

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

"THE GOLDEN LEGEND."

The thirteenth concert of the 1921 session at the Conservatorium was a striking success. The Elder Hall was full to the doors—and the applause which broke out on every available opportunity evinced the growing enthusiasm which culminated at the close in a veritable ovation in response to which the conductor, Mr. Frederick Bevan had to bow repeatedly. The composition presented was Sullivan's "Golden Legend," performed by the University Choral Class, and a full orchestra, led by Miss Sylvia Whittington, A.M.U.A. Mr. Harold Wyke, F.R.C.O., was organist. The five solo parts, Prince Henry of Hohenbeck Elsie, daughter of one of the Prince's vassals, Ursula, mother of Elsie, Lucifer, and a Forester, were allotted to nine vocalists. The value of having such an orchestra available was manifest in the effective rendering of the highly descriptive storm music when Lucifer, and the powers of the air strive to tear down the cross or injure the spire of the great cathedral. Mr. Ewart Lock admirably rendered the part of Lucifer, and the voices of his foiled spirits came in again most artistically. Mr. Bevan's handling of the chorus and orchestra left nothing to be desired. The final dying away of the storm, was followed by the strains of the organ and a Gregorian chant. In scene I, Mr. Lesley Martin took the part of Prince Henry—and his fine voice and clear enunciation gave a special value to it. His scene with Lucifer was distinctly good, and his solo "It is the sea," in the third scene, his most successful number. In the second scene, where Elsie promises to die for the Prince, the part was taken by Miss Sylvia Thomas, who possesses a clear, high soprano. Miss Dorothy Reid was Ursula. Miss Thomas was particularly successful in the solo (with cello accompaniment) "My Redeemer and my Lord." In the third scene Miss Clytie Whittington sang Elsie's part. The duet with Mr. Martin, "Sweet is the air," was charmingly given. In scene III, Mr. Sydney Coombe took over the part of Lucifer, where his jeering comments break in upon the chanting of the pilgrims; Mr. Walter Wood, that of Prince Henry in the IV. scene; and Miss Ada Wordie took that of Elsie from the solo "The night is calm and cloudless." Her voice suited the role, and she sang throughout with expression and effect. The part of Ursula was well sustained by Mrs. Langford in scene V. She possesses a clear, mellow contralto, and an enviable power of making each word heard. Her rendering of the solo "Virgin who lovest the poor and lowly" was particularly effective. Throughout, the chorus work was good, and Mr. Bevan managed admirably the blending of instruments and voices into one artistic whole. Appreciative throughout, the audience showed special enthusiasm at the close of scene III., and at the end of the performance, when the applause was only stilled by the rendering of the National Anthem by the orchestra, chorus, and audience as a whole.

Professor Harvey Johnston, M.A., D.Sc., who has been appointed to the new Chair of Zoology at the Adelaide University, has had a distinguished biological career, during which he has enjoyed exceptional opportunities for the study of subjects of practical importance. He has worked in Sydney and Brisbane, with specially effective results, and it is generally agreed that the Adelaide University has been fortunate to secure such an able man. The professor is 39 years of age. He has made many contributions to the literature of biological science. Professor Johnston was selected for the post from 21 applicants.



Professor Johnston.

England, where was the A.M.A. Master of Sir Samuel Way and the Rev. J. Thorne. While there in 1887 he matriculated at the London University, where he had an unusually brilliant academic career, and obtained the degree of LL.B. in 1894. Two years later he earned the distinction of doctor of laws at the same university. Previously, in 1887, he had served articles of clerkship, and was admitted as a solicitor of the English Courts in 1896, but did not practise in the old world. About 1896 he returned to his native land, and during the ensuing 12 months was admitted as a practitioner of the Supreme Court. For two years he held the position of managing clerk for Messrs. Symon, Bakewell, Stow, & Piper, and afterward spent two and a half years in the office of Messrs. Kingdon and McLachlan. On the death of Major H. B. Taylor in 1901 he was appointed to the dual office of associate to the Chief Justice and Clerk of Arraigns of the Supreme Court. Dr. Richards has always taken an active interest in religious, philanthropic, and educational matters. He is a forceful lay preacher, and for some time he acted as Hon. Secretary of the Royal Institution for the Blind. He was a member of the Cavenagh Ministry in the Union Parliament, is an energetic and enthusiastic member of the South Australian Literary Societies' Union, and for several years has been an assistant examiner at the Adelaide University, where he took the ad eundem degree of LL.D. in 1897. The doctor, whose courtesy and engaging disposition have gained for him the warm esteem of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, was among those specially mentioned by the late Chief Justice when he delivered judgment in the famous corset case. "No one, I am sure," said Sir Samuel, "will object to my gratefully acknowledging the loyal and untiring help I have had from Dr. Richards. For months, day after day, and late into five nights every week, I have had his ungrudging and skilful aid, without which the completion of my task would necessarily have been much prolonged. In the preparation of this judgment his learning, his vigilance, and his suggestions have made him in the fullest and best sense of the word my associate."

