

SOCIAL SCIENCE.

EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS.

MODERN BUSINESS METHODS.

NEW YORK, June 4.

Professor Copland, of the Melbourne University, since his arrival here has had several consultations with Dr. Laura Spellman, of the Rockefeller Memorial, and has visited various American universities and made enquiries into American economic and financial fields. To-day he informed a representative of the Australian Press Association that it was intended in the near future to arrange through various agencies for a mutual interchange of research scholars in the social sciences between the United States and Australia. He said he had visited the Toronto, Harvard, Yale, New York, Columbia, and North Carolina Universities, and spent some days with the institutes of Government and economic research in Washington. Research in social sciences in all these universities is a pronounced feature of the general activities, and as a result a great number of expert students are being trained annually. These are not readily absorbed into private businesses and Government departments. Many private businesses have their own research staffs, and all important banks have their consulting economists. He enquired into the Federal Reserve Board, the Department of Commerce, and the Department of Agriculture at Washington, and found that all these have their staffs of expert economists. He also interviewed Mr. Hoover, who gave it as his decided opinion that the agencies for economic research in the Government departments were of great administrative and practical value. Australian students studying at the above universities would have an opportunity of becoming thoroughly acquainted with activities in research, and this could not but react favorably on the development of business organisation and Government administration in Australia.

One of the outstanding features of the present economic situation in the United States, he said, was the great volume of capital available for investment. This was having the effect of promoting increasing interest in the field of foreign investment. One could say definitely that the United States was reaching a stage where it must export annually a considerable volume of capital, but neither the money market nor the general economic situation had yet been adjusted to this new status. Financiers were alive to the possibilities for investment in Australia, and were interested in encouraging a flow of capital in this direction. Australian credit was good, but the average investor was insufficiently acquainted with Australian industrial economic development. Last year the 75,000,000 dollars Commonwealth loan here had the effect of promoting a knowledge of Australian conditions, but the ordinary bond buyer preferred a well-known home security to the less familiar foreign investment.

Professor Copland in Europe will visit the League of Nations headquarters, and the German, French, and English universities, to investigate the development of economic and social research study. He leaves for England to-morrow.

ADV. 7.6.26

The many friends of Mr. Frederick Bevan will be glad to hear that he is in splendid health and having a wonderful experience in the old country. The Director of the Conservatorium has just received a letter from Mr. Bevan from which the following is culled:—"I am having a most enjoyable time. The voyage on the Ulysses was all that could be desired—hardly one uncomfortable day—and I rapidly regained strength and condition. On arrival in London I was very soon in touch with old friends and associations, some, whom I could not place, even stopping me in the street; this is pretty wonderful, isn't it? I have been to the Royal Academy two or three times, and had talks with McEwen, Mackenzie, Henry Wood, Richards, &c. The other day I attended a performance of the Matthew Passion, under Sir Henry Wood. It was given in its entirety, and began at 2 p.m., and lasted (with 45 minutes interval) until 6.30. I sat out every note. The orchestra was most complete and really magnificent. Wood is a very live wire. I have seen Harold Wyde and G. Hassell. I have finalised all arrangements for my return journey, and leave Southampton for New York on July 23, thence across Canada to Vancouver, and so to Sydney and home by the end of September." Immediately on his return Mr. Bevan will resume his teaching at the Conservatorium, and old pupils, as well as new students who desire to enrol with him will be able to make all necessary arrangements.

The Advertiser

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SCIENCE AND LEGISLATION.

