

Last Of Fine Series Of Chamber Recitals

By Alex Burnard

The ninth and last recital of the Tuesday afternoon series was given yesterday in the Elder Hall by the Conservatorium quartet—Peter Bornstein, Kathleen Meegan, Sylvia Whittington, and Harold Parsons. One sometimes wishes keenly that it were not in the nature of all things to intermit (especially the good things of life), and can in this instance only indulge in grateful retrospect over the past nine concerts in the earnest hope that a precedent has been established for succeeding years. Something of this nature formed the substance of Professor Harold Davies' remarks of appreciation of the quartet's invaluable work. I am sure that those who have followed the concerts are unanimous in feeling that they have been an education, an incentive, and a great joy in the hearing.

The Haydn C major, Op. 33 No. 3, is full of interesting contrast—pure honesty of purpose in the Allegro, richness and depth of tone in the Minuet, a subdued expressiveness throughout the slow movement, and a finale of a very frank humor indeed, whose crisply articulated bowings fell delightful on the ear.

At the request of Professor Davies, the quartet repeated the Andante from the D minor quartet, played a fortnight before. Everybody must have been glad of this second hearing—a movement glowing from end to end with a roseate beauty.

The buoyancy and incisiveness of the first Allegro of Beethoven's Op. 18 No. 6 had sometimes almost a roguish note. A remarkable piece of finesse was their leading up to the dramatic pause, striking in its suddenness, towards the end of the development section. The Adagio was a gem of simplicity sensitively done. The Scherzo, always difficult to follow even in the hearing, saw them threading the maze of syncopations with a convincing rhythmic definition.

"La Melancholia," like the wailings of some lorn and homeless ghost, went in the approved manner, and the finale, out of which some great climaxes were extracted, came as a welcome corrective. After two momentary relapses into the dismal, a bright presto Coda rounded off the concert in the best of moods.

The audience, by its applause at the end, left the performers in no doubt as to the very great pleasure they have given throughout the series.

ABORIGINES DOOMED TO EXTINCTION

Unless White Encroachment Barred, Says Dr. Fry

In a lecture at the University last night, Dr. H. K. Fry said that every aborigine believed that he was one flesh with some form of animal or plant—this was his idea of his origin. There were many groups with different totems—such as rat, spider, seagull, and pelican, and marriage with a member of the same totem was forbidden. The native had no conception of natural death, but believed that death resulted from evil magic. Even if a man were killed in a fight, the real cause of his death was considered to be the magic of some evilly disposed person.

The remnants of this ancient race were doomed to extinction unless civilisation was prepared to grant the aborigine the few tracts of country which he still held, and absolutely debar any white settlement in such areas. This did not seem to be asking too much, but it involved two important concessions. The small risk must be taken that such areas might contain valuable mineral deposits. The only true native reserve of any importance in South Australia had been made open in part to any person with a miner's licence. This was probably the beginning of the end.

The second concession involved a much more delicate matter, as it meant that not even mission settlements must be allowed in the reserves. He did not in any way mean to disparage missionary efforts; but the missionaries had not been able to save the native lives.

Dr. Price, Alligator Hunter

PETERBOROUGH, Thursday.—Dr. A. Grenfell Price, master of St. Mark's College, is on his way back to Adelaide after a visit to the wild parts of Central Australia. He has written much about them, but never before has he seen them.



Dr. A. G. Price

He has been alligator hunting and enquiring into aboriginal questions. Describing his trip as "wonderful," Dr. Price said he had covered over 4,000 miles by train and motor, seeing a great deal of the country and gaining much valuable information from official and other sources.

Dr. Price's trip to the North coincided with the visit of the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Parkhill) to North Australia. Dr. Price said that Mr. Parkhill's trip was creating a great deal of interest and he was receiving many deputations.

Playing Examination Music

At the Elder Conservatorium yesterday the last of a series of pianoforte recitals arranged by the University to aid teachers of music and their pupils who are interested in the examinations of the Australian Music Examinations Board, was given by Mr. George Pearce. He played the test pieces for Grade III and I.

For those unable to attend in the afternoon, an evening recital was added.

ADV. 2-7-32

Sir William Bragg, Director of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, Fullerian Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution, and Director of the Davy-Faraday Research Laboratory, is 70 today. Professor Bragg, who is one of the world's most distinguished scientists, has many friends in South Australia, having been a professor at the Adelaide University from 1886 to 1908, during which period he married a daughter of the late Sir Charles Todd. For ten years he was a member of the Council of the University, and for 13 years was on the Council of the School of Mines. Sir William Bragg, who is a Fellow of Trinity, had a brilliant University career, and in 1915, in conjunction with his son, Professor W. L. Bragg, Professor of Physics at the Victoria University of Manchester, and a native of this State, was awarded the Nobel prize for work on X-ray and crystal structure. Sir William Bragg has had honors conferred upon him by learned societies all over the world, and is the author of numerous scientific publications.

ADV. 30-6-32

JOSEPH FISHER LECTURE

"Australia's Part In International Recovery"

In view of the importance of banking in Australia's economic life, this year's Joseph Fisher lecture will be of special importance, for the lecturer will be Mr. A. C. Davidson, general manager of the Bank of New South Wales, a foremost authority on banking. The lecture will be given in the Brookman Hall, School of Mines, on July 14, Mr. Davidson's subject being "Australia's Share in International Recovery." It will be open to the public.

