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STATE PARLIAMENT HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands moved the second reading in the Assembly on Thursday of the Chaff and Hay Bill, which had been received from the Council. The debate was adjourned.

Registration of Veterinary Surgeons.

Further consideration, in Committee, was given to the Veterinary Surgeons Bill. Mr. Gunn, speaking on clause 25, said there were no facilities in South Australia for a person to qualify as a veterinary surgeon, and if he wished to do so he would be put to the expense of going to Melbourne or elsewhere to study and pass the University examination. He suggested that the Bill be held up so as not to inflict hardships on persons who desired to qualify, and that the Government should communicate with the University to see if a course could not be instituted there.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands said so far there was no provision in South Australia for persons to qualify as veterinary surgeons, and he could not express an opinion whether a chair of veterinary science would be established at the University. At present a course of veterinary surgery was provided at Roseworthy College, but that would not entitle a person to be registered as a veterinary surgeon under the Bill. If they established a teaching staff at the Adelaide University it would be the same as with forestry. Only a few students would present themselves, because the calling was of a limited character.

Mr. Moseley said they should have provision for training qualified veterinary surgeons. If it was not worth while having the proper machinery for a candidate to qualify it was not worth while having the Bill.

Mr. Blackwell said South Australia was an agricultural country, and provision should be made at least for students to be examined in the State.

Mr. McIntosh said they should have some system of training, and particularly of examination.

Mr. Jenkins said it was quite unnecessary, because of the limited demand for veterinary surgeons, to establish a chair of veterinary science at the University.

Mr. Butterfield said the qualifications required could not be obtained in this State, and in view of the lack of provision for training veterinary surgeons the best thing to do would be to withdraw the Bill.

Mr. Gunn thought they might appoint a board of examiners in the hope that in the near future the University would take the matter up.

Mr. Hill said the more expensive they made the training of veterinary surgeons the heavier would be the fees charged for attendance on stock. Progress should be reported to see if the Government could not evolve a scheme under which it would not be necessary for students to go to the other States to qualify by examination.

Mr. Harper said it appeared that the Bill was premature.

Mr. Reidy said the Bill should not be passed unless young men had the opportunity to qualify for registration in South Australia. He suggested that progress be reported.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands—I am not going to do that. I am going straight on with the Bill. It seems that every Bill I bring forward is premature, because one or the other has some idea about it.

Mr. Gunn—That's a tribute to you, and shows that you look ahead.

Clause 25 (cancellation of registration) was agreed to, and Mr. Gunn remarked, "We'll have to deal with the Bill on the third reading."

The remaining clauses were passed, and Mr. Gunn intimated that when the Bill was recommitted he would submit an amendment in regard to local examination.

THE UNIVERSITY.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONS TO BUILDINGS.

The University of Adelaide grows apace. A new chemical laboratory has been erected at the rear of the Elder Conservatorium, and a new lecture theatre is being built on to the eastern end of the anatomical building of the medical school. These additional structures, with certain space economies, will give much extra room. The chemistry school of the University has grown rapidly. Whereas four or five years ago there were only about 50 or 60 students there are now at least three times that number. The students taking advanced chemistry have also considerably increased. In consequence of this the accommodation in the old chemical laboratory is overtaxed, and the expedient of duplicating classes has had to be adopted. The new laboratory will relieve the position. It is built of wood and asbestos, and is an extensive structure, containing a large elementary laboratory, an experimental laboratory, a balance room, and a spare room, with the necessary cloakrooms, &c. The elementary laboratory provides accommodation for 110 students, and the equipment of this is double that previously provided. The old elementary laboratory is to be remodelled, and will be devoted to physical chemistry and other branches. There are probably more openings for advanced chemists in Adelaide now, particularly in regard to manufacture, than there have been previously.

The anatomical branch of the medical school also requires additional accommodation in consequence of the increase in the number of students. The new anatomical theatre will accommodate 200. By making structural alterations to the cloakroom portion of the old building there are now a new research room and two additional teaching rooms. The theatre will have tiered seats, under which will be a photographic dark-room and a casting room. The latter will be used mainly in connection with anthropology, in which the University intends to establish an important department. It is hoped that Adelaide will become the anthropological centre of Australia. Already a good deal of work has been done in the way of making face casts of Australian aborigines, and in time the department will be in a position to make exchanges with the various museums. These are the only face casts of Australian aborigines made in any University, and they are expected to be of great scientific value.

