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Ballarat School of Mines. I spent a couple of years there, delightful years they were, too, and passed on to Ormond College, Melbourne University, to carry on similar duties. To gain further knowledge I went for a year's travel studying chiefly at the Gottingen University, and on my return was appointed lecturer in mathematics to the Melbourne University. Shortly after that Professor Lyle took me into his department of physics, and from there I came to Adelaide to take up Professor Bragg's work when he left to go to the University of Leeds. I was afterwards appointed permanently to the position of Physics Professor."

To read it as it stands, Professor Grant's is a story of success, but his achievements were not gained without determination, unremitting study, and putting before all else his work. Long and loose limbed, he is a typical Australian, who strikes to the heart of his subject without frills of speech. He is, too, conspicuous in a domain whose characteristic is personal charm. The Adelaide University is fortunate, indeed, in its choice of professors on the side of personal worth as well as ability. Among those Professor Kerr Grant is no inconsiderable figure.

The professor is justly enthusiastic over the approaching visit of scientists. "The main party," he said, "will arrive in Adelaide on Saturday, August 8, and will remain here for four days, their stay in Australia covering altogether about one month. It is not a long time, but these men are all scientists of note, and many of them having to secure leave from the different uni-

versities and institutions, it is obvious that with two sea trips the sojourn in Australia cannot be long. We are doing our best, however, to arrange a programme that will give them every opportunity to study Australia to the best advantage. I think the idea of inviting them out here was proposed about three years ago, the earliest suggestion coming from Sir Charles Lucas, at one time in the Colonial Office. After it was put before the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science Professor Masson, who has been a moving spirit in it all along, went home and consulted the leaders of science in regard to it. They approved, and on his return to Australia a committee was formed in Melbourne, with the professor as its chairman. Similar committees were formed in all the other States, and since that time everything possible has been done to make the visit an epoch-making success. The dates at present arranged are:—Adelaide,

August 8 to August 12, Melbourne August 13 to 19, Sydney August 20 to 26, and Brisbane August 27 to September 1. The plan has been followed of dividing the proceedings into sections, which will meet separately for the transaction of business. Each of these sections has its own president, and some famous names are among them. These sectional business meetings will be held in Sydney and Melbourne only, but Adelaide and Brisbane have not been left out in the cold in this respect, as two presidential addresses in these sections are to be delivered in each. In addition, in Adelaide Sir Oliver Lodge, who is the immediate past president, will deliver an evening discourse on "The Ether of Space," and Professor W. J. Sollas, previously of Oxford, will speak on "Ancient Hunters." The business meetings are being held in Sydney and Melbourne for the reason that there is not sufficient time to conduct them in all the capital cities. The sectional presidential addresses which are to be delivered in Adelaide are in the hands of Sir Charles Lucas (geography) and Mr. A. D. Hall (agriculture). Mr. Hall's discourse on agriculture promises to be of special interest, as he was the director of the most celebrated experimental farm in the world, that at Rothamsted in England. It is appropriate that the latter's discourse

should be given here, as South Australia's up-to-dateness in agriculture is proverbial. The new president, Professor William Bateson, will be elected on reaching Melbourne. Although, perhaps, not so much in the public eye as other scientists who will be included in the party, he is a man of high repute among his fellow-experts in biological science."

"In what particular way will Australia benefit by this visit?" the professor was asked.

"I think," he said, "that it will touch the imagination of the people, and in that way will stimulate scientific thought and investigation. It will also enable scientists out here to exchange ideas with the greatest scientists in the English-speaking world; more than the English-speaking world, as a matter of fact, for there are seven Germans in the party, all men of note, Danes, Swedes, Italians, Americans, and a Russian. In addition Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium, is still on the list of those who intend to make the trip."

"Australia will be a new and wonderful land to them?"

"In certain departments of science it will; geology, for example. A special party will proceed to the Broken Hill mines, which, I am told, are quite unique and are quite unlike anything else in the world. Then Australia's botanical and zoological features are similarly unique. Australia will be to them a fossil colony since they will see forms here which have been extinct in the old world for ages. It is probably that which has attracted so many botanists and zoologists. There are also a number of anthropologists in the party, and arrangements have been made to conduct an anthropological excursion for their benefit. The geologists and botanists will be catered for in the same way.