This will be the 15th of the Joseph Fisher lectures, which are arranged by the Council of the University of Adelaide, under a gift of Mr. Joseph Fisher who, in 1903, paid £1,000 to the University so that the study of commerce might be promoted by the income from the foundation.

One way in which this is done is the presentation of a gold medal to the leading student in the commerce division. The other is the institution of biennial lectures on subjects relating to commerce, industry, or finance, by a lecturer appointed from time to time by the Council. The lectures are free to the public, and copies are printed and distributed with the proceeds of the gift.

The first lecture was given in 1903 by Mr. H. G. Turner. More recent lecturers have been:—1927, Mr. S. M. Bruce, "The Financial and Economic Position of Australia"; 1929, Professor R. C. Mills, "Public Finance in Relation to Commerce"; 1930, Professor T. E. G. Gregory, Cassel Professor of Banking and Currency in the University of London. Professor Gregory accompanied Sir Otto Niemeyer to Australia as economic adviser.

News 30-6-32

£1,200 Wanted to Save £500,000

For £1,200 a year Dr. J. Davidson, entomologist at the Waite Agricultural Institute, and his staff may be able to save £500,000 a year, fighting trips.

Dr. Davidson has been appointed by the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to lead a campaign against the pest.

Until they have enough money the scientist and his staff will not be able to begin the work. Part of the money has already been collected.

To make arrangements to put the work on a sound financial basis a public meeting will be held on July 22 in Way Hall, Franklin street, Adelaide. It has been arranged by the chairman of the Advisory Board of Agriculture (Mr. H. N. Wicks).

Adv. - 1-7-32

OBSERVATORY MAY BE CLOSED

Forecast Of Committee's Recommendation

Melbourne, June 30.

The abolition of the Melbourne Observatory and of observatories in two other States is contemplated under proposals which are being prepared by a committee for the Premiers' Conference.

At the Premiers' Conference in January a report was received on the duplication of Commonwealth and State Government activities, and one way in which it was thought that savings could be made was by reducing the number of observatories from five to two. At present there are observatories in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and Canberra. It was suggested to the Conference that only the Western Australian and Canberra observatories should be retained, because they were the best situated and would be sufficient for the requirements of the Commonwealth.

The Premiers appointed a committee to investigate the proposal. The committee will meet in Melbourne on Saturday to complete its report, which will probably recommend the retention of the Western Australian and Canberra observatories.

Adv. 1-7-32

Conservatorium Organ Recital

At his Elder Conservatorium recital during the lunch hour yesterday, Mr. John Horner played Mendelssohn's fourth organ sonata much better than the merits of that trite composition deserved. Humperdinck's pleasantly obvious "Hansel and Gretel" overture, and the tuneful, vivacious finale to Handel's tenth concerto were well done.

The Bach prelude and fugue in G proved the great music of the recital. Particularly praiseworthy features were the pellucid grace of flute and diapason tone chiefly employed, the delightful phrasing, and the dignity that characterised Mr. Horner's masterly interpretation.

Miss Gwen Collett's singing of the recitative "Spes Euridice" and the aria "Che Faro" from Gluck's "Orfeo" revealed a contralto voice of remarkable charm no less than range, admirably used. The recitalist's organ accompaniment enhanced the excellent effect.

After an intermission, due to the Conservatorium vacation, this series of organ recitals will be resumed on July 21, when Mr. Horner will present a Karg-Elert programme.

ADV. 4-7-32

Classical Association.—At the annual business meeting of the Classical Association, the following officers were elected:—Patron, Sir George Murray; president, Professor J. A. FitzHerbert; vice-presidents, Sir William Mitchell, Professor McKellar Stewart, Messrs. D. H. Hollidge and J. F. Ward; committee, Messrs. R. P. Barbour, G. A. McMillan, C. M. Ward; treasurer, Miss M. Walt; secretary, Mr. J. H. C. McIntosh. Mr. D. H. Hollidge read a paper on "Medea and Dido" after which there was a short discussion.

News 29-6-32

The Disappearing Aborigine

DR. Kenneth Fry, in his address at the University last night, did a public service in declaring it to be our duty to "give the Australian aborigines a natural home, and, what is more important," he added, "is to leave them alone."

The interesting and distinct negroid race that once inhabited Tasmania has been completely exterminated, and the habits and diseases of civilisation are rapidly bringing the same dreadful tragedy to the semi-Caucasian aborigines who, to the number, it is supposed, of 100,000, once inhabited the Australian mainland.

Start in his voyage along the Murray records the chivalrous conduct of the native leader, who made friendly intercourse possible between the explorer and the thousands of blacks then living along the banks of that great waterway. Today in the course of a voyage of 1,000 miles down the Australian Nile, the traveller will scarcely discover a single wattle, or see a native other than at the Point McLeay Mission Station.

In the Kimberleys of Western Australia, the Northern Territory, and Northern Queensland a splendid remnant of the race not only survives, but flourishes. Native reservations similar to those established in U.S.A. might well be set apart in these and other suitable localities. This is the least we can do for the people who were in possession of this continent before the white man destroyed their hunting grounds.

Preservation of the species, not memorials in anthropological museums, is what is demanded in justice to the Australian natives. Dr. Kenneth Fry's proposal appears to offer the most appropriate means of securing that end.