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News

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between note issue and gold—there does not appear to be any suggestion for regulating inflation that may arise from bank over-drafts per medium of the "deposit" principle. This places enormous power over the financial and economic life of the German people in the hands of the board, which will control the bank, about 50 per cent. of which will be non-German. 3. It is not stipulated as to what source will be tapped for the £40,000,000 of gold. Since the American Federal Reserve Board possesses 40 per cent. of the world's gold plus a claim on the bulk of the remaining 60 per cent. through the medium of war loans it appears reasonable to suppose that America will, in the last resort, forward the loan of gold. If this is so it will transfer the claim on German economic and financial vitality from the Allies generally to one of the Allies, who, it appears, will kill three birds with one stone by her gold loan. First she will get rid of her surplus gold thereby increasing the purchasing power of her domestic currency with its consequent effect upon international exchanges; secondly, she will obtain a source of investment that has been closed to her in the past, which may place her in a key position in European economic and financial affairs. Thirdly, she will attain both of these objects without any entanglements that might have accrued to her had she consented to be a signatory to the Versailles Treaty. In other words, she has obtained power in Europe without responsibility "sub specie gratiae" as our classical friends would say, and for her action she will secure commensurate payment.

The next step in the procedure will be the process of ratification, and in view of the Allies' commitment to America, it does not appear, on the face of it, that ratification will be withheld unless it be from British industry and others who have industrial interests in Germany's recovery.

A final matter lies in a consideration of the direction in which a recovered Germany will dispatch her new stream of trade. To America? It does not appear likely with the present level of the Fordney tariff. To Russia? Very likely since considerable German trade is flowing there now. To Britain? This is another likely direction, and so are Austria and other Central European States. But can all these countries pay for their goods at once? Britain may; but it is unlikely that the others will be able to do so. The possibility then arises of a recovered Germany advancing the necessary finance to these countries; and if we remember who will be behind Germany in her financial advances, we can dimly see the likelihood of other sources of investment opened to our big sister across the Atlantic.

of the Revels being deputed to find plays suitable for the court by visiting the public theatres. As it was declared that the Queen must have plays, and the performers could not exist solely on their appearances before her, the use of the playhouses had to be permitted, and thus much of the former persecution abated. "Gloriana," on this account, must be credited with having delivered a great stroke for English literature at this period, for had the puritans been permitted to have their way, there might have been no plays, and the world to-day might never have known Shakespeare.

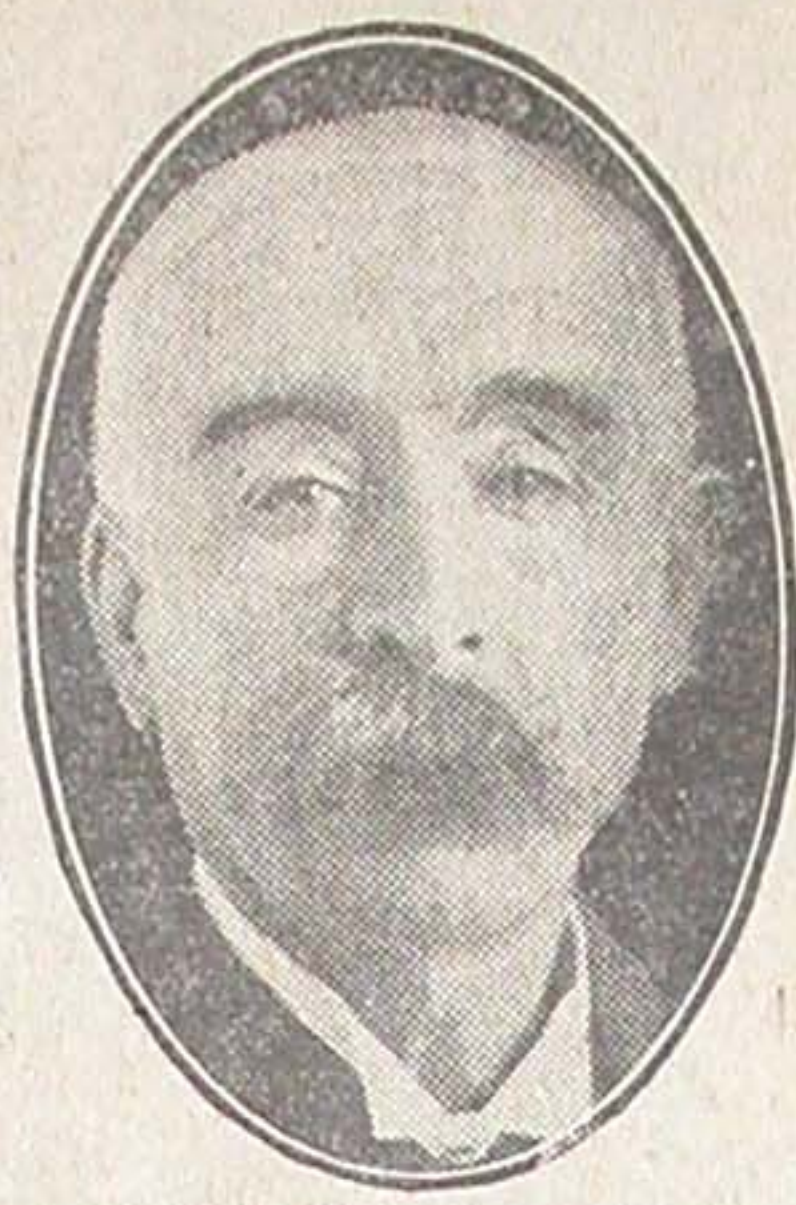
When Shakespeare began as a dramatist the stage had few properties and little scenery. The whole aim of the modern producer was to achieve illusion by realistic methods, while in Shakespeare's day there was no possibility of that effect. To the fact that he had to be his own scene painter and use words for the purpose, were due such exquisite passages as the moonlight scene in "The Merchant of Venice," and the description of Dover cliffs in "King Lear," while an interesting sidelight on his methods was also furnished by the Chorus in "Henry V." This made for greater drama as the playwright was not limited to dealing with what could actually be seen, and every man who wrote for the stage was a poet. The demands of the modern stage made rather for prose, the language of realism, than poetry, the language of romance, and as a result the poetic drama was almost extinct. In concluding, the speaker emphasized the necessity for a National Theatre in Australia. That would give lovers of literature a chance to see the masterpieces of the past, while modern poetic playwrights could stage their writings. That would gradually create a public taste which would gain a footing for this class of writing, on the commercial stage, and lead to the rebirth of a great and precious possession.

