

Headrick, D. O. Miss N. ATKINSON—Piano, H. CUTT, M. L.; Pollock, L. Miss J. CHAPMAN—Piano, Morris, L.; Short, G. Mr. E. KOCH—Piano, Bowd, D. V.; Glasson, H. S. Miss O. PALMER—Piano, Robinson, G. A.; Snowball, P. PALMER—Piano, Robinson, G. A.; Snowball, P. J. Miss N. WALLACE—Piano, Glover, G. E.; Martin, D. C. Miss M. BELL—Piano, Searle, G. Miss A. M. OONOLE—Piano, Wilson, P. E. Miss F. E. DICKSON—Piano, Harrison, D. B. M. Miss M. HALLIDAY—Piano, Gorge, D. J. Miss D. EEMP—Piano, Gunther, E. M. Mr. A. PUDDY—Piano, Paddy, B. F. Miss M. OATS—Piano, Oats, W. N. Mr. F. B. ROBERTS—Piano, Waye, M. Mr. T. E. WAYLAND—Violin, Wayland, J. Miss N. TAYLOR—Violin, Gear, G.; Miss E. V. WIDGEMORE—Piano, Boucaut, D. C.

Pate—Convents—ST. JOSEPH'S, RENMARK—Piano, Dodemaide, A.; Jolly, L. J.; Malycha, M.; Seales, J.; Seales, M. M.; Snodgrass, E. M.; Burrows, U. ST. JOSEPH'S, NORWOOD—Piano, Barons, V. M.; Brown, A.; Crispe, K.; Glover, E. OF MERCY, BROKEN HILL—Piano, Brown, M.; Tree, A. M.; Tree, E. J. ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT AUGUSTA—Piano, Greenfield, H. G.; Mullen, G. I.; Rowe, G. I. DOMINICAN, CABRA—Piano, Clarke, G.; Sheehan, M. J. OF MERCY, BRIGHTON—Piano, Hurley, E.; Searson, G. OF MERCY, GOODWOOD—Piano, Habib, J.; McBride, A. OF MERCY, HENLEY BEACH—Piano, Brady, R.; Hardy, T. OF MERCY, PARKSIDE—Piano, McPhee, K. M.; O'Neill, D. M. ST. JOSEPH'S, KINGSWOOD—Piano, Davis, B.; McLean, L. ST. JOSEPH'S, N.A.—Piano, O'Loughlin, M.; Baffery, M. DOMINICAN, SEMAPHORE—Piano, Curin, E. OF MERCY, ANGAS STREET—Piano, Morrison, L. ST. JOSEPH'S, JAMESTOWN—Piano, Hodby, M. ST. JOSEPH'S, MACCLESFIELD—Piano, Tonkin, J. M. ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT ADELAIDE—Piano, O'Conner, L. ST. JOSEPH'S, PIRIE STREET—Piano, McNamara, M. M. Mrs. W. E. RAY. MONT—Piano, Bradley, J.; Bradley, N.; Dolz, H.; Gordon, E. F. Mr. A. J. HOLLINGDRAKE—Piano, Dridan, D. H.; Glover, F. A. V.; Glover, M. E.; Stockel, M. C. Miss J. QUEAIN—Piano, Diamant, J.; Powell, M.; Wilson, J. Miss C. CHAPMAN—Piano, Wallace, E. J. Miss L. FOGGIA—Piano, Abotomey, K. N.; Bartell, M. F. Miss S. M. NEUMANN—Piano, Crawford, M. A.; Schenscher, A. M. Miss R. M. SPICER—Piano, Deeble, R. M.; Gregory, B. L. G. Miss M. M. STACEY—Piano, Flavel, A. L.; Schultz, C. J. Miss A. BORMANN—Piano, Selby, M. J. Miss A. CHAPMAN—Piano, Gardner, M. Miss F. E. COLLINS—Piano, Rance, G. Miss S. R. COOMBE—Piano, Neass, G. K. Mrs. F. E. DICKSON—Piano, Bastian, D. D. Miss M. HALLIDAY—Piano, Loffler, V. E. Miss D. A. KENTISH—Piano, Ellis, D. R. Mrs. M. M. LEITCH—Piano, Errey, W. Miss V. LINKE—Piano, Lynn, T. M. Miss J. LITCHFIELD—Piano, Brown, C. I. NORTH UNLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC—Piano, Short, J. Miss C. P. PALMER—Piano, Green, M. L. Miss C. M. PRYOR—Piano, Thiel, S. E. Miss A. M. ROWE—Piano, Wilkinson, F. Miss N. WALLACE—Piano, Gloede, R. Miss A. G. WEBB—Piano, Reid, M. I.

