

The Daily  
Herald.  
Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 1914.

The Register  
Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> 1914

## OPEN THE UNIVERSITY

### THE CRY OF THE WORKER

#### MR. RYAN'S INTERESTING ADDRESS.

"Such is the importance of University influence on State life that it should be extended to the deserving of the State. It should be extended from a University of Adelaide to a University of South Australia, and the test for admission should be intellect, not wealth."

This was the statement made by Mr. T. Ryan at the Botanic Park Regulation League meeting yesterday in the course of an interesting address on the proposals of the Education Commission. Mr. Ryan asked his hearers to take into consideration what had been achieved in other lands by the university making itself part of the life of the community. If the Government would extend the influence of the university and ensure a passage for deserving students from kindergarten to the university they would realise that the ideal State did not consist of walls or ships, but of men—trained men—able to perform justly and skilfully all the duties necessary for the wellbeing of the State. Professor Huxley had said, "I should like to have an arrangement by which a passage could be secured for children of superior ability to schools in which they could obtain higher instruction than in ordinary schools. I believe no educational system in England will be worth the name of a national system or fulfil the great objects of education unless it is one which establishes a great ladder the bottom of which will be in the gutter and the top in the university." That was the ideal of the man who had done so much for the educational systems of the Empire, and it was the ideal of the Labor Party.

The education demanded by a democratic society to-day was one that prepared a youth to overcome the inevitable difficulties that stood in the way of his material and spiritual advancement. They desired an education of the youth that would open his mind and let the world in through every natural power of observation and assimilation; one that would cultivate hand power as well as head power. They desired to have the youth of the State taught so that he would be enabled to analyse for himself the intellectual, economic, and political problems of his time, and would give the insight, the interest, and the power to deal with them as successfully as possible for his own advancement and for the social service.

He believed that any young man or woman who needed the university to-day should have an equal chance in every stage regardless of the financial or social position of his parents. The university was no longer an institution for the benefit only of the rich people. The members of the Education Commission had agreed on 93 recommendations out of 94.

A Voice—What was the one you differed upon?

Mr. Ryan replied that it was on the question of scholarships. In this State there were only 48. A Labor Government in New South Wales had increased the number of scholarships in that State from 48 to 269. In Adelaide, however, there were 40 in which only boys in State schools could compete, and the remaining eight were not confined to any section of the community. This required to be placed on a democratic basis. The commission proposed to double the number of scholarships and confine them to certain schools, but he objected because it was the duty of the State to assist those who had ability entirely without regard to the school from which they came. The revenue by which the granting of the scholarships was possible was provided by the whole of the taxpayers of the State, and if they were won in open competition by children from private schools they would be won because the children were those whom the State desired to help. The cry had been, "Why do the masses require a university education?" and the answer was "In order that they might face the unsolved problems of their present position." The intelligent worker was the mainstay of the industrial world. "Open the doors of the university" was the cry of the workers.

#### THE JOSEPH FISHER LECTURE.

The council of the Adelaide University on Friday afternoon chose the Hon. D. J. Gordon, M.L.C., to be the Joseph Fisher lecturer for 1914. Mr. Gordon's subject will be "The problems of transportation and their relation to Australian trade and commerce." He is the second South Australian to be selected for the honour, the other having been Mr. L. A. Jessop in 1908. Five lectures have been delivered by Messrs. H. Gyles Turner, J. Carrie Elles, J. Russell French, H. J. Braddon, and Mr. Jessop. The late Mr. Joseph Fisher gave £1,000 to the University to promote with its income the study of commerce, and a medal is annually awarded to the most distinguished candidate for the diploma in that subject. Mr. Gordon's lecture will be given early in April.

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#### UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the council was held on Friday. Present—The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Downer, Mr. Justice Murray, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Talbot Smith, Professor Stirling, Dr. Poulton, Dr. Hayward, and Mr. Maughan. An invitation was received from the University of Groningen to send a representative to the celebration of the 300th anniversary of that university, to be held in June and July next. The council accepted the invitation, and decided to invite a member of the University to attend the celebrations. The annual report and balance sheets for 1913 were submitted by the education and finance committees, and approved. At the invitation of the council, the Hon. D. J. Gordon, M.L.C., consented to deliver the Joseph Fisher lecture for 1914. The subject of the lecture was approved. Mr. Gordon will deal with the River Murray question, problems of transportation, and the relation to Australian trade and commerce. A letter from the trustees of the John Ridley Memorial Scholarship, stating that Mr. C. F. Stevens had been nominated to the scholarship for 1914, was read. The nomination was approved. The Angus Engineering Exhibition for 1914 was awarded to Wilfrid Oswald Jose, and the Hartley Studentship to Harry Roy Pomroy.

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