

Advertiser, 19/3/12

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PROFESSOR WATSON'S TRAVELS.

A ROUND-THE-WORLD TOUR. LESSONS FROM ABROAD.

Professor Watson, of the Adelaide University, is an observant traveller, and, when interviewed on Monday by a representative of "The Advertiser" he gave an interesting account of his 14 months' tour through America, Europe, and the East.

"Having been granted leave of absence by the council of the University early in January, 1911," he said, "I left Adelaide with the intention of proceeding to Europe by way of Manchuria, where an epidemic of the mysterious form of plague, subsequently found to be due to the tarbagan (marmot), and not to the rat, was raging. Owing, however, to the difficulty of securing a Russian passport, and the fact that my companion as far as London (Dr. R. P. O'Sullivan), son of the eminent specialist, Dr. M. V. O'Sullivan, of Melbourne), was desirous of visiting America, I changed my mind. We left Brisbane for Vancouver (British Columbia), in the steamer Makura, via Suva and Honolulu. From Seattle (U.S.A.) the new outlet for trade with the Far East, we travelled to San Francisco by the Shasta Railway Company's route to San Francisco, through wonderful mountain scenery. Mount Shasta is a singularly beautiful and symmetrical snow-capped mountain, which forms a conspicuous figure of the landscape almost anywhere within 100 miles. At the railway-station of the same name at its base is the celebrated mineral spring, and the passengers, while the train is at the station are invited to drink the water. Nearing San Francisco, the whole train was taken across the Sacramento River on a huge ferry, which is rivalled in size only by similar craft on Lake Baikal, in Siberia, on which the train is taken across in the summer time.

A South Australian's Success.

"We remained five weeks in California, and in San Francisco we met with the greatest kindness from the professors of the Californian University—Dr. D'Ancona (Dean of the Medical Faculty), Dr. Huntington (Professor of Surgery), and Professor E. B. Robertson (Professor of Bio-Chemistry, and a former student and graduate of the Adelaide University). Professor Robertson, with his assistant (Dr. Moore), showed us some very remarkable experiments in the artificial fertilisation of sea urchin eggs, which have an intimate bearing on the origin of life, and on the mechanisms of living processes. Though still young in years, Professor Robertson has by his researches gained a distinguished position in the scientific world. Mrs. Robertson, who assists her husband at his work, is a daughter of Professor Stirling, of Adelaide. Professor J. Loeb, of the Rockefeller Institute, New York, one of his former chiefs, told me that he was the best pupil he had ever had, and he was convinced that he was a genius of the first rank, and that a brilliant career was in store for him. From San Francisco we visited the Leland-Stanford University, the endowment of a single citizen in memory of his son. This institution is a sister and rival of the University of California. The effects of the earthquake were more marked here than at San Francisco, at which latter place it was the fire which did most of the damage. At the Leland-Stanford University the earthquake did damage to the extent of nearly two million dollars.

American Fauna and Flora.

"In the Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, we saw a herd of bison. Here one might contrast the neglect to make a suitable display of the natural fauna under natural conditions in the States of the Commonwealth. The first thing a visitor to our country asks to see is a kangaroo in its native surroundings. From San Francisco we paid a visit to Monterey, the former capital of California, 85 miles distant south by sea, and full of evidence of its former Spanish ownership, in the form of ruined forts and missions. It was here that Robert Louis Stevenson obtained some of his inspirations. It is also the home of the Pinus insignis, and the Monterey cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa), so largely planted in South Australia. Thence we went to the Santa Cruz group of big trees, known as Sequoia sempervirens (redwood), which is to be distinguished from the Mariposa and the Calaveras groups of big trees, the Sequoi gigantea. The latter is found only on the west slope of the Sierra, while the former, the redwood, belonging to the same genus, is confined to the coast ranges.

Here again I might remark on the wisdom which has caused the Americans to set apart large areas of country, the flora of which is to be preserved in its natural state. The Mariposa group is not far from the Yosemite Valley, a gigantic example of erosion rather than upheaval. One cliff of granite, El Capitan, is 7,142 ft. perpendicular. Then we proceeded to Arizona and visited the Grand Canyon, one of the most stupendous natural wonders of the world, a cleft 3,000 to 5,000 ft. deep, where you can see all the strata of the earth's crust at one glance.

Two Great Surgeons.

"Passing on to the great corn country of Minnesota, we reached the geographically unimportant village of Rochester, which has become famous through two great surgeons, the Mayo Brothers, and which is the Mecca of modern surgery, for here surgeons from all parts of the world resort to ascertain the latest developments in their profession. Above a door at the home of these surgeons I noticed the following motto:—'If a man can preach a better sermon, write a better book, or make a better mousetrap than his neighbor, though he build his house in the wood, the world will make a beaten track to his door.' That is what they have done, and from all parts of the world we go to these surgeons of surgeons for knowledge.

Other Experiences.

"In crossing America we sometimes found ourselves in what are known as 'dry' States, in which it is impossible to obtain alcoholic drinks. It was not uncommon for the conductor to announce—'Gentlemen, in 10 minutes we shall be entering a prohibition State, so now is the time for a drink'—an announcement of which advantage was generally taken. Other States are superlatively dry because in them it is impossible to get a drink of water—as all the cups and glasses are removed by the conductors for fear of contamination—unless the passengers carry their own drinking vessels. When we were in New York 640 horses died in the streets in one day owing to the intense heat."

Professor Watson, having visited the principal Canadian cities, arrived in Liverpool when the city was under martial law owing to a strike, and the windows of the hotel where he was staying were smashed by the mob. In London he learnt that the Agent-General's office, under the direction of Mr. Kirkpatrick, was of great assistance to visitors.

