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THE COPLAND CURRENCY LECTURE.

From A. BARHAM BLACK:—An error, due to my bad writing perhaps, occurs in the letter under my name on Friday. When India, about 1890, rated 15 rupees to the pound, it made the local ratio about 2 1/2 to 1 (or 3/4 an ounce), not "1/4 ounce." Japan essayed the same, but selected the old Latin Union ratio of 15 1/2 to 1, making 10 yen pieces of 257 grains, value £2 0/11, so that the silver yen (if they had been strong enough, like India, to maintain enough gold reserves), would have remained at 4/11, or nearly the value of a U.S. dollar. But she was not strong enough, and foreign exchanges took away her gold reserves, much as I fear would be the case with this new scheme. What was the fate of the 10 yen pieces I don't know, but at any rate the silver yen fell to about 2/ at which it has stood for a long period. There is one very suggestive comparison in this matter of silver—i.e.—the gold pound used to be (roughly) equal in value to 4 oz. of standard silver. To-day the paper (more or less) fraudulent pound note is somewhere about the value of from 4 oz. to 5 of silver. Silver is much more likely to rise in exchange value than to fall, hence it would follow that to settle and attack British currency with the white metal holds out a valid and substantial hope to white people that they may regain sound financial grounds once more. Such action would leave it an open question for civilized nations subsequently to link and silver and gold once more, or even do so at once. Matters are far too bad, as they stand, to raise the old arguments against a double standard. To-day we have none at all. India ran bimetalism alone for 25 years, and successfully.

Mail 18/6/21

Music Teachers' Conference.

A conference of music teachers has been arranged for next month, opening on Monday, July 11, and extending to Friday, July 15, during which a series of lectures, recitals, and concerts will be given. This is one of the first of its kind held in South Australia, and is intended to give country teachers an opportunity of hearing good music and discussing matters of importance concerning their work. In response to a previous invitation issued nearly 200 teachers have signified their desire to be present. A programme of lectures, recitals, and concerts will be provided by well-known musicians, and should be well attended.

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SIR EDGEWORTH DAVID'S QUEST.

It was the intention of Sir Edgeworth David, who will lecture at the University this evening, to leave Adelaide for Oodnadatta on Wednesday, accompanied by Professor Howchin, and Captain S. A. White. On account of the flooded nature of the roads, however, the departure has been postponed until July 6. A telegram received by Captain White on Saturday from Mr. Kemp (manager of Macumba Station) stated:—"Strongly advise not come this train; impossible use motor at present account boggy state of roads. Senator Newland had terrible experience between Macumba and Oodnadatta."

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SITE OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The suggestion that the Adelaide University should be removed from North terrace to the suburbs was referred to by Professor Sir Edgeworth David, of Sydney, in the course of a lecture on "A People's University," given at the Prince of Wales Theatre on Monday night. He said in effect that removal would be fatal to the most use of the institution in the interests of the people, as many of the students were school teachers and others would not be able to spare the time or find the finances to go far from the centre of the city. The Minister of Education (Hon. G. Ritchie), in moving a vote of thanks, said he was of the same opinion as Professor David. The University was expending a large amount of money and contemplated building more accommodation for an engineering section. Where the institution would spread he did not know, but he held his own opinion, which he would not give expression to at present.

PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

LECTURE BY PROFESSOR DAVID.

