



Mr. L. Rodway.

of stock diseases in Australia, his work on black diseases of sheep in New South Wales being of very high merit.

Mr. L. Rodway, C.M.G., of Hobart (Tasmania) is president of the botany section. He was a dentist, but made a life study of botany as a hobby. For many years he was honorary botanist to the Government of Tasmania, during which time he made a general study of Tasmanian flora, particularly the eucalypt. For a considerable time he has been president of the Royal Society of Tasmania, and for the 1921 meeting of the Science Congress, which was arranged to be held at Hobart, but was transferred to Melbourne, he was chairman of the Tasmanian local committee. He also represented the Royal Society of Tasmania as a delegate to the last congress. Since retiring from the practice of dentistry Mr. Rodway has been giving lectures at the Tasmanian University in conjunction with Professor Flynn, expert in biology.

Register 22 AUG 1924

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

A Wonderful Institution.

Sir James Barrett (a well-known Melbourne surgeon who is visiting Adelaide in connection with the Science Congress) delivered an interesting and thoughtful lecture before the Graduates' Association in the Prince of Wales lecture room, Adelaide University, on Thursday evening.

Professor E. Harold Davies, who introduced the lecturer, said that Sir James Barrett was equally capable of speaking on town planning, medicine, music, or the Melbourne Hospital.

Sir James Barrett said the Rockefeller Foundation was a milestone in the world's history. Mr. John D. Rockefeller, senior, had set aside the huge sum of £110,000,000, to be distributed for research and education. All the amounts distributed were placed in the hands of Governmental authorities, and the whole of the giving was stamped with the hand of the sensible man of business, as he considered that if it were handed over to irresponsible people they would precipitate a crisis. None of it was for philanthropic or sentimental causes. The Foundation was managed by a committee, who employed highly paid experts in all its branches. The main object of the grant was to promote the welfare of mankind throughout the world. Its activities had been extended to 39 governmental areas. In regard to medicine, the Foundation supported schools in America and abroad, and among its objects in this department were administration in co-operation with Government authorities in controlling malaria in the southern States of America, and the hookworm disease in America and abroad, the eradication of yellow fever, co-operation in country health work, and support of fellowships for the selection of doctors and public health workers. In this last respect it carried out its activities through the International Health Board, the China Medical Board, the division of medical education, and other bodies. The Foundation was inaugurated with a capital of £30,000,000, and was able to carry on for years with the interest, which amounted to £1,250,000 annually. Rockefeller then set up a memorial to his wife of £17,000,000, which was called the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Fund. This was a fund for the benefit of women and children, and the interest only upon it was to be used. Those amounts had been added to until the total to-day was £90,000,000. The lecturer said that never before had any man done, or dreamed of doing, such a wonderful thing for the benefit of mankind. Rockefeller, however, gave his help until one of his officers had

visited the country that had asked for assistance, and made full enquiries. Dr. Carter had visited Australia, and was reporting to the Foundation on medical education in Australia and South Africa. If the medical profession admitted that the curing of any disease had beaten them, Rockefeller would then step in, and formulate special means of studying it. As an example, a child died of spinal meningitis, and he at once commenced an investigation into the subject. A hospital of 90 beds was established alongside a laboratory, so that tests could be made on the spot, with the result that the cause of the complaint might be traced.

Education of Doctors and Nurses.

The Foundation has assisted public health authorities in Czecho-Slovakia, Brazil, the United States, and many other countries. It had started a University in China for the tuition of Chinese scientists, so that they could provide instructors and demonstrators for the numerous Chinese Universities, which were coming into being. The Foundation had co-operated in the eradication of hookworm in 19 Government areas, including Australia; and it had given £1,500,000 for the reorganization of the University College of London. The education of nurses was seriously engaging the attention of the medical profession all over the world; and it was recognised that the present system had now almost run its course. The nurses' services had in the past been looked upon as an act of charity, and their pay had been very meagre. The result had been that young women had gone into other avenues of employment that were more remunerative. That was serious, as there was a tremendous shortage below the number required. Nurses were supposed to serve four years before they could undertake a case of midwifery; but now, owing to the shortage, nurses with only one year's training had been turned out as midwives. There were 36,000 births a year in the State of Victoria, and the total number of nurses who obtained certificates was about 100 a year, and only 50 of those would be properly trained to look after 36,000 births. The Foundation had, therefore, decided, as an experiment, to set a 28 months' course of special training at the Yale University (U.S.A.), and the nurses had specialized in certain branches. There were the highly-trained surgical nurses to attend at operations; public health nurses, and bedside nurses with sufficient training to fit them for convalescent work. It was hoped that by shortening the course to 28 months instead of four or five years, the number of nurses turned out would be greatly increased.

