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THE FROZEN SOUTH.

ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM DR. MAWSON.

Sydney, May 12.

A wireless message as follows was received from the Antarctic to-day:—

"Commonwealth Bay (Adelie Land), May 10, 1913.—The first number of 'The Adelie Blizzard,' a monthly publication, has just been produced. This is the first real newspaper employing a cable column published in Antarctica. It consists of 26 pages, and so far has a circulation of seven copies. The editor, Dr. McLean, sends greetings to his contemporaries and applies to be admitted as an honorary member of the Australian Journalists' Association. The wireless mast and plant are in good condition, although the aurora and magnetic storms in line between here and Macquarie Island often interfere with the transmission of messages. This month there has been slightly less wind than in the corresponding month of last year, although we have experienced some severe snowfalls, which have practically snowed up the hut. Anyway, there is no chance of the hut being blown away now winter has set in. Last year the Bay was only frozen over for a couple of days, but now it is frozen hard for as great a distance as the eye can see. Shortly before the Bay froze over there was an exodus of all penguins and seals. The only birds now remaining are Antarctic petrels and the snow petrels. One of the dogs presented to us by Amundsen met with an accident and had to be killed. He was immediately pounced upon by others, ripped open, and eaten. All the scientific instruments are running well, and we are collecting some valuable data. As the Bay is frozen over we expect to be able to do some interesting marine work in the early spring. The winter is fine and bracing, and all the members are in the best of health. (Signed) Mawson."

Miss Dorothea Proud, B.A., will leave by the mail steamer on Friday for England, in pursuance of the conditions of the Catherine Helen Spence Scholarship, of which she is the first holder. This scholarship was originated by the Verran Government, and confirmed by the Peake Cabinet, with the aid of a supplementary contribution by the citizens' committee which devoted to the scholarship fund the balance left after the purchase of the portrait of the late Miss Spence, painted by Miss Rose Macpherson, and now exhibited in the National Gallery. The scholarship represents the sum of £300, plus the interest on £210 invested with the Public Trustee by the citizens' committee. The maximum tenure of it, as defined by the regulations administered by a committee, is four years. In Miss Proud's case, however, on account of the lady's brilliant academical record at the Adelaide University, it was decided to reduce the period to three years, and to permit the scholar to continue her occupation in connection with educational matters for one year of the three. That year was to be divided, as equally as might be practicable, between academical research and practical observation. After the first part of this condition had been complied with, Miss Proud visited the eastern States and New Zealand. Particularly in the Dominion she made close observations of economic conditions in reference to the country's complex industrial problems and other matters bearing upon the subject of sociology, which is the special theme of study. On her return she spent some time, by arrangement, in the State Children's Department of South Australia, investigating the questions affecting child life; and in other directions she has, by personal inspection, made herself acquainted with many other public and private charitable institutions of the State. Miss Proud, as the result of her first year's work, has supplied the committee administering the scholarship with a valuable report, which, in due course, will be sent to the Minister of Education. The scholarship committee in Adelaide consists of the Director of Education ex officio (Mr. M. M. Maughan, has been acting since the death of Mr. Williams), the Dean of the Faculty of Arts in the Adelaide University (Professor Mitchell), Mr. W. J. Sowden (as President of the Citizens' Catherine Helen Spence Committee), and Mrs. A. H. Young (who was Honorary Secretary of that committee), as Honorary Secretary. Miss Proud, to whom special concessions in the way of passage money have been made by the Orient Company, under agreement with the Adelaide University, will spend two years in study in London, and a general oversight of her work will be exercised by a committee nominated from Adelaide, to consist (if those concerned are willing to act), of the State Agent-General (Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick), Sir John Cockburn, Mr. Bertram Hawker, and Mrs. Sidney Webb.

MUSIC EXAMINATIONS. ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

PROPOSED MUSICAL CONGRESS.

The seventh annual conference of representatives of the University Boards of Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania was held yesterday at the University, at which the chairman of the Melbourne board (Professor Peterson) presided. Others present representing the Melbourne University were Messrs. Laver, Coutts, Zelman, and Nixon. Professor Ennis and Messrs. Alderman and Hodge were present as delegates from the Adelaide University. Professor Peterson, in addition, acted as a delegate for Queensland, and Mr. Nixon in a similar capacity for Tasmania. New South Wales is not so far represented on the conference. Although the conference has no legislative powers, it has constituted a valuable opportunity for the exchange of opinions on musical matters as they affect the different States, and it is more than probable that the recommendations of the conference will be favourably considered by the individual University boards.

It was decided to invite the Western Australian University to join the conference as a direct partner. Up till the present time Western Australian matters had been governed from the Adelaide University, but with the advent of the new University at Perth it was considered desirable to alter this arrangement.

In connection with the scheme which governs interstate university matters, some material modifications drawn up by the chairman of the Melbourne board (Professor Peterson) were presented to the conference. These proposals were generally approved of, and it was decided to submit them to the respective boards for further consideration.

The conference carried a recommendation in connection with the eligibility to exhibitions at the conservatoriums in Melbourne and Adelaide. In view of this, candidates who have passed the necessary qualifying examinations in any part of the Commonwealth will be eligible for these valuable exhibitions.

A decision which will affect the secondary schools was that the musical examinations which had been fixed to take place in Melbourne on September 9 should be postponed for a fortnight, in order that the convenience of the new school terms may be met.

A proposal was submitted to hold a musical congress in Melbourne in August, 1914. It was felt that that month, which would signalise the visit of the members of the British association, would be particularly apropos for such an event. During the congress it is proposed to hold orchestral and chamber concerts, and papers on musical matters will be contributed. Members of the conference believed that the time was ripe for such a congress, which would follow the lines laid down by successful musical bodies in France, Germany, and elsewhere.

Register, May 14/13

UNIVERSITY BOARDS.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN MELBOURNE.

MELBOURNE, May 13.

The seventh annual conference of representatives of the University Boards of Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania was held to-day at the university. The Chairman of the Melbourne board (Professor Peterson) presided. Professor Ennis and Messrs. Alderman and Lodge were present as delegates from the Adelaide University. It was decided to invite the Western Australian University to join the conference as a direct partner. Until the present Western Australian matters had been governed from the Adelaide University, but with the advent of the new university at Perth it was considered desirable to alter this arrangement. In connection with the scheme which governs interstate university matters, material modifications drawn up by the Chairman of the Melbourne Board (Professor Peterson) were presented to the conference. These proposals were generally approved, and it was decided to submit them to the respective boards for further consideration.

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Register, May 16/13

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

In and Out Theory Untenable.

LONDON, May 15.

In a lecture at King's College, London, on the "Colonies in International Law," the Rev. Dr. Thomas Joseph Lawrence, who was Lecturer on International Law at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth, from 1881 to 1909, strenuously opposed the in and out of the Empire theory. Dr. Lawrence contended that any dominion proclaiming itself neutral in time of war would be compelled to enforce neutrality against the motherland, and not allow the passage of British troops or permit British ships to use its harbours, but no Power at war against England would forego the right to consider the whole Empire an enemy, and to attack or capture where it pleased. The Empire must stand or fall together. Dr. Lawrence concluded by emphasizing the fact that while the dominions were allowed to arrange commercial treaties these would be technically made by the Foreign Office.

From 1883 to 1885 Dr. Lawrence was Deputy Professor of International Law at Cambridge, and later Professor of International Law in the University of Chicago. He is the author of a handbook of public international law, which has passed through several editions, of "Principles of International Law," "War and Neutrality in the Far East" (1905), and "International Law" (1908).