

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S ORAL HISTORY PROJECT, 1903-1908

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The infant Historical Society of South Australia has recently been urging the State Library to interest itself more deeply in the field of oral history. Few people realise that the Library's parent body pioneered the concept in this country. Although, in the event, only one recording was produced at this early period, the project was far sighted in the extreme and unique for its time.

Wax cylinder recordings were introduced to the Adelaide public on 25 November 1890 at a demonstration in the Town Hall, when Professor Douglas Archibald, M.A.(Oxon.), lectured on Edison's invention. A message spoken by Gladstone to Lord Carrington, Governor of New South Wales, was presented, and one by Lord Balfour of Burleigh to Lord Kintore, Governor of South Australia.¹

Considerable further interest in the new medium was aroused at the time of Spencer and Gillen's Ethnographic Expedition to Central Australia in 1901-02, for James Angas Johnson (grandson of George Fife Angas and a Council member and benefactor of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, South Australian Branch) presented the expedition with an Edison Concert Phonograph.²

The new large cylinders (five inches in diameter) for this machine had first been placed on sale in 1898 by Edison's rivals, the American Gramophone Company, and were subsequently sold also by Edison.³ Their effective playing time was only two or three minutes, but original recordings made on them had considerably more fidelity than those on the smaller, better known type of cylinder. They were nevertheless cumbersome and fragile. A wooden carrying case with eleven (originally twelve) of the cylinders brought back by Gillen containing excerpts from aboriginal corroborees and the voices of aborigines in animated conversation, is the size of a suitcase. These had been for many years with the Geographical Society when they were rediscovered in the 1950s by Murray J. Barrett of the University of Adelaide. After much investigation he was able to arrange for them to be tape recorded with the help of the Australian Broadcasting Commission in Sydney. The resulting tape was played at a lecture given to the Society jointly by Messrs Barrett and T. G. H. Strehlow on 2 May 1963.⁴ The originals are at present in the keeping of the Barr Smith Library of the University of Adelaide. (A collection of cylinders from the expedition is also held by the National Museum of Victoria.)

The donor of the phonograph died on 19 May 1902 without hearing the results that had been achieved. A trial run of the recordings was held on 23 July in the Geographical Society's rooms. Sir Samuel Way, then Lieutenant-Governor, presided at the Adelaide Town Hall on 24 July when Gillen presented the recordings to a crowded public meeting, on a machine lent by John Hugh Miller Davidson (son of the Rev. John Davidson, Hughes Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Adelaide). A letter was read from the Acting Governor-General, Hallam, Lord Tennyson.⁵

Way (as President of the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery) and Davidson (who in 1900 worked for Reeves and Company, Manufacturers' Agents, Beehive Buildings, King William Street, and was later manager of the New York Import Company, at the same address) were to be instrumental in obtaining for the Public Library a message recorded by Lord Tennyson. The moving spirit on the Board was, however, not Way but William John Sowden (later Sir William Sowden) Editor-in-Chief and part proprietor of the *Register* newspaper.

As early as 21 September 1900 a suggestion was made to the Board (almost certainly by Sowden, as will appear later) 'that phonographs of speeches by the Governor, or other special persons, might be taken and preserved'. The General Director, Secretary and Treasurer (in the person of Robert Kay) 'was directed to see Mr Reeves and ascertain what could be done in this matter and report to the Board'. Kay put a dampener on the proposal. He reported on 16 November that he had

made inquiry as instructed of Mr Davidson of Messrs Reeves & Co. respecting the possible use of phonographs for taking and preserving for reproduction addresses which it [might] be thought desirable to preserve in that way; and that Mr Davidson [had] informed him that satisfactory results can only be obtained from a phonograph when the speaker actually speaks into the trumpet, or at all events close to it; and that a phonograph cannot take in more than can be spoken in 3 or 3½ minutes. Therefore he did not think it necessary to inquire further.⁶

He evidently thought the programme unfeasible.

