

## REMOVE VICTORIA SQUARE FENCES

Eleven years ago "The Mail" gave the first public expression to the desire that the unsightly railings surrounding Victoria Square should be removed. From that period the subject has been from time to time before Adelaide City Council, and the agitation has been periodically continued in the columns of "The News" since its inception.

"In a week or two," wrote "The Mail" on October 6, 1917, "Adelaide will be the centre of a town-planning conference. Hundreds of delegates will assemble from all parts of the Commonwealth. They will be certain to appreciate the scenic charms of the capital, but there will be critics to discover our 'eyesores,' for every city has them.

"One of ours is the unsightly iron palisading round Victoria Square. We shall be told to tear it down. The Mayor believes that most of the councillors favor the idea, but they must first have a purchaser for the fence. Is there a buyer who can make for himself a bargain and bestow a blessing on the people?"

For 11 years the council has been waiting for that buyer. But none has appeared. The reason is obvious. To the ordinary business man the fence is of no more value than the amount it would bring as scrap metal when broken up. It is doubtful whether this would pay the cost of removal.

Now, however, an offer has been received which will enable the corporation to have the railings removed without cost to itself. The University of Adelaide has offered to bear all the expense if the ironwork is handed to it for use at the University.

Victoria has provided a precedent for such a course. When the new boys' high school was erected at South Yarra railings similar to those at Victoria Square were removed from round the Melbourne Exhibition Building and used to fence the school.

Even as in 1917 there are some councillors who, while approving the ultimate removal of the railings, do not regard the matter as one of urgency, and desire that the question shall remain in abeyance until it is discovered whether it is not possible to make a profit by the removal of the fence. If it remains until then it will probably be an eyesore for all time.

The council has begun an admirable improvement scheme in the outer parks and squares, but has left the finest—that in the centre of the capital and traversed by its main artery—surrounded by a hideous fence which destroys most of its charm and detracts greatly from its beauty.

In view of the long delay in giving effect to a much-needed improvement it would be extremely unfortunate if the council declined to accept such an appropriate offer as that made by the University.

## UGLY FENCE MARS BEAUTY

### Use for Victoria Square Rails

Victoria Drive, which is one of the chief scenic spots among the many for which Adelaide is renowned, is marred by the unsightly galvanized iron fence 9 ft. high which skirts the boundary of Adelaide University property along that thoroughfare.

Whether it will be replaced with another of more refinement in keeping with the general surroundings depends on Adelaide City Council, which has been approached to make the railings which enclose Victoria square gardens available for that purpose. The University has indicated its willingness to bear the expense of removal and re-erection.

The fence on Victoria Drive is approximately 700 ft. in length. It extends from the property of Adelaide Bowling Club on the west to the Jubilee Oval on the east.

In a drive along this highway a beautiful scene is unfolded to a passer-by. On one side is the River Torrens, the banks of which are planted with gums, pines, and artistic willows, in the distance University Oval nestles among groves of trees, and on the other side is the group of modern University buildings. But to a large extent the view of the structures is blotted out by the existing fence.

Citizens await with interest the decision of the special committee appointed by the City Council to decide whether the request of the University will be acceded to.

## Prof. J. A. Fitzherbert Arrives

### UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT

"I am looking forward to my residence in Adelaide with the keenest of interest, as that city has a general reputation in Britain of being a centre of culture," said Prof. J. A. Fitzherbert, on his arrival from London by the liner Orama today.

He is to take the chair of classics vacated by Prof. Darnley Naylor at Adelaide University.

Prof. Fitzherbert met his predecessor in London just before his departure for Adelaide. Prof. Darnley Naylor had been engaged in a lecturing tour in the interests of the League of Nations Union.

