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COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

The gentleman who examined the commercial papers at the University of Adelaide last year, in the course of his annual comments, remarks:—"In dealing with materials of commerce it would be possible to start a small school collection of the various industrial minerals, food plants, industrial plants, timbers, animal products, and manufactured or partly manufactured articles; and very probably the various bodies and firms interested in commercial education would be willing to help by presenting specimens suitable for such a museum, or by permitting visits to their establishments. It is often overlooked, too, that there is a wealth of illustration to be utilized in the Technological Museum of the Botanic Garden. Under such a system it would be strange if the examiner were told that 'indigo is a rubber produced from the sap of a tree, and is used for making jute and canvas,' or that 'esparto grass is used for flavouring certain cookery and for making soup.'" The same examiner says:—"This year's work is a distinct improvement on that of last year."

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THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP.

AWARDED TO MR. R. L. ROBINSON.

The adjourned meeting of the committee of the Rhodes Scholarship was held at Government House at 11 o'clock on Monday. There were present His Excellency the Governor (Sir George Le Hunte), Chairman; the Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.), Mr. G. J. R. Murray, Professors Bragg, Henderson, and Stirling, and Mr. C. R. Hodge (secretary). The first meeting was held on February 1, at which the applications were opened. On Monday further consideration was given to them, and all the candidates were interviewed. It was decided that Mr. Roy Lister Robinson, B.Sc., F.S.A.S.M., should be the Rhodes scholar for 1905.

—The New Scholar.—

Mr. Robinson, who is 21 years of age, was born on March 8, 1883, at Macclesfield, where he attended the local school. He is a son of Mr. W. Robinson, late of Macclesfield, and at present in Coolgardie, and has had a brilliant scholastic career. He was a pupil at the State School, Port Adelaide, for one and a half years, and in 1896 won a Government exhibition, with third place on the list. He went on to St. Peter's College, and in 1897 won two scholarships—the May for chemistry, and the Christchurch for classics. In addition he passed the Junior Public Examination, second class, with credits in chemistry and mathematics. Two years later he passed the Senior Public in English, Latin, chemistry, and mathematics, with credit in the two last named subjects. In 1900 Mr. Robinson won an entrance scholarship to the School of Mines, where he took the associate course, and in the first year won the prize and scholarship for the best first-year student. In 1901 he was again the best student, and in the following year divided the first place with another scholar and completed his course. Following upon these successes he won his B.Sc. degree at the University of Adelaide and the Fellowship of the School of Mines with a diploma in applied science. He passed in 11 subjects—10 first class and one second class. He was also teaching at the School of Mines for two nights a week the greater part of the year. Having finished his scholastic career Mr. Robinson obtained a position in the costs and drawing office of the Golden Horseshoe (W.A.) Mines. When Mr. Norman W. Jolly was chosen as the first Rhodes scholar from South Australia in 1904 Mr. Robinson succeeded him as science and sports master at the Townsville Grammar School.

—Outdoor Sports.—

One of the conditions with which Rhodes scholars have to comply is to show a fondness for and success in mainly outdoor sports, &c., and in this connection the following is the record, submitted by Mr. Robinson to the examiners:—1893—Represented the college in the annual gymnastic sports. 1899—Represented the college in football; in the intercollegiate sports obtained places in long jump, high jump, and half-mile race; represented the college in cricket. Top of bowling averages in December, and well up in batting. Played tennis and fives. 1899 and 1900—Played cricket with East Torrens second eleven, and football with Glenelg Club. 1900-1—Cricket with East Torrens; represented the East Torrens Association v. the Southern Association. Lacrosse with Glenelg Club. 1901-2—Member of Glenelg Cricket and Lacrosse Clubs. Picked to play for the second South Australian team v. first team (lacrosse). Member of School of Mines Students' Association. At the annual sports won the 100 yards championship, places in high jump and 150 yards handicap. Intercollegiate sports obtained places in the 100 yards and 440 yards old scholars' races. 1902-3—Cricket and lacrosse with Glenelg clubs, again picked to play with second S.A. team (lacrosse). School of Mines sports won the high jump and obtained places in the 100 yards championship and 350 yards handicap steeplechase. 1903-4—Early part of season cricket Glenelg Club, latter part with Horseshoe Club in W.A. Won the bowling trophy of the association with a bowling and batting average of 8.8 and 34 respectively. Played lacrosse with the Boulder City club and tennis. In Townsville had full control of school sports, organized the athletic sports, coached boys in cricket and tennis. Played with the boys in the Junior Association, and was picked to represent Townsville v. Charters Towers in intercity senior match, and was top scorer with 65. Was regarded as the best all-round man in Townsville. For three seasons he played cricket with Glenelg, and had a batting average of over 40. He also hit the first 6 scored on the Norwood Oval.

