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REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS.

IMPROVED STATUS.

The registration of teachers was discussed at the annual meeting of the Institute of Science and Technology, held at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide, on Monday evening. The president (Mr. W. H. Boyce) was in the chair.

Members who had been present at the conference recently held in Victoria gave a brief resume of the papers and discussions they had heard.

Miss O. Sonnenberg read a paper to which she had listened with much interest had shown that registration was inextricably bound up with questions of qualifications and salary. Decided improvements in status had resulted from its adoption in Victoria, where it appeared to be felt that a university school quite free from the trammels of the Education Department was what was needed in South Australia. The present scheme had been instituted that a four years ago. Student teachers received about £40 a year from the agency for teachers was a splendid institution. There seemed to be a great feeling in favor of a federal organisation, with some unity of qualification and training. The speakers one of two types of registration, one for primary and one for secondary certificates, was commented upon. (Applause.)

Miss Berry said one of the most interesting features at the conference was a paper which had been read by Miss Lyle, which made many suggestions for tackling it on a broad plan in the schools. The survey of the paper dealt with the time in the future when British children should be content with learning only British history, and the development of British history made it necessary to view it from a different standpoint altogether. This was particularly the case with an isolated country like Australia, and means of comparison and illustration should be employed. In Lancashire the Manchester Public Problems Guild of some of the boys' schools was an excellent thing. When the coal strike took place the boys of one school got a couple of members of the House of Commons to address them, and then sent for the members of the Miners' Federation to put the case for the men. This sort of thing was done without the assistance of the masters. (Applause.)

What appeared to be a great deal of insurance for teachers was discussed, and Mr. Gray, who had been present at one of the meetings, said that that had came up, briefly outlined the Victorian scheme. Many of the speakers favored a pension scheme, but it was pointed out it was obvious that it could only be undertaken through a recognised life assurance society.

Mr. Blythe said it was a subject on which he felt deeply, especially as it was for the benefit in a large measure of the younger members of the profession. The elder ones would load a scheme too much to make it practicable. Speaking of the ideals of the institution itself, Mr. Blythe asked the elder members of the teaching profession to put their best into the teachers' institute scheme, in order that they might accomplish something tangible for those who would succeed them. He paid a high tribute to the work done by Mr. A. Grenfell Price, the retiring secretary, who had given freely of his leisure to help them, in spite of the demands on his time.

Mr. Price presented the second annual report, which showed that the council now considers the definite work of the institute have been overcome. The report further stated that the membership had increased during the last discussion board, 13; subscribing principals, 16; teachers' institute, 1; and students, 30. The chief difficulties of the year had been in connection with the training scheme. At the beginning of the academic year the resignation of Miss Clark, the supervisor, broke down in health. Fortunately Miss Jones was prepared to come to their assistance, and as acting supervisor ably managed the training scheme from the beginning of April until the resignation of August 31, when, owing to her work by a number of honorary lecturers in special subjects, the council appointed as supervisor Miss M. E. Wharmby, who had had considerable experience in teacher training in Tasmania. Education Department, and had recently arrived in Adelaide. Miss Wharmby arrived in August and took over the work until the end of the year. Miss Jones ably assisted Miss Wharmby in taking the scheme over in the middle of the year's work, and for the rest of the year performed the acting supervisor the institute owes Miss Jacob a debt of gratitude. The results of the November examinations four students were awarded certificates for the graduates' and full courses and the examination for the intermediate course. The work of these candidates was reviewed by seven examiners, and it was pleasing to the council to be of a high order of merit. The ceremony of the awarding of certificates was held at the Methodist Ladies' College through the kindness of the headmistress. To Miss Patchell's influence the institute had to attribute much of its value, and to her hospitality its very happy associations. The council, in its annual report, pointed to the executive committee that the training scheme was in a very satisfactory state for the present year. Students had been selected from eleven students for courses A and B and twelve for the full course. The total of 23 is the largest number ever enrolled. The large enrolment, they noted, the financial position considerably, and the position of the institute in Adelaide. In July last the council centred a letter from Miss Shaw, former trainee, stating that the bulletin certificate was not recognised for Public Education purposes in Victoria, and that Public Education Correspondence was dealing with a view to obtaining recognition. The council had taken the matter up with the authorities of the scheme by Victoria officials, and had received a reply that the matter was under consideration. Victoria, provided any arrangement was made, would be prepared to grant the bulletin certificate, and the council hoped a satisfactory arrangement would take place this month. The council hoped that the connection between Victoria, New Zealand and Tasmania—the State which had compulsory registration of schools and teachers—would not only be maintained, but that other State positions, but would greatly enhance the value of the certificate and raise the professional status of the institute teacher. Towards the end of the year the institute was asked to take part in the arrangements for the annual award of the Thomas Bonney bequest an annual prize of £10 to the student of the University of Adelaide, who, in the opinion of the council, combined the institute ability and character, and who had been a student of the institute.

