McMillan, who died in April. He was born at Adelaide on September 18, 1866, and educated at St. Peter's College and the Adelaide University, where he obtained several scholarships and the LL.B. degree. He was called to the South Australian Bar in 1888, and the Western Australian bar in 1898. For many years he was associated with the old legal firm of Northmore and Hale. In 1910 he was appointed K.C., and in April 28, 1914, was promoted to a seat on the Judicature. Since the death of Sir Robert McMillan he has been acting Chief Justice, and since 1929 has occupied the position of Administrator.

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Waite Agricultural Research Institute is so well endowed and the work so extensive that it would be advisable to use it as the Commonwealth research station for the class of work," said Mr. H. J. Bate, M.L.A., of New South Wales. He will leave for Sydney by the express this afternoon.

LABOR CLUB AT UNIVERSITY

The formation of a Labor Club on the lines of that at the Melbourne University would be welcomed by the Adelaide University Men's Union, said the secretary of the committee of that body yesterday. The chief concern of the committee, he said, was not with particular brand of politics, but with the stimulation of interest generally in the political, social, and economic problems of the day. He said that the Men's Union, clubs representing all shades of political opinion would be the best of receiving support from the Men's Union.

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