It was not till three years later—20 November 1903—with the historical importance of the recent achievement of federation now a primary incentive, that the Board, most probably prompted by Sowden, returned to the matter, resolving that the President (Way), Vice-President (Sir Charles Todd), Dr Richard Sanders Rogers and Mr Sowden be a special committee 'to report to the Board on the possibility of obtaining and preserving phonographic records of the first Governor-General, first Prime Minister, second Governor-General, and any other distinguished men'.⁷

No report is extant, and indeed a scribbled note in a special file reads, 'Com. has not met—G.D.S.&T. has taken instructions from W.J.S. [W. J. Sowden]'.⁸ Within days the following letter signed by the General Director, Secretary and Treasurer was sent to the Private Secretary, Government House, Adelaide:

24 November 1903

Sir,

I have the honour, by direction of the Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery of South Australia, to ask that you will bring this letter before His Excellency the Governor [Sir George Le Hunte].

The Board are desirous of preserving, by means of the phonograph, short Federal messages from men who have held distinguished positions in the Commonwealth, to be in the (perhaps far distant) future, historical records of great interest and value.

To this end I am directed to ask if His Excellency will favour the Board by speaking a few words, of suitable character, into a phonograph.

Should His Excellency comply with their request the Board will arrange that an operator shall wait upon him, at his convenience, for this purpose.

The Right Hon. Sir S. J. Way, President of the Board, will be glad to give any further information on the matter.

I have the Honour to remain

Sir

Your obedient Servant

[Signed] Robert Kay

Gen. Dir., Sec. & Treas.⁹

The drafting was obviously done with Federal figures chiefly in mind. Possibly it was thought courteous to send an invitation to the State Governor before approaching the Governor-General, who was shortly to be his guest. Letters in the same terms were despatched, either on the same day or within the following fortnight, to Lord Tennyson (the second Governor-General), Sir Samuel Griffith (the first Chief Justice of the High Court) and Sir Edmund Barton (the first Prime Minister). Letters were not immediately sent to the Marquis of Linlithgow (who had been the first Governor-General) or to Alfred Deakin (the second Prime Minister).

Le Hunte's Private Secretary replied encouragingly on 27 November: 'His Excellency will consent to speak a few words into a phonograph on a date to be arranged'.¹⁰ Griffith replied on the 28th with an excuse: 'I regret to have to inform you that as the result of a bad cold my voice is not in a fit condition to enable me to speak with any satisfaction to myself, or, I think, to anyone who might hear it reproduced on the phonograph . . .'

Sowden, warming to the pursuit, continued to give instructions to the General Director. 'I think', he wrote on 30 November,

we should again write to Sir Samuel Griffith & Sir E. Barton (or have them met on their return as they will probably catch the express instead of proceeding in the steamer to the eastern states) requesting them to give the message, and arranging with Mr Davidson to be ready to take it. A letter addressed to them on the steamer by which they are returning should catch them. Lord Tennyson and Mr Deakin shd I suggest be written to immediately on their arrival.

'Difficult to arrange', commented the General Director in a pencil note, 'if they make no stay here but go straight from the steamer to the express. How would it do to wire them? How shall we know when they return? Best see Mr Sowden.'¹¹

Tennyson received his letter, and his Private Secretary replied on 9 December. He was the only person written to who was at all precise about when the recording might be made: 'His Excellency is leaving for Fremantle in the *Ortona* tomorrow, but I am to say that he will possibly be able to arrange to speak into the phonograph on his return'.¹²

Sowden evidently asked Kay to get Sir Samuel Way's help in making further contacts. Kay, albeit deferentially, put the ball back in Sowden's court. 'As you wished', he wrote on 14 December,

I wrote to the President about the Phonographs, but have not yet heard from him in reply.

It occurs to me to suggest that it might be as well if you were to write to him yourself on the subject. I have to put so many matters before him, & he has so much else to think about, that what I say may escape him.

If he would mention the matter to the Governor General & the two Judges it would be more likely to get the thing done than if I wrote again.

