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### THE SCIENCE CONGRESS.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GATHERING.

Melbourne, December 21.

An extensive programme has been drawn up for the annual congress of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, which will take place at the Melbourne University from Tuesday, January 7, till Tuesday, January 14. It embraces no fewer than 13 sections, each of which will have separate accommodation in the way of lecture rooms and committee rooms. On the average about ten papers will be read in each section by competent authorities, and, in addition to these, reports will be submitted by secretaries of committees which have been carrying out investigations on various scientific features of Australia, and other interesting subjects. Some valuable advice is expected from the committee appointed to aid the work of establishing an observatory in Australia devoted to the study of solar physics, and the report of the committee that has been investigating the seismological phenomena in Australia is also likely to prove one of the most interesting features of the proceedings. The structural features of Australian local glacial phenomena, the question of climate, the alkaline rocks of Australasia, the biological conditions of the New Zealand coast, and Australian aborigines will also be dealt with by committees. The subjects on which papers are to be read are as follow:—Astronomy, mathematics and physics, chemistry, pharmacy, geology, and mineralogy, biology, geography and history, ethnology and anthropology, social and statistical science, engineering and architecture, sanitary science and hygiene, mental science and education, agriculture, and veterinary science.

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### PERTH UNIVERSITY.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO CHAIRS.

PERTH, December 22.

The Senate of the Western Australian University on Saturday made appointments to the following professional chairs:—Biology, A. Willey, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., now at McGill College, Montreal, 44 years of age. Chemistry, N. J. M. Wilmore, B.Sc., D.Sc., Melbourne University (he is an Australian), aged 44, has been assistant to Sir W. Ramsay in organic chemistry, and at present is in London; English, W. Murdoch, M.A., Melbourne University, aged 38, present lecturer in English Literature in Melbourne University; Mathematics and physics, A. D. Ross, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.A.S., F.R.S.E., and honourman in physics (London), he graduated at Glasgow University, and is only 29 years of age; Geology, W. G. Woolnough, B.Sc. and D.Sc., Sydney University, an Australian, aged 36, assistant lecturer and demonstrator in geology at the university, Sydney; Mining and Engineering, H. E. Whitfield, B.A. and B.E. (Sydney), an Australian, 37 years, was manager of the Sandstone Mine at Black Range until the property was recently bought by the Oroya Black Range Company.

More than passing interest has been taken by residents of Kadina and Wallaroo Mines in the Adelaide University commemoration (writes our Kadina correspondent). This is due to the fact that among those upon whom degrees were conferred were included one who is looked upon as a Kadina product, and another who is the son of a resident of the town. Dr. L. J. Glasson commenced his scholastic career in Kadina, and his progress has been watched with keen interest by residents. He is the son of Mr. J. Glasson, the widely known conductor of the Kadina Mendelssohn Choir. Mr. J. L. Ross, who had conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts, is the son of the Rev. S. Rossiter, who in April last was appointed to the superintendency of the Kadina and Wallaroo Methodist Circuit. The Rev. S. Rossiter spent his boyhood days on the Peninsula, and the residents congratulate him on the success of his son.

### A NEW K.C.

#### Mr. E. E. Cleland Appointed.

Mr. E. E. Cleland, LL.B., was at the Executive Council meeting on Thursday appointed to be one of His Majesty's counsel learned in the law. That is the formal manner in which the Executive announces that a solicitor has been made a K.C.