"The main party who are coming by the Orvieto on Saturday, August 8, number about 150, and 50 more will come in the same day by the Euripides. The Government will tender them an official reception in the evening. On Monday there will be an excursion by special train to Angaston, where the visitors will be entertained by Mr. Charles Angus. The residents have arranged to provide vehicles to convey them around the district, and we think the outing will enable them to see a typical Australian landscape, typical agricultural country, and a typical Australian country town. In the evening Sir Oliver Lodge will deliver his discourse in the Adelaide Town Hall. On Tuesday excursions will be made in the hills districts, when hospitality will be provided by residents there. On Tuesday evening Professor Sollas delivers his lecture, and afterwards the

delegates have all been invited to attend the mayoral ball, which will be held the same evening at the Exhibition Building. On Wednesday morning the two presidential addresses are to be delivered, and in the afternoon the party will continue their journey to Melbourne."

Admission to all these gatherings will be by ticket. By paying £1 any one may become an annual member, entitling him to attend meetings at one centre only, and for £2 he may attend the meetings at more than one centre, the centres being Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Brisbane. Associate membership is also provided for at a cost of 10/ for Adelaide and Brisbane, and £1 for Melbourne and Sydney. The advantage which annual members will have is the receipt of the printed report of the association's discourses and other matter relating to the visit. Also if the membership exceeds all expectations, the annual members will perhaps be given priority over associates in the matter of seats.

LECTURE ON EURIPIDES.

A large audience assembled at the Prince of Wales Theatre in the University on Tuesday evening, when Professor Darnley Naylor delivered the first of a course of three University extension lectures on "The Problem of Euripides." He dealt with the life and times of the poet. Tradition had given the date of the birth of Euripides as 480 B.C., at Salames, but it was safer to follow the Parian marble, which placed the date at 485 B.C. Euripides was of a retiring nature, a thing which was not customary in Athens. His great library was celebrated. The personal appearance was believed to have been preserved in the bust of him in the Oxford University galleries. If that was not a genuine reproduction of his features, it at least impressed those students who saw it with the idea that it deserved to be so regarded. The lecturer dealt with his sudden retirement near the close of his life, and his unpopularity. Probably his literary masterpiece was the "Medea." At least from the modern point of view it was his greatest work. The "Alcestis" only won second place in 438 B.C., but the accompanying plays were lost. There were two main reasons for Euripides' unpopularity during his lifetime. One of these was his innovations as an artist, and the other his attitude towards the conventional beliefs of the time. The Greek drama was essentially of a religious character. In Athenian literature much less was thought of the actors than of the plays. In modern times they heard, even in connection with Shakespeare's plays, of some popular actor creating a part, and Shakespeare was to some extent lost sight of. It was not so in the old Greek drama. There was always a religious background to the Greek drama. There was an atmosphere of wonderment which kept the student in the mystic twilight of the days when the gods dwelt on the earth. The belief of anthropomorphic gods was prevalent, and could be traced in the dramas of the times. Although the dramatists as a rule dealt with mythology, there were exceptions to this rule, even at an early date. With the first appearance of Sophocles, who introduced three actors in the place of the two previously employed, there came a change in the presentation of the plays. His characters were heroes, but they were idealised. He was accustomed to say, "I paint men as they ought to be. Euripides paints them as they are." That was a splendid tribute to Euripides, whose realism was his charm. His characters were those of the everyday life, although they bore archaic names. What could such a writer do with gods and demigods? Could realism and the gods stand together? He thought they could not. If they accepted the divinity the realism would go. If they wanted the realism they could not have the divinity. Aristophanes had charged Euripides for his realism, and accused him of degrading the gods, and of introducing new gods. To realism and rationalism they might assign the comparative unpopularity of Euripides during his lifetime. Many in his audiences lamented the loss of idealism, and they were haunted with the idea that the poet was laughing, both at them and at his own characters. He was an ardent disciple of Anaxagoras, the Thomas Huxley of his day. He was also the friend of Protagoras and Socrates. A fragment of a life of Euripides had recently been found which told them that the poet was actually tried on a charge of impiety. Although they did not know what the result of the trial was, it might be that this explained his retirement during the latter years of his life. They must remember that a dramatist could not be judged by the words which fell from the lips of his characters. Euripides was not merely a destructive critic. He desired to rebuild, and to purify. He lifted the gods and religion from the region of ignorant superstition, and aimed at showing how the religious stories had come to be told. A noble prayer of his was still extant, and his plays showed how true was his sympathy with human life. He had given evidence of deep understanding of the home and of childhood. He had a mission, and while this interfered with his art, his genius was so great that he could be a preacher and teacher, and yet preserve a large measure of artistic form in delivering his message.