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**Rt. Wor. Bro. EVAN MANDER-JONES**  
(1902 - 1975)

Rt. Wor. Bro. Evan Mander-Jones was born on 6 July 1902 at Homebush, Sydney, fourth child of Australian born parents, George Mander-Jones, Physician, and his wife, Margaret Flemming, nee Arnott. Evan was descended from William Arnott, to biscuit king, and David Jones of department store fame. He attended Sydney Church of England Grammar School (Shore) and the University of Sydney where he gained a B.A. in 1924 and Dip. Ed. in 1925. He was employed as an assistant master from 1926 to 1930 and then as housemaster from 1933 to 1938 at his old school. In the years between these appointments he studied at University College, Oxford, gaining a B.A. in 1933 and an M.A. in 1937.

After serving from 1922 in the Militia, Evan Mander-Jones was called up for duty as an intelligence officer on 13 November 1939. In May 1940 he transferred to the Australian Imperial Force and in October he sailed for the Middle East with Headquarters, 1 Corps.

Sent to Sumatra, Netherlands East Indies in January 1942, he helped Dutch civilians and refugees from Malaya to elude the invading Japanese by taking them from Palembang to Oosthaven and from there to Merak in Java; he then returned to Sumatra and helped to destroy the port of Oosthaven. For this work he received the O.B.E. in 1943.

Back in Australia, Mander-Jones succeeded C.A.E. Fenner as South Australia's Director of Education. During the next twenty-one years he had to deal with a phenomenal growth in education in the State; primary school enrolments doubled to over 150,000 and secondary school enrolments increased six-fold to 70,000. The annual percentage of the Government's budget spent on education rose from 11.5% in 1947-48 to 24.9% in 1966-67. The Director faced two immediate difficulties - a lack of school buildings and a shortage of teachers. As a 'temporary' solution, pre-fabricated classrooms were introduced and schools were consolidated. Staff numbers were increased by the employment of married women and teachers from Britain, by the re-employment of retired teachers, and by a campaign to recruit young people into the profession.

Evan Mander-Jones was an Australian representative at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's biennial conference in Paris in 1952. In 1953 he inspected schools in Britain and the United States of America and attended the twenty-first joint U.N.E.S.C.O. and International Bureau of Education conference in Geneva. A guest of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1965, he observed educational practices in that country, and in Britain and the U.S.A.

