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GEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO FINKE RIVER.

By the Great Northern train this morning Professor Sir Edgeworth David, of the Sydney University, Professor Howchin (formerly of the Adelaide University), and Capt. S. A. White (the noted Australian ornithologist and traveller), will leave for Oodnadatta, en route to the Finke River, where an important geological investigation will take place. Owing to the flooded condition of the country, the party will be able to travel in the motor only so far as the Macumba Station. From that point the journey will be undertaken in a buggy drawn by five horses. Twenty-five horses will be sent ahead for relays. With the party also will be Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dutton, of Anlaby, who intend to proceed to Alice Springs in order to view the country. They are taking two motor cars, with a driver and mechanic, and will endeavour to get through by easy stages. The itinerary of the geological party is as follows:—July 8, arrive Oodnadatta; 9, motor to Macumba Station; 10, stay at Macumba and examine country in this locality; 11, leave Macumba and camp at Ten-Mile Bore; 12, leave Ten-Mile Bore and camp at O'Halloran Bore; 13, leave O'Halloran Bore and camp at Blood's Creek; 14, leave Blood's Creek and camp at Charlotte Waters; 15, leave Charlotte Waters and camp at New Crown Point; 16, leave Crown Point camp for Yellow Cliff; 17, stay at Yellow Cliff; 18, leave Yellow Cliff camp for Charlotte Waters; 19, leave Charlotte Waters and camp at Dalhousie Upper Springs; 20, leave Springs and camp at Dalhousie Springs; 21, stay at Dalhousie; 22, motor from Macumba for Oodnadatta; 23, arrive Adelaide. All the arrangements for the trip have been made by Capt. White, whose previous experience in the country will make him the guide, philosopher, and friend of the party.

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perfect equality, but the present plan steered between these two extremes and was formed on the basis of a compromise. Though moderation was preserved, there was clear progress. The importance of the Great Powers was recognised, but they had no exclusive control. At present it seemed impossible to have perfect equality, just as it was impossible to have perfect equality among the shareholders of a company, as it all depended on the interests of each in the concern. The League was not yet an organic institution, because it could not work of itself. It was not a body corporate, and it had no legal personality. So far only the Secretariat had a definite "local habitation and a name," but the Secretariat was not the League, seeing that the Governments alone could take action.

The All-Important Object.
Therefore, at present the League was rather a method or an instrument, and not an end in itself, and, strictly speaking, it had no policy. When the League was said to be an infant this simply meant that its power stood for the power of the constituent Governments, and at present those Governments were unwilling to assume great responsibility on account of the complicated conditions following the war. Later, when conditions became more normal, they would be bolder to assume responsibility, and the League would obtain a policy. The fundamental principles of the League centred on one all-important object—to prevent war. War was considered abnormal and wrongful and a disturbance of the world's peace. Therefore it concerned all States, and there could be no neutrality. Arbitration might go on as before, failing which disputes must be submitted to the council or assembly of the League. There was a definite sanction, namely, co-operation, to prevent breach of the peace. Secret treaties were forbidden. Treaties must be registered, and that ensured publicity, and aimed a blow at the old diplomacy. More than 70 treaties had already been registered, but in one case (the Franco-Belgian alliance) the full terms were not disclosed. Protests were made, but the parties claimed that they were right technically. Further, all international engagements contrary to the covenant were abrogated. Certain treaties, however, remained valid, namely those relating to arbitration, those for securing peace, and

of singing at the academy for 20 years. "I have had many distinguished singers through my hands during the time I have been at the academy," she said to a representative of "The Advertiser" who interviewed her at the Elder Conservatorium on Tuesday. "but I do not like talking about it. It is true that I was a well-known concert platform artist in my day, but I am perfectly sure that my greatest work has been in the teaching line, for I am much more adapted for that kind of work, for I love that branch the best. I have given a comprehensive series of lectures to women musicians in connection with a Women Musicians' Society, and at those lectures there used to be very many distinguished visitors from the musical world. Those papers have since been collected and issued in primer form in Novello's series. I shall be giving a lecture one morning next week at the Music Teachers' Conference."

