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RETURNED RHODES SCHOLAR.

Impressions Abroad.

After three years as a South Australian Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, Mr. Harry Thomson has returned to Adelaide to enter the legal profession. Mr. Thomson speaks in enthusiastic strain of experiences in Great Britain and the Continent, and, incidentally, pays tribute to the valuable legacy left by the great Cecil Rhodes to the British Empire, as well as to other countries. Each year there are about 170 Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford, one-half of whom are Americans, about 70 British colonists, and about a dozen Germans. That many of the British representatives have played an important part in the life of the university during recent years is well known, and Mr. Thomson, although loth to speak of his own academic feats, was, among other things, President of the Oxford Colonial Club and President of the University Law Debating Society. Speaking of Oxford in comparison with the great rival university of Cambridge, he mentioned that although the 21 colleges associated with the former place contain about 3,600 students, there are nearly 4,000 at Cambridge. In the realm of sports Mr. Thomson twice played for Oxford against Cambridge, and on each occasion the dark-blues were triumphant.

—France and Germany.—

Six months of the year, so far as the Rhodes Scholars are concerned, are devoted more or less to travel, and in this connection, as an observant student, Mr. Thomson visited France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, and Belgium, in addition to many places in England, Scotland, Ireland, and the Channel Islands. He was particularly interested in the Franco-German question, and while in France on two or three occasions learned much concerning the subject from the French point of view. In his opinion there are no signs of the alleged decadence of the great republic, which he speaks of as a wonderful country, with a system of decentralization that is an object lesson to any other nation. The fertile land within its borders is split up like a chessboard, to use the observer's own words, with scores of cities of well-distributed population, each apparently alive with patriotism. A month or so ago a spy scare prevailed to some extent throughout France, and considerable precautions were taken by the authorities to guard against national secrets leaking out, but the popular feeling of the nation seems to be that it was never stronger than now or more ready to meet any hostile power. Of course, Germany is the principal object of all French military preparations, and it is even said that every gun is pointed toward the Teutonic dominions, while horses are ever in readiness to proceed in that direction. During the past few months gold has been unobtainable from French banks, or in Berlin, for that matter. In the latter metropolis it is understood that £70,000,000 in gold is being kept for any possible war-like complications. In France results of the entente cordiale with Great Britain are manifest on all sides, but there is an often expressed desire among Frenchmen that some more definite war understanding should exist between the two great peoples. There is a constant interchange of visits between London and Paris on the part of scholars of educational establishments in the two capitals, and in many other directions the utmost good feeling prevails on each side of the Channel.

—European Comments.—

Touching further upon European affairs, Mr. Thomson remarked that there was considerable satisfaction in France over the fact that the Turks, associated with German officers and using German artillery, had been so signally defeated by the Balkan Allies, with whom French officers have been advising factors, and who have employed French artillery throughout their campaign. Reverting once more to the Franco-German issue, he said it was the common belief in France that Germany would never attack the republic first, as in the event the active support of Austria

might not be forthcoming in her behalf; but that the Teutons would strive rather to trap France into first declaring war should trouble really arise. In some quarters in France it is thought that the recent landing of the German military airship in French territory was a deliberate attempt to provoke national resentment. Contrary to what was believed abroad at the time, the people assert that the secrets contained in the German airship were already in the possession of the French War Office, and that there was nothing new to learn from them.

—Affairs in England.—

During his stay at Oxford Mr. Thomson was prominently associated with the Law Debating Society, which was founded just after his arrival in England. The society meets once a fortnight, and its proceedings are occasionally presided over by eminent English Judges, King's Counsel, and others. Among those who have acted as adjudicators at mock trials are Mr. Justice Banks, Mr. Rawlinson, K.C. (Recorder of Cambridge), and Sir Robert Finlay, an ex-Attorney-General of England. Sir William Anson, M.P., a representative of Oxford University in the House of Commons, is one of the most ardent supporters of the Law Society, which began with about a dozen foundation members, and now boasts 60, comprising the majority of the students taking law at Oxford. The Prince of Wales is at present a most popular figure at Oxford. Mr. Thomson describes His Royal Highness as having a quiet and retiring disposition, but as thoroughly enjoying his 'varsity life. Not long before his departure from Oxford Mr. Thom-