Another matter occurs to me—supposing the thing to be arranged & time & place settled, would it be sufficient if Mr Davidson were notified to attend then and take the records, or would it be necessary for me to be present? What do you think?

Sowden replied on the same day—and on the same sheet of paper: ‘I think it will be well to write to the gentlemen concerned explaining fully what we wish, and ask them to name a time and place for the taking of a message. Lord Tennyson, of course, will be back shortly and can be addressed personally’. On the following day Kay sought clarification—still using the same sheet of paper:

I suppose your idea is that they should name a time when they will be here?

Or do you mean that they should deliver the message in Melbourne or Sydney, & the cylinders be sent here; if the latter we should be sure that the cylinders used there would suit here.

Of course we should have our own phonograph.

But I think you mean No. 1 . . .

P.S. Of course this does not apply to the Governor General or the Governor, whom we can get here.

P.P.S. You have not answered my query on the other side. [i.e. about the need for Kay himself to be present.]

Sowden replied to this,

My idea is that they should be told that we would be glad to arrange for them to speak the message wherever they may prefer to do so. The details may be left to Mr Davidson, whose firm I believe has branches in the eastern states. The records are all to pattern. We shd not need to get a phonograph yet, but shd buy one later.

I don't think you need bother to attend at the taking of the message. Mr Davidson cd do all that wd be necessary if you finalised the arrangements.¹³

(A phonograph was never bought.)

In the New Year Kay got in touch with Davidson. He wrote (on 12 January 1904):

Dear Sir,

I mentioned to you in conversation a few days ago, that my Board are desirous of having as historical records, a few suitable words spoken into a phonograph by each of the following gentlemen, who hold or have held high positions in the Commonwealth. [There follow the names of Linlithgow, Tennyson, Le Hunte, Griffith, Barton and Deakin.]

These gentlemen have all been written to except the Marquis and Mr Deakin, and I have had replies from Lord Tennyson and Sir G. R. Le Hunte promising to do what is asked, and from Sir S. W. Griffith regretting that a bad cold prevented him from doing it when he was here in November. Sir E. Barton has not yet replied.

I have to ask you if you can and will undertake to obtain these phonographic records. I will see you with this and will show you the letters I have received, and see what arrangements we can make in the matter.

I may add that I write this having understood that you have business connections in the Eastern States through whom you may be able to carry out the Board's wishes.

I remain [etc.]¹⁴.

Davidson replied by return that he was ‘prepared to undertake to obtain phonograms of the voices of those of the gentlemen named’ who were, or who at some future time might be, in Adelaide. He would ‘be pleased to wait upon Lord Tennyson and Sir G. R. Le Hunte at any time with the apparatus either at Government House or the Public

Library', or wherever might be most convenient. He added the suggestion that whatever was to be said 'should be prepared and written down beforehand, the time limit being two minutes, inclusive of any introductory remark'.¹⁵

On the following day the General Director addressed a further letter to Tennyson's Private Secretary, acknowledging receipt of the letter that had expressed the Governor-General's willingness, as he put it, 'to accede to my Board's request that he should deliver a message into a phonograph, which my Board could preserve as a historical record'. He continued, 'I have communicated with Mr Davidson, 34 King William Street, who is an expert in this matter, and he replies that he will be happy to wait on His Excellency, say, at Government House, with the apparatus'. He repeated Davidson's suggestion about writing down what was to be said in advance and explained the time limit. An almost identical letter was sent at the same time to V. N. Hood, Le Hunte's Private Secretary.¹⁶

The affair was evidently clinched verbally with the Governor-General, an appointment being made for 7 p.m. on 20 January 1904. The General Director wrote the following letter to Davidson:

Dear Sir,

His Excellency the Governor General has made an appointment for 7 o'clock tonight at Government House, for the purpose of supplying a phonographic record.

His Excellency the Governor may be prepared to supply one at the same time, but I am not in a position to promise for him. However it will be well for you to prepare for getting both records.

Please attend at Government House at 7 o'clock for that purpose.