In answer to a question, Madame Larkcom said:—"I have lived and taught in London for many years, and have had a number of pupils who have distinguished themselves in the world of music. Among them was Miss Clara Butt, who is creating a sensation in London at the present time. The late Crown Princess of Sweden, the Princess Margaret of Connaught was another pupil. Miss Florence Easton, prima donna at the New York Metropolitan Opera House, Miss Caroline Hatchard, and Miss Gladys Roberts were also pupils of mine, and it was upon my advice that Mr. Robert Radford came to London to study. I was, however, not allowed to take gentlemen pupils. Australians have made a great name in the musical world. Your own South Australian singer, Miss Ethel Hanke, would, had she stayed in London and gone on studying, have been in the first rank, but getting homesick she returned to Australia, and shortly afterwards she married. Miss Olive Bassett is another clever Australian, and in Melbourne I met Miss Edith Littlewood, who is a fine teacher, and was responsible for the production of Miss Elsie Frowe's beautiful voice. But I am meeting people I know all over the world. I left England nearly 12 months ago. I had to take the rest, and since then I have been in the United States, Japan, and China. In the last-named country I have been staying with my son, who is in the Royal Engineers, and is stationed there. I am

Perhaps the League ought not to have been embodied in the Peace Treaty. Again, were the obligations more apparent than real? In some respects the covenant was too vague and ambiguous, in others too explicit, admitting of too easy commitment. A great defect was that the basis was political, although that might be remedied later by the International Court. But if it were imperfect no one claimed perfection. The conditions necessary for perfection did not exist. The main thing was progress, and a good measure of progress was secured by the League. (Applause.)

Instruments of the League.
On the subject of the constitution of the League, Professor Phillipson said the original members, the Allied and Associated Powers, numbered 32, of which the British Empire contributed six, and the invited States, the neutrals, 13. Provision was made for additions if two-thirds of the Assembly agreed. At the first Geneva Assembly in November last there were 42 member States. The sense of the Assembly was in favor of admitting Germany. France almost alone opposed, saying that Germany should first of all fulfil her obligations. Any member could withdraw after two years' notice, and after fulfilling all obligations. There were four instruments or organs of the League, the Assembly, the Council, the Secretariat, and the International Court. To the Assembly each State might send no more than three representatives, but each State had only one vote. At present it seemed that the members were appointed by the Governments. It might be advisable for them to be elected by the people. The functions of the Assembly were to consider any matter concerning the League or peace, to revise treaties, to admit new members, and to pass the League budget. The Council consisted of nine representatives, one of each of the Great Powers, and one each of Belgium, Spain, Brazil, and China. This showed a compromise between the dominance of the Great Powers and the principle of universal equality. Additional members might be named by the Council if a majority of the Assembly agreed. The experience at Geneva showed the need for younger members not steeped in the old traditions and not marked by such a strong political character. The functions of the Council were to control and devise the policy of the League, and it also acted as an executive body. To a large extent the Council and the Assembly were independent bodies. The seat of the League was at Geneva, but the Council might fix it elsewhere. The rule in regard to voting was generally the unanimity of those present. There were various exceptions to the rule where an absolute majority might suffice. The Secretariat was a sort of international civil service, the general secretary being Sir Eric Drummond. There were various heads of departments chosen from all the nations, and this service was open to women. Lastly, there was the International Court, and here the former difficulties in the way of establishing such an institution had largely been overcome.

Prevention of War.
Dealing with the method to be adopted for preventing war, the lecturer said the submission of a dispute was compulsory, if not settled in the old ways by diplomacy or arbitration. The rule was "either submit your dispute or abstain from war." If the Council failed to settle a dispute a report was issued making recommendations. If the report was not unanimous members did what they thought fit for maintaining right and justice. If the report was unanimous it was presented to the disputing parties. If both rejected it they might boycott each other in trade, but they must refrain from war for at least nine months. If only one accepted, the members, including the non-accepting party, must not make war on it, and the other might do anything short of war. Thus there was a cooling-off period allowed, which would be of great value and had long been advocated by the United States of America. There were similar provisions for settling disputes in the case of non-members. If a member made war contrary to these provisions the other States would cease intercourse with it. It would be rejected from the League and might have to undergo a blockade. Further, belligerent co-operation was contemplated, but not definitely prescribed. There were certain difficulties about this sanction. There was nothing in the way of unity of plan and direction, and it was doubtful whether co-operation would be prompt and effective, or if in certain places it would take place at all. It had been claimed by Mr. Lloyd George, however, that these provisions would have prevented war on July 14, 1914.

