

# AUSTRALIAN FORESTRY SCHOOL

## Adelaide is First Meeting Place

### STUDENTS POTENTIAL BUILDERS OF INDUSTRY

In a rather dingy underground room at the Adelaide University 18 serious minded young men from all over Australia since March have been absorbing a knowledge of forestry from Professor Norman Jolly, of the Federal Forestry School.

Students and professor form the first Australian Forestry School and South Australia is honored by being the meeting place of a school from which vast benefits are certain to accrue to the Commonwealth, and by the fact that Professor Jolly, the leader of the school, is a South Australian.

Last year, when the Commonwealth Government decided to establish an Australian school of forestry, a temporary one was held in New South Wales, the South Australian School for Forestry was the most suitable, and the only one attached to a University. Adelaide was chosen as the first home for what will almost certainly become an historic school. Later the institution will be transferred to Canberra.

All the State Governments, with the exception of South Australia, nominated students for the school, which is made up as follows:

STUDENTS	Nominated.	Voluntary.
Queensland . . . . .	5	—
New South Wales . . . . .	4	—
Victoria . . . . .	2	—
Western Australia . . . . .	2	—
Tasmania . . . . .	1	—
	13	5

#### What Forestry Means

Forestry! To the average individual the word does not convey much more than the growing and cutting down of trees. Is there any need to bring men from all parts of Australia to teach them that?

Forestry is a science. For two years students who undertake a forestry course go through an ordinary University classroom education, taking such subjects as mathematics, physics, chemistry, botany, geology, and entomology. With these subjects mastered they are ready to begin the serious side of their work.

In this one word are contained the ambitions of the forestry student are contained, and it is a word full of possibilities. Briefly the student applies himself to the study of tree growing, forest measurement and management; protection from insects, fire, and disease; the utilization of forestry products; and the economic history of forests. His is no small task.

Most care is given to the protection of forests from insects and diseases. Almost every grub or insect that crawls in or over trees is an enemy of forests, and because forests are the friend of man-of-man. The forester must learn how to wage effective war against these enemies.

The red cedar of Queensland provides the most valuable wood that grows in the Southern Hemisphere, but in recent years a small insect, which has practically nullified the usefulness of Australian red cedar forests. This destructive twig-locer is one of the insect enemies which Australian forestry experts have not been able to conquer, and it is an enemy at which any one of the 18 men now studying under Professor Jolly at the University, may at some future date strike a death-dealing blow.

#### Forest Control

Australia is fortunate in the possession of vast hardwood forests, and, perhaps for that reason, has not up to the present done enough to protect and get the best out of a glorious heritage. Not more than one-tenth of Australian forests are under proper control, and when it is pointed out that such control might result in three times the return at present being received, the value of scientific forestry is made evident.

And to what does the control of a forest amount? At present in most Australian forests the timber-getters simply cut the best trees available and keep on cutting the best, irrespective of every thing else.

In a forest a good tree is worth more than a bad tree, but a bad tree is worth something. The skilled forester examines, and sees that the best out of the tree. A bad tree can be good enough for a telegraph pole.

A good tree evidently suited for the getting of valuable girder lengths. It would be foolish and wasteful to use the good tree merely as a telegraph pole.

But because a tree begins life badly it does not follow that it must grow up a bad tree. Help from a skilled forester early in its career has put many a bad tree upon the rickrack track, and by judicious thinning and working a forest can be nursed into giving of its best, just as the farmer's wheat plot can be persuaded to give of its best by other means.

#### Paper, Silk, and Turpentine

The forester's task does not end with the felling of the tree. A part of his task is to know to what use forest products can be put, and, perhaps, discuss fresh uses for an already well-used product. Today the world uses an almost incredible amount of paper, and most of this is made from wood.

Throughout the Australian paper mills at Geelong and Sydney, they do not manufacture their paper from Australian forest products. They use imported wood pulp. And yet it has been proved that Australia has got trees around which a wood pulp industry producing millions of pounds annually could be built. At the Federal Forest Laboratory in Melbourne it has been proved that Australian eucalypts will make wood pulp suitable for paper-making, and it is significant that Brazil, which for years has been producing millions of pounds of eucalypt wood pulp, is now building a plant to turn out 500 tons of eucalyptus wood pulp a day.

In its infancy science has played a job upon the alkerm. Artificial silk is made from wood pulp, and how this industry has grown is shown by the fact that in 1923 the world consumption of real silk was estimated at 110 million pounds, and there is much more to it than that. The world literally lives (in a certain way) on wood. Manlike silks on wood, it writes on wood, walks on wood, dances on wood, and lives in wooden dwellings. The news of the day on paper made from wood, and due to a thousand other things, simply because at some period or another a tree grew in a forest.

To show the greatness of forests and of the need for foresters, a few figures will help. The Commonwealth of Australia exports more than 100,000,000 super ft. of timber annually. Victoria in a year uses half a million railway sleepers.

More than £9,000,000 is derived from forest production in Australia annually. In the United States in one year more than £19,000,000 worth of paper is made from wood pulp. In the manufacture of paper and crates £20,000,000 is expended in the United States yearly, and as far back as 1892 200,000 miles of United States railway tracks had over 100,000,000 sleepers.

