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### MR. HEATON LONDON CHANGES

#### BROADCASTING AND MOTORS

Mr. H. Heaton, of the Adelaide University, who delivered a lecture on "Factors Controlling Australian Development" at the London School of Economics, had not been in England previously for ten years.

Interviewed by the "Melbourne Herald" special representative, he said:—

"The chief revolutions are the rise of Labor to power, the ubiquity of commercial motors, broadcasting and the disappearance of the starched collar."

He amplifies this nutshell description of England by expressing surprise at the complete forgetfulness of the war, which nobody wishes to discuss. He considers Australia would be well advised to imitate England in regard to broadcasting, which is marvellously educative. This would have an excellent effect on the whole trend of Australian country life.

After lecturing at Cambridge, he will visit Leeds, Oxford, and Toronto, and at each place he will deal with some phase of Australian activity.

"The work done at the Adelaide, Sydney, and Hobart Universities, is quite as good as in England," he said to-day. "My accounts of the teaching in Adelaide have aroused great interest here, but there is great ignorance of Australia, even in university circles."

"One leading manufacturer thought that Adelaide was in New Zealand. Even informed opinion is very critical. Much might be done to dissipate ignorance by a comprehensive interchange of publicists, journalists and teachers. The suggestion by the Prince of Wales in this direction was most valuable, as also is the League of Empire scheme."

#### —White Australia.—

"Though academic circles endeavor to appreciate our view point on the White Australia policy, they are so accustomed to association with colored students that they cannot fully comprehend it."

"English politics are fascinating. The hysteria of the extreme right wing was humorous, but lamentable. Papers, which six years ago almost hounded Mr Asquith out of public life, were now on their knees beseeching him to take action to save western civilisation."

"When Sir Frederick (now Lord) Banbury declared his willingness to march a company of guards into the House of Commons, and clear out the Socialists, one wondered whether this was the seventeenth or the twentieth century."

"To-day the papers which howled most loudly can scarcely find adjectives sufficiently eulogistic to describe the tame sweetness of the Labor Government. While the grand old newspapers take a high and admirable standard, the penny press is miserable stuff."

### UNIVERSITIES LABOR PARTY

#### INAUGURATION OF A NEW MOVEMENT.

The Seven Universities' Labor Party was inaugurated at a meeting held in Birmingham recently, presided over by Professor Raymond Beazley (Birmingham University) and attended by Labor supporters from each of the seven Universities.

The resolution in favor of the formation of the party was moved by Mr. Arthur Greenwood (president of the Universities' Labor Federation) who said it was a serious reproach to the Universities that they were almost invariably represented in the House of Commons by people attached to the reactionary parties.

After all, the Universities were interested in education and on that subject the Labor Party had a clearer record than any party.

The problem in the Universities, continued Mr. Greenwood, was to organize the younger people and to get them to realize the Labor Party was the only party that could create any feeling of enthusiasm in the minds of the young men and women who went through the Universities.

#### —Change Taking Place.—

There was a feeling abroad that in the past the Universities had treated the Labor movement with contempt. But a change was taking place, and if the Universities would adopt a fairer attitude towards Labor, the two movements could be brought together.

Professor Findlay, supporting the resolution, said he was by no means discouraged by the number of Labor votes cast for him in the recent election.

The thing that troubled him was that so few University electors took the trouble to vote.

Professor Beazley was elected president.

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During the absence, through illness, of Mr. A. E. Welbourn (Acting Chief Engineer) Mr. R. H. Chapman, B.E., has been temporarily appointed to the position. Mr. Chapman is now in charge of the work in connection with the construction of the new railway bridge at Murray Bridge, and he will continue that undertaking in addition to carrying out the duties of chief engineer.

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The following have been appointed members of the Board of Industry under the Industrial Code:—Dr. W. Jethro Brown (President), Messrs. S. Perry and W. T. Rofe (nominated by the employers), and W. C. Melbourne and F. McCabe (nominated by the employees).

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Mr. R. F. George, B.D.S., has been appointed to the position of travelling school dentist in the Education Department.

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#### A ROCKEFELLER GIFT.

LONDON, February 19. The Rockefeller Foundation has given Oxford University £75,000 with which to develop its Department of Bio-chemistry.

### EMPIRE UNIVERSITIES.

#### Important Conference in July.

LONDON, February 18.

