

Alexander McTAGGART, 75789

New Zealand Mail. 23 August 1905 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

PERSONAL NOTES FROM LONDON.

Mr Alexander McTaggart, of the Agricultural Department, Wellington, arrived here on the 22nd inst. by the R.M.S. Turakina. He has come Home more especially for the purpose of visiting relatives in England and Scotland, and he intends to stay three months in this country before returning to New Zealand. He leaves London next week for Glasgow and the Western Highlands. Mr McTaggart is interested in engineering matters as well as agricultural, and hopes to visit some of the great engineering works on the Clyde before returning to London. He is on six months' leave of absence.

Evening Post. 19 November 1909 (Papers Past) [16/09/2020]

Mr. Alex. M'Taggart, formerly a member of the Wellington staff of the Department of Agriculture, and now a student at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, Canada, in a recent examination gained an average of 70 per cent, in the twelve subjects, including zoology, geology, field-husbandry, manual-training, physics, English composition, and mechanics, 96 per cent, being assigned in the last-named. The present (second) year's instruction is of a very practical nature, and is considered the best in the course. Upon gaining the associate diploma at Guelph, Mr M'Taggart purposes finishing his course of study at Cornell University, where he may gain additional experience in a milder climate better suited to New Zealand conditions, and he will be enabled to graduate six months earlier by going to Cornell, classes being conducted during the usual summer vacation for the benefit of students desirous of going straight ahead. He hopes to specialise more definitely at Cornell than the course at Guelph provides. Mr. M'Taggart states that there are few New Zealanders resident in Ontario, but from time to time the College is visited by those passing through the country, he having come in contact with such men as Mr. J. D. Ritchie, Secretary for Agriculture, and Mr. Edwin Hall, Secretary of the Auckland Agricultural and Pastoral Association.

Evening Post. 29 October 1910 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

Mr. Alexander M'Taggart, formerly of the Department of Agriculture, and now studying in Canada, states in a letter to a Wellington friend that his present intention is to graduate at the Guelph College, and then enter upon postgraduate work at Cornell or Illinois, the latter being famous for soil-chemistry. He was to leave Saskatoon on his return to Guelph, after a vacation, about the middle of last month. Mr. M'Taggart had obtained his associate diploma, and in the final examinations of the second year ranked eleventh, in a class of seventy-eight students, gaining, in the seventeen subjects, seven first-class, six second-class, and four third-class honours. According to present intentions, Mr. M'Taggart will be at least two more years in Canada, and he contemplates spending the next vacation in the eastern portion of the Dominion.

Dominion. 24 September 1913 (Papers Past) [16/09/2020]

**A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT.
GAINS HONOURS ABROAD.**

A little over five years ago Mr. Alex M'Taggart resigned a position in the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, where he had put in seven years' service, in order to pursue studies in agricultural research abroad. For the purpose he proceeded direct to the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, in Canada, where he spent four years, finally obtaining the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Toronto University. The Guelph institution is one of the largest and most important colleges of its kind in the Dominion of Canada, and embraces every feature of agricultural study, particular attention being given to animal husbandry and soils and crops. Dairying, fruitgrowing, plant-breeding, research work, and kindred subjects all find prominent places in the work of the college. The scientific and practical are combined to a marked degree at Guelph. In the winter students pursue their studies in the college itself, which is elaborately furnished with laboratories and experiment areas. During the summer students spend about five months doing practical .manual work at the different experiment farms in the State, or on ordinary farms. Others are employed in extension work, emanating from the college, the chief of which is, perhaps, drainage survey work. After completing the courses and taking his degrees at Guelph, .Mr. M'Taggart proceeded to the world-famous New York State College of Agriculture, at Cornell University. Here, after a year's study, he succeeded in gaining the degree of Master of Science in Agriculture, also election for research work performed to the Honour Research Society of the Signia XI of the United, States. The Signia XI is the highest honour granted by Cornell University, and the Society is recognised as the most exclusive scientific society in America. The qualification for election is only to be obtained by merit, and its membership is made up/of the foremost scientific men in the land. Men holding the Signia XI arc recognised as those who have accomplished good work in the realm of original scientific research, or who have shown good promise of performing such work. Mr. M'Taggart has returned to New Zealand, having arrived in Wellington last Saturday. He is to be congratulated upon the success which has attended his efforts.