There was no doubt, concluded Professor Phillipson, that the League was alive and was working. (Applause.) The Covenant had been by no means torn up. It had survived its precarious birth, although its American godfather (Dr. Woodrow Wilson) had not survived his sponsorship. The

League had done useful work, although the ideal had by no means been reached. Its power at present was uncertain, but it was not a Machiavellian or capitalist structure aiming at small nations or the masses. There was no reason for pessimism. The League was working without America, although it was absolutely essential that the important Powers still absent should join. At Geneva it was seen that their absence hampered many important undertakings. There were fears that the 42 units would remain 42 units, that hostile groups would be formed, and that the Assembly would refrain from deliberating, but all those fears were not realised. There had been a striking amount of cohesion shown, as well as independence. Other facts showing success were the publicity of the proceedings. Further, the smaller States were by no means overwhelmed. On one occasion the Swiss delegate successfully protested against a claim made by Mr. Baile (England) and M. Bourgeois (France) that the Covenant was amended it would necessarily infringe the Treaty of Versailles. Again, Dr. Nansen (Norway) and M. Branting (Sweden) took a very effective part. Thus solid work had been done, and there was beginning the formation of a League spirit. (Applause.)

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UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES.

"There was never yet philosopher who could bear the toothache patiently," an old proverb says, and it is a well-known fact of daily experience that one shrinks from the dentist's chair until the ordeal can no longer be postponed (states The Melbourne Age). But there are differences in dentists' chairs, and one that is now proposed to be established at Melbourne University may prove to be a boon and a blessing to mankind. But this dentist's chair is to be a "Chair of Dental Science," and as it will carry a salary of about £1,200 a year there probably will be no difficulty experienced in finding a professor to fill it. The proposal—not for the first time—was brought before the University council at its meeting on Monday by a letter from the Faculty of Dentistry, emphasizing the need of the chair, and asking for priority over other applications, in view of the fact that, as the remainder of the staff, equipment, and organization was already available in the Melbourne College of Dentistry, which was self-supporting, the only expense necessary would be the appointment of the professor. A report was received from the professorial board expressing the view that the establishment of the Chair of Agriculture was the more urgent, the council being already committed to this. The council decided after discussing the matter at length, to report to the Minister of Education that both chairs were indispensable and equally urgent.

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Mr. R. Bronner, B.A., who has been a lecturer for the W.E.A. on social science each week at Gawler, Freeling, Port Adelaide, and the University, and who was recently appointed assistant director of University tutorial classes in Victoria, left by the Melbourne express yesterday afternoon. He will commence his new duties to-morrow. He will be acting director of the W.E.A. during the temporary absence of Professor Meredith Atkinson in England. Mr. L. A. Mander, M.A., has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the lecturing staff of the W.E.A.

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A cablegram from our London correspondent reports that Professor Darnley Naylor, of the Adelaide University, on Wednesday delivered an address on "Universities and adult education" before the Empire Universities Congress at Oxford. He stated that the system pursued by the Workers' Educational Association was far superior to the normal system of University extension lectures.

LECTURES AT PORT ADELAIDE.

The free public lectures which have been given in the council chamber of the Port Adelaide Town Hall on Wednesday evenings, under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association, will be continued to-night by Professor Heaton, M.A. Portonians who have not yet heard these highly interesting lectures should not fail to avail themselves of the opportunity that offers to listen to those instructive lectures. Questions and a discussion follow at the end of each lecture, which may be attended by any man or woman. No collection is taken up.

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Mr. R. Bronner, lecturer in social science for the W.E.A. of the Adelaide University, has been appointed assistant director of tutorial classes of the University of Melbourne.

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THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR PHILLIPSON.

Before a large and deeply interested audience in the Prince of Wales building, University of Adelaide, on Tuesday evening Professor Coleman Phillipson delivered the second of his extension lectures on the League of Nations. The fundamental object of the League, he said, was to prevent war. The League had been compared to many different things, from a diseased baby to the Kingdom of God on earth. There was a certain truth in all these comparisons, but not the whole truth. Too many had gone on the principle of giving a dog a bad name and then hanging it. There were two classes of critics—those who wanted to mark time and those who wanted to rush headlong. The former desired to stick to the old methods and machinery, everything to be voluntary, and the sanction to be only public opinion. The other class advocated a super-national Government and an international army, and contended that all States should enjoy