

Adv. 15-9-32

MEMORIAL TO REAPER INVENTOR

Obelisk At Showground

RIDLEY'S GIFT TO FARMING

The Ridley Memorial Committee intends to erect an obelisk of South Australian granite at the Showgrounds to perpetuate the memory of John Ridley, the South Australian who invented a reaper nearly 100 years ago, and revolutionised farming.

Reference was made to the proposal by the president of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society (Mr. Duncan, M.L.C.) at the official luncheon on Monday, when he said that the people of South Australia should assist in perpetuating the memory of the man who had done so much for the State.

Definite steps were taken about three years ago to form a large and representative committee to provide a memorial of Ridley, which was written on parchment and handed to him stating that his reaper had been of the highest importance to the practical development of agriculture in South Australia, and commended him for the gracious manner in which he had refused to accept any monetary return or profit by its manufacture.

Ridley resolutely declined to accept any payment or even to patent his invention, stating that he intended to make it a gift to his fellow colonists. More than once money was collected in the very early days to present to him, but nothing could shake his determination to make his invention an absolute gift.

Soon after the public trial of his reaper in the harvest of 1843, the few farmers about Adelaide collected about £70, and urged him to accept it as an evidence of their gratitude for what he had done. This he at first refused, but at their urgent request accepted it, and, making the amount up to £100 from his own pocket, handed it over to a fund then being formed to provide a public library and reading room for Adelaide.

Presentation In London

In 1861, when Ridley lived in London, a number of leading colonists visiting England gave him a dinner at a London hotel, and presented him with a candelabrum, made from South Australian gold and silver, and designed in the colony. After having been in the Ridley family for 50 years it was sent to Mr. Stephen Parsons, now secretary of the Ridley Memorial Committee, to hand over to the Adelaide University which in turn passed it on to the Waite Agricultural Research Institute.

Ridley received the thanks of Queen Victoria, the Prince Consort, various public institutions, including both Houses of the South Australian Parliament, but no public memorial had been erected.

The proposal is to build a memorial on the Showgrounds, where the first public trial of the reaper was made on a crop growing on the land now known as Wayville, immediately opposite the Showground. Plans of the memorial have been prepared, and provide for an obelisk of South Australian granite, to which will be attached a tablet with particulars of Ridley and his invention.

Reduced Cost Of Harvesting

Ridley's reaper reduced the cost of harvesting from 1/3 to 3d. a bushel, thus making it possible profitably to open up immense areas of country lands for agriculture, was responsible for the settlement of scores of country towns, providing homes for hundreds of families, and materially increasing the revenue of the colony. For 20 years after Ridley invented the reaper, the net returns from agriculture in South Australia were equal to that of all the other colonies combined.

Adv. 20-9-32

Professor Laver, of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, who arrived in Adelaide yesterday from Melbourne, has come for the annual examination of the Australian University Music Examination Board. The board consists of representatives of all the Australian universities, together with the State Conservatorium of Music of New South Wales. Professor Laver, who is the visiting examiner of the board, will conduct the examinations at the Adelaide University.

Adv. 17-9-32

SCOTT CENTENARY

£350 Required For Commemoration

The centenary of the death of Sir Walter Scott falls on Wednesday, and at a recent meeting of the Caledonian Society and the Lothian Club, it was proposed to commemorate the date by holding a service in Scots Church tomorrow week, conducting an essay competition open to scholars of public and private schools up to the age of 18, holding a public meeting on Wednesday, and, subject to approval, establishing a Sir Walter Scott lectureship at the University of Adelaide, to be delivered triennially.

It will be necessary to raise about £350, and subscriptions may be sent to Mr. J. B. Anderson, secretary and treasurer, Gover street, North Adelaide.