#### —New Regulations.—

At Thursday's meeting of the Executive Council the following new regulations in reference to King's Counsellors were approved:—"No practitioner of the Supreme Court shall be appointed His Majesty's Counsel except on the recommendation of the Chief Justice to the Governor in Executive Council. On the appointment of any practitioner to be His Majesty's Counsel a fee of three guineas for the patent shall be paid by such counsel at the office of the Chief Secretary. None of His Majesty's Counsel shall, in any case, appear against the Crown, or the Government of the State, or any department of such Government, or against any Minister, officer, or servant of the Crown or of such Government in his capacity as Minister, officer, or servant without first obtaining the licence of the Governor in Executive Council so to appear in the particular case. This regulation shall apply to all cases before all Courts and tribunals of the State of whatsoever jurisdiction, and to all cases before all persons acting judicially under the laws of the State. If any of His Majesty's Counsel acts in any case contrary to the provisions of this regulation, the Governor in Executive Council may cancel his appointment as such counsel; and any patent heretofore or hereafter granted to any such counsel shall be deemed to have been or to be granted subject to the condition that it shall be void if the appointment of such counsel is cancelled as aforesaid. The fee for a licence to appear as aforesaid shall be one guinea, and shall be paid at the office of the Chief Secretary." Previously a K.C. could appear in any Court against the Crown on permission and on payment of one guinea, but no application was made by any K.C. to be allowed to appear against the Crown in the Police Court.

#### —A Successful Career.—

Mr. Cleland, who was born at Beaumont, South Australia, on April 7, 1868, is a son of the late Mr. J. F. Cleland (a former Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages). He was educated at Prince Alfred College, and in 1886 was articled with Mr. William Pope. After four years Mr. Cleland took his LL.B. degree at the Adelaide University, and on the following day (April 26, 1890) he was called to the Bar. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Associate to the late Mr. Justice Bunday. In November, 1891, the promising young lawyer entered into partnership with Messrs. Fenn & Hardy, and seven years later (August 1, 1898) he left that firm and became associated in legal practice with Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., and his partners, and is now one of the well-known firm of Symon, Rounsevell, and Cleland. His practice has been devoted almost exclusively to the civil side of the Supreme Court and the High Court. In that capacity the new K.C. has been so successful that many of his most intimate friends predicted for him the honour which the Executive Council has now bestowed. Some of the most important actions in which Mr. Cleland was retained have been:—The cigar case (by J. L. Mueller v. the Collector of Customs); the corset case (by Weingarten Brothers v. G. & R. Wills & Co., respecting an alleged infringement of trade names); the Admiralty case (concerning the Norma-Ardeneraig collision); the Maslin divorce case, and the Mile-End land case (McDonald v. Railways Commissioner). In the High Court Mr. Cleland was leader in the cases of Kroehn against Kroehn, Maslin against Maslin, McDonald against the Railways Commissioner, and Alexander against the Federated Sawmills. In the same Court he was associated with Mr. T. S. O'Halloran in Stephens v. the Tramways Trust; with Mr. Paris Nesbit, K.C., in Crozier v. Wigley; and with Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., Mr. Justice Murray (then Mr. Murray, K.C.), and Mr. Paris Nesbit, K.C., in the disputed boundary case between South Australia and Victoria. Apart from his legal profession the K.C. has not entered prominently into public life. He is Vice-President of the Law Society, Chairman of the Football League, and Chairman of the Kindergarten Union. He is a courteous gentleman, quiet and reserved in temperament, and is highly esteemed by all who have his acquaintance. In his profession he has won high opinions by his soundness in law, skill and persistency in debate, and forcefulness in argument. The Judiciary and members of the Bar will join in heartily congratulating him on the well-merited honour conferred upon him.

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### HOME RULE.

#### AN ADELAIDE PROFESSOR'S OBSERVATIONS.

Fremantle, January 7.

An interesting sidelight on the Home Rule question was given by Professor Darnley Naylor, who is returning to Adelaide by the Omaha after spending some months in the old country. After speaking of many prominent politicians, he remarked:—"I came to the conclusion that public opinion in England on the Home Rule question was lukewarm, and most people would be extremely glad to see the Bill passed, if only to get rid of the business. I did not go to Ireland, but I discussed the matter with many representative Irishmen, and I gathered that the opposition in the North of Ireland is not nearly so strenuous as Sir Edward Carson would have us believe. So far as the great bulk of the English people is concerned I think they have quite enough occupation in their own politics."