The Far East.

"The return journey," said the professor, "was made via Siberia. I was only nine days in travelling from frozen Harbin to the land of coconuts. In Shanghai I observed barbers busily engaged in cutting off Chinamen's pig-tails. The Bureau of Science in Manila has demonstrated that the eradication of malaria, yellow fever, filaria and other diseases is largely a problem of zoology and botany to be investigated by purely scientific methods, but only by men specially trained for this very difficult kind of work. It is a matter of congratulation to the Commonwealth that it now possesses, in the tropical institute at Townsville, an institution where questions of this nature as they affect Australia are now being systematically investigated under Dr. Breinl and his very competent staff. As an example of the pecuniary advantage of the proper understanding of these matters we have Dr. Breinl's researches on filaria in cattle, which produces the so-called beef nodule that threatens the Queensland meat trade. Seeing that we are surrounded on all sides by these virulent diseases of man and stock, it is more than ever necessary that every effort should be made to study them and prevent their introduction. With the opening of the Panama Canal in the near future arises the question whether even yellow fever itself may not find its way to the East, seeing that in Australia—in Queensland and as far south as Newcastle—the proper mosquito exists for the carrying of this disease. We should invite a specialist like Dr. C. S. Banks, of the Manila Bureau of Science, to visit us, as he has already cleared Manila of mosquitoes and their attendant evils—malaria, filaria, and dengue—to try his hand in Brisbane, where filaria and dengue, if not malaria, are prevalent."

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

EXAMINATION RESULTS, MARCH, 1912.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF MEDICINE AND BACHELOR OF SURGERY.

PASS LIST.

First Year (old regulations).
Anatomy.—Wyllie, Hugh Alexander.
Inorganic Chemistry.—Burdett, Clive Brice (thus completing the First Year).
Second Year.
Anatomy.—Steel, Kenneth Nugent; Wren-Smith, Geoffrey (thus completing the Second Year).

SPECIAL EXAMINATION FOR INTENDING STUDENTS IN MEDICINE.

PASS LIST.

Biology.—Hines, Peter Joseph; Morey, Alan Wilson.
Inorganic Chemistry.—Gardner, Rita Elizabeth.
Physics.—Beau, Alan Reid; Gardner, Rita Elizabeth.

ORDINARY EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS.

(This List does not include candidates from Western Australia.)

Pass List (in order of merit).

—Property Part I. (110).—
Third Class.—Thornton, Walter Archibald.
—Property Part II. (111).—
Third Class.—Regan, James William.
—Law of Contracts. (113).—
Third Class.—Davenport, Arthur Vernon, and Waterhouse, Louis David (equal).
—Law of Wrongs. (114).—
Second Class.—Smith, Frank Seymour.
—Law of Evidence and Procedure.—
Third Class.—Roberts, Donald Arthur.
—Constitutional Law. (112).—
Third Class.—Mellor, Thomas Reginald.
—Latin (2).—
Division III.—Waterhouse, Louis David.
—History of the United Kingdom. (12).—
Division III.—Waterhouse, Louis David.

Register, 20/3/12

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD.

—Special Senior Examination, March, 1912.—

PASS LIST.

(This list does not include candidates from Part Pirie.)

1. English Literature; 2a. Modern History; 2b. Ancient History; 3. Greek; 4. Latin; 5. French; 6. German; 7. Arithmetic and Algebra; 8. Geometry; 9. Trigonometry; 10. Physics; 11. Inorganic Chemistry; 12a. Drawing.
Baird, William Walker, 2a. Georgetown; Baker, Arthur James Kendall, private tuition, East Adelaide; Bennett, Norman Robertson, 1. private study, Walkerville; Burchmore, Clive, 1. 6, 7, 9, 10, private tuition, Adelaide; Brebny, John James, 2a, 5, 7, 9, Mr. G. G. Newman; Campbell, Thomas Draper, 7. Prince Alfred College; Clarke, Laurence Eric, 1, 7, 8, 9, Mrs. Dorsch, Cammies; Edith Alice, 2a, private study, Marysville; Deans, Abaddon, 7, private study, Sydney; Doppel, Dorothy Irene, 15a. Perth Modern School; Flint, Gordon Bruce, 4, 6, 7, 8, Mr. G. G. Newman; Gault, Arthur, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, private tuition, Mitcham; Goodman, Cyril William, 6, private tuition, North Adelaide; Griffiths, George, 10, Sacred Heart College, Long Bay; Townsend, 1, 10, Sacred Heart College, Long Bay; Haselgrove, Alan Halstead, 4, private study, Largs; McAteer, Patrick Joseph, 4, private study, Largs; Bay, Martin, Hugh Watts, 1. Kyre College; MacIntosh, Reginald Francis, 1, 7, 8, private tuition, Unley Park; Morey, Alan Wilson, 1, St. Peter's Collegiate School; Parsons, Harold Stephen, 6, Miss Langham; Pender, Ian Basil, 7, private tuition, Adelaide; Pender, Leslie, 2a, 10, private tuition, Adelaide; Stevens, Norman Botting, 1, 7, 8, private tuition, Norwood; Taplin, Colin Quinton, 9, private study, King's Park; Taylor, Eric, Clive Hamlet, 4, private tuition, North Adelaide; Wainwright, John William, 4, Miss Langham; Warneken, Dorothy Mary, 4, Mr. G. G. Newman; White, Eric Bernard, 4, Kyre College; Williams, Elsie Victoria, 2a, Mr. G. G. Newman.
R. J. M. Clucas, Secretary to the Board.