



FROM PRISON TO TRANSFORMER STATION—Workmen are shown demolishing an old building north of Elder Conservatorium in the grounds of Adelaide University. In the early days it was used as a powder magazine, and for a time during the war when the Jubilee Oval was set aside for military purposes, it served as a military prison. The University then used it as an anatomical department. It will be replaced by a transformer station for the supply of electricity to the University and neighboring institutions.

WESLEY COLLEGE, PERTH

Dr. J. L. Rossiter, Head Master

FORMER SOUTH AUSTRALIAN

Dr. J. L. Rossiter, who is on his way to Western Australia to take over the head mastership of Wesley College, Perth, received his training in the Education Department of this State. He was a student at Prince Alfred College.

In 1913, when he left South Australia to take up duties for the Federal Government as Director of Education in the Northern Territory, Dr. Rossiter was in charge of Unley High School. The developmental scheme in the Territory did not turn out as well as expected, so Dr. Rossiter came south and joined the Education Department of New South Wales. For seven or eight years he was teaching in Sydney.

Subsequently he accepted the head mastership of Thornburgh College, Queensland, which he has left to go to Perth.

Dr. Rossiter, who is 42 years of age, is accompanied by his wife, who at the time of her marriage was a teacher at Adelaide High School. The doctor graduated at Adelaide University. In 1927 Dr. Rossiter made a world tour, during which he received a degree of Doctor of Literature in America.

They will leave for Perth by the Manda on Saturday.

The degree of Doctor of Science at the University of Adelaide. He left South Australia in 1910 to work



PROF. T. BRAILSFORD ROBERTSON

who died this afternoon. He was professor of biochemistry and general physiology at the University of Adelaide, and chief of the animal nutrition division of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

Adv. 7-1-30

NEW LECTURESHIP

DR. CHARLES FENNER'S APPOINTMENT

AUTHORITY ON GEOGRAPHY

In response to requests by teachers and others for instruction in geography, the council of the University of Adelaide, with the approval of the Minister of Education (Hon. M. McIntosh) has appointed Dr. Charles E. Fenner to the newly-constituted position of lecturer in geography and in the Faculty of Arts.



Dr. C. E. Fenner

Dr. Fenner's appointment is a part-time one, and he will be called upon to give lectures probably in the evenings only. The new lecturer, who is Superintendent of Technical Education, is joint secretary of the extensive researches now in South Australia of the Geographical Society, holds the gold medal of the Victorian Geographical Society, and won the Syme Prize for geographical research. Dr. Fenner came to South Australia at the end of 1916 with high credentials as a leading educational authority in Victoria. He has had a brilliant scholastic career, and has published a number of original scientific papers by the Royal Society of Victoria, the Mines Department in State, and other bodies. Before his appointment as Superintendent of Technical Education in South Australia, Dr. Fenner had 15 years' practical experience as a teacher in Victoria, and was headmaster of several primary and agricultural high schools in that State. In 1913 he was appointed principal of the Ballarat School of Mines. After resigning that position he toured New South Wales and Victoria on the instruction of the then Minister of Education (Hon. Crawford Vaughan) to acquaint himself with the latest methods in those States. Among Dr. Fenner's university achievements are: Doctor of Science, University of Adelaide; Bachelor of Science, Melbourne University; completed Master of Science course, Melbourne University; First-class Honorman and Exhibitor in Biology, Melbourne University; Second-class Honorman and Exhibitor in Geology, Melbourne University; First-class Final Honorman, Geology and Mineralogy, Melbourne University, 1912; Final Honor Scholar in Geology and Mineralogy, Melbourne University, 1913; Professor Kernot Research Scholar, Melbourne University; first prize (1912 and 1913), for best practical field work (university) and research work. The course in which Dr. Fenner will lecture will begin in the first term of the University in March.

News 7-1-30

Chair of Anatomy

Applications have been received by the council of the University of Adelaide for the position of professor of anatomy and histology formerly occupied by Prof. H. H. Woollard. A sub-committee will meet shortly to consider the applications, and will make a recommendation to the council.

Next meeting of the council is fixed for Friday, January 24, but a special meeting may be called before that date to deal with the appointment.

Adv. 8-1-30

AUSTRALIAN ANTHROPOLOGY

"Oceania" is a new quarterly journal which is to be devoted to the study of the native peoples, languages, and cultures of Australia, New Guinea, and the islands of the Pacific. It will be published for the Australian National Research Council by the Melbourne branch of MacMillan & Company, Ltd., and will be edited by A. R. Radcliffe-Brown, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Sydney, in consultation with the Committee on Anthropological Research of the Australian National Research Council. The chief purpose for which it is established is to provide a medium for the publication of the extensive researches now being carried out in Australia, New Guinea, and Melanesia, under the auspices of the Australian National Research Council, by means of funds provided by the Rockefeller Foundation. The first number, which will be published in Melbourne in April, will contain articles on Tikopia, by Dr. Raymond Firth, on the social organization of Australian tribes by Professor Radcliffe-Brown, and on the totemism of an Australian tribe of Cape York Peninsula, by Miss Ursula McConnell.

