

# ANTARCTICA.

## THE WORK OF AUSTRALIA THERE.

Speaking yesterday at the annual meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of Australia (South Australian branch), his Excellency the Governor made eloquent reference to the tragic fate which overtook Captain Scott and his comrades during their return from the conquest of the South Pole. It was, he said, to their profound sorrow that they had to mourn the loss of these brave men, whose heroic hardihood, courage, and endurance had excited the admiration and sympathy of the whole world. (Applause.) The expedition which, under the leadership and guidance of Captain Scott, accomplished its object by reaching the South Pole, was fated never to return to the base from which it set forth. The tragedy was due to no fault in the conception and organisation of the expedition: the failure of Captain Scott and his comrades to return was due to a series of misfortunes. The South Australian Geographical Society was more intimately concerned with the results of the Australasian Antarctic expedition, which was under the leadership of that fine fellow, Dr. Mawson, of the Adelaide University. (Applause.) The qualities of energy, physical strength, and determined leadership were exhibited in a high degree by Dr. Mawson—and more especially in that terrible sledge journey from which he returned the sole survivor.

### Mawson and Madigan.

The loss of his comrades, Lieutenant Ninnis and Dr. Mertz, with nearly all the food supply, left the leader in a position of exceptional danger in which he had to depend entirely upon his own resources and bodily strength. It was then that Dr. Mawson reaped the benefit of the efforts he had made in the preceding winters to harden himself by frequently sleeping in the open. The society was profoundly affected with sympathy with the leader in the loss of his men and his own painful experience. (Applause.) His Excellency went on to refer to the selection of Mr. Madigan to take charge of the party that remained at Adelie Land to await Professor Mawson's return. Mr. Madigan, as Rhodes scholar, said his Excellency felt he was losing much by staying, but he never hesitated for one moment. In his letter to the Chief Justice, he said he felt he was losing much by staying another year, but must do so at all costs. He was a member of the expedition and could not desert it. Captain Davis, of the Aurora, had an unfortunate experience in the loss of his anchors, a loss, the seriousness of which could probably only be realised by a sailor. Captain Davis was placed in a most difficult position, but he took the wisest course, and probably the safety of the ship and that of the whole expedition was the result of his decision. They hoped with all their hearts that nothing would occur to prevent the safe return of the whole of the remainder of the party in January next. (Applause.) When they returned they would be welcomed with rejoicings and acclamations by all the people of Australasia. (Applause.)

### "Our Dependency in the South."

The retiring president of the society (Mr. A. W. Piper, K.C.), also made reference to the return of Mawson's expedition. In the coming year, he said, they expected to receive their friends back from Antarctica, which he almost felt disposed to call their dependency in the south. (Laughter.) He looked upon that quadrant of the Antarctic as the especial care of the Australian Commonwealth. It ought to be, and he thought they might say it was now, because of the work their men had done. (Applause.) They would all delight in welcoming back Professor Mawson and the self-denying six who remained behind to stand by him, notwithstanding the fact that they had already boarded their ship and were practically on the way home. (Applause.)

Reverting to the subject of the Scott expedition, Mr. W. B. Wilkinson remarked that the death of those gallant men constituted the saddest page that had ever been written in regard to polar expeditions, but they could rejoice in the grand example which Captain Scott and his companions had set the whole world. (Hear, hear.) The heroic manner in which they had met their death would be an inspiration to the world. (Applause.)

## PRIZE FOR ENGLISH VERSE.

It has been decided to establish in connection with the Adelaide University what will be known as the Bunday prize for English verse. Some time ago Miss E. Milne Bunday paid to the University £200 for the purpose of founding with the income of the gift an annual prize in memory of her parents, the late Sir Henry and Lady Bunday, of North Adelaide. On Wednesday the University Senate approved, subject to the adoption by the council of a suggested alteration in the statute, of a prize of the value of £10 being awarded in April of each year to the person who, in the opinion of the professors in letters and philosophy, shall have written the best poem on a subject prescribed by the Faculty of Arts; provided that, if in any year the examiners shall not consider any candidate worthy to receive the prize, it shall lapse for that year. The subject and length of the poem are to be intimated in June of each year, and no restriction will be imposed concerning the choice of metre, except that the dramatic form shall not be allowed. The competition is open to Australian-born graduates and undergraduates of the University of Adelaide, who shall have entered on their studies at the University not more than six years prior to the date fixed for sending in poems. Each poem, with the name of the author in full, must be delivered at the office of the Registrar not later than March 31, and the prize will be received by the successful candidate on June 1. The prize will not be awarded twice to the same candidate, and the successful poems will be retained in the library of the University. The suggested alteration, which provides for the delivery of the poems to the Registrar instead of simply posting them, will be dealt with by the Council on Friday, and if it be approved of, that will complete the whole matter.

