

—Wealth of Sunlight—

The people of Adelaide had an unrivalled opportunity for making their city beautiful. It was originally laid out on an admirable plan, with wide streets, which he believed were the admiration—he would not say the envy—(laughter)—of the other cities of Australia. He believed there was no city which stood in a landscape—a beautiful plain surrounded by hills—that was better fitted for the admiration of the painter and the enjoyment of the lover of natural beauty. An advantage people had in Australia which those in the Motherland did not possess was the wealth of sunlight. The winters were short, and the summers were long. (Laughter.) They sometimes might feel that the sun was too hot, but he did not think they begrudged it, for it was something the people of England envied—and citizens were able to enjoy the privileges of outdoor life more than they could in England. To be so much in the open air meant a great deal to health, and he had no doubt that had led them to make the externals of their cities so pleasing. He was expecting a great deal of pleasure from seeing the beauties of Adelaide and South Australia, and also a great deal of profit from learning what he could about what the State was doing; and, indeed, what all the States of the Commonwealth were doing. In South Australia they had been blessed in many ways by Providence. They had much fertile soil, and an immense area, much of which was still imperfectly explored in regard to its resources.

—Needed—A Wise Population.—

He could remember the time when the interior of Australia had had no marks upon it on the map. He remembered that New Holland—as it was then called—had been marked with a few names on the east coast, a few in the south-east corner, one in the west, and with only that of the Gulf of Carpentaria in the north. In 1844, when he had first attended school, that was the state of the map of Australia. While the geography of Australia was now known, much yet remained to be known of its resources. The sheep and agricultural industries, with the aid of dry farming, water storing, and irrigation, promised great things in the future. In England they depended upon Australia for a great part of their food and for wool, which represented one of their most important industries. Even if England were not dependent upon Australia to an extent, the interests of the two countries were identical. England was profoundly interested in Australia, and desired that a population, wise in government, energetic in the development of resources, and penetrated by those traditions which had made the prestige and greatness of the nation, should be raised within the Commonwealth. (Applause.)

—Australia's Experiments.—

Great Britain was interested in a lot of experiments Australian legislators were trying, particularly that dealing with a great problem of modern life in the reconciliation of capital and labour, the adjustment of difficulties arising between employer and employee, and endeavouring to secure industrial peace. Those difficulties were common to the whole world, and he earnestly hoped they would succeed in finding a solution by which the motherland would profit. (Applause.) Personally he was hopeful about the whole question, because he believed that in the long run justice and fairness would prevail. (Applause.) He had great faith in the commonsense which belonged to the race. In England there had been many difficulties to overcome in the past, and although sometimes there had been a little crash and strife, the pendulum ultimately settled down into a peaceful, regular swing. The people had always been aware of the danger of extremes. He believed that in all parts of the Empire they were approaching the same problem from different sides. Some of the experiments Canada had tried well deserved the attention of Australians.

—Truth and Justice Prevail.—

The people of the Commonwealth were also trying experiments in the direction of the Government undertaking enterprises which were more or less in the nature of public utilities. These would be watched with great interest abroad and the greater extent to which ideas could be exchanged the better it would be for all of them. He believed in the ultimate triumph of justice and truth, because he believed no people were better fitted by past experience for dealing fairly with opponents, seeing that truth lay between extremes, and for realizing that it was only by patience, good temper, and a conciliatory spirit that results of permanent value could be given to the world. (Applause.) That was the moral from which, he thought, they could draw, and he ventured to believe that the history of Australia would repeat the history of England. (Applause.) He would like to go back to England and tell them that although they were

Australians they were also Britons; that they were a member of the great British race settled in the south, as another great member was settled in the west, while the people of England remained settled in the little island in the north. (Applause.) They were all united by the same national character and traditions of the past, and by the same sense of what their forefathers had achieved, and he felt that Australians in the favourable conditions amid which they were settled would add their full share to the achievements of their forefathers. (Prolonged applause.)

At the invitation of the Mayor a number of citizens assembled in the mayoral parlour to drink the health of the guest.

—Engagements.—

Later in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Bryce had a motor trip in the hills, and the Ambassador dined at the Adelaide Club. On Friday evening the University will confer the degree of LL.D. on him. The members of the Ministry will entertain Mr. Bryce at luncheon at Parliament House on Friday.

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THE MUNICIPAL LIFE

MR. BRYCE'S TRIBUTE.

