

ad 8/23/35
FAMOUS EXPLORER
TO SPEAK HERE

ad 8/23/35
PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
OFF SEASON

ad 8/23/35
ARABIAN NIGHTS
-AND DAYS

ad 11/1/35
Professor W. A. Laver, a member of the University of Melbourne Music Advisory Board, and former Ormond Professor of Music at the University Conservatorium, Melbourne, will arrive from Melbourne next Monday to examine at the Adelaide University. An examine at the Adelaide University. Music Examinations Board. He will examine candidates for the overseas Elder Scholarship on the day of his arrival, and on the two following days he will examine for the Mus. Bac. and final year for the diploma of music.

Only Man To Cross
Arabian Desert

Dr. Bertram Thomas, the celebrated explorer, whose work has earned him medals from the Royal Geographical Societies of England, Scotland, Belgium, and the United States, reached Outer Harbor on the Moldavia yesterday. Dr. Thomas will lecture at the Adelaide University and St. Peter's College during his week's stay in Adelaide. He intends to go north if possible to see an Australian sheep station, which would be a novel sight for him.

Students' Exams a Factor

This is the off season at the Public Library, according to the librarian (Mr. Furnell) today. Although the library is cool and restful in hot weather, attendances have fallen recently. This is due to the fact that the students of the University are busy at exams, and that more people are shopping in preparation for Christmas. The fact that the Barr Smith Library is now open at night is also an influence.

Dr. Bertram Thomas Lectures
At St. Peter's College

EXPLORATION OF DESERT
DESCRIBED

Dr. Bertram Thomas, the first man to cross the Arabian Desert, an 800-mile odyssey which he completed in his experiences to a large audience of schoolboys and schoolgirls in the Memorial Hall, St. Peter's College, yesterday afternoon.

The record yearly attendance is nearly 850,000, and the average daily average was 750; it is now more than 80.

Dr. F. W. Rice, who is in England for post-graduate study, has received a diploma in obstetrics and gynaecology in London, according to advice received by his relatives in Adelaide. He was given the highest award in an examination in which there were 31 candidates. Dr. Rice is at the Victoria Hotel, London.

Dr. Thomas described Arabia as a country which had made no steps in civilisation, where the ships of the desert were still the wattle and bark individual both in relation to transport and even nourishment, and where the fougus of the desert, the lack of vegetation or lack of it, Arabia had the reputation of the size of Australia. The Arabs, he said, had dominated Spain and other countries, even as Britain today dominated the world.

10/10/35
PUBLICATIONS
REVIEWED

"Phoenix." Published by the Adelaide University. The "Adelaide University Magazine" has recently published a new issue. It has changed in form and in function. The "limp, anaemic magazine" with a long name, an unmistakable "chronicle" tradition, and a cover that was "dull and dull" gives place to a neat little volume with original contents and a cover of striking design. The title "Phoenix" is a fitting one, for the editor, the very worthy one of providing "an opportunity and an incentive for the publication of significant writings." Of some of the stories, poems and illustrations in this opening number, the significance may perhaps have to be stated for the benefit of the Virgin and Child, for instance, may have some symbolic meaning to justify its ugliness, but many who see it will doubtless prefer the old convention of beauty in a work of art. Some of the articles are a daring frank, with a decidedly erotic strain. It is evident that modernism, with its ideals and methods, has found its way to the artists fairly in its grip. One of the poets of "Phoenix" finds in this generalisation, but many who see it will be "without doctrine or goal," and he wonders whether from the new birth there will modestly will be worthy of our power." Doubtless the editors share his obvious aspiration for "Phoenix," but many who see it will not rise in perfection, and "clamors for food for its continued growth." There is a certain amount of material in University news, and an eloquent tribute to the memory of the late Professor Shamm.