Instructing the Public.

Another activity of the foundation was to instruct the public, so that infection would be prevented. The speaker told of a striking example portrayed in a procession in China. First came a cholera case on a bier, and then illustrations of the various causes of the disease, such as filth, flies, unboiled water, and so on. Illustrations like that might be introduced into more enlightened countries. Sunlight and good drainage would kill most germs, such as the tubercular germ, and mosquitoes, the conveyors of malaria. In the old wars disease had slain more soldiers than arms. Mark Anthony, Richard Coeur de Lion had been among its victims. By defeating disease, Field Marshal Lord Allenby had made the allied victory possible in Palestine. It was estimated that 2,000,000 people died annually from malaria. The taxpayer of Australia might soon expect a large increase in his present payments, to take care of the stream of people who would come back from the mandated territories and Northern Queensland smitten these dread diseases and who would become charges upon the State. Medical science might reduce disease by 20 per cent, but the other 80 per cent, could only be wiped out by teaching the public to prevent disease. If yellow fever could be got rid of for 12 years, it would be defeated altogether, because the "carriers" would be killed.

Recreation Necessary.

The Rockefeller Foundation had recognised that a great deal of the crime of the world was owing to the lack of organized healthy play for the children; and for this purpose had established the Palisades Playground near New York. Now more than 2,000,000 people visited the place yearly, and tens of thousands camped there annually. Their every need in the way of shops, and so on, was provided. The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Foundation was moving in the direction of providing recreation for the children, and the Chicago Department of Education had formed a Department of Recreation. In conclusion the lecturer said that no Government or individual had ever voted £30,000,000 to help some one else as Rockefeller had. By placing his resources at the disposal of the whole world Rockefeller had laid one of the greatest milestones in the history of civilization.

FIRST BROADCAST LECTURE

Professor Chapman's Address

A Huge, Invisible Audience.

By Pirate.

In all his experience Professor Chapman, of the Adelaide University, has never had such an audience as that which he addressed from Mr. G. J. Hume's Broadcasting Station (5 Don N), Park terrace, Parkside, on Thursday evening.

The professor's voice was heard in the farthest limits of South Australia, and doubtless in other States as well. It was appropriate that, on such an occasion, he should choose as his subject the wonders of electricity, those early pioneers who were responsible for the great discovery, and the benefits it has bestowed upon mankind.

The lecture was preceded by two enjoyable gramophone records to enable listeners in to tune their sets to the loudest pitch, and then the voice of Mr. Hume himself announced, "You will now have an opportunity of hearing an address by Professor Chapman, of the Adelaide University."

The professor's lecture, which is as follows, is reported exactly as it was heard by the listening-in public. The Register's wireless writer himself listening in (at St. Peters) and reporting the speech, by shorthand, as it came from the loud speaker of his two-valve reflex set, employing crystal detector:—"Ladies and gentlemen," said he, "owing to the courtesy of Mr. Hume, I have been invited to speak to you to-night, and for the first time in South Australia, to talk to you for a while by means of this new and wonderful broadcast method. I appreciate highly the honour of, so to speak, opening the ball, and of being the first in the field of endeavour which will, I am convinced, be of inestimable benefit in such a country as this if we but take reasonable advantage of this new means of distributing some of the higher pleasures and refinements of our civilization to those who are far from the centres of population."

"A Little Disconcerting."

"But I must say," continued the professor, "that it is just a little disconcerting having to address myself to an unsentimental funnel rather than face a visible, human audience. I console myself with the thought that there are really people who can laugh and cry and sing. But, unfortunately, if you laugh, I cannot hear you. If you yawn I cannot see you, and if you are troubled by my cryptic words I have no means of knowing. However, you have one consolation—that if you are bored, you have an easier remedy than the man in the front of the audience, so I will try my hand."

The Address.

"How wonderful all this seems," the lecture began. "Here am I talking to an audience unseen and unknown. You are listening—it may be miles away—to a speaker whose gesticulations, perhaps fortunately for you, are invisible to you."

Professor Chapman went on to tell how a little while ago, Mr. Dodwell, the Government astronomer was occupied with the work of fixing the position of the boundary between South and Western Australia. The boundary was now the meridian of longitude. To settle this, Mr. Dodwell had to determine in the fraction of a second, the difference between his local time and the time, at the same instant, at Greenwich. Wireless supplied him with a means incomparably superior to any previous system. By the aid of a wireless receiving outfit in the desert on the edge of the boundary line, he received signals from France and America travelling with inconceivable speed. To come halfway round the world, they took less than one-tenth of a second, and it was then comparatively simple to discover the difference between local time and that of France and Greenwich. He was thus able to fix the boundary with such a high degree of precision that a probable error was not more than about 10 yards.

"My words," continued Professor Chapman, "are now reaching your ear practically instantaneously with utterance. There is a shorter interval of time between the opening of my lips and the moment the sound reaches your ear than there would be if I were on a platform and you were at the back of a hall. Wireless waves travel more than half a million times as fast as ordinary sound waves by air."

Boon to Navigators.

Professor Chapman went on to describe the boon wireless had become to navigators and others travelling by sea, comparing the methods of Columbus with those of the present day. He then paid a tribute to the early discoverers of electricity in its simplest forms, and particularly to that great inventor, Michael Faraday.

"The more we know," concluded Professor Chapman, after an address lasting more than half an hour, "the better we understand how little we know. That nation will progress best that is most active and earnest in the search after truth."

"Now ladies and gentlemen, I have talked to you enough for one evening, and I wish you good-night."

A Musical Programme.

Following the address a most enjoyable musical programme was broadcasted, the items being:—Recitations, "The green eye of the yellow," "Tired mothers," and "Butterflies," by Miss Leonora Starr; and "Two sides of the question in Australia," "If" (from Kipling), and "The old colonel" (humorous), by Mr. Basil Harford; and violin solos, "Londonderry air," "Siciliana," "L'amour de moi," and "Oriental" (finale), by Mr. Alfred Garrett, accompanied by Mr. Hugh King.

A stirring "God save the King" concluded the entertainment.

Register 22 AUG 1924

ART AND LIFE

Norman Lindsay's Pictures. Professor Phillipson's Criticism.

In a lecture on Thursday night, Professor Coleman Phillipson, who recently severely criticised the pictures displayed in Adelaide by Norman Lindsay, said that the nude figure could be treated with a fine spirit and with truth and propriety, but to depict sensual nudes, to place them in disgusting attitudes, and to further jumble them up with lustful dressed-up figures of the other sex, was such an offensive incongruity as to amount to a gross perversion of art. A man who did that was not an artist.

The lecture was given by Professor Coleman Phillipson at the Public Library lecture room, the subject being "Art and life." In the course of his address, he said that the present was a time of anxiety. In many quarters there was a revolt against discipline, authority, and tradition, and charlatanism was rife. They needed all their resources in the present period for securing the interests of civilization, international friendship, national solidarity, and the sanctity and purity of family life, without which a nation would certainly degenerate. Above all, they needed to hold fast to all that was good, true, and beautiful. The function and significance of the beautiful was much more difficult to determine than those of the good and the true. A precise definition of the beautiful was impossible. It implied a unity of contents and form embodying inward vision or intuition and animated by emotion; as well as harmony, appropriateness, and congruity with the sense of life, the presence of which was essential for the particular purpose—exclusion of the irrelevant—from which bodied forth an aspiration or yearning which was not adequately expressible otherwise, and which, "like a star, beacons from the abodes where the eternal are." The beautiful, the true, and the good formed an indissoluble union. To divorce any one from the others was to destroy the very spirit of all. Each was concerned with some aspect of ultimate reality, which was one united whole. They were the triple alliance of supreme values, which were conditioned by, and fostered, vital energy. They issued from life, ministered to life, and were merged into life. The potency of each was reinforced by their kinship and interaction.

Art and Moral Judgment.

Hence, art, purporting to arouse a desirable state of mind was subject to moral judgment, irrespective of aesthetic considerations, proceeded the professor. It was intended for a rational community, and so had to justify its existence by contributing something valuable and sanitary to the total good. Truth implied the ascertainment of the harmony in nature. The harmony in the aesthetic, moral, and physical spheres, together with the harmonious relationship between the three, was a counterpart of perfect harmony. On that view could be explained Keats's famous lines, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty;" the old scholastic phrase, "Beauty is the splendour of truth;" and Emerson's remark, "Beauty is the mark that God sets upon virtue." Moral purpose did not necessarily make art beautiful, but truth, fineness, and nobility of idea would