—Honour at the School of Mines.—

In recognition of his being the first student to win a fellowship connected with the School of Mines, Sir Langdon Bonython (the President) presented Mr. Robinson with a special prize, and when handing it over remarked that among the students taking the associateship last year was Mr. Roy Lister Robinson. He took it in mining. He resolved that he would put in another year, and in that time do all the additional work required for the fellowship. Just realize what that meant. A fellowship could not be won in less than four years if one started on the course from the beginning. Mr. Robinson had spent three years on the work for the associateship without thought of the fellowship. In 12 months he had got to bring up all the arrears and do the work of the final year. Mr. Robinson had accomplished his purpose. He had scored a brilliant success, and had put up a record which would be hard to beat. Mr. Robinson had had to take 11 subjects, and he had passed in 10 in the first class and in 1 in the second class. Here was the list:—Mining, part 2, first class; mathematics, part 1 (second year), first class; applied mechanics (second year), second class; applied mathematics; physics, part 2; drawing, part 2; drawing, part 3; mechanical engineering, part 2; machine design, part 1; metallurgy, part 1; and building construction—all first class. Certainly the first of their students to win the fellowship did the Adelaide School of Mines great credit, and he was very glad to see the Chancellor of the University, in presenting him with the science degree, which the arrangement between the School of Mines and the University made it possible for him to obtain, had spoken in terms of generous eulogy. Mr. Robinson's record reminded him of that of Mr. F. W. Reid, a student who had come from New Zealand to attend the school, and had won the associateship in mining. He passed in all his subjects, with one exception, in the first class, and not merely in the first class, but first in the first class in every case. The two records were not on all fours, but each was a brilliant performance.

Ad. 28th Feb. 1905

THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

MR. R. L. ROBINSON CHOSEN.

A DISTINGUISHED CAREER.

A meeting of the Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee was held on Monday morning at Government House for the purpose of awarding the Rhodes Scholarship for 1905. This prize, which is worth £300 per annum for three years, and is tenable at the Oxford University, is regarded as the "blue ribbon" of the scholastic arena, and is eagerly coveted. His Excellency the Governor presided, and there were also present Sir Samuel Way, Mr. G. J. R. Murray, Professors Bragg, Henderson, and Stirling, and Mr. C. R. Hodge (secretary to the committee). The applications were again considered, and the committee interviewed the candidates personally. The meeting resulted in a unanimous vote in favor of Mr. Roy Lister Robinson, B.Sc., F.S.A.S.M. The successful candidate, who is nearly 22 years of age, was a student of St. Peter's College till 1900, when he became associated with the School of Mines and Industries, where he remained until he took his fellowship, as well as the degree of Bachelor of Science. He is essentially a product of the School of Mines.

His Educational Career.

Mr. Robinson was born at Macclesfield on March 8, 1883, and is the son of Mr. W. Robinson. He began his education at the Macclesfield State School, of which his grandfather (Mr. G. E. Lowe) was headmaster, where he obtained his compulsory certificate at an early age. Mr. Robinson next went, in 1893, to the Port Adelaide State school, from which, late in 1896, he won the Government Exhibition, which gave him three years' education at a secondary school. Entering St. Peter's College in 1897, he won the May scholarship for chemistry and the Christchurch scholarship for classics. He passed the junior public examination, second class, with credit in chemistry and mathematics. In 1899 he passed the senior public examination in English, Latin, French, chemistry, and mathematics, with credit in the two last named subjects. In 1900 he won an entrance scholarship to the School of Mines. He entered for the associate mining course, and won the prize and scholarship for the best first year student. In 1901 he won the prize for the best second year student. In 1902 he completed his associate course, and divided the prize for the best third year student. In 1903 he obtained the B.Sc. degree and the fellowship of the School of Mines, and a diploma in applied science. He passed in 11 subjects, with 10 first classes and one second class. In recognition of his being the first student to win the fellowship of the school Sir Langdon Bonython (the president of the council) presented him with a special prize.