## DIPLOMA OF FORESTRY.

In recent years there has been a marked advance in forestry in South Australia, as well as in many other countries. Recently the Adelaide University made provision for a degree of Bachelor of Science and Forestry, and now, in order that those who do not care to, or cannot, take the full degree, a diploma in forestry has been created. The subject was completed at a meeting of the University Senate on Wednesday. The regulations provide:—Every candidate shall—(a) Satisfy the Faculty of Science of his fitness to enter upon the course; (b) before entering upon the course, pass the senior public examination in arithmetic and algebra and geometry; (c) before, or within one year of, beginning the course pass in trigonometry in the senior public examination; (d) spend two academical years at least in his course of study at the University; (e) before beginning each year of his course, obtain the approval of the Lecturer in Forestry of the subjects which he proposes to study; (f) attend regularly courses of lectures and pass examinations in all the subjects set out in regulation 2 hereof; (g) submit satisfactory evidence of having spent 12 months (of which at least nine months shall be consecutive) in gaining approved experience of practical forestry, either in the South Australian Woods and Forests Department, or under other approved instructor; (h) after completing the 12 months' practical experience required in clause (g), pass a final examination in forestry. The subjects (some of them being modified) for the diploma in forestry are—Physics, botany, physiography, biology, forestry, surveying, chemistry, and forest botany. Each candidate, while spending the required 12 months in gaining practical experience, shall forward to the Lecturer in Forestry, at the end of each month, a full record in diary form of his practical work. The Council may, on the recommendation of the Faculty of Science, refuse to accept any evidence of practical experience which shall not have been endorsed by the Lecturer in Forestry as satisfactory and adequate. Candidates may be exempted by the Council from attendance at lectures or at examinations, in accordance with the regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Science governing such exemptions. To secure the diploma the candidate will have to do about two-thirds the work required for the Degree of Bachelor of Science and Forestry.

## DIPLOMA IN FORESTRY.

At its meeting yesterday the senate of the Adelaide University approved the regulations governing the new diploma in forestry. The regulations make it obligatory upon a candidate to pass the senior public examination in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry; pass in trigonometry in the senior public examination; spend two academical years at least in his course of study at the University; attend regularly courses of lectures and pass examinations; submit satisfactory evidence of having spent twelve months (of which at least nine months shall be consecutive) in gaining approved experience of practical forestry, either in the South Australian Woods and Forests Department, or under other approved instructor; and after completing the twelve months' practical experience required, pass a final examination in forestry. The subjects for the diploma in forestry are:—Physics, botany, physiography, biology, surveying, chemistry, forest botany, and forestry.

## THE BUNDEY PRIZE FOR ENGLISH VERSE.

At yesterday's meeting of the senate of the Adelaide University members approved, subject to one alteration of a minor character, the statute of the Bunday prize for English verse. The statute sets out that the sum of £200, which Miss E. Milne Bunday paid to the University for the purpose of founding an annual prize in memory of her parents, shall be used to provide a prize of the value of £10, to be awarded in April of each year to the person who, in the opinion of the professors in letters and philosophy, shall have written the best poem on a subject prescribed by the Faculty of Arts. If the examiners do not consider any candidate worthy to receive the prize it will lapse for that year. No restriction is imposed concerning the choice of metre, except that the dramatic form shall not be allowed. The competition is open to Australian-born graduates and undergraduates of the University of Adelaide, provided they have entered on their studies at the University not more than six years prior to the date fixed for sending in poems. The prize is not to be awarded twice to the same candidate, and the successful poem will be retained in the library of the University.

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## THE CELL GROWTH OF TUMORS.

Under the auspices of the Microscopical Society Professor T. Brailsford Robertson, D.Sc. (University of California), who is on a visit to Adelaide, lectured at the Royal Society's lecture-room at the Institute, North-terrace, on Tuesday evening on "Some Factors in the Cell Growth of Tumors." There was not a large attendance, but the audience listened with the closest attention to Professor Robertson's interesting, if necessarily technical, lecture, which dealt with the relationship of normal growth to the growth of tumors. The lecturer's discourse, and his informative explanations of experiments conducted by himself and by other scientists, tended to confirm in a new way the view now generally accepted that the growth of a tumor is analogous to the growth of an embryo. He showed the various factors apparently influencing the growth of cancer, and explained the results of his own experiments on animals in this direction. The lecture was illustrated by means of diagrams.