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 31 October 1913 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

Pride of place in the Agricultural Journal for October is given to an interesting illustrated article on the Ontario Agricultural College. The writer is Mr Alex. McTaggart, M.S.A. an ex-Waimate boy. Mr McTaggart was formerly an officer of the Department of Agriculture, and left Zealand about five years ago to study agricultural science abroad. He has now returned to the Dominion. He spent four years at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, in Canada, and gained the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture of the Toronto University. Subsequently he studied for a year at the Cornell University, New York, and there received the degree of Master in the Science of Agriculture.

Press. 10 December 1913 (Papers Past) [16/09/2020]

TUSSOCK AND FURROW

I see that Mr Alex. McTaggart, M.A.S., has been appointed “agriculturist” to assist the Agricultural Department. Mr McTaggart is a New Zealander who is a graduate of the Guelph College in Canada, and of Cornell University in the States. So far, I gather that the scope of his duties has not been definitely announced, but it is a sure thing that he will find that he has heaps of work to do. To cover the necessary ground of a position like this will need a man of great energy, in fact, I might say phenomenal energy, and considerable ability, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the successful applicant is the right man in the right place. If he is, then all I can say is that the New Zealand Government have got a remarkable bargain.

Waimate Daily Advertiser. 7 August 1916 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

Timaru Herald. 9 August 1916 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

. . . . After referring to the excellent paper which had appeared in the Agricultural Journal, written by Mr A. McTaggart, an old pupil of the Waimate High School, on “Liming,” the lecturer stated that he proposed to give them as far as possible an ocular demonstration of the facts he wished to prove.

Evening Post. 19 October 1917 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

Further consideration was given the appeal of Alexander M’Taggart, scientific chemist, Weraroa Training Farm, for whom the Agricultural Department sought exemption. Evidence was given by Mr. John Brown, director of the Weraroa Training Farm and appellant. The appeal was dismissed, leave being granted until December.

Manawatu Times. 26 October 1917 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

The local Trustees of the National Efficiency Board have decided to ask the Board to make careful enquiries into the case of Alexander McTaggart, Master of the Science of Agriculture, who has been ordered into camp. In view of the fact that Mr McTaggart has had special training abroad as a soil analyst, and has been advising the farmers of the Dominion in regard to the best means of improving their holdings and increasing production, the Trustees are of opinion that it would be contrary to the public interest to allow him to leave the country.

Feilding Star. 22 March 1918 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

LAND-LUXURY.

It has remained for a city paper (the Wellington Times) to enter a strong protest against the pronouncement of the Wellington Military Service Board that “scientific farming is not an essential these days—only a luxury.” This, says our city contemporary, “was the astonishing decision of the Military Service Board, which rejected recently the appeal for exemption lodged by the Agricultural Department in respect of Mr Alexander McTaggart, instructor at the Weraroa State Farm. One would have thought that even an Appeal Board, most anxious to secure recruits for our Expeditionary Forces, would have recognised that, more especially in these days, scientific farming is emphatically not a luxury, but most essential.”

Sun. 28 June 1919 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

Mr Alexander McTaggart, agriculturist to the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, will leave Wellington on July 4 for America, where he intends to study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Cornell University. He has been granted extended leave of absence without pay to enable him to continue thus his study of agricultural science.

Evening Post. 28 March 1921 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

There arrived by the Tahiti from San Francisco on Thursday last Dr. Alexander M'Taggart, formerly Dominion Agriculturist attached to the Department here. On 8th February he received from Cornell University the Degree of Dr. of Philosophy, having presented a satisfactory thesis and passed a very good examination. At Cornell University he specialised particularly in soil technology, physiography, and glacial geology, and farm crops. Previous to this Dr. M'Taggart had visited most of the important colleges and experiment stations in Canada and the United States, and obtained his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Toronto University, and Master of Science, Agriculture, from Cornell. He proceeded south on Friday night to visit his relations in Otago.

Press. 27 August 1924 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

A VISITOR FROM CANADA.

DR. A. M'TAGGART INTERVIEWED.

FARMING CONDITIONS IN THE DOMINION.

