There were only twelve days of the two years in Adelie Land when the wind was under ten miles an bour. The average wind there was a gale on the Beanfort scale, which was said to break the twigs of trees. Their highest monthly wind average was 55.6 m.p.h., and the highest daily average 80.6 m.p.h. The absolute maximum hour's run was 96 miles. One period of twelve hours averaged 80 m.p.h. The tremendous amount of drift snow was another interesting feature. In one year the equivalent of drift snow in solid water passing over the edge of the continent into the sea was 5,246 feet, about a mile and a fifth. The barometer readings in action with the wind formed an interesting study.

wind velocity in Adelaide over the same

period was 8.6 miles per hour,

A number of interesting lantern slides were shown illustrating the topography of the country and the life in Adelie Land under such terrible conditions,

News aug 29.th "ABOLISH EXAMINATIONS"

Professor's Suggestion

"It is high time that examinations were abolished, to make possible more truly educational work in both universities and schools," said Prof. W. E. Cooke, M.A. (Government Astronomer, Sydney), in a paper on Examinations and Diplomas," read before the Educa-Science Congress today.

Many subjects which had a high cultural value could find no place in our schools, he said. They were barred by the examination system. Attendance at tutorial and discussion classes, with certificates signed by the professor in charge certifying that the holder had taken a live interest and an active part in the class work and exercises, could be substituted for the present B.A. and B.Sc. degrees, and would probably be as highly prized by employers. A similar principle could be applied to lower schools. Competition for prizes affected only a few of the more brilliant pupils. Examinations for scholarships could be replaced by other and simpler measures,

A CHAIR OF ANTHROPOLOGY. From "AUSTRAL": -One notes with aleasure the recommendations of the Science Congress for the foundation of a enair of Anthropology in the Commonwealth. Here is an opportunity to do conour to South Australia's greatest investigater of native habits and customs. I refer to the late Mr. F. J. Gillen. Without doubt, but for his 25 years' resilence among the natives of Central Australia much that is now known and re-corded would still be a sealed book. Sir Baldwin Spencer will be the first, I think, to propose that the professorship be known as the Gillen Chair of Anthro-

Heurs aug 29th INFANT MORTALITY

Breast Feeding Advocated

Discussing infantile mortality at the Science Congress today, Dr. F. S. Hone electurer in clinical medicine and in preventive medicine at the Adelalde University) said that the present posltion was best reviewed by studying the mortality tables of the past 25 years. The graph for South Australia showed a big drop in 1904, since which the rate had remained at a much lower level, with a slow progress downward. The same curve was shown by all the other Australian States, with the same drop

The cause of the great drop in that year was probably due to several causes auddenly acting together-the increased emphasis on scientific feeding together with the cessation of the previous dirought years which had favored diarrhocal conditions. British, European, and New Zealand figures showed the same drop a few years earlier. Other graphs for this State showed the curve of deaths from diarrhoea to be the same as the total mortality curve, while the curve for deaths from prematurity, congenital debility, and malformation was quite different and showed a steady increase, Deaths from these causes roughly corresponded to deaths in the first month of life.

The first essential for further progress was the division of infantile mortality into natal mortality covering deaths in the first month, and postnatal mortality covering deaths from one to 12 months. Next followed the development of the mode of attack appropriate to each class-pregnancy and the puerperium demand attention in the former; food and flies in the lat-

He reiterated the ideal of breast feeding of infants as long as possible, then of pure milk supply and of avolding infection of food, especially by files in the artificially fed.

The most profitable point of attack for a further substantial advance against infant mortality was the 50 per cent, of cases which occurred in the first month of life. The greatest number of deaths in the first month occurred in the first week of life, thus proving their natal or pre-natal origin. The great causes of death in this period were pre-maturity, congenital debility, and malformations, any of which might be due to syphilis or to toxaemia of preg-nancy. To these could be added accidents of childbirth. The great foca were syphilis and slovenly obstetrics.

SHORTAGE OF NURSES. Sir James Barrett sald that he fully agreed with the main conclusions of the papers Its value lay in focussing attention on the mortality of the first month of life, which was as yet unaffected. All were agreed on the necessity for pre-natal nd natal measures, but the difficulty was how to bring that about.

There was a great shortage of trained nurses who had also received their midgors when they came to Australia from O'Longhin's mather were tellow passen laide Oval. Mrs. Checkett and Mr. kelt, the former groundings of the Aderenewed acquaintance with Charlie Chees tenn, Mr. O'Loughlin, during his stay, trip ever made in Australia by a football club right through to Dispane, the longest O'Loughlin was boar a Adelaide, When Secretary of Perth in 1814 he piloted that ing behind in Adelaide, spending a week the Perth Football Club, has been stay-J. O'Loughlin, one of the executive of

and will be out for the rest of the season. He went to the Hobert Public Hospital mark, and came heavily to the ground. ground hat Saturday. He dew for a high broke three ribs on the North salord sons been captain and coach of Newtown, manian exptain; and who has, for two sea-W. Mayman, the former Sturt and Tre-

"notifiedmen arrant champsunding if our coverses friends were

THE REGISTER, ADEL

THE SCIENCE CONGRESS AND DENTISTRY.