The Elder Conservatorium also increased its pupils to such a number that additional accommodation was required, and four additional teaching rooms have been built. The new structure is of freestone, and the exterior design of the original building has been matched.

COLORS IN LIGHT.

A highly interesting demonstration was given by Professor Kerr Grant at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, on Friday afternoon before a large audience on "Spectroscopy." Although the impossibility of shutting out completely the daylight spoilt several of the experiments to a certain extent, the display was of a most informative character. The lecturer explained the operation of light, and then, by means of prisms, a small black ruled plate, and by the deflected lights from an arc lamp of very high candle-power, he split the light into its component colors, until the audience had any number of miniature rainbows. The ruling of the lines on the black steel used in one experiment was an interesting aside to the main demonstrations. The apparatus was ruled by the late Mr. H. J. Grayson, of Melbourne, and contained ten thousand lines, exactly parallel, to the inch. The spectators were able to view very clearly the various colors. The radiations from a white hot substance were also a thoroughly interesting feature. The effects of the interposition of different colors between the eye and the light used for the demonstrations made a much greater impression on the audience than mere descriptions could have done. The whole demonstration, which was the third of a series being given at the University on physics, was greatly appreciated.

IS THE PEACE TREATY JUST?

From "ONE WHO WAS THERE."—Yes, "Eugene Ostapichy" is right. But it was some of the A.I.F. who started the Cairo fire—good luck to them—and cut the fire hoses also, to prevent their being put out. This was in Warraberger-street, Cairo, a street of brothels. A leper colony would be clean and sweet compared to it. The Egyptian Government are credited with saying it would be better if all, instead of a few, of the houses were burned down. Mostly the Egyptian is immune from V.D., but is a carrier of germs. The houses were fired for a very good reason. Let your correspondent remember when in Australia he is living under the British flag. In years gone by most refugees flocked to England, to the detriment of her people, as a free country, and lived in peace. They were all glad of the shelter of the British flag. If he finds it so hateful, the world is wide and he will not be detained here against his will. Anyone stirring up strife here should be deported.

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Dr. J. Glasson, a demonstrator in physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, has been appointed Lecturer in Natural Philosophy in the University of Melbourne. Dr. Glasson is an Australian, and was one of Sir William Bragg's students in the University of Adelaide. From 1913 to 1920 he was lecturer in charge of physics in the University of Tasmania. In addition to his academic experience, Dr. Glasson has had experience in industry as research physicist to the Electrolytic Zinc Company and the Electrical and Metallurgical Company of Tasmania.

Register 15/9/21

THE HILLS RAILWAY.

—An Interesting Suggestion.—Sir Douglas Mawson writes:—We are now told that the existing Hills line is quite unsuitable for the economic handling of heavy traffic; and, further, that the grades and curves cannot be improved short of building a new line. The evidence before the commission indicates that the Survey Department in their investigations, now progressing, will be able to lay out a route with a low ruling grade. Such a line promises great economies in handling the interstate, Murray, and south-east traffic, and opens the way for the haulage over the hills of an unlimited tonnage, which the future will certainly demand. The building of this line may be expected to cost less than the construction of a new line over the much more elevated region traversed by the present line. In fact, the immediate annual economy in running costs might easily considerably more than pay the interest on the loan account necessarily involved in the construction. As the years go by and traffic increases this saving would be enormously enhanced. Such a line, joining Adelaide with the Melbourne line at (say) Tailem Bend, would secure many other advantages apart from the question of economy in annual expenditure. The distance to Tailem Bend would be about the same as at present, but, on account of the fact that express trains could run faster, a saving of probably as much as one hour on the run to Melbourne and the south-east follows; the journey to Victor Harbour by express would not be more than about two hours. At very little expense, Myponga and Second Valley could be served by a branch line junctioning in the Meadows Valley. The line itself would traverse, for the most part, unserved country, and generally improve the productivity of that area of the State. Its very existence between Tailem Bend and (say) Sandergrove would supply exactly what will be required if some day the mouth of the Murray is to be developed as a shipping port. Existing centres of population (such as the Ashbourne district, Kangarilla, Clarendon, and possibly Sturt) would all acquire railway facilities. Further, in this connection, new country, thus made profitable, would be thrown open for settlement, and a considerable area of farm land would be available for the settlement of soldiers or others. The high rainfall of the Meadows-Ashbourne-Mount Compass area is proverbial; the rich, peaty soil in many of the gullies offers ideal conditions for onion, potato, and other vegetable production. The rainfall in this country is so great, and the facilities for storage of the run-off so promising, that it may be confidently expected that some day a large water conservation scheme will be instituted on the upper feeders of the Finnis River, with a view to irrigation on the lower rich plains on the Murray side. It is obvious that

