

The Advertiser

September 12th 1914

THE UNIVERSITY AND THE WORKERS.

In connection with the lecture to be delivered by Mr. E. W. van Senden to the members of the University Society of Economics on "The wool industry of Australia" on Monday evening at the University a cordial invitation has been extended to the members of the Workers' Educational Association to attend. The subject should be of especial interest to the Workers' Educational Association students, and a large attendance is anticipated. At the present time, when all sections of the community are drawing closer together for mutual assistance and national defence, it is gratifying to see the harmonious relationship which exists between the University and the masses, and the doors of the University are opening to the W.E.A. students whenever it is considered that the subjects dealt with are likely to attract enthusiastic students. The lectures by Professor Portus on Friday afternoons at the Prince of Wales Theatre, in the University, are also attended by a number of W.E.A. students.

The Daily Herald

September 14th 1914

ECONOMIC HISTORY

THE MANORIAL SYSTEM.

The second lecture of a course entitled "Economic History of England" was delivered by Acting-Professor Portus in the University on Friday.

The lecturer, who dealt more particularly with the economic conditions of the manor, and that the rise of the manorial system was due to political and economic forces working together. The Norman Conquest did not bring in the feudal system, as was generally stated in history books. It was in existence years before. Feudalism was a system of government and a system of land tenure. It was abolished in the seventeenth century. The manorial system of the thirteenth century was in many respects similar to the estate of the modern English squire. The theory of landholding, however, had entirely changed, and was no longer feudal—which meant military service. The modern agricultural laborer working for wages was practically absent from mediaeval days. There was no idea of rent. There was little pasture farming, and what pasture lands there were were worked on what was almost a communal basis. There were three classes—the freemen, unfreemen, and serfs. The third class tended to coalesce with the unfree class. There was an absence of any competition in the farming labors. Old customs prevailed and ruled all. This discounted individuality and lessened the chance of progress. The villages did not set about producing supplies for other villages. All were independent. There were no buyers and sellers. There was a permanence of village life. Communications to other centres were bad.

The Advertiser
September 15th 14

AMUSEMENTS.

University Choral Class.

The University Choral Class gave their annual concert at the Elder Hall last night to a large audience, which was greatly interested in a programme that consisted of Dvorak's intensely dramatic cantata, "The Spectre's Bride," and Wesley's exacting motet, "In Exitu Israel." The choir is replete with voices of distinction in every part, so that the fine part-singing in the motet was not surprising. The distinctness of the orchestral accompaniment in this number—the orchestra was under the decisive and artistic leadership of Miss Sylvia Whittington—was a wonderful help to the whole interpretation. The subject of Dvorak's cantata is taken from an old Bohemian legend which tells of a dead man coming back from the grave for his loved one. The score is full of difficulty both for solo and chorus parts. All through the ear is startled with uncommon melodic progression and harmonic combinations. The soloists last night gave, for the most part, thoroughly satisfactory conceptions of the work allotted to them. Mr. Walter Wood sang with more than former success, his beautiful tenor voice has gained in richness of quality and a freer production of late, which has added considerably to this singer's worth. Mr. Leslie Martin won instant approval for his dramatic singing. His voice is of wide range, and he has temperament of a high order. Miss Hilda Wheeler was entrusted with the opening soprano solo work, which she sang with more than the usual amount of musical intuition. Her intonation was excellent, and all through she gave great pleasure. Miss Gertrude Wood took the later soprano staves. She is a soprano of wide range. In her principal number she sang B below the treble C above with equal clearness and strength. Mr. Frederick Booker's baritone voice was heard in several solo lines with good effect, but most of his work was covered with a wealth of chorus accompaniment. As this singer is inclined to be artistic one would have liked to hear more of his preparation. Mr. Richard Correll was the bass. His voice was clear and resonant. Mr. Frederick Bevan conducted with his well-known skill and judgment.

The Register

September 15th 14

AMUSEMENTS.