On that occasion Sir Langdon Bonython said:—

"Among the students taking the associateship last year was Mr. Roy Lister Robinson. He took it in mining. He resolved that he would put in another year, and in that time do all the additional work required for the fellowship. Just realize what that meant. A fellowship cannot be won in less than four years if you start on the course from the beginning. Mr. Robinson had spent three years on the work for the associateship without thought of the fellowship. In twelve months he had got to bring up all the arrears and do the work of the final year. Mr. Robinson has accomplished his purpose. He has scored a brilliant success, and on behalf of the school I congratulate him most heartily. I am afraid that he has put up a record which it will be hard to beat. Mr. Robinson had to take eleven subjects, and he has passed in ten in the first class, and in one in the second class. Here is the list:—Mining, part 2, first class; mathematics, part 1 (second year), first class; applied mechanics (second year), second class; applied mathematics, first class; physics, part 2, first class; drawing, part 2, first class; drawing, part 3, first class; mechanical engineering, part 2, first class; machine design, part 1, first class; metallurgy, part 1, first class; and building construction, first class. Certainly the first of our students to win the fellowship does the Adelaide School of Mines great credit, and I was very glad to see the Chancellor of the University, in presenting him with the science degree, which the arrangement between the School of Mines and the University made it possible for him to obtain, spoke in terms of generous eulogy. Mr. Robinson's record reminds me of that of Mr. F. W. Reid, a student who came up from New Zealand to attend our school, and won our associateship in mining. He passed in all his subjects, with one exception, in the first class, and not merely in the first class, but first in the first class in every case. The two records are not on all fours, but each was a brilliant performance."

Mr. Robinson was also teaching at the School of Mines for two nights a week for the greater part of the year. In 1904 Mr. Robinson was employed in the costs and drawing office of the Golden Horseshoe (Western Australia) mines. Subsequently he was appointed science and sports master at Townsville Grammar School, succeeding Mr. N. W. Jolly, B.Sc., who won the Rhodes scholarship last year.

His Athletic Achievements.

Mr. Robinson appears to have been equally at home in the arena of athletic sports as in the seclusion of the study, and during the past seven years he has been very successful in various outdoor sports, as the following record will show:—

In 1898 he represented St. Peter's College in the annual gymnastic sports, and in 1899 the college in football. In the inter-collegiate sports he obtained places in the long jump, high jump, and half-mile race. He played in the annual representative cricket match. He was top of the bowling averages in December, and well up in batting. He also played tennis and fives. In 1899 and 1900 he played cricket with East Torrens second eleven, and football with the Glenelg club. In 1900-1 he played cricket with East Torrens, and in a representative match against the Southern Association. He also played lacrosse with the Glenelg club. In 1901-2 he became a member of the Glenelg Cricket and Lacrosse Clubs, and was picked to play for the Second South Australian team versus First team. For three seasons he played in the Glenelg Cricket Club, and has a batting average of over 40. Mr. Robinson was a member of the School of Mines Students' Association, and at the 1901 annual sports won the 100 yards championship, and obtained places in the high jump and the 150 yards handicap. At the intercollegiate sports he obtained places in the 100 yards and the 440 yards Old Scholars' races. In 1902-3 he played cricket and lacrosse with the Glenelg clubs, and was again picked to play with the second South Australian team. At the School of Mines sports he won the high jump, and obtained places in the 100 yards championship and 350 yards handicap steeplechase. In 1903-4, during the early part of the season, he played cricket with the Glenelg club, and the later part with the Horseshoe club in Western Australia. He won the bowling trophy of the association in that State, his bowling average being 8.8 and batting average 34. He played lacrosse and tennis with the Boulder City team. In Townsville he had full control of the school sports, organized the athletic and swimming sports, and coached the boys in cricket and tennis. He played with the boys in the junior association, and was picked to represent Townsville versus Charters Towers in the inter-city senior match, and was top scorer for Townsville. Mr. Robinson was regarded as the best all-round man in Townsville. In 1905 he played cricket with the Glenelg club.

Congratulations From the Council.

The news of Mr. Robinson's success was conveyed to the School of Mines and Industries at the beginning of the council's meeting on Monday afternoon, and was received with much pleasure. The candidate's School of Mines career has been a very brilliant one, and the members were very much gratified that one of their students should have gained such high distinction. Mr. R. E. E. Rogers moved—"That the registrar be instructed to convey to Mr. Robinson the heartiest congratulations of the members of the council of the School of Mines upon his success." The Hon. D. M. Charleston seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.