The President (Mrs. J. Medley), in behalf of those present, thanked Professor Strong for his address.

# Pen Portraits of People

## Barrister and Statesman

Endowed with high mental qualities and with a keen logical precision of thought, Mr. P. McMahon Glynn, K.C., ranks as one of the most intellectual and cultured men in Australia. He has a faculty of forcible appeal and a polished address which stamp him as one of the Commonwealth's foremost orators.



Mr. P. McMahon Glynn, K.C.

Mr. Glynn is a native of Gort, County Galway, Ireland, where he was born 69 years ago. His university education was at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated as a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Law. He was called to the Irish Bar in 1879, and as a student of the King's Inn shared with Sir Dunbar Barton, of the Irish Bench and a writer on Shakespeare, the oratory medals of the Law Students' Debating Society.

Desirous of seeing the wider aspect of the world, Mr. Glynn came to Australia and was admitted to the Victorian Bar in 1880. Subsequently he was called to the Sydney Bar, and later joined the profession in South Australia. In 1913 he was appointed a King's Counsel. From 1887 until 1920 Mr. Glynn was engaged in political work. He took a prominent part in the movement for the Australian Federal Union, and was a member of the Federal Convention which drafted our Constitution. In 1901 he was elected a representative of South Australia in the first Federal Parliament. He was Attorney-General in the Deakin Ministry, Minister for External Affairs in the Deakin-Cook Government, and Minister of Home and Territories in the Hughes Ministry from 1917 until 1920.

Mr. Glynn is the type of Irishman with which Australia can well do. He is loyal to the core and anxious to blend the discordant elements within the Empire. As a barrister Mr. Glynn has an extensive practice, and is a recognised authority on constitutional questions.

## Scientist and Explorer

There are mystery and romance in the word Antarctica. Men have endured shocking hardships and have even given their lives to discover the secrets locked in the bosom of that grim, cold southern land. And to everyone who has read or even heard of Antarctica the name of Sir Douglas Mawson, D.Sc., F.R.S., is familiar.

Sir Douglas is professor of geology at the Adelaide University, where he has been, between periods of exploration and war service, for the last 20 years.

He was born in Yorkshire, but spent most of his early life in Sydney, where he was educated at the Sydney University. Before coming to Adelaide he completed geological and geographical researches in the New Hebrides, publishing the results in book form.

The lure of the unknown, plus an insatiable thirst for scientific knowledge, made him decide to join Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1907 expedition. Sir Douglas was with one of the first parties to ascend Mount Erebus, and also, with Sir Edgeworth David, was with the first search party to locate the magnetic pole.

