

EMPIRE SCHOLARSHIPS

Gradually all parts of the British Empire are awakening to the fact that if it is to achieve its destiny it must know itself. There must be an intimate knowledge of the productions and requirements of every part of the Empire, in order to foster and promote inter-empire trade. Such an achievement can be wrought out only by publicity and travel, the latter being a personal publicity which is more far-reaching in its results than any other form of propoganda work.

That is the idea at the back of the Empire scholarships which it is proposed to establish in connection with the Imperial Exhibition, an outline of which has been cabled during the week. Several scholarships, of the value of £1,000 each, are to be made available to young citizens of the United Kingdom to enable them to settle in any of the Dominions. Other scholarships will be offered to young residents in the Dominions to induce them to undertake a University or technical education course in the United Kingdom.

Broadly, it seems an ideal conception for Imperial education, but any feeling of optimism which it might naturally inspire must be tempered by the reflection that so much will depend upon its administration. Success or failure will turn upon the selection of scholars and securing the right people, the suitable men to carry the ideals and aspirations of the United Kingdom to the Dominions, and again to find the fitting individuals overseas to promulgate in the old country the view points and hopes of the Dominions.

The underlying principle of the scheme is the same as in the Rhodes scholarships—to bring peoples more closely together by personal intercourse and by instilling into them a more intimate knowledge of each other's history and character.

Results in such cases cannot be immediate. They can be gleaned only from observations carefully noted over long periods. It is this aspect which suggests that the term of the Empire Fellowship, from which the scholarships are to emanate, being limited to the duration of the exhibition, is too ephemeral to achieve that success which might be expected from a permanent institution.

At any rate, a step in the right direction has been taken, and if it is only a step it is so much on the way to the ultimate goal. If the proposition is accorded the support which it undoubtedly merits, it may then be found advisable to give it that permanency which is essential to any project for Empire education.



MISS RITA COONAN, A daughter of Mr. J. A. Coonan, of College Town.

Advertiser 22.12.23

At the Public Library Board meeting yesterday the president (Sir William Sowden) reported that Professor Henderson had written resigning his seat on the board. During his 20 years' membership Professor Henderson was one of the most practical, earnest, and useful of the governors. He was chairman of the library and archives committee and performed his duties ably, conscientiously, and ungrudgingly. At a time when some of his colleagues considered such an innovation somewhat doubtful, he advised the board to adopt the principle of obtaining for the archives only such things as might be given to it voluntarily. His advice was followed, and the soundness of his theory has been triumphantly demonstrated in the collection, during the three or four years of the existence of the archives, of a mass of material of great intrinsic as well as extrinsic value. On receipt of the professor's letter of resignation the secretary wrote to him on behalf of the board, and on December 16 received the following reply from Dora Creek, where he is resting and recuperating:—"Your kind letter reached me a few days ago. It is good to feel that the little I tried to do for the community through the Public Library is so heartily appreciated by my colleagues. I am particularly pleased to learn that the donations to the archives are still being freely made. I am sure that our policy of trusting the patriotism of the people of the State is the right one; and certainly it relieves the board of a heavy expenditure. You say that you will be formally intimating to the board, at its next meeting, my resignation. I hope you will at the same time tell the members how much I have appreciated their assistance and goodwill in the past, and how much I value now their kindly expressions of goodwill. The memory of my work on the board will always be a source of happiness to me, and I shall not cease to value the friendships I have made there."



PROFESSOR G. DUFFIELD, who is to take charge of the Commonwealth Solar Observatory, will leave for Australia next month.

Mr. R. H. Begg, B.E., Director of Lascelles, Parrington, Ltd., Melbourne, who recently underwent a serious operation, arrived in Adelaide by the express yesterday on a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Begg, Cross-roads, Malvern.

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That was all mere nonsense. They did not need the costly accessories which the moderns seemed to regard as essential. What was needed was a teacher who lived his work and who believed wholly in the value of the subject he was teaching. Referring to the value of examinations the professor said they were valuable inasmuch as they forced people to learn the essentials and were good from the point of view of discipline. An isolated examination was a very and often unjust educational standard on which to judge a student's work. That course was not followed at the University, where the whole of the student's work was taken into consideration in judging of his success or failure and not merely the result of a three hours' final examination. He hoped the day would come when there would be some modification of the present system of judging of educational attainments by means of a single examination. It was remarkable that oral examinations in French and German were insisted upon, whereas there was never an oral examination conducted in English. That provided considerable food for thought. Upon the public platform there was heard such a variety of pronunciation that he could not help wondering sometimes what would become of our chaotic language. There should be a standardisation of pronunciation, and the University might seriously take into consideration the matter of requiring candidates to pronounce, not only French and German correctly, but also the English language. The world to-day was full of careless, slipshod expressions and phrases, which were practically devoid of meaning, and words were used in senses far removed from their original meanings. One word that had forcibly impressed him only a few days ago was "sentimental." It was now regarded as being reference to something which was soft, effeminate, whereas the very reverse was the original meaning. To be sentimental really meant to exist the culture worthy of a gentleman. Similarly the word sentiment really meant sweetness and light. Sweetness, gentleness, and light were the motives which would help people to achieve the great things in life, and the world had been helped upward by sentiment. (Cheers).

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Professor Duffield, who will take charge of the Commonwealth Solar Observatory on Mount Strombo, Canberra, will this month complete his engagement with University College at Reading, and will leave for Australia in January. En route he will visit the United States and inspect the Observatories at Mount Wilson and elsewhere, and subsequently furnish a report regarding the equipment necessary for the Commonwealth institution.

Registered 20.12.23

Dr. F. I. Shorniey was, in the Executive Council on Wednesday, appointed an honorary commissioner to enquire into and report upon matters relating to ophthalmology in Great Britain and Europe.

Advertiser 21-12-23

Aubrey Julian Lewis has been appointed a resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital.

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Allan Cathbert Harris, who has obtained the degree of Bachelor of Science (says the "Australian Christian Commonwealth"), is the only son of the Rev. D. C. Harris, of Wallaroo Mines Methodist Church. It is his intention to enter the Forestry Department. While attending the University, he was a member of the Malvern Church Choir, and was one of a band of young men who occasionally conducted Sunday evening services in other parts of the circuit.