Adv. 20-9-32

RE-UNITING FORMER OXFORD STUDENTS

University Men To Help Fellows

Steps have been taken to form in South Australia a branch of a society by which it is hoped to reunite former students of Oxford University, men as well as women, throughout the world in a body, the objects of which are essentially practical. At a preliminary meeting, at which proposals for calling together former Oxford students in South Australia were discussed, Mr. C. T. Madigan, lecturer in geology at the Adelaide University, was appointed correspondent for this State. There are many former Oxford men in South Australia, Rhodes scholars as well as other students, and when a list has been prepared all will be called together.

The first aim of the society is to satisfy a demand of undergraduates for advice, expert information, and help in regard to their careers after they leave the University. With this end in view, it is proposed, through a skilled and experienced secretariat, to group members of the society according to their occupations and experience, and to refer to them requests for technical information and guidance.

The second aim will be to trace former students, to assure them of the welcome which awaits them at Oxford, and to enable their colleges to re-gain contact with them. Experienced Oxford men and women will be appointed correspondents in different parts of the world, so that they will be able to give information about local conditions to Oxford men or women going there to work or to travel. While an appeal will be made to members to help the University to collect the £350,000 needed for the rebuilding of the Bodleian Library, the society will not be used as a medium for frequent appeals for funds.

To secure maximum efficiency, the society should have a large membership at the outset, and all old Oxford men and women should send their names to Mr. Madigan at once. The Prince of Wales, who is interested in the society, has accepted the traditional Oxford title of visitor to the society, which means that his duties will be those of a supervisor.

Adv. 21-9-32

OXFORD SOCIETY

FORMATION OF ADELAIDE GROUP

To the Editor

Sir—You have referred to the foundation of an Oxford Society. The University of Oxford has now become an institution in which the whole British Commonwealth has a partnership interest. Considerable numbers of students go from the Dominion Universities to Oxford, and return later to employ in their own countries the knowledge and experience which they gained there. Australia sends every year perhaps a score of students to Oxford. Their experience increases their usefulness to Australia when they return home. Indeed, the interchange of ideas is pure gain, not only to the individuals who profit directly from it, but also to Oxford, to Australia, and to the British Commonwealth. But the gain would be still greater if the bonds which were formed in student days could in some degree be kept intact. The newly formed society is likely to provide the means of doing this. It will make it easier for Australian students to keep in touch with their old University; it will be a channel through which information between England and Australia may be distributed; and it will give to its

members the consciousness that they still belong actively to a living body.

A request has been received from the organising secretaries in Oxford asking that an Oxford Society group should be formed in Adelaide, in order to enrol members to correspond with the society in Oxford, and to concentrate Oxford opinion locally so that consultation may be possible when occasion arises. As a preliminary measure, a few who found it easy to come together—namely, Mr. R. R. P. Barbour, Rev. K. J. F. Bickersteth, Professor W. K. Hancock, Dr. E. Britten Jones, Mr. C. T. Madigan, Dr. W. Ray, Mr. R. J. Rudall, and Mr. Harry Thomson—have asked me to act temporarily as South Australian correspondent, and to obtain a roll of all old Oxford men and women. When a roll is completed it will be possible to discuss any further action. I, therefore, beg to ask that all members of the University of Oxford resident in this State should send me their names and addresses as soon as possible, whether or not they have already received the letter of the Chancellor, Lord Grey, and entrance forms. I shall be glad to supply this literature, and any further information.—I am, Sir, &c.,

C. T. MADIGAN,
The University, Adelaide.

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SCOTT CENTENARY CONCERT

Proposed Lectureship

The South Australian Caledonian Society held a commemorative concert to celebrate the Sir Walter Scott centenary at the Caledonian Hall last evening. The Chief of the society (Sir David Gordon), after having referred to Scott as one of the makers of Scotland, said that it was hoped by means of a Sir Walter Scott lectureship to perpetuate his memory in South Australia. A sum of £300 was needed, and the committee hoped that all lovers of Scott would help.

In an appreciation of Scott, Professor McKellar Stewart said that, by clothing in glory the familiar things like family and country and people, and the virtues which love of those called forth, he provided a stimulus to that devotion which everywhere, among all peoples, in all times, had been the source of most that was good in human life.