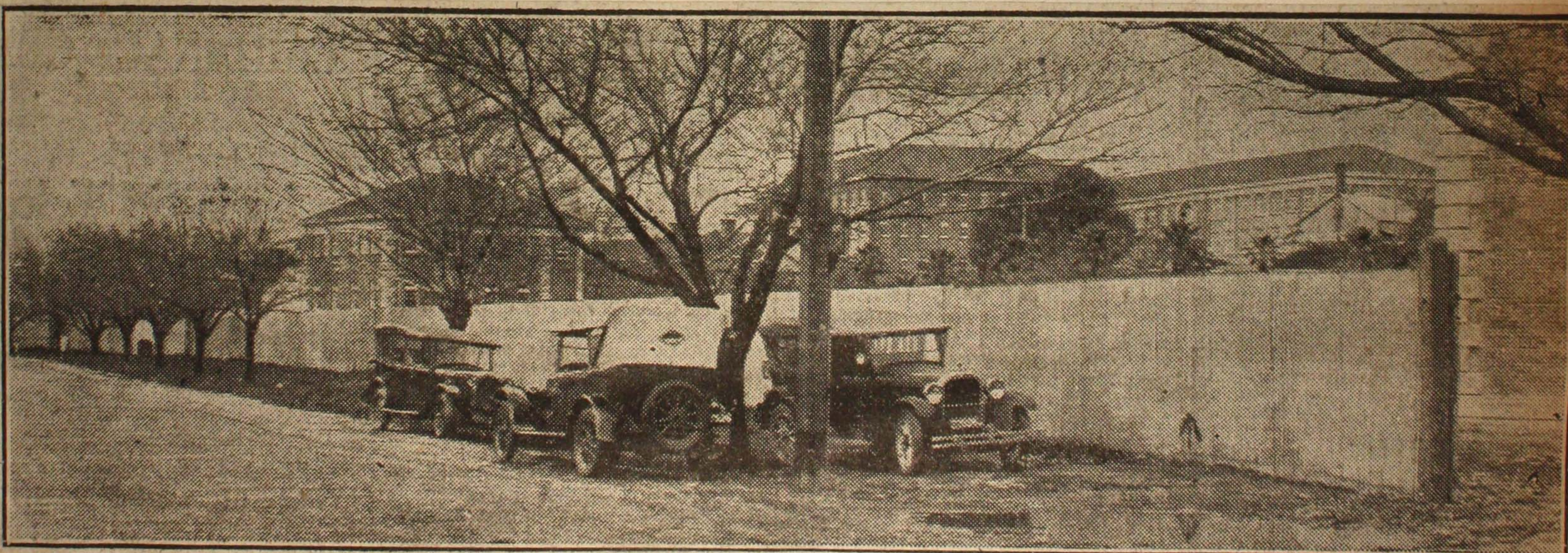
Prof. Fitzherbert is a Tasmanian and a graduate of Sydney University. For the past six years he has been lecturer in Latin, Greek, and comparative philology at Edinburgh University. His appointment to the classical chair at Adelaide is nominally for five years.

At the outbreak of war he was at Cambridge. Active service with the artillery and the Royal Flying Corps, in which he rose to the rank of lieutenant, followed. He was decorated with the Military Cross.

"In Scotland the study of Greek has experienced a remarkable revival," said the professor. "This is because it has been found that the Greek student appears to have a better chance of getting on well afterward. On this subject the utterance of Mr. Stanley Baldwin (Prime Minister of England) that the study of Greek tends toward clearer thinking is of interest. Not only is Mr. Baldwin a keen classical scholar, but a man of affairs.

"In Edinburgh the University staff has little time to devote to public affairs or to the field of sport."

Prof. Fitzherbert was met at Outer Harbor by Messrs. M. Mitchell (son of Sir William Mitchell (vice-chancellor of the university), D. H. Hollidge (lecturer in classics), and R. C. Bald (lecturer in English).



FENCE FOR WHICH ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY PROPOSES TO SUBSTITUTE VICTORIA SQUARE IRON RAILINGS

The University of Adelaide has intimated that it is willing to remove, at its own expense, the iron railings surrounding Victoria square and utilise them for a fence in Victoria Drive.