It will be better not to waste any space on introductory remarks—the description of the record can be placed on the outside case afterwards, as you suggest, but it will be very desirable for their Excellencies to give their names and the dates on which they spoke, at the conclusion of their remarks.

I am dear Sir [etc.]

[Signed] J. R. G. Adams for G.D., S. & T.¹⁷

Le Hunte was evidently not prepared to speak but the appointment with Tennyson took place as planned and his voice was duly recorded. The authentication by the speaker at the end of the message, as advised by the General Director, adds greatly to the interest of the recording. Cryptically summing up the progress to that point in a note pencilled on a memorandum written the following day by his Librarian (Adams), Kay wrote: 'Sir E. Barton did not answer my letter. Sir S. Griffith apologized on account of a cold. Lord Tennyson gave the record, unwillingly. Sir G. E. Le Hunte promised to give it'.¹⁸

Sowden's confidence in Davidson was well placed. He took the initiative in immediately making two duplicates from the master cylinder. In Adams' words (in the memorandum mentioned above),

he deemed it wise to take [them] at once & without instructions lest an accident might happen to the original. Mr D. has retained possession of the duplicates, thinking some members of the Board might like to hear the record at his establishment, but he would be prepared to arrange for the Board hearing it in the Board Room on the occasion of their next meeting. Mr Davidson recommends that the original, which bears Ld Tennyson's signature be not used—for each time it is used it is worn to a certain extent.

In a postscript he adds,

Mr Davidson suggests that a piece of flannel should be pasted on the inside of the top of the boxes so that when taking the records out they may not be scratched on edge of box. He also thinks metal boxes would be better than the ones he has left & would have such made if you instruct him.

The precaution of lining the boxes has never been taken, though the boxes (supplied with these five inch cylinders by the Edison Company) do incorporate a tape lifting-device to ease the taking out of the cylinders. Until 1940 the boxes were stored in the Library's strongroom in a tin trunk.

Davidson later (with the Board's approval) sent an account of the recording of the message to the English periodical *The Talking Machine News and Cinematograph Chronicle*.¹⁹ His remarks are prefaced by the statement that 'This record is to form the nucleus of a historic collection of the voices of men who have attained eminence in the Commonwealth, and already preparations have been made for the taking of others'. The account continues, giving no hint of any 'unwillingness' on Tennyson's part—in fact the contrary:

The record consists of a portion of His Excellency's message of farewell to the Australasian people, followed by the signature 'Tennyson', written on the blank with a stylus, thus authenticating the record. Lord Tennyson is an admirable subject for the recorder, his voice being clear and resonant, and his enunciation perfect, while his speeches are described by pressmen as literature. He is no stranger to the phonograph, his illustrious father, the Poet Laureate, having had one with which he used to amuse himself and his family for some time before his death. Notwithstanding that it was upon the eve of his departure for England, His Excellency gave the writer every facility in carrying out the operation of recording, in which he appeared much interested, more especially in the account of the principles of moulding, as done at the Edison works. The record was taken on an Edison Concert.

Davidson then expresses doubts about the durability of wax cylinders and urges the need for perfecting a method of transferring a recording from a wax master to a more lasting medium, which he envisages will still take the form of a cylinder to suit the Edison Concert Phonograph. Taking his concern for the Library's recordings still further, Davidson wrote to Pathé Frères at their London address on this question. The letter is worth quoting.

57 Elizabeth Street,
Norwood, South Australia.
21 January 1904.

Messrs Pathé Frères,
14 Lambs Conduit, London.

Dear Sirs,

I am engaged in obtaining a series of important historical records of the voices of distinguished personages in connection with the Federation of these States, for preservation in the Public Library of South Australia.

Owing to the fragile and perishable nature of the wax cylinder it is desirable that permanent metallic or other moulds should be obtained, and I would be glad to know whether you are in a position to make such moulds, or permanent masters from my records, and if so, at what cost.

The records are strictly copy-right, and may not on any account be duplicated for sale or exhibition, though possibly duplicates may be required for state purposes.