Reg. 8-1-30

Mr. F. W. Holden, as President of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of directors of Holden's Motor Body Builders, Ltd., who will leave tomorrow on a 12-months' trip abroad, was entertained yesterday at a farewell luncheon at the Oriental Hotel by members of the Chamber. Mr. G. J. Cowie (vice-president) occupied the chair, and a representative gathering of business men included Messrs. J. Lavington Bonython (immediate past president), W. B. Carr (chairman of the mining committee), F. W. Rose (chairman of the taxation committee), F. A. Verco (chairman of the corn trade sectional committee), and Sir Wallace Bruce. Nearly 50 members of the council were present. Mr. Holden has been granted an honorary commission by the Government to report upon industrial matters in Great Britain, the Continent, and America.

News 11-1-30

PASSAGES FOR STUDENTS

The associated steamship companies, comprising the Aberdeen, Blue Funnel, Orient, and Peninsular and Oriental lines, grant three first-class return passages to London annually to students of the University of Adelaide wishing to continue post-graduate study abroad.

Applications for these passages will be received by Mr. F. W. Eardley (registrar) on to Saturday, March 27.

Reg. 15-1-30

Dr. F. S. Hone To Lecture At Canberra

CANBERRA, Tuesday.—The second annual Anne MacKenzie oration will be delivered in Albert Hall, Canberra, on March 20, by Dr. Frank S. Hone, Lecturer in Preventive Medicine at Adelaide University.

The oration, which is one of two delivered annually through endowments connected with the Australian Institute of Anatomy, was founded by the director (Sir Colin MacKenzie) in memory of his mother.

Its object is to assist in making Canberra an intellectual centre.

NEWS 18-1-30

DEVOTION TO DUTY

NEWS 18 JAN 1930

PROF. ROBERTSON DEAD

Valuable Research Work

By the death of Prof. Thorburn Brailsford Robertson, Ph.D. (Cal.), D.Sc. (Adel.), which occurred at Warringa Private Hospital, Glenelg, at 12.30 o'clock this afternoon, South Australia has lost a most distinguished scholar and research worker. He was 45 years of age.

His death was the direct result of the devotion to duty which was characteristic of him.

Although his temperature was high as a result of an attack of influenza, Prof. Robertson went to his laboratory last Tuesday week, when the thermometer reading was 100 degrees in the shade, and insisted on attending to his work. This self-sacrifice brought on pneumonia. After lingering for several days in a critical condition the professor died.

By his experiments with white mice and other animals Prof. Robertson conducted valuable research work. His death will be a severe loss, not only to the University of Adelaide and to Australia, but to the whole world of science. The realm of physiological research could ill-afford to have such a brilliant scholar and painstaking investigator cut off in the prime of life.

Prof. Robertson had been professor of biochemistry and general physiology at the University of Adelaide since 1919. In addition he was director of the animal nutrition division of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, a position he had held since 1927.

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1884, Prof. Robertson was taken to Canada at the age of three years. In 1890 he returned to England, and four years later came to Australia. In 1898 he again returned to England, but stayed only a couple of years before coming back to Australia. He entered the University of Adelaide in 1902.

AMERICAN APPOINTMENT

There he had a brilliant career and graduated Bachelor of Science with first-class honors in 1905.

He took the degree of Doctor of Physiology at the University of California in 1907, and in the following year obtained

under the famous Prof. Jacques Loeb as associate professor of physiological chemistry and pharmacology in the University of California at San Francisco. When Prof. Loeb left California to take a position with the Rockefeller Institute, Prof. Robertson, in conjunction with Prof. Maxwell, continued his work. In 1917 he became professor of biochemistry and pharmacology.

Prof. Robertson discovered and patented a substance called "pethelin," which has a marked effect in stimulating growth and healing wounds. The invention was not patented for his own profit, but was placed in the hands of a trust at the University of California, and proceeds of its sale are devoted to scientific research. Pethelin was brought under the notice of the British War Office, and has been used with great success in America.

From California Prof. Robertson transferred, in 1918, to the University of Toronto (Canada), where he held the position of professor of biochemistry, and in the following year he returned to take the post in Adelaide University, which he held until his death.

The chair of biochemistry, which Prof. Robertson occupied, had been held from 1900 to 1919 by the late Prof. Sir Edward Stirling, also an eminent scientist whose daughter Jane Winifred Prof. Robertson had married in 1910.

ANIMAL NUTRITION

Since his return to Adelaide 10 years ago Prof. Robertson had conducted many experiments in biochemistry, which had attracted attention in world scientific circles. Results of his researches have been published by learned societies in Europe, America, and Australia.

He had a world reputation through his success in research with insulin. In 1924, when supplies were not obtainable in Adelaide, he was responsible for the manufacture of 40,000 doses from pancreas provided by the Metropolitan Abattoirs Board.

In 1926 he received the high honor of being elected a foreign member of the Reale Accademia Nazionale in Italy, the oldest academy of science in Europe. He was elected to the section of biological science, to which one foreign member is elected annually.

His work in animal nutrition research has been of immense value to the Commonwealth, and he has been recognised as one of the foremost authorities in the world on this subject. Experiments conducted by him have attracted widespread attention wherever the scientific feeding of flocks and herds has been studied in conjunction with soil values.

It is unfortunate that Prof. Robertson has died before completing his investigations in these directions, but even as it is, the benefit to pastoralists of Australia, indeed, to those of the whole world, of the work he has accomplished cannot yet be estimated, as the full results are not known.

Many of his monographs and articles appeared in the Journal of Biological Chemistry, the Journal of Physical Chemistry, and the Journal of Cancer Research.