ABOLITION OF SCHOOL
EXAMINATIONS

Tasmanian Director's
Declaration

HOBERT, November 8. A declaration by the Tasmanian Director of Education, Mr. G. L. Brooks, advocating the abolition of schools' public examinations and the substitution for them of certificates of fitness to proceed to University education or to enter into occupations for which the intermediate and school-leaving certificates are the present entrance test, has led to vigorous discussion in educational circles. The majority of headmasters welcome the proposal as being in the best interests of the country, and the orderly advancement of children whose abilities would be developed by methods without undue and excessive strain. A minority opinion upholds the existing examination system as a dependable test and questions the practicability of the certificate system.

The University of Adelaide has invited Professor W. A. Laver, of the Melbourne University Conservatorium, to present himself for the Elder Scholarship, tenable at the Royal College of London. The scholarship was founded for South Australian-born students by the late Sir Thomas Elder.

Dr. Thomas stated that he had travelled a distance of about 800 miles, was the first crossing that had ever been made. The trip took four months, and was through country which was practically waterless, and was considered to be the most difficult journey he had ever made. The journey was described in "The Times" as the greatest feat of exploration of modern times. The South Arabian desert, a country as big as France and Germany together, was the largest, considerably more than the earth's surface to remain blank on the maps. Both Sir Richard Burton, the translator of the Arabian Nights, and the late Col. Lawrence had harbored ambitions to make the journey, but Dr. Thomas stated that he had been appointed as Prime Minister to the Sultan of Muscat and Oman. This office enabled him to make many secret journeys on camel back, dressed as a Bedouin, and in the course of six years he was able to explore the country. The successful conclusion of his fourth undertaking, when he crossed the desert from Mecca to the Red Sea, was announced in a congratulatory telegram from King George, and was commended to go to Buckingham Palace to tell the King about his experiences. He also has the distinction of being the only non-member of the British House of Commons who has been invited to lecture to the House, and has three doctorate degrees—doctor of philosophy, doctor of divinity, and doctor of literature—from Bristol, and doctor of science of Nova Scotia.

New Tribes And Peoples
In Arabia Dr. Thomas discovered many new tribes and peoples, probably aborigines of Arabia, who differed in language, customs, and physical appearance from the Arabian peoples known to the world. He also discovered 90 animals, which were unknown previously, including two varieties of snake, a particular species of hyena, a new wolf, fox and antelope, and several butterflies, which have not been known to exist. He also recorded "our languages of a Semitic nature." "Curiously enough, these languages link up with the Abyssinian tongue, as well as with classical Arabic," said Dr. Thomas.

According to Dr. Thomas, the Arab sheik is not the romantic figure he is painted. "They are nothing like the heroes of romantic novels and moving pictures," he said. "The sheik is the hereditary head of his tribe, but he is not a ruler in our sense of the word. There are many such sheiks in the South Arabian desert, and they are generally at feud with one another. The sheik is under the control of the British consul in peace, rather than exercising magisterial powers. The inhabitants of the desert are fierce and warlike. Every man is a strong individualist, and the sheik is not by any means as romantic a figure as he has been painted." Dr. Thomas, accompanied by his wife.

Mr. I. H. Boas, a former South Australian, chief of the division of forest products of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, who has been on a visit to Canada, the United States, and England, will return to Australia by the Oranienburg. Mr. Boas also attended the Empire Forestry Conference in South Africa.

ASSEMBLY TOPICS
University Bill.—The Attorney-General introduced a Bill to consolidate the Acts relating to the University of Adelaide. The Bill was read a first time.

Dr. Thomas described Arabia as a country which had made no steps in civilisation, where the ships of the desert were still the wattle and bark individual both in relation to transport and even nourishment, and where the fougus of the desert, the lack of vegetation or lack of it, Arabia had the reputation of the size of Australia. The Arabs, he said, had dominated Spain and other countries, even as Britain today dominated the world.