plantations and nurseries, and commercial utilization of the crop. Mr. Julius has made forest valuation surveys of 300,000 acres. He has made a special study of the increment growth in relation to the rotation of crops of various indigenous and exotic species and other matters. He has also studied the growth of conifers, and has visited New Zealand for the Tasmanian Government in connection with an enquiry regarding pine growing. Mr. L. G. Irby (Tasmanian Conservator of Forests), in supporting Mr. Julius's application for the South Australian position, said that he held him to be one of the leading foresters of Australia, and that of all the foresters known to him Mr. Julius stood alone. Mr. R. Dalrymple Hay (Chief Commissioner of Forestry in New South Wales) considers that Mr. Julius is capable of performing high duties associated with the formulation and direction of a forest policy under Australian conditions.

Mention in Parliament.

The appointment of the new Conservator of Forests was mentioned in the House of Assembly on Wednesday, question being put to the Minister in charge of the department (Hon. G. F. Jenkins) concerning the reason why Mr. H. Corbin had not been selected.

In reply to Mr. Anthony the Minister said that the Government had not offered the position of Conservator of Forests to Mr. Corbin.

Mr. Hill asked the Minister to lay on the table of the House the list of applications, the applicants' credentials, and any recommendations which had been made concerning them. He said he considered the appointment made was a serious reflection, and an attack on the Public Service of the State.

The Minister said he was not called upon to bring down to the House all the applications and the credentials of the applicants. He was quite prepared to submit those of the successful applicant and was sure that any member who read his credentials would be satisfied that the Government had made a very wise choice.

Mr. Anthony—Is the Minister aware that the Public Service Commissioner offered the position to Mr. Corbin, and if so, what authority did he have?

The Minister said he did not think that could be right. The Public Service Commissioner had no power to offer the position to Mr. Corbin; all he could do was to make a recommendation to the Government. He did not know what communication there might have been between the Public Service Commissioner and Mr. Corbin. If he offered the appointment to that gentleman, he much exceeded his powers.

Mr. Verran—Did the Public Service Commissioner recommend Mr. Corbin for the position?

The Minister—Yes.

Later in the day during the discussion upon the motion of Mr. P. Reidy for the floating of a loan for the purpose of carrying out a scheme of afforestation, Mr. V. G. Petherick said that he had been a little disappointed at the failure of the Government to accept Mr. Corbin's application for the position. The Government, however, had made what, in their opinion was the best appointment. He would have been pleased if the Government had accepted the application of Mr. Corbin or Mr. Kay. It would have saved a lot of criticism.

Mr. Anthony also referred to the appointment in speaking to Mr. Reidy's motion. He said that Corbin had the highest qualifications. His academic qualifications were especially excellent. Testimonies without number had been made as to his work. He wanted to know why Mr. Corbin's application had been passed over in connection with the recent vacancy for Conservator of Forests.

whose forestry methods planting operations have played a much more prominent part. However extensive his practical experience may have been, Mr. Julius manifestly lacks the scientific training requisite to the inauguration of the forward forest policy of which South Australia is urgently in need. No disparagement of his merits, of course, is implied in the statement that, unquestionably Mr. Corbin should have been offered the position—a position which might have entailed some financial sacrifice to him, but which would have given wider scope for the exercise of his proved skill and knowledge. Apart from personal considerations, and from the point of view of scientific afforestation, the Government has taken a retrograde step, and one which it will be difficult to defend. It has overlooked the claims of a leading forestry expert of the Commonwealth (one, moreover, acquainted with local conditions and already in the employ of the State), in order to secure the services of an officer in a subordinate capacity in a smaller State.

The stereotyped reply of the Minister to criticisms of the selection in the House is that "Mr. Julius was appointed because, in the opinion of the Government, he was the most suitable man for the position." The explanation failed to satisfy members, and it will not allay the natural vexation in the public service at this fresh development of the policy of filling high posts from outside the State, and in defiance of the recommendation of the Public Service Commissioner. In some circumstances, the importation of "new blood" into a department which has fallen behind the