After this he toured America and Europe, making a study of polar exploration work and preparing for the Australian Antarctic exploration which set out in 1911.



Sir Douglas Mawson, D.Sc., F.R.S.

Immediately he returned he went to England to publish the results of the expedition and to exploit lectures and cinema reproductions of the expedition to help pay the debts incurred. Then the war broke out, and every sort of work was suspended. For four years he labored in the high explosives section of the Ministry of Munitions.

Since then his ever-extending work at the University has occupied his constant attention, and his spare time has been spent in editing a long series of publications embodying the results of scientific research in the Antarctic.

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### AUSTRALIAN EXPLORATION.

Mr. Keith Ward (Director of Mines), will, it is understood, accompany Dr. Stefansson on his trip to the interior of Australia. Adelaide will be left on July 17, and the party will proceed to Oodnadatta, and travel thence to the MacDonnell Ranges. Dr. Stefansson has been commissioned by the Canadian Government to compile an Australian geography for use in the Canadian schools.

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Dr. R. J. de Neufville Souter was appointed resident medical officer at the Adelaide Hospital by the Executive Council on Wednesday, in succession to Dr. Thyer, who resigned.

### Organ Recital

Deeply appreciative was the audience which assembled in the Elder Hall yesterday afternoon for the midday organ recital, given by Mr. Harold Wylde, F.R.C.O., for the programme was well-chosen and the various items were played with the organist's customary feeling and execution.

The majestic harmonies of the Introduction and Passacaglia (Reger) contrasted strongly with the simplicity of Kullak's Pastorale. The solemn beauty of the Prelude (Giere) was interpreted with masterly skill.

Miss Linda Wald sang the well-known Bach-Gounod "Ave Maria" with a violin obbligato, and was enthusiastically applauded. Miss Wald's enunciation was particularly good.

"The Night" (Karg-Elert) and Rheinberger's brilliant "Scherzoso" brought the recital to a successful conclusion.

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## THE ELIZABETHAN THEATRE.

### LECTURE BY PROFESSOR STRONG.

The fortnightly meeting of the May Club Reading Circle was held at The Grosvenor on Monday afternoon, when there was a large attendance of members and friends. The speaker was Professor A. T. Strong, who delivered an interesting lecture on "The Elizabethan Theatre." With the aid of diagrams, the lecturer indicated the manner in which the theatre of that era had been evolved from the formation of the old innyard, some of the characteristics of which still remained in the construction of modern playhouses. We still had the circular shape and the galleries, while the yard of the inn had become in turn the "yard" of the theatre and the "pit" of to-day. Mention was made of the famous Bell Innyard, in Bishopsgate street, London, where had flourished the Earl of Leicester's players, an organization which afterwards became Shakespeare's company. The stage, at first, was merely a wagon, but afterwards a platform was introduced, projecting out among the audience. At the back of this was a recess with a sloping roof, and in the recess scenes were set behind movable curtains, while up above was a second stage used for such scenes as the walls of beleaguered cities. The open platform, across which the spectators could look, had gradually receded until at present the whole stage was located behind the curtain, and was viewed only from the front.

Another interesting reference was to the "Globe," the most famous theatre in the world. In 1576 James Burbage, father of Richard Burbage, the creator of so many Shakespearean parts, founded "The Theatre," the first regular house of its kind, but in 1598, owing to trouble with the landlady, all the material was transported to the other side of the Thames and re-erected at "The Swan." The first theatres had to be placed outside the city boundaries, beyond the jurisdiction of the city council, because the playwrights of that era were declared to be vagabonds and were persecuted by the puritanically minded. The interest of Queen Elizabeth in the drama had, however, stood the playwrights in good stead, her Majesty

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Melbourne Age date not given

It was announced yesterday by the chairman of Railway Commissioners that Mr. G. H. C. McDonald has been appointed to the new position of assistant chief electrical engineer of the Victorian Railways. Mr. McDonald is at present supervising the installation and operation of electric railroads and power stations in Spain. In making the announcement Mr. Clapp said that the Commissioners regard themselves as being very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. McDonald, who possesses high engineering attainments. Mr. McDonald is 31 years of age, and was born in South Australia. After being employed on the Adelaide tramway system, and obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Engineering and the diploma of Applied Science of the Adelaide University, Mr. McDonald went abroad, and for 8 1/2 years was engaged in a professional capacity with some of the leading electrical engineering and railway companies in America, and was thus able to gain a wide practical experience in electrical work. The salary for the position is £1000 per annum, and it is expected that Mr. McDonald will take up duty about the end of September next.