A record is required from an eminent personage in England. Kindly

advise me if you can arrange to take it at your London plant, and at what cost, guaranteeing absolute inviolability of reproduction.

Address reply to my private address as above.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. M. Davidson (Manager, New York Import Co.)²⁰

The eminent personage was the Marquis of Linlithgow, as is made clear in the minutes when the Board met on 19 February 1904, with Mr Davidson in attendance for a ceremonial playing of the Tennyson message, which was apparently made at Davidson's own expense. 'The Board were much pleased with such an excellent record.' The minutes continue:

Mr Davidson formally handed the cylinder to the President as a donation from him to the Board, and the President thanked him on behalf of the Board for this valuable and interesting donation.

Resolved: I. That these and any other records remain in the custody of the G.D., S. & T., who will confer with Sir Charles Todd as to the best place to keep them, and report the result to the Board.

II. That a letter be sent to Mr Davidson thanking him for the donation.²¹

The letter was sent on 7 March 1904 and assures the donor that the cylinders would be 'much valued, and carefully preserved in the Library, both as historical records, and as memorials of one so highly esteemed here as the late Governor-General'.²²

Efforts were continuing, and were to continue for some years, to arrange further recordings. It was announced at the Board meeting on 19 February that 'His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Board'—Way—'[had] kindly consented on request to have a record taken'. So far as is known it was never done. Davidson advised in March that he had been in touch with the Edison Phonograph Company in England about recording the Earl of Hopetoun (the Marquis of Linlithgow) and that their London manager had been 'instructed to offer every facility to produce it. . . . Should it be necessary to wait upon the Earl at his seat the expenses would amount to about £15'. Davidson suggests, however, that if the Board 'can bring sufficient influence to bear to induce His Lordship to give the record, no doubt he could be induced to visit the Edison establishment at 25 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C. . . .', in which case the expenses, he believed 'would be comparatively trifling'. With regard to getting the voice of Governor Le Hunte, the Private Secretary had remarked to him that 'the Governor was somewhat averse to the idea', so he had made no further approach.²³

Davidson was sent a letter three months later (on 28 June 1904) by the Librarian asking, 'Have you made an effort to get a record from His Excellency the Governor?' Adams asked for 'something in writing . . . on this point, and also as to anything . . . to report respecting . . . negotiations for a message from the Earl of Linlithgow'.²⁴ At the Board meeting on 15 July a letter from Davidson was tabled. The minutes record that the President was 'to speak to His Excellency the Governor about arranging for a phonographic record. The Principal Librarian and Secretary [Adams] to write to the Agent-General asking him if he can arrange for the Earl of Hopetoun (Marquis of Linlithgow) when in London to give the Edison Phonograph Co. a phonographic

record'.²⁵ Nothing further was reported to the Board. On 20 July 1906 Sowden, still the force behind the scheme,

enquired what was being done in reference to carrying out the Board's decision to obtain phonographic records—more particularly as regards one from the Earl of Linlithgow, from Lord Northcote and Sir George Le Hunte. The president promised to report to the next meeting of the Board on the matter, and in the meantime to make enquiries as to Lord Northcote's movements.²⁶

There is no record that the promised report was ever made. Linlithgow died on 29 February 1908. The chance had gone to add the voice of Australia's first Governor-General to the collection. Hope still remained that the voices of the third and subsequent holders of the office might be obtained.

Adams alerted Davidson on 22 July 1908: 'We are going to endeavour to procure a phonographic record from His Excellency the Governor-General while he is in Adelaide. I would be glad to see you as soon as possible about making arrangements therefor'.²⁷ A letter over Way's signature was despatched, also on the 22nd:

My dear Lord Northcote,

At our Public Library we are collecting and preserving all the records of Australian history that we can procure. Amongst these memorials we propose to preserve a Phonographic Record from successive Governors General. Lord Tennyson favoured us by delivering into a phonograph a characteristic passage from one of his public addresses. Only his long illness and death prevented our obtaining a similar one from Lord Linlithgow.

The Board of Governors are most anxious to have a phonographic record from your Excellency also and they have requested me to submit their proposal.