Any well-devised scheme for the interchange of research workers between Australia and other countries is sure to be regarded with sympathy. Professor Copland, of Melbourne, who has won more than a local reputation for his mastery of social and economic science, has visited some of the leading universities in America, and he states, according to a cablegram published on Monday, that research in social sciences is a pronounced feature in their operations. He found that many private concerns and Government departments had their own staffs of expert economists, and that they are doing work of great practical value. He also says that it is intended in the near future to arrange for interchanges of research scholars in the social sciences between the United States and Australia. As he is now proceeding to Europe, it may be hoped that the field of interchange will be enlarged so as to include Great Britain and some Continental countries. The social sciences—for the branches now included under this head are so numerous and so extensive that subdivisions may be grouped into separate sciences—rank amongst the many utilitarian departments in modern education, and a grasp of some, at least, of their principles is necessary to the successful conduct of any large commercial organisation, and of administrative government. An idea of the range of the work done in America may be inferred from the manner in which the large business undertakings are capturing the world's markets for goods made in the United States. The banks, too, have their consulting economists, and it looks as if American money would soon be flooding those countries which have good sound investments to offer in a way similar to that in which American manufactures have already done. With the increased knowledge of Australian conditions, which is rapidly being acquired, there will be a greater tendency on the part of American investors to exploit the openings which are offered. This, of course, should prove mutually advantageous, for whether Government loans or private enterprise attract capital, the result will be to assist in the development of the resources of this great continent.

The social and economic sciences are far-reaching, and if their provisions were better understood by legislators, Australia would be saved many of the blunders which, unhappily, are costly to the people. In these days, when so much of the time or parliament is occupied in the consideration of measures of vital importance to industries, it is more than ever desirable that sound economic principles should be widely understood. Statutes embodying provisions which would be beneficial and equitable, if kept within prudent limits, may become positively harmful to the very section of the community they are intended to help, should they be enlarged beyond reasonable bounds. Many authorities in New South Wales are predicting that this will be the effect of the new legislation relating to the compensation of injured workers. That such reasonable protection as the laws of this State have afforded for some years past is both just and beneficial most people will concede, but if, in the desire to protect the workers in the case of accident or disease, the Government strike a blow at industry itself, they must inevitably defeat their own purpose. It is estimated that it will cost £30,000 a year to administer the new Workers' Compensation Act in New South Wales, which provides, among other things, that with certain defined exemptions all manual workers are included under its provisions. The persons exempted from the provisions for compensation in case

of injury or disease contracted by the worker in the course of or while going to or returning from his employment, are those "employed otherwise than by way of manual labor, whose remuneration exceeds £750 per annum, an outdoor worker, a member of the police force, a person whose employment is casual work and who is employed otherwise than for the purpose of the employer's trade or business." An outdoor worker is defined as being a person to whom articles or materials are given to be treated in his own home or premises not under the control of the person for whom the work is done. The Act is to be administered by a commission, not by a court, and Mr. Baddeley (Minister for Labor and Industry) has explained that the commission will not be bound to follow strict legal precedent. He claims that the compensation benefits "are greater than those contained in any other compensation law." Insurance companies and employers of labor apparently do not view the measure with the same equanimity as that shown by the Minister. It is alleged that insurance premiums will be increased from 500 to 700 per cent. as the result of the operation of the measure, although no definite decision has yet been arrived at concerning the actual rates to be charged. Alderman William Brooks (acting president of the Central Council of Employers of Australia) is reported to have said that "if the Act is administered in its literal entirety, the risks are almost illimitable." He points out that when the measure was before Parliament Ministers would not take the responsibility of having an actuarial calculation made in order to ascertain what premiums would be necessary to cover the employers' risk. It is just here that the danger comes in of legislation relating to industrial matters by men who have no knowledge of economic science, and who do not take the precaution of obtaining expert opinion concerning the effect of the provisions they propose to enact. If the effect of this statute is even half as grave as some of its critics are predicting, the blow which it will strike at industry in the senior State will do far more harm than the benefits it is intended to secure for the workers will do good.

