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UNIVERSITY CHAIR OF BOTANY

**Dr. J. G. Wood Appointed
 BRILLIANT CAREER**



DR. J. G. WOOD

The Chair of Botany at the Adelaide University, which has been vacant since the resignation of Professor T. G. B. Osborn in 1928, when he was appointed to the Chair of Botany in the Sydney University, has been filled by the appointment of Dr. Joseph Garnett Wood, Ph.D., D.Sc., lecturer in botany at the University since 1927.

The appointment was made at a meeting of the Council of the University yesterday. Professor Wood, who had a brilliant scholastic career at the Adelaide and Cambridge Universities, is highly esteemed among his colleagues for his fine personal qualities, and his outstanding contributions to botanical science. His appointment will date from the beginning of next year. Since 1928 Professor T. Harvey Johnston (Professor of Zoology) has been acting Professor of Botany at the University.

Professor Wood has specialised in the study of arid flora in Northern and Central Australia, and has been in charge of the University reserve at Koonamore since the departure of Professor Osborn. For the past 12 years he has made a special study of arid flora, and has published a large number of works on ecology and the distribution of the flora in the localities mentioned. He said yesterday that he intended to continue his researches. Operations at Koonamore are supplemented by chemical and physiological work in the laboratories at the University, of which Professor Wood has charge.

Brilliant Career

Professor Wood is a son of the late Mr. John Wood, who was in the public service for many years, and is 33 years of age. He was born at Mitcham, and received his early education in the Unley High School. In 1916 he obtained a Government bursary, tenable at the Adelaide University, where he received his honors degree in the B.Sc. course in 1922. He was awarded the John Bagot scholarship in botany in 1920, and the John L. Young scholarship for research work in 1923. In 1921-22 he was junior demonstrator in chemistry at the University, and from 1923 to 1925 was demonstrator in botany. During this time he was engaged in physiological and ecological research, and attended the School of Fine Arts for drawing. In 1925 Professor Wood was awarded an overseas scholarship, the research scholarship of the 1851 Exhibition, and went to Cambridge University for two years, studying at Gonville and Caius Colleges. While there he was engaged in research work under Drs. F. S. Blackman and G. E. Briggs. In 1926-27 he was awarded the Frank Smart studentship in botany at Caius College, and was demonstrator in botany to first year tripos students. He also travelled extensively through the wine growing districts of France and Germany.

In 1927 he spent some time at the plant breeding station, Aberystwyth, the Rowett Institute, Aberdeen, Edinburgh University, the experimental station, Herts, the Long Ashton Experimental Station, Bristol, and the East Malling Experimental Station, Kent.

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He was appointed lecturer in botany at the Adelaide University in 1927, and since 1928 has been lecturer in charge of the department of botany at the University. He received the degree of M.Sc. at the Adelaide University in 1928, and the Ph.D. degree of the Cambridge University in 1931 for work on the photo-synthesis of plants. In 1928-29 he was a resident tutor at St. Mark's College, and in the latter year travelled through the islands of the Malay archipelago, visiting a number of research institutes. In 1933 he was awarded his D.Sc. degree at the Adelaide University for his work on the arid flora of Australia.

Contributions To Science

Professor Wood can read and speak German and French, and can read Italian and Spanish. He is a member of the editorial board of the Australian Journal of Experimental Botany, a member of the Flora and Fauna Board, as the representative of the Royal Society, and vice-president of the botany section of the Australasian and New Zealand Society for the Advancement of Science.

Among his works are "Principles of Plant Pathology," "The Ecology of Pearson Islands," "The Zonation of the Vegetation in the Port Wakefield District" (with special reference to the salinity of the soil), "Floristics and Ecology of the Mallee," "An Analysis of the Vegetation of Kangaroo Island and the Adjacent Peninsulas," "The Vegetation of South Australia," and "The Growth and Reaction to Grazing of Perennial Saltbush."

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**LIBRARY SURVEY
 CRITICISED**

**Time Too Short,
 Says Journal**

MUNICIPAL PLAN

"The institute libraries of South Australia are the best in Australia," said Mr. Ralph Munn, of the Carnegie Corporation, today, before his departure for Perth, where he will continue his survey of Australian libraries.