As your time in Adelaide is so short and I am sitting on the Bench every day I am asking Mr Adams, our Principal Librarian and Secretary, to wait upon your Private Secretary with a view of obtaining an appointment with your Excellency to speak into the instrument.

We shall be glad to have a passage from one of your Excellency's recent speeches, or if you can spare the time, some farewell words to the people of South Australia would be highly appreciated. Your compliance with our request would long recall to ourselves and to those who come after us your voice, as well as your benignant rule over the Commonwealth.²⁸

Northcote was not impressed. His Private Secretary typed a reply (heading the letter, 'Vice-Regal Car, Adelaide to Oodnadatta', and complaining incidentally that 'the car jolts so that one's fingers slip from the keys'). The gist of it was that 'on the whole His Excellency would prefer not to do this'.²⁹

Deflated possibly by so many refusals, the Library finally wrote off its project with but the Tennyson recording to its credit.

The precious cylinders have received little notice in nearly three-quarters of a century. Three years after they were made Davidson suggested that one of the duplicates be given a hearing as part of a function connected with the official opening of the extensions at the rear of the Institute Building (12 June 1907).³⁰ The Chief Justice thought 'it would be interesting'.³¹ Adams replied to Davidson that the idea was 'a very good one, and it might be given more than once during the evening'. He would take the Tennyson record to the room. At Gillen's request Davidson also played some of the aboriginal records. (The additions to the building were mainly for the benefit of the

Geographical Society.) The Adelaide newspaper *The Critic*, in a somewhat flippant account of the function, admired Gillen's 'patriotic enterprise in reproducing South Australian corroboree music on a phonograph', but added, 'it is one of those instances where "a very little goes a long way"'. The Tennyson recording is not mentioned.³²

The final reference to it in the Board minutes consists of a report dated 16 March 1917, which has a very pessimistic ring. (As it turns out, the pessimism was unwarranted.) A letter two days earlier had asked Davidson, then Draughtsman-in-Charge in the Engineer-in-Chief's Department, to call and inspect the cylinders.³³ The communication to the Board reads as follows:

Phonograph Record of Lord Tennyson

That three records of Lord Tennyson's farewell message to Australia had been locked up in a tin box & deposited in the strong room. These had recently been inspected & were discovered to be so affected by mould that they were now useless.

Mr W. W. M. [sic—should be J. H. M.] Davidson who had taken the records had just inspected them & expressed the opinion that they were ruined as also were all his own private records & from the same cause. One of Mr Davidson's records was that of a native corroboree, which Mr Gillen had given him, and from which he had made two duplicates which were now in the possession of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (S.A. Branch). Mr Wilkinson promised to have these duplicates examined with a view to ascertaining if they were still in a good state of preservation.³⁴

Whether the Gillen duplicates were part of the set at present in the keeping of the Barr Smith Library or whether they were additional holdings of the Geographical Society is not clear.

Davidson (whose interests included photography as well as sound recording—in 1916 he lectured at the Art Gallery on the 'Interrelation of Art and Photography') died on 14 January 1921, aged 56, leaving no children. He was survived by his widow, who continued to live at 57 Elizabeth Street, Norwood, till 1953, and three sisters—Lady Middleton, in London; Mrs Peter McGregor, in Edinburgh; and Mrs Felkin, in Havelock, New Zealand.³⁵ Sir William Sowden resigned from the Board in March 1926. He died on 10 October 1943.

Following the reconstitution of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery under the Libraries and Institutes Act of 1939, the Tennyson cylinders were transferred from the Administration Offices to the building then occupied by the Archives (behind the Art Gallery) where they were parcelled up and given the accession number 1256 on 11 April 1940. In 1941, as a wartime precaution, practically the whole contents of the Archives, the Tennyson cylinders presumably included, were packed into over 500 cases and bundles and evacuated to various public and private buildings throughout the State, to be gradually returned in 1944 and 1945. The cylinders were transferred with other material to the Archives' new quarters in the air conditioned basement of the State Library's Bastyan Wing in 1967.