times, is justifiable and beneficial. A railway expert was obtained from America, with excellent results, generally speaking. With much less justification, the office of Director of Education was filled from another State. If, however, a necessary exception is to become the rule, the Civil service will be given cause for grave dissatisfaction. Mr. Corbin was himself, of course, originally brought from abroad, at a time when the State was not training its own forestry students; but, having been taken into the employ of the State, and having rendered such distinguished service at the University, it seems amazing that his qualifications for the office of Conservator should have been ignored. South Australia, which has an unenviable reputation for losing its agricultural and other experts, must expect to suffer even more severely in that direction if it makes a practice of discouraging ambition by seeking its chief officials in the other States. On the question of overruling the advice of the Public Service Commissioner, Mr. Anthony directed several pertinent enquiries to the Minister of Agriculture yesterday. This is by no means the first, but it is easily the most glaring instance in which the recommendations of the Commissioner have been "turned down." Parliament cannot, as is implied in the request of certain members to have tabled the credentials of all the applicants for the Conservatorship of Forests, relieve the Government of its right to make appointments—a right modified but not abrogated by the Public Service Act; but, obviously, if the recommendations of the Commissioner, who is clothed with important statutory powers, are to be disregarded with so little apparent reason, the whole position will have to be reconsidered.

The Register.

ADELAIDE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1923.

THE FORESTRY APPOINTMENT.

The Government owes the public an explanation more satisfactory than any it has yet given as to why it was deemed necessary to go outside of South Australia for a successor to Mr. Walter Gill as Conservator of Forests. Mr. Gill has rendered long and useful service to the State in a position which should be one of the most important and lucrative in the public service. No reflection on his work was involved in the expectation that his retirement would be followed by the appointment of a scientific forester—a man of modern outlook and expert training, who would bring wide knowledge and vision to the task of raising forestry to the high place which it should occupy in the estimation of the people and the economy of the State. It was, indeed, with the idea of ensuring such a successor to the then Conservator that the Government invited Mr. Hugh Corbin to Adelaide. Mr. Corbin's academic and general qualifications for the post are unquestionable. His work as Lecturer in Forestry at the Adelaide University is known throughout Australia, and students have passed through his hands to take up leading appointments in the Forestry Departments at Perth, Sydney, and elsewhere. Friends of afforestation eagerly anticipated the advent of Mr. Corbin to an office in which his imagination, enthusiasm, and ability could be applied to the practical development and improvement of the forests of the State. The announcement that his claims to the Conservatorship have been passed over will be received with profound disappointment and dismay.

Nothing will be found in the credentials, good as they are, of the successful Tasmanian applicant, to mitigate public regret or explain the Government's extraordinary action. The new Conservator has had a creditable career as a working forester in conditions widely different from those which prevail in South Australia. Doubtless he will discharge the duties of his new office with zeal and ability, and there will be no desire to discourage him in his task. But much time will be needed for him to familiarize himself with the requirements of a State whose rainfall is lower than that of New South Wales and Tasmania, whose soils are different, and in

Register 19.10.23

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.
A Tasmanian Appointment.

Reference in the Assembly.

Mr. Edward Julius, of Burnie, Tasmania, was in the Executive Council on Wednesday appointed Conservator of Forests, in succession to Mr. Walter Gill, F.L.S., F.R.H.S. Mr. Gill's term of office has already been extended until December 31 of this year. It is expected that Mr. Julius will take up his new duties on January 1 next. Mr. Julius is a married man, and is 55 years of age. He was educated at Newington College, Sydney, and during the last 15 years has been in the service of the New South Wales and the Tasmanian Forestry Departments. For the last two years he has been stationed at Burnie as district forester in charge of the north-western division. In New South Wales he was successively forest guard, forest assessor, and assistant district forester, the duties of the last named position entailing the administration of an area of 20,000 square miles in the north-western district of that State. His duties included the administration of the Forestry Act and also regulations, forest survey and assessment, forest management embracing the silvicultural treatment of forest areas by protection and encouragement of natural regeneration of forest species of commercial value, treatment of waste lands by the establishment of

CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
APPOINTMENT QUESTIONED

Mr. L. L. Hill on Wednesday in the House of Assembly, said that the appointment of Mr. Julius as Conservator of Forests was a serious reflection on the whole public service of this State.

The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. G. F. Jenkins) said he was not prepared to bring all the credentials of the applicants to the House, but he was willing for any member to see those of the successful appointee. The Public Service Commissioner and the Government gave the whole subject full consideration, and he was sure all would agree that they had made a wise choice.

Mr. Verran asked whether it was a fact that the Public Service Commissioner recommended Mr. Corbin.

The Minister—Yes.

Mr. Anthony—What authority did he have for doing so?

The Minister—The Public Service Commissioner had no right to offer Mr. Corbin the post. The Public Service Commissioner can only recommend to the Government. He did not know what communication there may have been between the Public Service Commissioner and Mr. Corbin, but if the Commissioner did offer the position to Mr. Corbin he exceeded his duties.

Herald 18.10.