

### English and German Contributions.

It was a matter of pride that the energetic move towards a secular art which is usually credited wholly to the Florentine coterie had its independent counterpart in England, where Madrigal and Virginal music had for a long time been widely practised, continued Dr. Davies. Unfortunately, however, English initiative, at first so vigorous and fruitful, fell under the paralysing blight of foreign invasion, and it became a vogue in society to decry the merits of their own musicians and extol the superiority of aliens. It was only the rise of Henry Purcell in the latter half of the 17th century that redeemed English art from threatened extinction. But with his premature death the influence of Handel became paramount and henceforward England ceased to believe in her own musical destiny. The comments of the German writer, Mattheson, are of interest.—“He, who in the present time (18th century) wants to make a profit of his music betakes himself to England,” and again the following comparison, “the Italians exalt music; the French enliven it; the Germans strive after it; and the English pay for it well.” Two conspicuous further developments of the 17th century were also noteworthy. The one, was the almost miraculous rise of violin technique, as a result of the extraordinary perfection attained by the great Italian violin makers of this period. Among these, the name of Stradivarius, is universally familiar. The other development of note was a signal advance in the art of the harpsichord at the hands of the French genius, Couperin. With the opening of the 18th century, the musical centre of gravity moved to Germany, and thenceforth, for nearly 200 years, almost all that was achieved of enduring greatness lay to the credit of the Teutonic race. The Germans took their music with profuse seriousness as too lovable a thing for mere distraction or amusement, and the most convincing proof of this seriousness was found in their early devotion to the loft traditions of organ playing; to the development of the chorale, and, above all, to the story of the Passion which furnished them with an inexhaustible theme of inspiration. Bach and Handel together summed up and embodied in themselves the whole of the music of their age, though there was an abiding difference between them in both temperament and attitude.

### From Bach to Beethoven.

The work of Bach marked the second great climax in the history of the art (went on the Professor), a tremendous recrudescence of the polyphonic ideal superimposed on the steadily growing sense of harmony. With his death the harmonic movement continued apace, to culminate ultimately in the works of Beethoven. But between these two points the early stages of the Viennese period intervened. The work of Haydn and Mozart had to be accomplished before the time was ripe for Beethoven. The greatest achievement of the eighteenth century was the full realization of the instrumental art. To its preparation had gone all the long course of experience in harmonic idiom and rhythmic principles, as well as the steady growth of technical mastery in orchestral instrument playing. The period of testing out new modes of speech had passed; the multitude of tentative rivulets had converged into one stream, and, borne on its ever-expanding flood, the glories of sonata, symphony, and chamber music moved to their perfect consummation. Time would fail to speak of even a few of the characteristics of Beethoven's music, concluded the lecturer, so many sided, so completed, so large, so free and elemental, and of such heroic quality as it was. Every noble attribute of human nature found reflex there—whether of stormy passion, heavenly serenity, deep thoughtfulness, womanly tenderness, or irresistible humour. He was essentially a tone poet, and his power of expression steadily grew in response to poetic need. Even out of the storm and stress of his later days, when all was obscure and bewildered, there issues one sure truth—the power of melody to voice the uttermost depths of human need. The first music was a song, and the very culmination of the art still finds melody the highest of its attributes; for when music ceases to be lyric, surely it ceases to be music.



MR. E. L. BEAN, M.A., LL.B.,  
the new Assistant Parliamentary  
Draftsman.

took a first-class honours degree in classics. In 1914 he left this State for Oxford, and, when war broke out, he enlisted and spent three strenuous years with the British Army in France, where he had a number of thrilling experiences and narrow escapes. On returning to Oxford he continued his studies, and he took his B.A. degree there in 1919. Mr. Bean then returned to Adelaide, and once again went to the Adelaide University, where he took the LL.B. course, in which he was highly successful, and achieved the rare distinction of winning two Stow prizes. He was admitted to the Bar in the early part of this year. In 1921 he received the degree in absentia of M.A. of Oxford.