Mr. Munn said that the Institutes Association, in providing small country institutes with a system under which they could rent books from a central association, instead of having to buy them outright, was doing splendid work.

"The country institutes are poor and struggling, and perhaps not giving the best type of library service," he said, "but when you consider the sparseness of population in many of the towns and villages, they are being developed well."

Mr. Munn expressed himself very strongly regarding the Adelaide Circulating Library, and intimated that he intended to recommend in his report to the Carnegie Corporation that a rate-supported, free-lending library should be established in Adelaide, with branches in the suburbs.

A board, constituted in the same manner as the Tramways Trust, for instance, and representing all interests, would have power to strike a uniform library rate throughout the metropolitan area to establish and maintain such a municipal library.

"HASTY SURVEY"

Criticism of the rate at which Mr. R. Munn has made his survey of Australian libraries is contained in the "Institutes Journal" for June.

"In spite of the high qualifications of these gentlemen from the Carnegie Corporation and their special aptitude for this peculiar work, it is impossible in such a short time for each branch of library activity to receive sufficient attention," says an editorial.

"A really comprehensive and reliable survey can be made only if the different parts of each State are inspected, and the difficulties peculiar to each are discussed and analysed.

"The programme is unalterable, but it is to be hoped that the survey will not suffer unduly through the apparent necessity for haste; and that the need of the country libraries will not be overshadowed by the requirements of those in the metropolitan area."

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Mr. Harold Parsons, conductor of the South Australian Orchestra, and teacher of the cello at the Conservatorium, has been granted six months leave of absence by the Council of the University to date from November 1. Mr. Parsons will go to London and study the latest developments in orchestral and chamber music. During his stay in London he will make his headquarters at the British Broadcasting Commission. Mr. Parsons said on Saturday that, if time permitted, he would visit the Continent.

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**WORK BEING FOUND FOR
 'VARSITY GRADUATES**

**Many Applications To
 Appointments Board**

MELBOURNE, July 2.

Students in increasing numbers are being assisted by the University Appointments Board to find positions after graduating, according to a report submitted to the meeting of the University Council today. A report from the board said:—"The number of positions offered to the board has steadily increased, until it is experiencing difficulty in finding suitable candidates to fill the vacancies as they arise."

Since the reorganisation of the work of the board in August, 1932, ended the report, registrations of graduates and undergraduates had steadily increased. An encouraging feature of the situation was that the board was being asked to find, in addition to men who had just graduated, experienced men to fill positions of responsibility in industry and commerce."

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**"GOERING, STRONG
 MAN OF GERMANY"**

**Mr. Bronner's Views On Nazi
 Leaders**

HITLER'S WEAKNESS

That Hitler is only the nominal dictator, and that Goering is the ruthless man of iron behind the Nazi rule of Germany, was declared by Mr. Rudolph Bronner, Reader in English at the University of Freiburg, in Germany, in an interview last night. Mr. Bronner, who is a South Australian, and a Master of Arts of the University of Adelaide, returned to Adelaide from Germany recently.

He said it could be gathered from yesterday's reports that the first serious challenge to Hitler's rule had been crushed. "The outcome might well have been different," Mr. Bronner said, "if the malcontents had succeeded in winning Goering from his allegiance to Hitler. Goering is the strong man of Germany, and his prompt and ruthless methods are well adapted for the purposes of a dictatorship. In Germany one sometimes heard it said that the day would come when Goering, who is known to be ambitious, would weary of Hitler's ineffectual idealism and his failure to deal promptly with old comrades who had outgrown their usefulness or become disaffected. Ernst Roehm, the Chief of Staff, who has been shot, would have been suppressed by a Mussolini or a Goering long before he reached the stage of open revolt."

The weakness of Hitler's position in regard to many of his leading associates lay in the fact that their mentality and outlook were so different from his own, Mr. Bronner continued. Men like Goering and Roehm, for example, did not trouble themselves for a moment about Hitler's great ideal of "creating a new type of German citizen." They were quite satisfied with the old type, and concentrated all their energies on the one end of restoring the old Germany to its former greatness as a world power. Roehm cut much the same sort of figure in Germany as did Balbo, the Italian ex-Air Minister, in Italy. Both were of the popular hero type, generally admired for their bravery and insouciance, while their amours kept the world of society gossip pleasantly titillated.