—University Choral Class.—

Before a large attendance in the Elder Conservatorium on Monday night the University Choral Class and Orchestra presented two important and extremely interesting works. Mr. Frederick Bevan conducted, and had at command an admirable body of choristers and instrumentalists (the latter led by Miss Sylvia Whittington), while his solo party also acquitted themselves to general satisfaction. The main work presented was Dvorak's "The Spectre's Bride." This dramatic cantata has been heard before in Adelaide, but not for years. It is a superb thing, which, however, does not present its full beauties at a first hearing—particularly in a hall with such wretched acoustics as the Elder auditorium. It is fantastically weird, magnificently orchestrated, with remarkable resource in every department. The solo and choral parts are very difficult, and call upon reserves of range and power. In the main Mr. Bevan achieved excellent results, but portions of the relation were spoiled by the drowning of the solo lines by the instrumentalists. The solos were taken by Messrs. W. Wood and L. Martin (tenor), F. Booker, and R. Correll (baritone), and Misses H. Wheeler and G. Wood (soprano). Following "The Spectre's Bride" the choir rendered Samuel Wesley's motet, "In exitu Israel."

September 15th 1912
*a***THE WOOL INDUSTRY.****A GOLDEN FUTURE.****LECTURE BY MR. VAN SENDEN.**

At the University on Monday evening Mr. E. W. van Senden delivered a valuable address before the Economic Society on "The wool industry in Australia." There was a good attendance, over which Professor Mitchell presided.

Mr. van Senden said there was frequent mention of sheep in the Bible, they being the first domestic animals referred to. In the Book of Job, believed to be one of the oldest writings, it was mentioned that 1,400 sheep were owned by one proprietor. Among the earliest of other writings about sheep were those in the Iliad of Homer wherein frequent allusions to the animal were made. Sheep appeared to have been used as a dairy animal. There were records of sheep being spread over many parts of the world. They were of very varied kinds, differing much in size, character, and the quality of their fleece. Wild sheep were known to have existed on the elevated mountains of middle Asia, on the plains of Pamir, 16,000 ft. above sea level, with a horn more similar to that of the domestic sheep than most of the wild species. It was reported that many specimens of gigantic sheep were found in the Tien Shan Ranges of China by Colonel Gordon, measuring up to 79 inches from nose to tail, standing 46 in. high, and with horns 48 in. from base to tip. Wild sheep also existed in Kamschatka, Thibet, Caucasia, Armenia, North-Eastern Turkestan, Barbary, Abyssinia, and the Rocky Mountains of America. The coverings of those wild sheep were most varied, and were of little commercial value. They all had the bleat of the domestic sheep, and butted like the domestic ram, that was, without jumping in the air, as the goat tribe did. Spain was without doubt the country where the sheep was first brought to a state of higher perfection, although the early Greeks and Italians had sheep with wool of fine quality. The first introduction to Spain was attributed to the Greeks, but as the Phoenicians and Carthaginians had traded with that country some centuries before the Greeks, it was most probable that Spain owed the origin of her flocks to those peoples. The high-class Carthaginians were born husbandman and breeders of stock, and they left trade to Spaniards of a lower social scale. The flocks were mostly in the hands of the nobles, and great care was taken in the breeding. All sheep showing a tendency to hairy fleeces after their lamb-fleece had been shorn were carefully eliminated from the flocks. That characteristic, however, still cropped up, as they all knew, in the South Australian flocks, thus showing the prepotency of the old breeds from which the Spanish sheep descended. Stud flocks were founded in Saxony in 1768, and one breeder, Otto Stieger, produced a robust sheep which gained renown for his flock. His animals were much in demand, and many were subsequently imported to Australia. During the Peninsular wars the flocks of pure Merino sheep in Spain were decimated, and many found their way into France. Even before that the King of Spain had presented to Louis XVI., a flock of 364, which were placed on the Rambouillet domain and in 1799, M. Gilbert, who was in charge (possibly he was an ancestor of the South Australian flock-master Mr. W. Gilbert, of Pewsey Vale), imported 1,000 high class Merinos from Spain, and it was from those that the far-famed Rambouillet flock originated. They were renowned for their large frames, constitution, and splendid wool of good, fine spinning quality. Those sheep had played an important part in the principal flocks of America and Australia. In 1791 George III. obtained from Spain four rams and 30 ewes of Negretti blood. They increased, and some were sold, among the buyers being Captain McArthur, who purchased eight, which he shipped to Port Jackson. Those sheep led to the foundation of Australia's flocks. The growth of the industry in Australia had been phenomenal. Among those who stood prominent in im-