Mr. Napier has gained considerable prominence at the Bar, and he has been acknowledged for some time as one of the leaders of the younger generation of counsel. He combines with exceptional professional gifts fine qualities of personality, and there is no more esteemed figure in the legal



MR. J. M. NAPIER.

rank. Mr. Napier is a gentleman of a refined and singularly graceful manner, and his conduct at the Bar is always distinguished by a courteous bearing. His advance during the last few years has been rapid, and his name has been mentioned on more than one occasion for judicial elevation, for which his temperament and learning give him an undoubted qualification. Mr. Napier, now a member of the firm of Baker, Glynn, McEwin, and Napier, was formerly in partnership with Mr. A. J. McLachlan. Mr. Napier was born in Dunbar, Scotland, on October 24, 1882. He was educated at the City of London School, and came to South Australia in 1898. Mr. Napier entered the Adelaide University in 1899, graduated LL.B. in December, 1902, and thereby qualified for admission to the Bar, subject to age. He was articled to the late Right Hon. C. C. Kingston in December, 1898. He was received as a practitioner on October 24, 1903, and became managing clerk to McLachlan & Vandenbegg, and subsequently entered into partnership (1906) as McLachlan & Napier. In 1917 Mr. Napier joined Glynn, Parsons, and McEwin. Among some prominent cases in which he has appeared have been Billiet v. Commercial Bank, McLachlan v. Corporation of Adelaide, S.A. Company v. Corporation of Port Adelaide, MacDonald v. Railways Commissioner, and Sand and McBride. Mr. Napier recently appeared as counsel for the Government in connection with the cases before the Government Workers' Tribunal and the Board of Industry.

this race is!" To go not further back in history, from the reign of the late unfortunate Czar, than to the reign of Catherine and Paul. What about the poor, tortured exiles sent to Siberia—the serfs, downtrodden as they were, not much more than living clods? Yes, Eugene; our brave Australian boys left us, believing they went to crush German militarism; they fraternised with the German prisoners, and told them so; they were too noble-minded to feel hatred towards them personally. "Our boys" had little respect for the "supercmen," as exemplified by the Kaiser and his junkers, who treated their own soldiers simply as "kanonenfutter." I would like to ask Eugene please to remember that before he again poses as a teacher of history to us Australians many of us are quite as well up in not only the history of Britain, but of all the nations of the world, and have read the history of other nations than our own, in their own language. No nation, no race, is perfect. Eugene is welcome to his own opinion as to the justice or otherwise of the Peace Treaty. I think it is a disgrace to Christianity that so-called "Christian" nations should, through greed and the love of power, war against and murder each other. They try at the same time to convert the "heathen" to Christianity! What must he think but "They have but one god—and that is gold!" or its equivalent. "See how these Christians love one another"—they wreck their homes, murder each other, and widows and orphans starve! Will the Peace Treaty put an end to all war and the horror of it? Will it bring the ethics of Christianity into everyday business? It is just that those who make war should pay for it, but it is very unjust that those who risked their lives for Australia should have had to pay £10 war risk on their insurance policy per annum, for four years, for risking their lives continually during that time, to keep coldfeet and rejects in good positions, and then come home, maimed or ruined in health, and be unable to give a sick, loved one necessaries required, or take a rest to recuperate, after the stress and privations of 4½ years in the war zone, because, as the Jew said, "Business is business"—the ethics of Christianity have no place in it. Will the Peace Treaty find it one?

NEW KING'S COUNSEL.

Dr. Richards and Mr. J. M. Napier.