To the Editor.

Sir-We one and all heartily welcome the delegates now assembled in Adelaide to enlighten us as to what scientists are by research trying to do for humanity and even for the lower animals. The systematical animals of the systematical animals of the systematical animals of the systematical animals. pathy for the latter is evident, for even veterinary knowledge and ornithology are included in the syllabus. Indeed, it might be written that the conference will deal with a complete range of human know-ledge, but for the-one would almost think -attudied and persistent after cast upon the science of dentistry by its repeated ab-sence from the agenda. One can but won-der why the subject of dental decadence that is causing some of the finest intellects, in research, in the civilized world intense interest, has again and again-to use a colloquialism-been turned down. Dental decadence has now become among the civilized races so almost universal as

to be described by an eminent worker in dental research as "the curse of modern times." This term, although expressive, is inapt, since it is only the white races who are afflicted with dental caries, as we know it; the writer has repeatedly sugcurse of the white races," as the coloured races are almost immune. The prevalence of the evil, in our midst, is shown by the fact that it now requires over 50,000 dentists in the United States to repair temporarily the cyil-not to abate it, for it is ever on the increase. In Great Bri tain, with the wholesale admission of un qualified practitioners, there are over 13,000, not including those in Ireland owing to political troubles. In Australia there are about 5,000.

Our universities and those of other countries are granting degrees in the science and art of dentisty, ranging in status from licentiate in dental surgery to master of dental surgery, with an intermediate degree of bachelor of dental surgery; there has recently been granted, it is said, by some English universities-with D.D.Sc. (Doctor of Dental Science). Are we to conclude by the absence from the agenda paper of the present congress that the committee or those who arrange the syllabus consider that there is no such science or need of it—that which his known as such in the syllabus consider that there is no such science or need of it—that which his known as such is mere claptrap, a trick or device to gain meretricious reputation with pecuniary increment? If so, it is an insult to the degree of B.D.S. and D.D. Sc. of the University of Melbourne, of the B.D.S. of the University of Adelaide, and the D.M.D. of Harvard, U.S.A., not to men-tion that of M.D.S. (Master of Dental Surgery), University of Birmingham, Eng-

It is true, nlas! that the scats of learning where dental science is taught are more or less deficient in dental research, and do not teach preventive dentistry other than by suggestions for diet and hygiene; in other words, not by any method that would radically alter the conditions that foster dental caries. Professor Pickerill, M.D., F.R.C.S., and M. D. S. (Master of Dental Surgery), Professor of Dentistry and Director of the Dental School in the University of Otago, New Zealand, wrote in the Cartwright prize England (the exhaustive compiling of which occupied six years), "An examina" tion of the six best-known text books on dentistry, three English, two American, and one German, shows that on an average 0.16 per cent; of a book is devoted to prevention of dental caries; yet no one would suggest that this proportion in the least degree represents the importance of the subject."

The writer, from constant perusal of the best dental literature from United States, Canada, and Europe, is satisfied that preventive dentistry is now much as it was then, so far as effective prevention is concerned. What is wanted is public enlightenment by means of science congresses, as now assembled here. The laity could then read and obtain up-to-date information. As it is now, not one person in 5,000 ever sees a dental journal. Why? It is surely worth while to quote from a text book written by such an authority as Professor Pickerill, a paragraph to which he attached the greatest importance:-

"In addition . . . the preventive treat-ment of dental caries must be made one of the most important branches of the public health service. To institute and organize a department to deal efficiently with this branch alone would be a source of national economy.

per cent, to 85 per cent, of cases, and, The speaker was of the open that ventive dentistry is effective in from 75 as in Australia. when practised with proper instruction the present difficulties in the contry and experience, is of mestimable benefit could be overcome by the same State to the masses, and a measure of relief stitutional machinery. The set State to the fit, who in our large hospitals sup- movement, if it succeeded, we the to the fit, who in our large hospitals support the unfit with their protean diseases, confession of failure on the said the
induced by tooth rot. In Harvard University there is now a dental research department, presided over by Protest partment, presided over by Professor P. R. Howe. In a recent report of an excellent paper dealing with research work in dental caries, by experimentally feeding animals, the nearest to man, on scorbutic diet and diet deficient in vitamines and mineral salts; and some with and some without roughage, he stated that we must dig deeper and go further back to obtain the true etiology of dental caries-that the disease found there should be regarded as symptoms, as effects, rather

