

Ado. 23-735

In The Melting Pot

"All educationists are self-critical and are striving to find a way out of the dead past," said the Director of Education (Mr. W. Adams) who expressed pleasure at the outspoken remarks of Mr. Pentreath. "It is true that education theory and practice, too, are in the melting pot. It means that all method in the past was wrong, but matriculation examinations have exceeded in degree in secondary education. In the past the curriculum was built to satisfy the needs of students entering University life."

"In Australia we have been striving to formulate a wider and broader system of education that will cater for the needs of the ordinary school boy and girl. We try to get away from fitting him into the scheme of things, and to discover a scheme of things suited to the boy and his abilities, and to the activities which he is likely to take up through schools. Hence, in all our schools there has been a change in the nature of craft work, games and sport, organised chiefly by the pupils themselves under the guidance of a master. Science clubs of various kinds have been formed, dealing with science as applied to them life. Literary, camera, and debating clubs have also been formed. These activities are calculated to give a training that will fit the child worthily to carry out his responsibilities."

"We consider the child as a whole, and we realize that his full development can be complete only when his physical, mental and spiritual nature has been educated to the limit of his powers. But changes cannot come suddenly. The new school must develop from the old."

"Much More To Be Done"
"Educationists themselves hardly recognise the greater development in the education system," said Dr. Atkinson (Principal of the Methodist Ladies' College), "because there is still so much more to be done."

On the question of examinations, he referred to the fact that Professor McCulloch was at present in England, where he was mathematical master, emphasised his "gentility of demeanour," because there are qualities very rarely found in the man. He proceeded cautiously and deliberate in judgment, he was quick to act once he had made up his mind.
He served the University in his highest posts; he served the Presbyterian Church of Victoria as its Moderator, and he served the State as a member of the Royal Commission on Technical Education, the recommendations of which led to the establishment of primary and technical education as it is conducted today in the State.

Not Personally Ambitious
What he was selfless, and not in the least personally ambitious. In the widest sense in the first place of Ormond College, when he was its master, and of the University when he became its Vice-Chancellor and afterwards Chancellor, were the dominant notes in his career.
Born at Omagh, County Tyrone, Ireland, on April 19, 1851, John Henry MacFarland was the son of Mr. John MacFarland and Mrs. Mary Ann, nee Rev. Dr. Henry, of Newton Ards, County Down. He was educated at the Royal Academy, Desborough, Belfast, at Queen's College, Belfast, where he won distinction as a student of mathematics, and at Exeter College, Cambridge, where he was a wrangler in the mathematical tripos of 1876. He was a master at Repton Grammar School, Derby, from 1880 to 1880, when he was appointed master of Ormond College, Melbourne. This was the first of his appointments.

As master of Ormond Sir John MacFarland handled his students in a manner which has never been surpassed. On one occasion he was asked how it was that he succeeded so well with them. His answer was, "I don't know exactly, but I believe it was because I think of them as boys, and treat them as men." He was always tolerant of high spirits in young men. At Ormond College there were very few rules. Sir John MacFarland believed in encouraging self-government among his students, but the few rules that there were had to be obeyed. The students knew this, and trusted the master throughout with a long term at the college serious trouble with the students was a rare occurrence.

Financial Acumen
In 1886 Sir John MacFarland became a member of the University Council, and some years later, on the disappearance from the University funds of £25,000, he was asked, in accordance with the terms of the Charter, the late Dr. Leaper, and Sir James Barrett, to examine the accounts, with a view to their reorganisation. Sir John MacFarland succeeded over the deliberations, the outcome of which was the establishment of an entirely new system of financial and educational administration, from the inception of which the University began to prosper. The financial acumen displayed by Sir John MacFarland at this investigation led to his always being consulted by the chancellor or vice-chancellor whenever important financial or other business was being conducted with the State.

UNIVERSITY LEADER DEAD
Sir John MacFarland Of Melbourne SELFLESS WORKER

MELBOURNE, July 22. Sir John MacFarland, former Chancellor of the Melbourne University, and

master of Ormond College, and an outstanding figure in the Presbyterian Church, died tonight after an illness lasting several weeks.

One of the wisest of men, Sir John MacFarland was possessed of a deep understanding and sympathy with others. Under what seemed to some to be a brusque exterior there lay one of the most delicately-balanced, kindly, and considerate natures. When he was appointed to his first post in Australia as master of Ormond College at the University of Melbourne, the recommendation that came from Repton Grammar School, in Derby, England, where he was mathematical master, emphasised his "gentility of demeanour," because there are qualities very rarely found in the man. He proceeded cautiously and deliberate in judgment, he was quick to act once he had made up his mind.

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In March, 1910, Sir John MacFarland succeeded Sir Henry Wrixon as vice-chancellor, and in 1918, on the death of MacGill, he became the chancellor. Sir John MacFarland was knighted by the King in recognition of his work for the University of the State.

Valued Service To The Church

Sir John MacFarland was an outstanding figure in the Presbyterian Church. At different times, besides being master of Ormond, he was chairman of both of investment and finance, chairman of the Presbyterian Ladies' College Council, and a member of the session of Scots Church. He attended a large number of churches, but rarely spoke. When he did speak he chose his words very carefully, displaying a rare power of concentration and an equally rare gift for assimilating facts. In financial discussions he was always listened to as an expert, and in Australia, where his practical advice was invariably followed. He never expressed himself in theological matters, yet the whole church knew his views on such subjects. His church remained unshaken to the end. He set up a high ideal of worship, and in Australia, where he lived up to his ideals. "The finest man of the church had," was the tribute unanimously paid to him when advancing years compelled him to cease some of his activities in the church.