The report and financial statement were unanimously adopted. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. W. R. Boyce; secretary, Mr. A. B. Ellis; treasurer, Miss F. W. Berry; and nominations received for the council were as follows:—Headmasters, Rev. R. Gerard, J. Bickerstaff (Mr. A. Grenfell Price to serve in his place), Rev. J. M. Gratton, and Mr. W. B. Boyce; headmistresses, Misses M. E. Patchell, K. Cowan, M. J. Baker; teachers, Messrs. Ayscough, Messrs. G. Potts, H. Williams, and A. Dewes; professional, Rev. W. R. Tucker; primary schools, Miss Dunn; "Women Teachers' Association," Misses D. G. Newman, D. M. Smith, and D. R. Featherstone.

News. 16-3-26

AUSTRALIAN ACCENT

Cockney, Yet it is Not

VIEWS OF PROF. STRONG

"The Australian accent has a cockney basis, but it is not cockney in origin, sounds that are not cockney in origin," said Sir Archibald Strong, M.A., Litt.D., (Professor of English Language and Literature at the Adelaide University).

"Many Australians pronounce such a word as 'truly' as if the first vowel were French instead of the English 'u.' Then they pronounce the last syllable as if it were spelt 'lee.' The sound of the letter I noticed as very marked in Australian pronunciation when I returned from Britain to Australia, namely, the long vowel sounds as pronounced by Australians are identical with the cockney.

"What appeared to me as remarkable about the Australian accent is that it seems to vary little in different parts of the Commonwealth, especially if it is compared with the position in England, where, in spite of board school education, there are very marked differences between the dialect of a Yorkshire and of a Devonshire man."

Prof. Strong told a story to illustrate the cockney pronunciation of the syllable "ay." He said that an English school inspector asked a Cockney boy to examine a class of children in elementary French. He asked a small boy the French for "to live." The boy replied correctly. "Now what is the French for 'to die?' he continued, and the boy gave as answer the equivalent for "today."

"The Australian accent is often to be found in people who in other respects are highly educated and cultured," said Prof. Strong, "whereas in the English accent, the English speaker invariably speak the standard English without any dialect. The question which arises is whether the Australian accent is going to remain and prevail and become as distinctive of the Australian as the American accent is of the American people, or whether on the other hand the standard English pronunciation will prevail.

"My own opinion is that mainly through the influence of the Motherland, and also of the Australian people, persons in Australia who will insist on speaking standard English and seeing that their children speak it. I do not think that we shall ever reach the stage exemplified in a review by the American, Prof. Brander Matthews, of a book written by an English professor. In the course of the review Prof. Matthews said that the English professor was so perfect in some ways to criticism it was at least free from 'offensive Briticisms.'"

Nov. 13-3-26

STUDENT OPERA.