The national union of students of the universities of England and Wales is promoting a conference to synchronise with the Empire Exhibition, at which it is hoped that every university in the Empire will be represented. Each university will be allowed one delegate. The chief subject of discussion will be co-operation between the universities of the United Kingdom and the dominions, especially in relation to the exchange of visits by students. It is expected that the conference will be held at Oxford or Cambridge in July.

The union has also appointed a hospitality committee, of which Sir Harry Brittain is Chairman, to arrange generally for the entertainment of visiting students from the dominions, devoting special attention to the organization of Continental tours.

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### UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

#### A REUNION CONFERENCE.

A conference of the students of the universities of the Empire is to be held either at Oxford or Cambridge in July.

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Mr. J. M. Napier, K.C., who will be sworn in next week as a Judge of the Supreme Court, is a son of Dr. Leith Napier, who came from England with Dr. Ramsay Smith and Dr. B. H. Morris to take charge of the Adelaide Hospital when there was trouble with the staff. Mr. Napier has had a brilliant career at the Bar, particularly in the Industrial Court. He was fully qualified for admission when 20 years old, but to comply with the rules had to wait until his 21st anniversary of his birthday to be admitted.

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#### PRICE OF INSULIN.

##### REDUCED IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, February 20.

An official announcement has been made that the retail price of insulin will be reduced on February 25 from 150 pence to 80 pence per hundred units. This is below the most recent American retail price.—Reuter.

### ACCOUNTANCY EXAM.

#### CONSIDERED TO BE TOO LONG

#### Trial of Speed, Not Knowledge

Objection was taken last night at the annual meeting of the Institute of Accountants in South Australia (Incorporated) to the length of the accountancy examination papers set by the Australian Corporation of Public Accountants. Mr. B. D. Colvin, M.A., in a letter referred to the unsatisfactory nature of the examinations, and stated that in nine successive years only two candidates each year had been passed by the Corporation, no matter what number sat.

Mr. A. E. Hamilton, a member of the Council, read a list of figures showing that the figures for the final examination were approximately right, but there was a much higher percentage of passes in the intermediate. However, he considered that the papers were much too long, and that the examination really devolved into a trial of speed and not knowledge.

Repudiating the suggestion that there was anything unfair in the examinations, Mr. H. H. Austin, one of the examiners, stated that he also thought that the papers were too long. He had endeavored to have them made shorter, but the position was dominated by Sydney, which wished to keep a high standard.

In replying to a vote of thanks for his work in keeping the Corporation and Institute together, Mr. Hamilton, who is a member of the Corporation and Institute Councils, stated that the Corporation was regarded in Sydney as the highest society, and he thought that if the standard of the examinations were too high the Corporation would not come down. The Institute would have to go up or separate.

The annual report and balance sheet, which was read by Mr. R. M. Steele (registrar), disclosed that the Institute had 127 members, including 34 fellows and 93 associates. In the April examinations two out of six candidates were successful, and in the October section two out of 13.

Mr. A. R. S. Craig (president) deplored the fact that so little use was made of the library, and he recommended it especially to the young men who were anxious to improve their professional knowledge.

An election of officers for the Council resulted in Messrs. A. R. S. Craig (president), E. Kay, L. B. Shuttleworth, E. Bendall and J. B. Hughes being returned unopposed.

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#### PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

From "T.T.C."—Mr. G. Newman says truly that whoever set the English and mathematics papers at the leaving and supplementary examinations has roused a storm of indignation and criticism. Not only is the course set a very heavy one, but the examination papers were such as would require mature, experienced adult minds to answer them satisfactorily. Is it possible for the examiners to spend a few months from time to time in some of our secondary schools, so as to keep in touch with the capabilities of the immature student? Mathematics may, of course, be simply omitted in future, and I understand several schools will do that rather than have students first overburdened and then disappointed; but English is compulsory, and rightly so, and should therefore receive the attention of the Board of Examiners, and the protest of the whole of the Secondary Teachers' Associations. The English paper was no test of the year's work, and could have been answered by a mature reader without reference to the text books set. As for the mathematics papers, an honors man assured me that parts of the paper "had him beaten," whilst the most experienced and brilliant of teachers agree that the examination was disproportionately stiff. Is this fair to the students who were unfortunate enough to sit this last year?

#### CHAIR OF OBSTETRICS.

##### PRINCELY GIFT TO UNIVERSITY.

HONGKONG, February 18. At a congregation of the University of Hongkong the Vice-Chancellor announced that the Rockefeller Foundation had given the University £50,000 to found a Chair of Obstetrics.—Reuter.