son presided at the annual dinner of the Colonial Club, as its President. On that occasion the guests included Earl Grey (President of the Royal Colonial Institute and an ex-Governor of Canada) and Sir George Reid (High Commissioner for Australia). When finally questioned concerning the much-discussed suffragette outrages in the old country, the returned graduate expressed the opinion that the apparent inability of the present British Government to effectively deal with the problem was due possibly to party politics and a fear that if too drastic steps were taken to punish the militants the Unionists would make political capital out of the matter. In a few days Mr. Thomson will apply for admission to the Supreme Court Bar. It is interesting to note that last Friday morning he received a wireless message on the R.M.S. Orana from Mr. Henry Brose the South Australian Rhodes Scholar now en route to England. The communication was sent as the Orana passed the outgoing steamer in the Australian Bight.

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A DIPLOMA IN FORESTRY.

The proposed regulations in respect to the diploma in forestry to be given by the Adelaide University direct that the candidate shall satisfy the Faculty of Science of his fitness to enter upon the course; before entering upon the course, pass the senior public examination in arithmetic and algebra and geometry; before, or within one year of, beginning the course, pass in trigonometry in the senior public examination; spend two academical years at least in his course of study at the University; before beginning each year of his course, obtain the approval of the lecturer in forestry of the subjects which he proposes to study; attend regularly courses of lectures and pass examinations in all the subjects set out; 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; after completing the twelve months' practical experience required in clause (f), pass a final examination in forestry. The subjects for the diploma in forestry are as follow:—Physics, botany, phytography, biology, forestry, surveying, chemistry, forest botany, and forestry.

THE BUNDEY PRIZE FOR ENGLISH VERSE.

Miss E. Milne Bunday has paid to the Adelaide University the sum of £200 for the purpose of founding with the income thereof an annual prize in memory of her parents, the late Sir Henry and Lady Bunday, to be called the "Bunday Prize for English Verse." It has therefore been proposed by the council that a prize of the value of £10, called the "Bunday Prize for English Verse," shall 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. No restriction will be imposed concerning the choice of metre, except that the dramatic form will not be allowed. The competition is open to Australian-born graduates and undergraduates of the University of Adelaide, who have entered on their studies at the University not more than six years prior to the date fixed for sending in poems. The successful poem will be retained in the library of the University.

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THE MAWSON EXPEDITION.

CAPTAIN DAVIS' MISSION.

LONDON, July 18.

As a result of his visit to England to secure funds for the work of the Mawson expedition, Captain Davis, of the Antarctic ship Aurora, has raised £2,000. The Aurora will refit at Melbourne, and will sail in November for Dr. Mawson's headquarters in the Antarctic. The ship will return to Hobart from the south at the end of February.

Sir Robert Lucas Tooth, formerly of Sydney, gave £1,000 to the Mawson fund. Other well-known contributors were:—The Royal Geographical Society, £100; the Royal Society, £50; Lady Scott, £100; Commander Evans, £100; Lieutenant H. L. Pennell (meteorologist of the Scott expedition) and Mr. A. Cherry-Garrard (assistant meteorologist), £25 each; Mr. T. Griffith Taylor (geologist), £20; Commander V. L. A. Campbell (leader of the eastern party), and Messrs. Priestley, T. Gran (assistant chemist), H. G. Ponting (photographer), and C. S. Wright (chemist), £10 each; and Mr. Frank Debenham, £5.

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Mr. Morton H. Moyes, B.Sc., who was a member of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition of which Dr. Douglas Mawson is the leader, has been appointed headmaster of the University Coaching College in Sydney. He was previously science master at St. Peter's College, Adelaide. Mr. Moyes is an all-round sportsman.