The Elder Conservatorium opera classes are now in full swing under the direction of Mr. Clive Carey, assisted by Mr. Wingle Hall. The classes are at present studied are the second acts of Mozart's "Figaro" and Hook's "Carmen," which will produce in the form of a "Bizet" comedy scene, from Pinkwick, set to music by Dr. Charles Wood, Professor of Music at Cambridge University. The Figaro works to performance about the middle of the month, and later in the whole of Stanford's romantic opera, "Shamus O'Brien" will be placed in rehearsal for performance in Adelaide in the next year. Parts for the mid-year works will be allotted in about a fortnight's time. The cases will be chosen by competition, and any who join the classes are eligible to compete, whether they be Conservatorium students or not. The works have been selected with a view to providing a large number of smaller solo parts, and since many of them are of a comic nature, it is hoped that a good deal of interest will be aroused among intending entrants.

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PEACE AMONG NATIONS

EFFORTS OF LEAGUE

Prof. Darnley Naylor Speaks

"The enforcement of discipline is not the primary business of the League, but it discipline has to be enforced it is satisfactory to observe that the punishment which followed rapidly on the recent affair between Greece and Bulgaria in which Bulgaria was awarded £45,000 damages, met with the unanimous approval of the world."

This opinion was expressed this afternoon by Prof. J. Darnley Naylor (president of the Leagues of Nations Union) at a luncheon given by the union.

"Of course," he continued, "your cynic will say: 'Oh! it was easy enough to birch the little boys, but what happened and what will happen when some bulgrown offenders appear on the scene.' If the cynic is thinking of Corfu, I maintain that the League, then where power it may, did marvels in a situation whose influence has been of first-rate importance for more than 2,000 years. But the point is often overlooked that in pre-League days when the uncivilised used to fight the elders were apt to join in also. These secondary symptoms (to use a medical metaphor) are unlikely to cease so long as the League is allowed to carry out its beneficial functions."

In August the Mosul commission presented its long-awaited and much judged report. This report, said Prof. Darnley Naylor, should be on the shelves of every publicist and every man of science. It was of great value to ethnologists, to geography, and the historian. Unfortunately a serious difficulty arose owing to the conflicting interpretation of a phrase in the Treaty of Lausanne. This phrase stated that the dispute between Great Britain and Turkey should be referred to the council of the League of Nations."

Nobody seemed to be aware of the existence of the International Court of Justice, and the result was that the Turks withdrew from the council rather than over decision the council might give and further asserted that, in any case the council could not be allowed to play the role of mediator between the parties.

In these circumstances it was necessary to obtain from the International Court a ruling with reference to the phrase "referred to the council."

The council at the end of September put two questions to the court: (1) was the decision of the council to be an arbitral award, a recommendation, or simple mediation; (2) must the decision be unanimous, and might the two interested parties vote?

On November 21 the court gave its decision in terms which, to the layman, were of astonishing ambiguity. The council's decision is binding and final; (2) it must be given by the unanimous vote of all members of the council other than the two interested parties.

Lastly in December, the council decided that the frontier between Turkey and Iraq should be the provisional "Brown" line fixed by M. Branting in September of 1924. Would that Branting were alive to-day! Prof. Darnley Naylor added.

With regard to the Locarno Pact Prof. Darnley Naylor said that article 2 of the "Security Pact" signed by Great Britain, France, Belgium, Italy, and Germany read:—"Germany and Belgium and also Germany and France mutually undertake that they will in no case attack or invade each other or resort to war against each other."

This undertaking Great Britain and Italy undertook by pledging themselves to take arms against any State violating it. The conventions between Germany and Poland and the Czecho-Slovakia and Slovakia contained references to conciliation commissions to the International Court and generally in harmony with the letter and spirit of the covenant.

Germany and League

The treaties between France and Poland and France and Czecho-Slovakia guaranteed in case of unprovoked attack reciprocal assistance within the conditions of Article 16 of the covenant. Finally all the treaties came into force only upon the entrance of Germany into the League.