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### UNIVERSITY LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Adelaide University Law Students' Society was held at the University on Tuesday evening. Mr. H. B. Piper presided. The question for discussion was:—“A steam-driven road roller is proceeding round a curve on a country road. A, riding a motor cycle at 10 miles an hour, with B on the carrier, is approaching the roller on his correct side of the road. When A is almost level with the roller, C driving a motor car, comes round the corner at 25 miles an hour, and when immediately behind it swings out to pass the roller. The road is only wide enough to allow two vehicles to pass. A turns around quickly in front of the roller to avoid a collision with C, and in so doing falls off his cycle, and throws B off. A is thrown right in front of the roller, which, however, stops before running over or touching A. A has a weak heart, and has been warned by a doctor that any sudden shock would have serious results. A suffers no injuries, except shock caused by the danger of being run over by the roller. In consequence of the shock he loses several weeks' employment. B is badly injured. A claims against C for damages to the motor cycle, and for the loss of wages; B claims damages for injuries received. It is proved that C could see the roller before coming around the corner, but could not see A or B, as the roller blocked his view. The corner was on a curve, and there was nothing else to block his view. It is also proved that neither A, B, or C gave any warning when approaching the roller.” Counsel were:—For A, Mr. Basil Harford, with him Mr. J. F. Brazil; for B, Mr. Pickering, with him Mr. C. E. Davies; and for C, Mr. Kyriewaldt, with him Mr. B. N. Webb. All counsel displayed considerable ability in their arguments for their respective clients, and a number of interesting cases were cited. The subject was thrown open to general discussion, the speakers being Messrs. H. N. Tucker for C against A and B; C. A. Hewitt and C. E. Tucker for A, Donlthorne and C. C. Crump for C, and Mr. Coombe. Mr. Piper, in delivering judgment, said that an offence against a particular statute was not evidence of negligence, and cited the case of Heath Garage, Limited, v. Hodges, a recent case. In the suit at issue, the case against C turned on negligence, and against A and B on contributory negligence. He found that C was guilty of negligence at the time of the accident by emerging from behind the roller at a high rate of speed. So C was the direct cause of the accident. A could recover damages for injuries to his cycle, and on the authority of *Du Lieu v. White* he could recover for loss of wages also. B by his own act put himself in the way of danger, and could not recover. Judgment was entered for A against C, and B was nonsuited.

### THE WORLD'S GREAT TELESCOPES.

#### A PLEA FOR CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.

Giant telescopes, from the point of view of length of focus, are not altogether the invention of recent times, writes the Government Astronomer (Mr. G. F. Dodwell). In the early days of telescopes, images formed at the focus of a lens were highly colored, and the only method then known of securing a colorless image was by increasing the focal length of the lens. Consequently Hevelius and others, about the year 1680, made telescopes anything from 60 to 210 ft. in length. These were attached to large towers or masts. The size of the lens was limited, however, until at a much later date the art of glass-making and of lens figuring had made greater advances. The use of those long focus lenses was also largely prevented in early times by the difficulty of mounting them and keeping them moving to counteract the effect of the earth's rotation. A substantial increase in telescope aperture was first obtained by Sir William Herschel, who developed the reflector in preference to the refractor, and whose largest instrument was 4 ft. in diameter, and 40 ft. focal length. This was erected in 1789. It was a century later before refractors attained anything like the same size, the Lick refractor, 36 in. diameter, being completed in 1857, and the Yerkes 40 in., in 1895. Dr. Lockyer, in a recent lecture to the Royal Institution, has drawn attention to the geographical distribution of the world's great telescopes. He points out the importance of increasing the size of the instruments used in astronomy, and says that just as Galileo with his pigmy refractor revolutionised ideas with his wonderful discoveries, so Herschel, with the giant reflector of his own construction, made momentous additions to our astronomical knowledge. Every fresh increase in the size and power of the telescope since his time has meant a further increase in knowledge. On a chart of the world shown by Dr. Lockyer, the very large telescopes predominate in two main regions, mainly Europe, and the United States, with Canada. Only one telescope of very large type is situated in the southern hemisphere, and that is the 5 ft. reflector for the Cordoba Observatory in the Argentine Republic. This instrument, though completed, has not yet been erected. South Africa and Australia are both blank in this respect; except that a 26-in. refractor is near completion for the former; but it is hoped that both these countries in the near future will be better represented. As Dr. Lockyer says, the limit of size of a telescope, whether it be a refractor or a reflector, for the accomplishment of useful work has by no means yet been reached. “Providing the instrument be placed in a specially selected locality high up on some extensive plateau, where the seeing is of a high class nature during the greater part of the year.” This limit is at present only temporarily restricted by the maximum limit that can be reached by those whose work it is to cast the necessary glass blocks. The mounting of even the largest telescope is now only a mild engineering problem. It must not be forgotten, however, that large telescopes are very expensive, not only to construct, but to house; but experience has shown, at any rate in the United States of America, that when occasion arises there generally looms up above the horizon an enthusiastic private donor. In Australia we have an exceptionally favored site in the high level plateau of Central Australia, in the vicinity of Alice Springs in the Macdonnell Ranges, where the sky is beautifully clear for the greater part of the year. It may be hoped that the time is near when someone who can do so will realize the need of assisting astronomical progress and will put one of the world's greatest telescopes in the heart of our continent, where it could be used with such great advantage. Such a gift would gain approval from all parts of the world, and would bring much credit to Australia.

### PAN-PACIFIC SCIENCE CONGRESS.

#### Gathering of World-wide Interest.

Little has been heard in Adelaide concerning the Pan-Pacific Science Congress, to be held in Melbourne and Sydney shortly, but it will be a most important gathering, and scientists from many countries on the shores of the Pacific will attend it.