Dr. Alexander McTaggart, who will be remembered as a one-time officer of the Department of Agriculture, and who is now Assistant Professor of Agronomy at Macdonald College, McGill University, Quebec, Canada, spent yesterday in Christchurch, and before leaving for Wellington spared half an hour or so to talk interestingly to a representative of "The Press" on the work at Macdonald College and of agricultural matters generally in Canada. In addition to his position at Macdonald College, Dr. McTaggart is an associate member of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research of McGill University.

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Press. 11 April 1925 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

Advice has been received in the Dominion that Dr. Alexander McTaggart, Assistant Professor of Agronomy, Macdonald College, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, and formerly of the New Zealand Department of Agriculture, was married recently to Miss Bessie Sinclair Crawford, of Winnipeg.

Otago Daily Times. 15 October 1932 (Papers Past) [11/09/2020]

Imported Wheat Strains.

Some months ago Dr Alexander M'Taggart, of the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research at Canberra, visited Otago and became intensely interested in the native grasses existing in the semi-arid regions of Central Otago. He secured samples of these for trial in the Commonwealth with a view to their use in the dry areas of the inland districts. On his departure he undertook to forward in exchange some lines of a special wheat which he considered would suit the peculiar conditions obtaining in Otago admirably. These samples arrived in Dunedin during the week, and will be placed under trial by the Department of Agriculture as soon as possible. The strain is of a wheat that is noted for its early maturity and quick ripening, It is strong in the straw, and will not lodge in wet weather and will stand up to wind. Moreover, it has been proved by Australian millers to have an exceptional milling and baking quality. This type of wheat may be regarded as just the thing for Otago growers. .

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Otago Daily Times. 25 May 1944 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

DEATHS

McTAGGART.—On May 16, 1944, at Sydney, Alexander McTaggarts, Ph.D., dearly beloved husband of Bessie McTaggart, and brother of Donald (Balfour), Duncan (Palmerston North), Mrs J. Steedman (Waikouaiti), and Mrs J. McKinnon (Clinton); aged 61 years.

Otago Daily Times. 8 June 1944 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

OBITUARY

DR A. McTAGGART

Dr Alexander McTaggart, whose death occurred at Sydney on May 15, after a brief illness, was born at Waimate in 1883, and was educated at the Waimate primary and high schools. He gained the junior and senior civil service awards, and at the age of 16 he secured a position in the Department of Agriculture, Wellington. To obtain further knowledge in agriculture he went to Guelph, Canada, where he gained the degree of B.Sc.A. From there he entered Cornell University, New York, where he obtained the degree of M.Sc.A., and he then attended McDonald College, Quebec, and gained the degree of Ph.D. He remained there as an instructor for some years. Dr McTaggart accepted the position of senior research officer to the Commonwealth of Australia in 1927, his services proving of great value to the country. He is survived by his wife.

New Zealand Herald. 24 December 1945 (Papers Past) [03/09/2020]

Plant Migrants

DR ALEXANDER McTAGGART'S "Plant Immigrants and Stowaways" is published posthumously. This entertaining little book is a collection of romantic stories about plants. Dr McTaggart was a botanist who spent a busy and useful working life introducing 8000 plants into Australia. He found time to savour the interest of his profession, and in the book under review he has collected together a sheaf of curious and unusual stories relating to the migration of plants. Dr McTaggart adds a touch of colour to eating potatoes and drinking quinine.

(Lothian Publishing Co.)

The Canberra Times, ACT. 17 May 1944 (Trove) [04/09/2020]

Dr. A. McTAGGART

Death Announced of Canberra Scientist

The death occurred in Sydney yesterday, at the age of 61 years, of Dr. Alexander McTaggart, of Coranderrk Street, Reid, who was a well-known scientist on the staff of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

The late Dr. McTaggart, who graduated as a Doctor of Philosophy at the Cornell University, New York, was for some years Professor of Agronomy at Macdonald College, McGill University. He came to Australia 14 years ago to take charge of the Plant Introductory section of the Plant Industry division of the C.B. and I.R. and has been responsible for the introduction to Australia of plants from all quarters of the world, whose value has received special recognition particularly in conditions created by the war.

Dr. McTaggart was a well-known member of the Presbyterian Church and Masonic lodges in Canberra. He leaves a widow.