"We are still a free people with a future bright with hope," declared Professor Sir E. David, when lecturing at the Prince of Wales Theatre of the Adelaide University on Monday night on the subject of "A People's University." Professor Robertson presided. Professor David exhaustively dealt with the advances made in the promotion of sciences before and since the war. He commended the project of the Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide for the provision of new rooms for the use of undergraduates. He said that Adelaide had been called "the city of culture," and its University had been the first of the kind in Australia to grant degrees to women. He mentioned other directions in which it had been the first to make a move. Permanency and efficiency went hand in hand, and wise government and administration were essentials. He agreed with the principle that there should be stepping-stones from the primary schools, through secondary schools, right up to the University for those deserving. He agreed with Huxley that there should be a ladder from the gutter to the University. But staffs should be adequately paid, and capable of carrying out research work. When science made an important discovery, great was the acclamation of those who benefited, but at present the research student had largely to cast his bread upon the waters, and trust to it returning to him after many days. It was essential that teachers should not be so overburdened as to be unable to carry out research work. Scholarships for that or similar work should be established. It was most essential to a people's University that the learning available should be accessible to all worthy, in spite of financial difficulties. Remission of fees, conferring of bursaries by examination, and University education free to all were alternatives. Experience had shown that it was better to let the students who could afford to pay do so. For those suffering financial disabilities the provision of bursaries did not meet the case in New South Wales, where 200 were offered. In the Sydney University there were 1700 students, and last year the total was almost 3000, or nearly double. And the staff, laboratories, rooms, &c., had been arranged to cope with 1700. That doubling of the number of students had caused embarrassment, and some students had been diverted to other courses than those which they intended to take. If the bursary system was adopted in South Australia, it should be accompanied by the provision of the necessary additional accommodation and equipment. Until then they should go slow in the matter of increasing bursaries. He commended loyalty to the alma mater, and the preservation of the University spirit, such as existed in America. He complimented Adelaide University upon its progress and suggested means by which it could be further expanded and its usefulness increased. Above all he said they should not have the Varsity on the present site or extend it in the vicinity. He reminded them, "Ye are of more value than many sparrows." Continuing, the lecturer said the work of the University was never done, and always seemed one day ahead of requirements. Now was the time to put out their best efforts in work and sacrifice. In the war they had sacrificed 60,000 of Australia's noblest sons, and they must give of their best now to prevent such a thing happening again. The great tragedy in the long run would make for the peace of the world. One could not help feeling, irrespective of the League of Nations, that they were much nearer to the promotion of the peace of the world than heretofore, and it was the duty of scientists and the University to work for such maintenance of peace. The Minister of Education (Hon. G. Ritchie) moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, whose modesty he said had prevented him from telling them of the part he had played in the war. Professor Mitchell (vice-chancellor) seconded the vote of thanks. In responding Professor David said most of the time he had spent in the war had been underground. However the French would benefit from artistic bores, the possibilities of which they had never suspected.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

A DELIGHTFUL RECITAL.

Miss Maude Puddy, Mus. Bac., gave a charming pianoforte recital in the Elder Hall on Monday evening—this being the sixth concert of the 1921 series. The popularity of the pianiste was attested by the large number of people who crowded into the building—and she had to wait for some time after she came upon the platform in order to allow those present to find places. The programme was well chosen to secure contrast and interest, and Miss Puddy displayed a command of varying moods as well as of technique in her performance. To a manner quiet and restrained in an unusual degree, this musician adds a power of throwing herself into the music she is rendering. Her touch is clear, crisp, true, but also infinitely tender; and the way in which the softer slower passages sing themselves under her fingers is an especial charm of her playing. The recital opened with Bach's Italian concerto, the initial movement, "Allegro," was rendered with ease and effect, and the "Andante" with a tender delicacy of handling which led up to the climax of the presto. Chopin's "Fantaisie in F minor, Op. 49," followed, with its great demands upon the player, and here again Miss Puddy was eminently successful. Delightful in quite another way was a group of descriptive bits, "Kammerscenen," by Schumann. They made a charming little recital in themselves, these child studies; and Miss Puddy brought out most tenderly and perfectly every shade of each, and her sensitively delicate touch was specially noticeable. "Of foreign lands and people" was followed by "The strange story" and "Paying Tag," with its rollicking fun, by the hushed simplicity of the "Child's Petition." "Quite happy" and "An important event" had each its characteristics touched in, as had "Revery," "At the fireside," "Knight of the hobby horse," "Almost too severe," and "Frightening." Last and most lovely of all were "Child falling asleep" and "The poet speaks." Descriptive work of a more robust kind was included in the next group. "Ragamuffin," by John Ireland, was given just the right abandon, and in "The island spell," by the same composer, each rippling, wave-like run was more liquid and flowing than the last. The concluding numbers were "Humoresque" and "Arabesque," by Lechetzky, which won enthusiastic applause; and Moszkowski's "Melodia appassionata," which was a fitting climax to a fine recital.