Arabia today, he said, was as hostile to European penetration as the natives of the desert had been to British occupation, and thereby resisted and resented visitors. For that reason his journey had to be made alone, in Arab dress, and with the aid of a beard, for in the desert a man sworn by his enemies. It was a mistake, however, to imagine that a white man could pass as an Arab, and no European had ever done this successfully. The exploration had to be done secretly and singlehanded. He had landed in the winter of 1930 at Outer Harbor, transferred from a British oil tanker into a dhow. Because the sheikh who had arranged to meet him had not arrived for some months, he had to wander among the hills shooting. He had discovered a new wolf, toad, snakes, lizards, and many other animals, reptiles, all of which were now in the British Museum.

Dr. Thomas said that while wandering among these Southern Arabians he had found with interest that their dress was not so different from that of the Abyssinians. They were a contrast to the Arabs in the north, whose dress was more like that of the frankincense, and today that was the chief interest of the dwellers in the district.

Long Journey Begins
Referring to the long ride across the desert, the lecturer said that he was in the desert for 12 weeks, and was on day for 58 days. He lived on camel's milk, the staple food of the men of the desert, and was well fitted at the end of the journey, although he had lost 11 stone. His companions were all wild men. They had some good horses, but most of the horses died at a water-hole, however thirsty they were, they would wait for their companions to arrive, even if they were an hour's ride behind.

Referring to the water encountered during the trip, Dr. Thomas said that the water was very scarce, and that water at the holes was generally too stagnant for ordinary humans to drink, but that the water was fit to drink. When the water was too foul to drink there was no direct suffering at all, but the men drank it and the men drank their milk. The amazing knowledge of the Arabs in reading sand prints was mentioned by Dr. Thomas. The sand knew every camel print in his tribe, and could tell at a glance if the track were of a man or a camel. It is unknown it was a foe. Rain did not fall in the desert sometimes for many years, yet herbage grew, subsisting entirely on dew. The story of how the sheik was at Catar, said Dr. Thomas, where he had his first square meal and a drink of beer. The sheik was the headmaster of St. Peter's College (Rev. Guy Pentreath) thanked

News 9/11/35
APPOINTMENTS AT
UNIVERSITY

Needs in Four Faculties

At the end of each University year a number of appointments in several faculties fall vacant, and this year 31 appointments have to be made. Several of the positions are honorary. There are three awards to be made in law, 19 in medicine, seven in dentistry, and one in commerce.

In law there are three lectureships, two in property, and one in private international law. At the medical appointments include lecturers, tutors, and demonstrators in branches of surgery and medicine, and in anatomy, histology, physiology, bio-chemistry, pathology, obstetrics, radiology, pharmacology, and anaesthetics. Lecturers and demonstrators are wanted in the dental school in crown metallurgy, prosthetic dentistry, dental and bridge work, anaesthetics and orthodontics, and operative technique. The board of commercial studies are calling for a lecturer in commercial law. These appointments fall vacant on December 31, and full information about them can be obtained from the registrar at the University (Mr. Henderson) with whom entries close November 16.

Mail 9/1/35
Degrees Too
Easy to Get

NEW LAW URGED

SYDNEY, Saturday.—Legislation is urgently required to check the practice by which unqualified accountants and secretaries are receiving business degrees from small institutions, said Mr. L. J. Thompson, secretary of the Institute of Secretaries yesterday.

He claimed that great danger threatened the public under existing regulations. Men with practically worthless degrees were parading as qualified accountants and secretaries. "Danger lies in the fact that any seven people may start another institution without examination. It is added. There is already overstepping, and new bodies will only increase the practice."

To bolster up their finances new institutes admit members under a lenient system, which the promoters obtain degrees without examination. It is a practice which must be stopped to protect the public.

SPECIAL PERMISSION

"All one-up companies formed for educational purposes, such as accountancy and secretarial institutes, should be obliged to seek special permission before commencing business." Mr. Thompson said. "Adequate services are being rendered by existing institutes."

"The public should not be deceived," said Mr. Thompson. "That may well happen when persons form a company and adopt themselves as secretaries. A guarantee is required to ensure that degrees are authentic."

"The public should be made aware of the existing stringent restriction in the number of companies formed. Strongly expressed views were given by the Minister, asking for protective legislation."