The Right Hon. James Bryce (British Ambassador to the United States) was tendered an official welcome to Adelaide on Wednesday by the Mayor (Mr. Lavington Bonython). Mr. Bryce, in replying, spoke at some length on the rise and development of the system of local self-government in Great Britain, and also its extension to the overseas Dominions. He said no one who knew British history could desire a greater honor than to be welcomed, as he was that day, by the municipality of a city, because municipalities and those parallel institutions that existed in the rural areas of Great Britain and the Dominions, were the base and foundation of British greatness. (Cheers.)

Early Municipal Life.

In Great Britain they started very early with their municipal life. The kingdom of England grew out of the tribal organisations of the western counties. The County Board of West Sussex, as his Honor the Chief Justice would know, grew to be the kingdom of Wessex, and thus development proceeded until Scotland, Ireland, and Wales were incorporated in the kingdom. Then, as time went on and the Empire influence passed beyond the limits of the four seats and took in Dominions, the seeds of local self-government were widely sown, so that now they had not only great British Dominions, but also in each a system of local self-government, on the foundation upon which the system of national government rested. (Cheers.) Nothing had contributed more to the success of British free institutions than the fact that they had begun in local institutions, and had always had the pillars of municipalities and rural government to rest upon. (Hear, hear.) This had had a doubly good result. It had given the people that training in the work of self-government that had accustomed them to find and watch on the spot the men most fitted to carry on the administration of local affairs, and incidentally to relieve the Central Government from the too heavy task of endeavoring to administer local affairs. One great reason why the British people succeeded in establishing the free system of representative government in the seventeenth century—although its foundations were laid before then—was that the people had been trained to govern themselves in local affairs—the people of each locality in their own way—and thus they had attained that practice in the administration of affairs that enabled them to work the representative system. In other parts of Europe those institutions fell into abeyance, and the power of the Crown over the whole country became too great, so that when they in the eighteenth century and afterwards began to move for their freedom they had not the advantage

of that training which local self-government had given to British people. They had, in fact, to re-create institutions which Britons had been long since accustomed to work with advantage to themselves and the country in which they lived. (Hear, hear.)

Local Government in the Dominions.

With the extension of the British Dominions local self-government was wisely planted among the people of the new lands. Wherever Englishmen went they carried with them the common law of England, and by the exercise of the system of local self-government the people had been enabled to enter upon the larger duty of sending up representatives to the Central Government, where they had thus been able to control the actions of Ministers of the Crown. It was the aim of other modern nations to copy this system, which had vindicated its excellence by being planted wherever the English race had settled, both in the self-governing Dominions and in the United States of America. (Cheers.) Municipal government had a constantly expanding field before it. New tasks and duties necessarily presented themselves, because the progress of science had shown that there were new works which could be usefully done by the municipal authorities for the citizens. Without entering into the question of what were the proper limits of municipal or governmental activities, he thought they all felt that there were many things which a municipal government could usefully do for a city, and which could not be done equally well by private effort. For instance, all that belonged to sanitary regulation, and the whole question of public health, which had become increasingly important, because science had shown how they could protect the public from epidemic disease. Here in Australia they were alive to the duty which devolved upon the local governing authorities to care for the health of the citizens. Since the exigencies of modern civilisation had made it necessary for a large proportion of the people to live in cities, it became increasingly important to reserve open spaces in the cities, in the shape of public gardens and parks, and children's playgrounds, to give to the citizens the elements of enjoyment which their remote forefathers had in the country, and which were necessary for their happiness and wellbeing. (Cheers.)

The Cult of the Beautiful.

He did not think there was anything to which a municipality could better devote itself than trying to beautify its city and make it healthy. (Cheers.) This was a sphere in which a public authority could act without any danger of interfering with private enterprise or of destroying individual initiative. Such work would be particularly beneficial to the young, and most of all, perhaps, to the young people of those classes which were not able to have beauty in their own homes. They should have beauty outside, and the minds of the young should be trained to an appreciation of what beauty was and how much joy could be found in seeking and loving it. (Cheers.) In Adelaide the people had an unrivalled opportunity to make their city beautiful, because it was originally laid out on an admirable plan, with wide streets, which he believed were the admiration—he would not say the envy (laughter)—of the other States of the Commonwealth. (Cheers.) They had also a noble landscape, of which he had secured a passing glimpse in descending the hills from Mount Lofty by train that morning. He had heard from friends who had visited Adelaide and from its citizens whom he had met in England that there was no city better fit for the admiration of the painter and the enjoyment of the lover of natural beauty. (Cheers.) One advantage possessed by Australia and not enjoyed by England was their more benignant climate. Their winters were short and their summers were long. (Laughter.) Sometimes they might feel the sun too hot, but the sunlight of Aus-