Sir John MacFarland, apart from his contributions to the church, found time to act on the directors of the Trustees Executors and Agents Co. Ltd. and the National Mutual Life Association of Australia. His financial ability was of great value. To commemorate the 80th anniversary of his birth there was a large gathering of old boys in Melbourne. At this assemblage a portrait of Sir John MacFarland was presented to the trustees of the United Trustees Executors and Agents Co. Ltd. The present chairman, Mr. Robert Colton, said that Sir John MacFarland's wise counsel, deep sympathy, and close co-operation had been of inestimable value to the late Dr. Littlejohn in the work of managing the school.

Interested In Field Sports

Degrees held by Sir John MacFarland were B.A. and M.A. and LL.D. (Melb.), two of which LL.D. conferred on him by the Royal University of Ireland in 1892 and the University of London in 1907. On one of his visits to Great Britain and Ireland he made a close study of the admirably equipped trout fisheries.

As a young man Sir John MacFarland was keenly interested in all field sports. In later life he was a golfer and an angler. He spent a considerable amount of his fishing in the trout streams and lakes of New Zealand, accompanied at different times by his wife, Mrs. Dr. Rentoul and the late Dr. Littlejohn, and Mr. W. Gray, the present headmaster of the Presbyterian Ladies' College. Up to the time of his illness he played golf at Royal Melbourne every Tuesday and Saturday morning, engagements which he allowed no business to interfere with. He was unmarried.

Science Association Meeting.—At a meeting of the Adelaide University Science Association in the refectory last night, a combined paper on "Eucalyptus and their Essential Oil" was given by Miss J. Brooke and Mr. A. F. Pilgrim followed by a talk on "Abuses of Modern Physics" by Mr. R. M. MacGill. The president of the association (Mr. J. R. Price) was chairman. Professor Kerr Grant, who is patron of the association, was among those who took part in the discussions.

Adelaide Doctors Abroad

NAMES of two more graduates of the Adelaide Medical School practising abroad have been furnished by Dr. Don Dowling, Consulting Health Officer at Thursday Island, and Dr. Herbert Hosking is health officer at Papua. The names of six infantrymen in the A.I.F. and began their medical course on their return from active service.

In his letters home Dr. Dowling mentions that the late Prof. Watson and often takes him out in a motor car. He also has companies the Protector of Aborigines on his part of uninhabited parts of Cape York Peninsula, in places which he believes have not previously been visited by whites.

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HOW GREEKS PAID THEIR INCOME TAX

Public Lecture By Prof. Fitzherbert

At the fifth Adelaide University public lecture of the year last night, Professor J. C. Fitzherbert, the Professor of Classics, spoke on "The Spirit of Greece in its Daily Life." "As present many people are thinking about their income tax returns," said Professor Fitzherbert, "but the Greeks, although they did not make such returns, were expected to show their wealth for the good of the State and to undertake public burdens which were imposed on the richer citizens by the State. If a man had to provide for a warship, whose tackle was in his own hands, in the fighting, the expenses were imposed on the richer citizens, who would naturally pay the tax. The taxpayer thus knew exactly how his money was spent, and if it was wasted, it was through his own carelessness."

Professor Fitzherbert said that a certain amount of education was compulsory in Athens, and great importance was attached to the moral effect of music, which was comparatively simple.

In the 5th and 4th centuries B.C. the intellectual achievements of Athens were stupendous. Professor Fitzherbert. Dramatic performances first started in the latter part of the 5th century, and in the following century tragedy and comedy in Athens reached a perfection which had been a standing challenge to the world since that day. The study of sculpture and architecture though here the other Greek states had a considerable share. Classical Greek art, the preface novels, giving tediously meticulous accounts of daily life. In all the writings that had come to Greece, of much was taken for granted, and as consequence archaeologists had had a pleasant but difficult task in reconstructing the details of ordinary life. The Greek thinkers, more of his duties, and less of his rights, than do most men of today.

University Party To Study Natives

On Friday the Board of Anthropological Research at the University of Adelaide will send a research party to the Warburton Ranges in charge of Mr. N. B. Tindale, ethnologist at the Museum, to study the natives inhabiting the western portion of the central Australian reserves and its vicinity. Dr. C. J. Hackett, of the Adelaide University, will carry out the anthropometric work, which forms the principal object of the trip, and will make medical observations on the natives encountered. Mr. Tindale, of Sydney, will act as cinematographer, and will record a number of native life and ceremonies, while Mr. C. P. Mountford, of Adelaide, will undertake the photographic work, and will also continue his studies of aboriginal drawings. Mr. Tindale will record the sociological data necessary to link together the work of the various sections of the party, and will endeavour to track down place names mentioned in native myths, and will prepare maps of watering places and tottem sites.

The journey from Adelaide will be by train to Laverton, Western Australia, and from there will be continued by motor car to about 400 miles north-east of the locality. The party will be away until September.

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