Many are conversant with the activities of the Association for the Advancement of Science, which holds its meetings in different parts of the Empire, and attracts delegates from all parts of the world to the gatherings. But few have followed the doings of the comparatively newly convened Pan-Pacific Science Congress, the first meeting of which was held at Honolulu in 1920. The second will take place at the Melbourne University from August 13 to 22, and in Sydney from August 23 to September 3. These congresses aim at the promotion of the study of scientific problems of common interest, and they form part of a large general plan which aims at the maintenance of harmonious relations between all the countries within and bordering on the Pacific region. These congresses are held only once every three years, and it is probable that that for 1926 will be convened for Japan. Many years will elapse before the scientists will meet in Australia again, and, therefore, more than ordinary interest is being taken in the forthcoming gathering. There will be many attractive functions, including popular science lectures and excursions to localities of great general interest. Members of the public will be allowed to attend the section meetings.

#### South Australian Representatives.

The congress will be held under the auspices of the Australian National Research Council, through the generosity of the Commonwealth and State Governments. So far as is known at present, the following will represent South Australia:—Sir Douglas Mawson (a member of the executive committee of the council), Dr. R. S. Rogers, M.A. (President of the Royal Society), Mr. L. Keith Ward (Director of Mines), Professor A. J. Perkins (Director of Agriculture), Mr. Edgar R. Waite (Director of the Museum), Dr. Fenner (Superintendent of Technical Education), and Dr. R. H. Pullett. Already some of the British scientists have arrived, and have been visiting the Barrier district. Professor W. H. Hobbs (of the University of Michigan, a geologist of high standing) has been spending a few days in Adelaide. He was a notable figure during the war, being one of the principal advocates in the United States for preparedness. On Friday Professor Hobbs was taken through the Adelaide hills by Mr. R. Lockhart Jack (Deputy-Director of Mines), and during the week-end he was the guest of Sir Douglas Mawson, with whom he inspected the glacial rocks in this State—the older one in the Sturt River, and the newer one at Hallett's Cove, which have been well described by Professor Howchin. Professor Hobbs came to Adelaide from Sydney via Cobarr, in order to get a glimpse of the “arid” country of Australia, but constant rain changed the aspect of the land, and the visitor encountered plenty of mud along the Darling district.

#### Brilliant Galaxy of Learning.

The following overseas scientists have accepted an invitation to attend the congress:—

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

Professor A. F. Barker, University of Leeds; Dr. E. J. Butler, Director Imperial Bureau of Mycology, Kew, and representing the British Government; Professor W. G. Duffield; Dr. J. C. Ewart, Professor of Natural History, University of Edinburgh; Dr. A. C. Haddon, representing Royal Society of London and Cambridge University; Mr. T. Iredale, ornithologist; Col. Sir Gerald Lennox-Conyngham, representing the British Government, Royal Society of London and Cambridge University; Mr. H. F. Marriott, representing the British Government, Institution of Mining Engineers and Institution of Mining and Metallurgy; Dr. G. A. K. Marshall, Director Imperial Bureau of Entomology, representing British Government, Royal Society of London, and British Museum; Professor C. J. Martin, representing Royal Society of London and Lister Institute; Professor W. J. Perry, Manchester University; Dr. W. Pitchford, Miners' Phylaxis Medical Bureau, Johannesburg.

#### UNITED STATES.

Dr. E. B. Babcock, University of California; Mr. B. Benfield, representing the Astronomical Society of the Pacific; Dr. E. W. Berry, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; Col. Dr. A. H. Brooks, representing the United States, Geological Society of America, American Geographical Society, Association of American Geographers, and Washington Academy of Sciences; Mr. B. S. Butler, representing Geological Society of

#### SCIENCE AND WHITE AUSTRALIA.

Professor Martin, who has just arrived in Adelaide on his way to attend the Pan-Pacific Congress in Science, which opens in Melbourne on August 13, is an eminent authority on preventive medicine. Professor Martin is a director of the Lister Institute. On Thursday he stated that his main subject at the congress would be “Climate and work,” which he had chosen because it was important in relation to the Northern Territory. He would give the results of experiments he had made, which would throw light on the problem of how much manual labour could

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Mr. Edgar Layton Bean, M.A., LL.B., who has filled the position of associate to Mr. Justice Poole for some time past, has been appointed assistant Parliamentary Draftsman in place of Mr. G. I. Ziesing, who resigned recently with the object of practising his profession outside the service. Mr. Bean had a brilliant academic career, and but few students have left the University with higher honours than he secured. He was born in Melbourne in 1893, and his early education was obtained at Scotch College, Claremont, Western Australia. He entered the Adelaide University in 1911 and