than causes. In reply to a question in the subsequent liscussion, on the much mooted hypothe sis of the circulation in dentine (tooth bone) of teeth, with characteristic modesty he declared there is so much that I do not know, and so very little that I really do know, that is seems discouraging at times.' These modest words from such a well-recognised scientist as Howe should stimulate others to enter this field of intricate research. The writer was indeed glad to read that at the same meeting the professor had no charge to lay against the use of sugar, except that it reduced the appetite for more useful food. So doubt is thrown on another hypothesis, another guess to be added to the many

others relegated to oblivion. However, dental caries has in one of its conditions displayed a method by which decay is automatically arrested 'ad modum naturae' so to speak. As carles, in that condition, is capable of effacing itself, independently of dental art, how easily effective it would be in prevention if the conditions were by art rendered suitable before any breach of the outer surface of the tooth had been established. Herein lies the opportunity for the Association for the Advancement of Science or others to seek for and find a 100 per cent, benefit to the community now suffering almost universally with dental caries, This will benefit not only a community of specialists, but the whole of the white races. Let scientists study the motto beasante causa cessat at effectus. -I am, Sir, &c.

H. HAYES NORMAN, D.D.S.

news aug 29th

AUSTRALIAN STATES

Intervarsity Debate

ADELAIDE STUDENTS WIN

The second debate of the interp versity series was held in the god, lecture theatre at the Queensland ! versity (mys 'The Brisbane ; graph"). The contestants on the acasion were the Melbourne and to laids Univerlaties, the subject under cussion being "That it is in the bear terests of Australia that the number of States be increased." Melbourne to the affirmative and Adelaide the retive. Each speaker, and there and three to each team, was allowed Il utes, and the leaders replied. The us Judicators decided by a majority is the of Adelaide.

Professor Alcock was in the chale, and the adjudicators were Meera 1 Kingsbury, A. C. V. Melbourne, and h J. R. Watson.

Mr. N. G. Berriman, B.A. (Mellegge opened as leader of the american There were two main proposition said, which they had to prove. first was that the present system was in satisfactory-that it aid not design Australia as Australia should be toloped-and the second was that the of this lack of development was the of the States.

The first proposition, he held was at evident. The defects of the present tem were considerable. He instance centralisation, remarking that dicent, of the population of Australia gathered in the six capital cities to ther, 89 per cent of all immigrates tled in the towns, leaving but p. cent, for the land, Another pose a the unreasonable expenditure of suc vernments. The national debt a various States had become enormant Victoria, where it was lowest to a tional debt was £60 per head. enterprises and education were also dicapped in the larger States, bent scattered from the central and The remedy was a decrease in a of the States and an increase as number. - Smaller States produced cost less per head to govern, a he whole developed to a greaters than the larger States. The days large State was gone.

FOR THE NEGATIVE

Mr. C. C. Crump, LL.B. (14) opened for the negative. he tont air. Berriman nad august means of retorm apara from the tion of new States. Air, Bergin a not snown how the formation and States would overcome existing and ties. Mr. Crump at the outeless to his opponent's remarks a retation. The negative leader to that whire and district countries overcome difficulties of representathe larger States, Mr. Berrant, clared, and not referred to the a penditue that would be entired formation of new States, Ofton oustanding difficulty was the same ment of the national debt. her that be done? Apart from that did not the new State system 'picking the eyes out of the h the formation of another See !! what of the residue? The er new-staters was "State first wealth last." And that sir I of federation.

Mr. L. R. M. Ross, B.A. Mee dealt with the question of the tion of new States from the sandpoint. Australia had arrest cities at the expense of the Northern New South Wales 4 1 guti fully fertile country was been depopulated. Why? Because it . | being administered in the interest the city. Sydney was given hare meh as the North Shore Bridge the the north was depopulated. (La Similar agitations were apparell the flays when Queensland urgs to epa-ration from New South Wals. Is new State movement was not see, but it was an effective remedy for pre a-day difficulties.

INCONSISTENT Mr. D. P. McGuire (Addas) said a small and very wealthy meen of the country. It was greined too, the drift to the cities in the Unite States There is no room for doubt that pre- was as great on a percentar basis

Dess. Could it reasonably be said that by had failed? Mr. J. F. Mulyaney (Melbourne), on be question of unification, said that a Etali area lost its sense of responsionly then administered by a central authoaly. The new State movement was punded on the retention of the Federal luthorities. They merely asked for the ocrease in the size and the increase in

to numbers of the States. Mr. J. H. Crossley (Adelaide) rather that the claim of the leader of affirmative dealt with the contentions mative to take a national viraget was a firmative speakers. He averred inconsistent with the second maker's hat the spirit of the age was centraliremarks, which had been comes round and concentration. Successful tarketing depended upon a spear-point oncentration and organisation. How build that be possible if the country ere divided?

The two leaders briefly replied. Replying to a vote of thanks, Mr. J. Kingsbury said that the argument forked excellently together. The spea-Mrs relied more on facts than on florid anguage, and they had put forward a freat deal of solld argument, and had thowed a considerable amount of com-

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