"It took Mussolini ten years to shelve old comrade Balbo," said Mr. Bronner, "but had he displayed anything like the truculence of Roehm he would have been given short shrift."

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Weak Personal Devotion Bond

In the absence of a common objective, Hitler had to rely on the personal devotion of his associates. That was a bond which, in certain cases, might give way in a critical situation such as Germany now faced, although there could be no fear of it in the case of leaders like Goebbels and Rudolf Hess. The weakness of Hitler's position as the ruler of Germany was largely the result of the means he adopted in reaching it. He parted with Gregor Strasser in 1932. Strasser was then his ablest lieutenant, and had conducted the Nazi campaign in the "People's Observer," the great Nazi newspaper. Strasser wanted Hitler to take a definite stand with regard to socialism. But Hitler declined to declare himself on such an issue. By confining his appeal to the non-party lines of patriotic sentiment and refusing to define Nationalist Socialism, he succeeded for the moment in making Nazis of nationalists who were not socialists, and socialists who were not nationalists. But now that the hysterical waves of enthusiasm had subsided and the economic rocks arrested attention, different colors were showing through the Brown Shirts. Many Germans shook their heads over Hitler's appointment of Schacht in place of Luther as President of the Reichsbank. Goering might assure the foreign journalists that the rank and file of the Storm Troops were loyal to Hitler, but the Storm Troops were only human, and the further wage cut which was now threatened would swell the rising tide of discontent with the Government.

The present economic crisis arising out of the shortage of raw materials might have been avoided if Hitler had not tried to force economic facts to fit the requirements of Nazi theory, continued Mr. Bronner. It seemed to be Hitler's fate to fall between two stools. The Reichswehr (German Army) never trusted him because, from the standpoint of Prussian tradition, he was a demagogue, and opposed to the fundamentals of Prussian policy. They naturally took offence at his insistence on creating a new type of German. On the other hand, he had estranged both the Churches and the Universities, in both of which he might have found help in realising the non-Prussian ideal of citizenship he dreamed of.

Hitler And Religion

Mr. Bronner said that Hitler had also been very maladroit in dealing with religion. Himself by birth and upbringing a Catholic, he was not regarded favorably by Protestants; on the other hand, he had to a great extent succeeded in making the Catholics his enemies. In 1870 the Centre Party was founded. This party introduced a new line of cleavage in German politics. As representing the Catholic point of view (Catholic Weltanschauung), the Centre Party drew support from all classes of society: the nobility, the middle classes, and the trades unions. In the Republic the Centre Party had attained a key position in German politics. Last year Hitler dissolved the Centre Party and the Nazis regarded this as one of his greatest triumphs, showing that he could succeed where even Bismarck failed. Von Papen, who was the political hope of Catholic Germany, arranged the German Concordat with Rome in July last year. The German Catholics were given full religious liberty and independence in ecclesiastical affairs. On the vital question of religious instruction in schools they were allowed to remain in control. But Hitler demanded that the Catholic Church should withdraw from politics. The Catholic bishops were required to take the oath of allegiance to the State.

The case of Cardinal Faulhaber, the Archbishop of Munich, showed Hitler's hesitation in firmly handling the position. Cardinal Faulhaber preached some sermons during Advent of last year in which he spoke of the Old Testament in a way inconsistent with the Nazi opinion of Jews and their works. There was strong resentment against Faulhaber in certain political quarters and Hitler was urged to take action. He had appointed Rosenberg as Controller of the Weltanschauung or spiritual outlook of Nazi Germany.

Rosenberg had a great meeting in Berlin in February of this year, attacking prelates like Faulhaber, who made public utterances which were out of tune with Nazi ideals. It was rather characteristic of Hitler's attitude that at the eleventh hour he sent a message to the effect that he was unavoidably detained and could not be present at the meeting.

With reference to the attempts of the Nazis to found a German National Church, and the attacks made on Christianity, Mr. Bronner said some leaders declared that the symbol of the Cross should be removed from Christianity. That led to a successful revolt on the part of the churches. It was said that more than 3,000 pastors proclaimed from their pulpits their refusal to allow the Government to interfere with religious belief. Hitler wisely