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SCIENCE IN THE WAR.

Speaking of the Adelaide University and the staff connected with it on Monday night, Professor Sir Edgeworth David, of Sydney, referred to the services of three men who had rendered valuable war services. He said that the idea of locating the presence of the U-boats by submarine cables had first been made to the Admiralty by Professor Kerr Grant. The German submarine menace had been considerably reduced by this means of detecting their movements. Another former member of the staff, that grand scientific genius, Professor Bragg, had been responsible for the hydrophone and still more wonderful instruments. The younger Bragg had done a great work in connection with the war by the detection of German guns by sound ranging. This was so accurately conducted that after the great break through in August, 1918, the British barrage elicited hardly a single gun; they had practically all been knocked out. It was important that the public should not forget their debt to science in the last great war. But while it was the duty of the University to watch in behalf of its people to see that no inventions were omitted which might strengthen their defence, it was surely more essential for the University to seek peace and to promote all that made for the fellowship of mankind. Later in the evening, in proposing a vote of thanks to Professor David, the Minister of Education (Hon. G. Ritchie) mentioned the valuable services which the professor himself had rendered, but seldom mentioned.

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Professor D. B. Copland, M.A. (Professor of Economics and director of tutorial classes at the Hobart University), who had been in Adelaide during the past few weeks, departed, en route for his home, by the Melbourne express on Monday afternoon.

A PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

AN INTERESTING LECTURE.

A large audience assembled at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, on Monday night, when Professor Sir Edgeworth David delivered an interesting lecture on "A People's University." Professor Brailsford Robertson presided. The chairman announced that the lecture which was to be given by Professor Wood Jones on June 29, would be postponed until Monday, July 4. The general meeting of the association would be held on July 18, when in addition to ordinary business there would be a discussion on the project for a new union room for the use of undergraduates.

Professor David, who was given a splendid reception, said he hoped that culture would for ever characterise the fair city of Adelaide. North-terrace was a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. They had good reason to be proud of their University, which was the first in Australia to grant degrees in science, to establish commercial, agricultural, and forestry courses, and to introduce a chair of music and examinations in music. It had led the way in other matters, and had been the first University in the Commonwealth to grant degrees to women. (Applause.) The Adelaide University had 1,928 students on its rolls. It afforded absolutely free education to 418 students. That was a substantial title to the claim to be a people's University. The lecturer dealt with the question what a people's University might be. At the Sydney University they had been consulted on that important subject of making the education free to all. They had been unanimous in the opinion that it was a better system to let those students who had distinguished themselves academically less than others, and who could afford to pay for their education do so, and for those worthy students who were under financial disabilities the State should provide bursaries. In New South Wales the State had done so to the extent of 200 a year. In conducting the examinations for the bursaries the simple condition of merit was considered. They made no stipulation that the recipients should be unable to pay the fees. The bursaries were awarded partly to those who could not pay, and without the bursaries could not secure a university training, and partly to those who would earn in any case, but the larger number went to those who could not afford to pay. Some difficulties had been experienced in Sydney as the result of the rapid increase in the number of students. In 1917 they had 1,700 students. Last year there were 3,500. That was the number had doubled in three years. The teaching staff, the buildings, and the laboratories were just able to deal with and accommodate the 1,700. The result was they had been put to great inconvenience by overcrowding. The good custom of bestowing a considerable number of bursaries in South Australia should be accompanied by the provision of suitable accommodation and equipment. In Sydney they had had to force a number of students from the departments they desired to enter to other courses. That had naturally led to dissatisfaction. It had been said that the aim of American universities was efficiency. They sought to find out what each student could do best, and to assist him to do that best; better. They sought to discover what the student was fitted for. He dealt with a number of definitions of "university." In order to secure efficiency a university should be wisely governed and administered. The whole scheme of education in the country should be co-ordinated from the primary schools through the secondary schools, and the technical institutions up to the university. Professor Huxley said long ago that it was his ideal to see a ladder set up from the gutter to the university. (Applause.) The teaching staff should be of the highest attainable standard. They should be men whose hearts and souls were in their work. They should be

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