The honour of silk has been conferred upon the Crown Solicitor (Dr. F. W. Richards) and upon Mr. J. M. Napier. The appointments were made in Executive Council on Thursday morning. The recommendations are always forwarded from the Chief Justice to the Attorney-General, who submits them to Cabinet. There is no surprise in the latest promotions, as they had been expected for some time, and the names of both Dr. Richards and Mr. Napier had been mentioned frequently. The distinction is usually given to the Crown Solicitor, and in the case of Dr. Richards, this consideration was strengthened by high professional merit.

Dr. Richards was appointed Crown Solicitor on September 1, 1916, and occupies also the position of solicitor to the Registrar-General of Deeds and Railway Departments. Prior to this promotion he was



DR. RICHARDS.

Parliamentary Draftsman and Assistant Crown Solicitor. Dr. Richards is a son of the late Rev. William Richards, a well-known and highly esteemed colonist, and was born at Gawler on October 3, 1860. He began his education in the public schools of South Australia, but at the age of 14 years went to Shebbear College, Devon.

ensuring of reciprocity. What was needed was not the abolition of the parties, who really represented different interests and brought evidence from all parts of society, but the adoption of the "committee" spirit, which allowed decisions to be reached as a result of the real interchange of ideas, and real respect for mutual interests. That, after all, was only restoring the aim of representative government. The initiative must come from the leader of the party in power. The lecturer discussed other proposals, but was opposed to any system that would give small bargaining groups. It could be well if men of the same calibre and status as the judges could be obtained as departmental heads of the Civil Service, and given a greater share in the framing of legislation. More, too, could be done by the discussion of measures in informal committees representing both sides before they were presented to the House.

In the discussion which followed, it was generally stated that greater good would be done were parties to abandon the attitude of blind support or vigorous opposition, and endeavor in the committee spirit to combine, regardless of party, in making each measure under discussion as good as possible. It was also felt that members should be regarded more as representatives and less as mere delegates.

IS THE PEACE TREATY JUST?

From "J.R.E."—How kind of Eugene Ostropfsky to enlighten our ignorance as to the real and true origination of the war! But is it not peculiar that a Russian officer should hold a brief for Prussia and try to exonerate Germany from blame? Did he, in his confidential "high position on the staff of the Russian army," not discover the German officers in it—the German secret service agents, who informed Germany of everything? What about the smothering in that terrible morass of all those poor Russian soldiers? What about that filthy creature Rasputin, the tool of the German Kaiser? Russia, like Austria, was simply the tool, the cat's paw, of Prussia. Some German spies, who were in Russia, have relatives in Australia, and said they "managed to reach Germany in safety less than a week before the war started!" The true position is that Germany knew of every move Russia was making or likely to make. Germany was fully prepared for every eventuality. She was far too clever, shrewd, and methodical to be hurried into war by Russia. "Everything was ready, except the big guns, at the frontiers," by the Germans, long before May, 1914. Their organisation was perfect; they were the best-drilled army in the world. They were prepared for war. Germans in Australia knew this, and in 1912 were expecting that Kaiser Wilhelm would rule England and "Australia would be the brightest jewel in the Kaiser's crown." Over thirty years ago Germany threatened "to show Britain her place at the point of the sword." During the Boer war Germans boasted that Germany would "rule the world. England had had her day, and like Rome and Carthage, must go down." A German secret service agent, who escaped from New South Wales to America in 1916, stated, in July, 1914, that in six weeks the Germans would be in Paris and would then conquer Britain, then Italy, and would "raise the Vatican to the ground." Yet the Kaiser had professed profound friendship for his Holiness the Pope, and Italy formed part of the Triple Alliance. These are facts. No, no, Eugene; whatever sins holy Russia has committed, she is not responsible for the origination of the late great fiendish war. Why did the Kaiser visit Turkey? Why was the railway built leading to India? Why did the Lutheran Kaiser pretend such friendship for the Pope? We Australians are dreadfully dense; we know nothing of history. Thank you so much, Eugene, for trying to enlighten our darkness! You tell us to look at English history, and you exclaim, "How perfect this race is!" Now, why do you hate England so much? Do you not know that England's King is Australia's King; that Australia is part of the British Empire? Did you come to Australia to stir up strife? Did you come to insult us and our dear, brave sons who fought in the late dreadful war? If so, let me tell you we, descendants of brave British pioneers who helped to make Australian history, resent your coming amongst us. You had better go back to Europe and refresh your memory with Prussian and Russian history. I think British history will compare favorably with either. Now, look at Russian history. "How perfect