"Nothing is said of the conditions upon which Germany is to enter," said Prof. Darnley Naylor. "There are no promises as to a seat on the council, permanent or otherwise. And now let us turn to the Deposit of the Locarno Agreements in the Archives of the League, on December 14.

"Sir Austen Chamberlain (British Foreign Minister) was eloquent as usual and spoke of the Locarno Treaties as those in which we live and move and have our being."

The tenth and last speaker was Signor Scialoja (Italian Foreign Minister), whose concluding words were: "I believe that I am interpreting the desire of my colleagues in proposing to express our feelings to our absent colleagues, to Poland and to Germany, with the hope that we shall soon be able to renew that expression personally to the representatives of Germany.

"These words will go down to history as a proof that the entrance of Germany to the Council, but not the entrance of Poland was envisaged by the Italian representative," added Prof. Darnley Naylor, "Mr Briand was not present. We may acquit M. Boucour. But what shall we say of the silence of Sir Austen Chamberlain? He knew that Signor Scialoja was unwittingly misleading the council and the world."

Nov. 19-3-26

THE HUMAN FACTOR.

ITS IMPORTANCE IN ECONOMICS.

The first of four free public lectures to be given this year under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association was delivered in the lecture room, North Terrace, last evening. Mr. A. Grant A. C. Stevens spoke on "The Human Factor in Economics." The president of the association (Mr. E. Cheary) presided.

Mr. Stevens said the entrance of the human factor modified the conclusions and generalisations of economic theorists to a much greater extent than was generally supposed. Economics was not a mechanical, but a living, organic moral force, which were qualified all along the line by human values. The material factor was calculable and predictable, the human was qualitative and unpredictable. Free will, which was not mathematically calculable, was valued, directed, and the human conduct, was the power which upset the calculations. As showing the importance of the human factor, he instanced the recent finding of the English Coal Commission. Nearly every factor to which they looked for the salvation of the industry was classifiable as human factors, as for instance, management, amalgamation, degree of public ownership, the goodwill of employer and of people were affected by the event because of human sensitiveness. Human cunning made the British fertility fruitless, and human sources uncalculated paid the French indemnity after the Franco-Prussian war. Human frailty upset the Ricardian theories as to the effects of the currency jungles throughout the world. New inventions, such as the motor car and the aeroplane, altered the face of the complex economic situation. Ideals such as a self-contained Empire, and tariff walls, were as a rule in the wheels of economic mechanical tendencies. He showed the effect of the human factor in unwinding economic relationships at the end of supply and demand. The lecturer contended that all these facts should make welcome a doctrine that man was the master of economic law, and that all things were possible. Economics was not the dismal science which showed that the world was a study which continuously revealed the fact that industry could be humanised, that it was in a wrong state when it was dehumanised. They must modify economic theory in the light of economic history and economic ideals. (Applause.)

News. 18-3-26

AUTHORITY ON HISTORY

Prof. Hancock Arrives

University traditions are confounded in the appearance of Professor W. K. Hancock, the new professor, at the Queen's this morning. He will occupy the chair of history at the Adelaide University. Not quite the accoutrated by a loose sports suit, he looked more like the typical undergraduate, and, however, he confesses to a keness for all forms of sport.

Professor Hancock was born in Melbourne. He was educated at the Melbourne Grammar School and at Trinity College, Melbourne University. Awarded a Rhodes scholarship, he proceeded to Balliol (Oxford). For his distinguished work there he was awarded a fellowship at all Souls' College.

"I have spent the last four years in research work," he said, "dividing my time between Oxford and London. This offers a wide field for the historian. There seems no limit to its historical possibilities. I may not at once stop settling down to lecturing after the roving life there.

"My work in Italy was somewhat on the roving plan. Two months spent, say, in Florence, and then a walking tour of a month. Nevertheless, I am looking forward to the work in South Australia. My plans are indefinite, but I have a conviction that whatever the future brings forth it will be something good."