Little interest was taken in them between 1917 and 1975. In that year Mr Mike Sutcliffe, of Baulkham Hills, N.S.W., was compiling a history of recorded sound in Australia. His attention was drawn by Mr Frank Andrews, a member of the City of London Phonograph and Gramophone Society, to the article by Davidson in the April 1904

issue of the *Talking Machine News*. He wrote to the Archives on 14 May 1975 to enquire if the Tennyson cylinders still existed. He then contacted Dr Garry Scroop, President of the Phonograph Society of South Australia, who had a machine (the only one in South Australia) capable of playing the large cylinders.

On 23 December 1975, at Dr Scroop's house in North Adelaide, a copy from each of the cylinders was made on spooled tape (BASF LH Super) at 19 cm per second on a four track machine set at track one, belonging to the State Library. The microphone was placed near the horn of the phonograph. All three cylinders turned out to be in a very satisfactory condition. The mould, first noticed in 1917, can have spread very little since that time. One of the duplicates was in a better condition than the original, having less background noise. The tape is now held by the Archives. The true to life tones of Tennyson's solemn, ecclesiastical delivery cannot fail to impress the hearer—both on their own account, and with a sense of the Public Library's perspicacity in preserving them.

The following is a transcript of the message:

May I repeat what I have said before, that it is my fortune to inherit a strong and passionate desire to endeavour to the utmost to share in helping the British Empire to realise her mighty and manifest destiny. My belief is that this destiny will find its accomplishment through a yet closer union which, while preserving, strengthening and developing every individual part, will so bind the whole together with a common loyalty and a common patriotism that we shall be able fearlessly to lead the nations in the path of truth and justice, righteousness and freedom, peace and progress.

In the same manner, the more real the union of the Australian states is, the stronger the individuality of each separate state remains, within the limits of the constitution, and the more keenly and the more deeply every Australian feels a personal sense of responsibility in the heritage of citizenship, the greater will be your Commonwealth and the more potent will be your influence for good throughout the world.

Record made by me for the Public Library of South Australia, Tennyson, January, nineteen hundred and four.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

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4. Typescript of paper by M. J. Barrett on the Spencer and Gillen recordings is held by the Barr Smith Library.
5. *Observer*, 26 July 1902, p. 33; 2 August 1902, p. 35.
6. GRG 19/355 (Minutes), vol. 13, pp. 193, 220.
7. *Ibid.*, vol. 14, p. 75.
8. GRG 19/217 (File on phonographic records).
9. GRG 19/14 (Letters sent), vol. 19, folio 345.
10. The replies are in GRG 19/217.
11. *Ibid.*
12. *Ibid.*
13. *Ibid.*
14. GRG 19/14 (Letters sent), vol. 19, folio 415.
15. GRG 19/217 (File on phonographic records).
16. GRG 19/14, vol. 19, folios 418-19.
17. *Ibid.*, folio 433, lower half.
18. GRG 19/217.
19. April 1904, p. 291. Reproduced in *The Phonographic News: The Official*

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20. GRG 19/217 (copy).
 21. GRG 19/355 (Minutes), vol. 14, pp. 101-02.
 22. GRG 19/14 (Letters sent), vol. 19, folio 513.
 23. GRG 19/24A¹ (Letters received).
 24. GRG 19/14 (Letters sent), vol. 19, folio 750, lower half.
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 26. *Ibid.*, p. 439.
 27. GRG 19/14, vol. 22, folio 655.
 28. *Ibid.*, folios 656-57.
 29. GRG 19/5 (Letters received), No. 3328, 23 July 1908.
 30. *Ibid.*, No. 1310, 10 June 1907.
 31. *Ibid.*, Note by Adams.
 32. 19 June 1907, p.14.
 33. GRG 19/15 (Letters sent), vol. 53, letter 017/636.
 34. GRG 19/355 (Minutes), vol. 17, p. 197.
 35. *Register*, 17 January 1921, p. 8.