Sir David Gordon, referring to Scott's achievement, in adversity, of paying off his liabilities, said that he had earned by his writing in 18 months £28,000. "And that," added Sir David whimsically, "in Scotland."

The following awards in the essay competition, judged by Professor McKellar Stewart and Professor A. L. Campbell, were announced:—Essay on "Scott and the Spirit of Romance," Miss Margaret Kiek; essay on "The Scott novel I like best—and why," J. N. McDonald, Leroy Paris, Derek F. Wilson, Ruth Tidemann.

Adv. 26-9-32

Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., who was born at Wick, Scotland, on September 27, 1846, will be 86 tomorrow. Called to the Bar in South Australia in 1871, he was Queen's Counsel 10 years later. From 1881 to 1887 he represented Sturt in the State Parliament, and was Attorney-General in 1881. He was a member of the Senate from the inception of the Federal Parliament until 1913. He was leader of the Opposition in the first Senate and Attorney-General in 1904-5.

Adv. 26-9-32

Intermediate Examinations
From "Parent," Gilbert street:—Could not something be done to lighten the fees for this examination for parents on a small wage? If not, I am afraid some of the students will have to stand down after working hard all the year.

Adv. 29-9-32

The Governor-General visited the Barr Smith Library yesterday afternoon, and was received by the Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray).

Adv. 30-9-32

Sir Isaac Isaacs was the guest of the Legacy Club at lunch yesterday, and in the afternoon, attended by Mr. Leigh Winsor, paid a visit to the Waite Institute.

Adv. 27-10-32

Sir George J. R. Murray, who has been Chief Justice and Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia since 1916, celebrates his 69th birthday today. He was born at Murray Park, Magill, was educated at the High School, Edinburgh, St. Peter's College, Adelaide University, and at Cambridge University, where he was bracketed senior in the Law Tripos.



Sir George Murray

He had won a scholarship at the Adelaide University which took him to Europe for four years, and also won an Inns of Court Studentship. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1888, to the South Australian Bar in 1889, and the Victorian and New South Wales Bars the following year. In 1912 he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court. He was elected Chancellor of the Adelaide University in 1916. He is the founder of the Tinline scholarship for historical research, which he endowed in memory of the family of his mother.

Adv. 30-9-32

FIFTY YEARS AGO

From "The Advertiser," September 30, 1882

AT the University this evening, Professor Lamb will lecture on the scientific principles involved in electric lighting and the electric transmission of power.

Adv. 1-10-32

Exchange Helps Educational Research

Australia has benefited in at least one respect from the high exchange rate between the Commonwealth and the United States. The annual report of the Australian Council for Educational Research, which receives considerable help from a Carnegie grant, states that owing to the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation in deciding to make its annual payments in dollars, rather than Australian pounds, the remittance, which normally would be worth £7,500, became £12,254 in Australian currency.

The Corporation had also made special grants to enable Australian educationists to visit the United States and Europe, a practice which was of great value because of Australia's isolation from the educational centres of the world. Mr. H. M. Lushy, senior lecturer at the Adelaide Teachers' Training College, was now making such a trip, and notification had been received that the Corporation had approved of grants to enable five other educationists in other States to go abroad.

Adv. 1-10-32

EDUCATION CONFERENCE

An education conference will be held in Sydney on January 10, 11 and 12. It is being organised by the New South Wales Public School Teachers' Federation and the Federation of Australian Teachers in conjunction with the Department of Education in that State, and representatives of universities, colleges and schools. The conference will be opened by the Governor-General (Sir Isaac Isaacs), and the Director of Education in New South Wales (Mr. G. R. Thomas) will preside.

also News 30-9-32

Adv. 1-10-32

Professor Bernard Heinze, professor of music at the Melbourne University; Mr. Roy Shepherd, on the music staff of the Melbourne University, and Mr. John Horner, of the Elder Conservatorium, left for Perth yesterday to conduct University music examinations.

News 4-10-32

DR. George Solomon has sent a cable message to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Solomon, of Rose Park, that he has passed the examinations for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh).