

BRITISH SCIENCE GUILD.

A branch of the British Science Guild will shortly be formed in Adelaide. The organising commissioner (Mr. J. W. H. Hullett) is getting everything in readiness for an auspicious opening. There is already a membership of over 100, and his Excellency the Governor has accepted the position of patron. The objects of the guild are to give the best education, practical and theoretical, to mankind, and to secure its economic application to the wants of the world; to keep the Empire the greatest factor on earth, and retain its immense commerce; and to teach that "scientific straight thinking is just as good for us as a navy is for Germany, since brains lie at the root of all things." A number of subjects of great importance will be discussed by the guild upon its formation, and one of the earliest problems to be considered will be practical afforestation, and the best methods of developing the forests to increase the wealth of the State, supply the railways, and allow of successful competition in the world's markets.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the council was held on Friday. Present—The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ennis, Drs. Poulton and Hayward, and Messrs. Fowler, Smith, Chapple, Murray, and Jacobs. Acting Professor Grant wrote accepting the Chair of Physics from January 1, 1911. On the recommendation of the Faculty of Music Professor Peterson was appointed additional examiner for the third year of the Mus. Bac degree. On the recommendation of the education committee it was resolved to amend the statutes of the J. H. Clark Scholarship in the direction of providing that the first award be a prize, and that provision be made for subsequently awarding the scholarship. The council approved of the formation of a centre at Tanunda and of the committee and officers appointed in connection therewith. The council dealt with a report from the Registrar in regard to a recent visit to certain country centres, submitted through the education committee and the Faculty of Music, and approved of certain recommendations made therein in connection with the University work in those centres.

SCIENTISTS IN AUSTRALIA.

In respect to the invitation from the Commonwealth Government to the British Association for the Advancement of Science to visit Australasia in 1913, Professor David, of Sydney University, remarked last week:—"There can be no doubt whatever that if the invitation from Australia is accepted, there will be general satisfaction with the personnel of the men selected by the British Association to represent its interests. Of course, on account of the greater distance from the old country, the trip to Australia will cost more than the recent South African visit." He was asked whether he thought the £10,000 proposed to be voted, would cover the cost of the visit? "It would not cover the whole cost, including the local excursions," replied Professor David. "Probably the individual States would be prepared to contribute to that end. It might be added that all the scientific societies in Australia and Tasmania, as well as the Universities, have unanimously addressed the Commonwealth Government on the subject of the great advantages which would accrue to Australasia from such a visit. Dr. Barrett, of Melbourne University, and Professor Masson, president-elect of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, together with Professor Baldwin Spencer, of Victoria, have been very active in pressing on the movement, while in New South Wales the general secretary of the Australasian Association, Mr. J. H. Maiden, has been working most actively in the cause. Professor Masson is now in England, and with Professor Gregory, formerly of Melbourne University, but now of Glasgow University, will be able personally to explain to the British Association, which is about to hold its meeting in Great Britain, the great advantages of such a visit to Australasia, from a scientific as well as an Imperial point of view." "Will the British Association accept the invitation?" the professor was asked. "It is rather premature to say definitely," he replied, "but we know they will be pleased to do so, if possible, as they have been previously sounded on the subject."

Register, Aug. 13th

Among the passengers who embarked for England by the Otranto on Friday were three Adelaide students—Mr. Harry Thomson, the latest South Australian Rhodes Scholar; Mr. G. T. Robertson (son of the Rev. Joseph Robertson, formerly of Clayton Church), who is proceeding to Mansfield College, Oxford; and Mr. L. F. Burgess, who won the Angas Engineering Scholarship, and is in search of experience with big engineering firms. Mr. Frank L. Apperly, the Victorian Rhodes Scholar for 1910-12, was also on board the mail steamer, en route for Oxford to continue his studies in natural science and medical subjects.

Register, Aug. 19th

VICTOR HARBOUR, August 13.—A meeting was held in the institute to arrange for a university centre at Victor Harbour. The Minister of Education (Hon. F. W. Coneybeer) presided, and delivered a stirring address. He was pleased that the people of Victor Harbour were about to take another forward step in educational matters. Mr. C. H. Hodge briefly outlined the relations of the centre to the University. The committee was then appointed:—Chairman, Dr. Douglas; Secretary, Mr. W. Henderson; Committee, Rev. D. J. Wellington, Messrs. C. J. Shipway, and R. Russell; Mesdames O'Leary and Melville; Misses Wright and Goodwin, from Victor Harbour; Rev. J. W. Roberts and Messrs. C. Colman and T. M. Boyer from Port Elliot; and Mr. T. Goode from Goolwa; with power to add.

Register, Aug. 18th

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Mr. RYAN asked whether it was the intention of the Government to appoint a

Director of Technical Education, and, if so, whether the position had been offered to any person.

The MINISTER of EDUCATION said nothing had been done up to the present, although the question was under consideration. He believed past Ministers and the Director of Education had also given attention to it, with a view to get the best results from various technical institutions throughout the State. The matter would continue to have every consideration.

Mr. RYAN said, seeing that the appointment of a commission to enquire regarding technical education, among other questions, was being proposed, would it not be better to wait and see what might be recommended in its report?

The MINISTER of EDUCATION said there was a motion dealing with the appointment of a select committee to enquire into extending the usefulness of the University to all sections of the community. That appointment would be withheld until the action of Parliament was definite regarding the amendments suggested by Mr. Coombe in connection with bringing technical and high schools within the scope of that enquiry.

Advertiser, Aug. 20th

THE UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY.

The advantages offered by the University authorities with regard to the extension of facilities for local examinations in country towns are gradually resulting in the stepping stones to the great hall of learning being laid almost from the doors of country residences to those of the North-terrace building. The new centre which was formed at Victor Harbor on Saturday, was the thirty-fourth brought into existence and the third formed this year. The position now is that promising scholars in the districts of which the following towns are centres are able to present themselves locally for the public examinations in both general educational subjects and music:—Balaklava, Blumberg, Burra, Clare, Crystal Brook, Elliston, Gawler, Gladstone, Jamestown, Kadina, Kapunda, Koofunga, Laura, Mannum, Millicent, Moonta, Mount Barker, Mount Gambier, Mount Pleasant, Naracoorte, Petersburg, Port Augusta, Port Pirie, Quorn, Riverton, Renmark, Strathalbyn, Streaky Bay, Tumby Bay, and Yorketown. Prior to the adoption of the centres scheme thousands of children—now men and women—were deprived of the opportunity of a University education because their parents could not afford the expense of sending them to the city for a week or more for examination, and the clever scholars of the present day who live in the districts affected have a decided advantage over their predecessors in the schools. Instead of the children coming to the University, the University goes to them, and only the ordinary examination fees are payable. An additional benefit is that children taking the Higher Public Examinations simultaneously compete for the Government bursaries, ten of which are offered annually, five of them being reserved for public school candidates. Each scholarship is of the value of £25 per annum, and available for four years at the University for either the arts, science, law, or medical course. In connection with the music examinations two scholarships which are tenable for three years provide free education for the Mus. Bac. course. Other scholarships may be won by brilliant students. The Extension Lectures Board has also laid itself out to supply country centres with courses of lectures, and many of the towns have taken advantage of the opportunity, so that the adult population, as well as the juniors, have derived benefit from the arrangement. This year lectures have already been delivered at Strathalbyn, Hamley Bridge, and Gawler, and courses are being arranged for Naracoorte, Penola, Mount Gambier, Jamestown, and Petersburg.

Advertiser, Aug. 25.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND REGULATIONS.

On Wednesday the Executive Council approved of a statute and regulations made by the council, and sanctioned by the senate of the Adelaide University. The statute is an additional chapter, dealing with infectious diseases and the regulations refer to the degrees of M.B., Ch.B., B.A., M.A., and B.Sc., A.M., and the Elder Conservatorium.

Register, Aug. 27, 1910.

Mr. Percy Ansell Robin has just had conferred upon him the rare distinction of Doctor of Literature of the University of London (says The Christian Commonwealth). His thesis was on "the old physiology in English literature." Mr. Robin has had a brilliant scholastic career. He and Hans Mack were the two head boys of Prince Alfred College when Mr. F. Chapple took up his duties there early in 1876. The Education Department had made its first offer of scholarships tenable at the Adelaide University. Mr. Chapple at once recognised the ability of the two boys and the opportunity presented to them, and determined to prepare them for the competition. Both were successful, and were the first of an unbroken line of successful Prince Alfred candidates through all the following years. By December, 1880, Mr. Robin had gained the B.A. of the Adelaide University, with three first classes in his finals, and had secured the award of the second South Australian scholarship (Thomas Hudson Beare, another "old Red," now Regius Professor of Engineering at Edinburgh University, having carried off the first). An excellent course at Cambridge was followed by the severer one at the London University, where in 1885 Mr. Robin graduated M.A. in classics. On returning to his native land, a suitable position was found on the staff of the Church of England Grammar School, Melbourne. He has just been appointed head master of the similar institution at Ballarat, and is the seventh old P.A.C. head master of important schools in Australia.

Register, Aug. 29th

On Friday at a meeting of the Council of the Adelaide University attention was drawn to the fact that Mr. P. A. Robin, a graduate in Arts, and a former South Australian scholar, had recently obtained the degree of D.Litt. of the University of London. It was resolved to send a letter to Mr. Robin expressing the gratification of the council at the additional distinction obtained by him.

Acting Professor Grant has accepted the chair of physics at the Adelaide University from January 1, 1911.

At a meeting of the Council of the Adelaide University on Friday leave of absence was granted to Professor Stirling, C.M.G., and an expression of sympathy with him in his illness was ordered to be sent.