Enough, then, is no need to bring additional evidence to show that Professor Norman Jolly and his 18 Australian forestry students now studying at the Adelaide University are potential leaders of a great industry as yet sadly neglected in Australia.

#### From Cradle to Coffin

Wood is a great thing. It has been said that man is rocked in a wicker cradle and buried in a wooden coffin, and there is much more to it than that. The world literally lives (in a certain way) on wood. Manlike silks on wood, it writes on wood, walks on wood, dances on wood, and lives in wooden dwellings. The news of the day on paper made from wood, and due to a thousand other things, simply because at some period or another a tree grew in a forest.

To show the greatness of forests and of the need for foresters, a few figures will help. The Commonwealth of Australia exports more than 100,000,000 super ft. of timber annually. Victoria in a year uses half a million railway sleepers.

More than £9,000,000 is derived from forest production in Australia annually. In the United States in one year more than £19,000,000 worth of paper is made from wood pulp. In the manufacture of paper and crates £20,000,000 is expended in the United States yearly, and as far back as 1892 200,000 miles of United States railway tracks had over 100,000,000 sleepers.

Enough, then, is no need to bring additional evidence to show that Professor Norman Jolly and his 18 Australian forestry students now studying at the Adelaide University are potential leaders of a great industry as yet sadly neglected in Australia.

#### Judge Mitchell

His Honor Judge Mitchell, the genial and good-hearted citizen who presides over the Insolvency Court and who as a Royal Commissioner is conducting the enquiry into the allegations of bribery against the Police, passed his seventy-fourth birthday



Judge Mitchell

last month. He was well on in life when he decided to study for the Bar, but it was not too late to be successful, and at 28 he graduated at the Adelaide University as Bachelor of Laws, and was admitted to the Bar. His Honor's recreations are literature and music. He tootes the flute well, though he is extremely modest concerning his own achievements on the instrument.

#### Mr. Justice Poole

Next Saturday, July 3, Mr. Justice Poole will celebrate his fifty-third birthday. His Honor was born at Strathalbyn, where his father, Canon P. Sidney Poole, M.A., was incumbent of Christ Church. After a distinguished career at St. Peter's College, and at Adelaide and Melbourne Universities, where he took his M.A. degree in 1895



Mr. Justice Poole

and his LL.B. degree in 1897, with honors. His Honor returned in 1897 to Adelaide, where he practised his profession until he was raised to the Bench in September, 1919. Last year He was Administrator of the Government during the absence from the State of the Governor and the Lieutenant-Governor.

#### Sir William Bragg

Sir William Henry Bragg, K.R.E., D.Sc., F.R.S., who will be sixty-four years old next Friday, is one of the most renowned mathematicians and physicists of the day. He will be remembered by many eminent men South Australians as the brilliant Professor of Mathematics and Physics at Adelaide University for 15 years. It was while he was here that the professor made himself famous for his researches in connection with X-rays and radio activity, and was awarded the distinction of F.R.S.

Referring to his discoveries while in Adelaide, Sir William recently said: "After that research work was part of my daily life. I accepted an invitation first to Leeds, and then, after some years, to London. And I have had the great happiness of sharing the work of my son on the X-ray analysis of crystals. When he had finished his courses at Cambridge, and was looking for work to undertake, I suggested to him that he should examine thoroughly the new discovery of Lane in Germany. It was then that he found a certain method of looking at that discovery which led to the researches we have carried on together." Professor W. W. Lawrence Bragg, son of Sir William, was born in Adelaide 35 years ago. Lady Bragg, his mother, is a daughter of the late Sir Charles Todd, for many years Postmaster-General of South Australia.

#### MUSICAL MOMENTS

(By "Staccato")

The established success of the Conservatorium String Quartet must be gratifying to Mr. Charles Schilsky, its leader. Founded by Mr. Gerald Walen during his term of office as teacher of the violin at the Conservatorium, it had the best of traditional quartet, in which Mr. Herbert Walen quarterm, in which Mr. Walen was noted for its high standard.

On Mr. Walen's departure for Sydney, where he has again formed a Conservatorium string quartet, Mr. Schilsky brought fresh enthusiasm to further develop the scope of the quartet's work, and last year's fine series of chamber music concerts in the Liberal Hall brought its work more prominently before the public.

The lack of efficient organization resulted in a financial loss to the performers, but this year the series has been based on a subscription basis, which more than filled the Liberal Hall and showed a crowded house at the Institute at the first concert of the season on Tuesday evening. Some fine work was done by the quartet with Miss Maude Puddy at the piano.

The quartet will make its first visit to Melbourne on July 7 and will give two concerts in the Assembly Hall on July 9 and 11. Last Tuesday night's programme was based on a subscription basis. The Society will hold a reception in honor of the quartet on the day of arrival, and the Melbourne Music Club will do likewise on Saturday, July 10. The party to Melbourne will include Mr. Charles Schilsky (leader), Misses Kathleen Meegan, Sylvia Wainington, and Maude Puddy, Dr. E. Harold Davies, Messrs. Clive Carey and Harold Parsons.

The Melbourne String Quartet, under Professor Bernard Henke, has undoubtedly gone into recess for the remainder of the year. No doubt the newly appointed professor made his hands more than full with the duties of the Conservatorium, of which he is now director, added to which he has lately been somewhat indisposed, but surely in a musical centre like Melbourne a proxy leader could be found to temporarily take his place as leader.