so many advantages are to be gained by such a line that it seems probable that the Railways Standing Committee, upon full enquiry, will be moved to recommend its construction. But the question of finance is a sure barrier in these days of financial stress, when the State's resources are seriously taxed, owing principally to the unfortunate condition of affairs at Broken Hill and Port Pirie. Supposing that the Government feels inclined to move in this matter, how can the necessary money be obtained? We are all agreed that it is high time that the promise of the Commonwealth Government in regard to the Oodnadatta-Darwin line should be put into operation; but there are more than indications abroad that the Commonwealth Government would prefer to carry the line to Darwin on a more eastern route through north-western New South Wales and Queensland. The preponderance of the vote of the eastern States results in exasperating procrastination in regard to the pledge with South Australia. By delaying the settlement of the promise of the line the matter is gradually becoming indefinitely shelved. A settlement should be made promptly; and if the Commonwealth Government decides against the execution of the pledge, and can advance good reasons, South Australia might reasonably compromise by accepting a cash sum as a quid pro quo. Undoubtedly such a sum would need to be considerable; but it should suit South Australia to agree to spend it on the development of matters that have an interstate bearing, such as the development of the lower Murray (for the Murray is an interstate river) and a railway line between Adelaide and Tailem Bend. This latter line would certainly improve interstate communication and be a definite advantage to the defence system; for heavier and more speedy traffic could be run east and west; also two bridges over the Murray would be an insurance against the sudden paralysis of the railway system as a result of design or accident to the existing bridge. If works of this kind could be put in hand speedily it would undoubtedly assist the Government in the embarrassing situation arising out of the considerable unemployment that now exists.

Advertiser 7/9/21

Dr. F. S. Hooe (president of the South Australian branch of the Health Association), Dr. Beare, Dr. Gertrude Halley, and Dr. Helen Mayo left for Melbourne on Tuesday to attend the first annual conference of the Public Health Association.

Advertiser 9/9/21

"ETHICS OF PARTY POLITICS."

At the third meeting of the Round Table Christian Sociological Society at Parkin College, on Friday last, the Rev. K. T. Henderson delivered a lecture on "The ethics of party politics." Mr. H. Heaton presided, and the following members took part in the discussion:—Messrs. J. M. Napier, H. B. Crosby, M.P., A. J. Hannan, G. McEwin, and the Rev. G. H. Wright. The lecturer said deep discontent with the working of the present system was universal, but the problem of reform was difficult. He gave a brief retrospect, showing how the lines of party differences had altered from disputes on religious and constitutional theories to a quarrel between classes on material issues. There seemed at present no principles at stake to give dignity and value to the contest. Rather there was a terrible agreement on the question of principle. Both parties seemed to accept the view that "the more there is for me the less there is for you." Differences of opinion were superficial compared with the deeper antagonism. Parties were held together chiefly by the fear of what the other side would do if it got possession of the authority of the State. There was consequently a decline in the prestige and authority of the State, which, as Bryce pointed out, was coming to be regarded as the weapon of the class in power. Drawbacks to the present system were the appeal to cupidity and fear, which paid better than an appeal to reason, and the decline in the prestige of the State, which was the chief means of organising to further common interests. The need for compact party organisation placed the most reliable party warrior in charge of the affairs of the country, rather than the man of sincerely thoughtful and scientific outlook. The present rigid lines of division influenced unduly the selection of topics for legislation. Party advantages dictated the choice of measure. Causes, such as child clinics, or the efficiency of the University, which commanded little voting power, were crowded out. The great difficulty of reform was the