ADV. 8.6.26

The Rev. F. J. H. Steward, who died at the Presbyterian Manse at Tweedvale on Sunday, was the elder son of the Rev. F. J. Steward (who died in 1906) and Mrs. Steward, of the Grange. He was born at Corsham, Wilts, England, 36 years ago, and came to Australia with his parents when but a few months old. He was connected for many years with Kyrle College, first as a pupil, and later as a master, and his studious habits and kind and manly disposition won for him many friends among both masters and fellow students. In 1910 he was accepted for service by the Baptist Union, and served in the home mission stations at Terowie and Peake. Later he entered the Baptist College, and while studying there and at the University held student pastorates at Hilton and Finsbury Park. He graduated at the University in 1913, receiving the degree of bachelor of arts, and was ordained to the ministry in the new church at Finsbury Park, which had been built during his pastorate, largely due to his enthusiasm and enterprise. His first charge in the full ministry was at Port Pirie, which he relinquished in 1916 in order to take charge of the mission work at the construction camps along the East-West railway line. In 1917 he accepted the temporary charge of the church at Angaston, and from there removed to the Gawler Church, where he remained for five years. In 1924 Mr. Steward accepted the call of the Woodside and Tweedvale Presbyterian churches, in which he labored successfully and happily till the time of his death. Last December he was accepted into the full ministry of the Presbyterian Church. In 1922 he married Miss Evelyn Polden, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Polden and Mrs. Polden, of Gawler, whom he had met during his pastorate in that town. His work was characterised throughout by sincerity and thoroughness, and his preaching, which was always robust and thoughtful, showed evidences of careful preparation and earnest study. He was greatly beloved in all his churches, and Tweedvale and Woodside people feel that they have lost, not only their minister, but a true personal friend.

KNIGHTS BACHELOR.

A DISTINCTIVE BADGE.

The "London Gazette" of April 27 contained a warrant under his Majesty's Royal Sign Manual setting out that "Whereas We have taken into Our Royal Consideration certain circumstances humbly represented unto Us, and being desirous of enhancing the state and dignity of the ancient and honorable degree of Knight Bachelor, have thought fit to grant and prescribe a Badge which may be worn by



The New Badge.

those of Our loving subjects who have from time to time been advanced to the separate and singular degree of Knight Bachelor, or may hereafter be so advanced."

The badge is described as being "Upon an oval medallion of vermilion enclosed by a scroll, a cross-hilted sword, belted and sheathed, pommel upwards, between two spurs, rowels upwards, the whole set about with the sword belt all gilt." Its length will be approximately three inches and its breadth two inches, and it will be worn upon the left side of the coat.

The King's decision that in future Knights Bachelor may wear a special badge indicative of their rank and the design officially approved for that decoration combine to revive pleasing medieval memories (says the London "Times").

Knights Bachelor will now rejoice in that a grievance of long standing has been removed by the King's gracious act. For, until to-day, the modern Knight Bachelor has had no badge or symbol to mark him out from less exalted fellows on those occasions when decorations are worn. He took rank before the Companions and Commanders of the Orders of Chivalry, but had nothing to show for it, except that some careful herald-painter may have endowed him with a helmet appropriate to a Knight instead of that of an Esquire over his shield of arms on a bookplate.

REV. 7.6.26

MUSIC AND ART.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHESTRA.

SATURDAY NIGHT'S CONCERT.

The second concert of the South Australian Orchestra for the 1926 season was given in the Town Hall on Saturday evening, and the real enthusiasm of the large audience marked the well-deserved appreciation of the fine work achieved by this organization since its inception. The programme selected was well balanced and of especial interest, for not only was it representative of the older school, but a striking innovation in the way of ensemble numbers for wood-wind was included, which proved markedly attractive. The value of wood-wind told admirably also in the other compositions, the bassoons having especially fine colour effects in Delibes' "Coppelia" music as well as in the Mozart and Offenbach numbers. The string portion of the orchestra has never achieved finer completeness of effect. Miss Sylvia Whittington, A.M.U.A., the popular leader of the orchestra, was at her best. As one exacting number followed another it was worthy of note the certainty of attack, the fine bowing, and the marked yet sensitive rhythm was attained. Mr. Foote brought out the characteristics of the work of each composer, and the orchestral colouring of each movement with a vividness which denoted deep comprehension of the music and special ability to convey to the various instrumentalists just the expression or tonal power necessary for its interpretation.

Possibly the greatest feature of the evening was Mozart's Symphony in C—"The Jupiter"—last and greatest of the composer's symphonies. The rendering of the opening movement was strikingly effective in its decision and crispness of handling, while the lovely singing tone and expressive tranquility of the Adanti