

Advertiser  
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# The Register.

ADELAIDE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1904.

## THE UNIVERSITY YEAR.

The University of Adelaide, by the exercise of commendable promptness, is able to present by the middle of February a careful and complete statement of its last year's work, with details of this year's plans. Thirty years have passed since, through the munificence and public spirit of Sir Thomas Elder and Sir W. W. Hughes, the University could be definitely projected; 23 have elapsed since its academical work began with a modest total of eight matriculated students; and 22 since its handsome buildings were opened. The records show a steady progress, with a strong tendency during recent years towards that democratization of learning which is everywhere the dominant note of the age. Adelaide was the first of all Australian universities to grant degrees to women, and to confer degrees in science. With a similar determination to advance, it is pressing forward in practical science teaching and commercial education. The urgent need for the former is only now being generally recognised, and it formed one of the principal subjects of the President's address at the late Australasian Science Congress in Dunedin. The question has an importance not merely academic. A keen-sighted social philosopher, in his new book, "The Yellow Van," depicts the general indifference prevailing hitherto in England, and adds:—"No one in that inn parlour spoke up for education; its warmest apologists simply held their peace. And, while silly Slocum talks thus after its nature, tremendous Germany and tremendous America, with their systems polished to the last point of perfection, are waiting to spring on an unlettered prey. Truly there is no fighting against doom." Happily, in spite of this cynical utterance, some people are not inclined to accept "doom" until quite certain that it is inevitable. Teaching of all sorts, and of science in particular, is—if not exactly taken out into the highways and the hedges—thrown open to any who will trouble to claim its advantages.

One of the practical triumphs of 1903 was the agreement made between the University and the School of Mines for a kind of "pooling" of their resources. For the future these two bodies, whose work in some branches of applied science runs on parallel lines, will combine their teaching staffs and their laboratories to provide courses of instruction therein. They will act in concert to hold examinations and grant diplomas. Duplication of appliances and of teaching staff, with consequent waste of money and with possibilities of friction, will thus be avoided; and both bodies may be congratulated upon the good sense with which the arrangement has been made. In the matter of commercial education, not only economics and business practice, but law and accountancy also, have been both lectured upon and examined upon. Mr. Joseph Fisher's generous gift during the year will in future provide a medal annually for the most distinguished student in commerce, with a lecture in alternate years on some subject of importance. Mr. H. G. Turner, of Melbourne, will shortly deliver the first of

these addresses. Another feature of far-spreading interest in 1903 was the visit of Dr. Parkin, the chosen emissary of the Rhodes Trustees. Details of the vast project which they are organizing are now being arranged, and in a little while South Australia will have her first Rhodes Scholar in residence at Oxford. Several items of mournful interest are noted in the Calendar. In July died Sheriff Boothby, who was appointed to the first Council of the University in 1874, and remained an active member of the governing body until the time of his decease. A tablet was placed in the Elder Hall to commemorate the courageous acts of Surgeon-Capt. Campbell in South Africa and his death in the course of duty. Another tablet was appropriately fixed in the Natural History Museum in memory of Professor Tate, and the first Tate Medal for original geological work was also awarded. A statue of Sir Thomas Elder has been set upon the lawn, close to the Conservatorium and the Art Gallery, which profited so much by his generosity, and it is now announced that the relatives of Sir W. W. Hughes have promised to provide a statue of that benefactor also.

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## THE ADELAIDE HOSPITAL.

### NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The annual statement of accounts of the Adelaide Hospital shows that the contributions during 1903 were £680. Ten per cent. taken from all life contributors' donations realised £238, and the commissioners of the hospital received £50. The sum of £1,025 was received from patients and medical students' fees and the sale of kitchen refuse. The total expenditure for the year was £17,542.

The new and revised rules and regulations for the management of the institution have just been issued. Most of the old rules have been cancelled, and the new ones are widely different in many respects. The rules relating to the admission and discharge of patients state:—

Every contributor of £2 annually shall have the privilege of recommending one indoor patient in the year; of £5 annually, three indoor patients in the year; of £10 annually, shall have the privilege of having always one patient in the hospital. Contributors of £2 annually shall also have the privilege of recommending six outdoor patients for relief from the dispensary; contributors of £5, 12 patients; contributors of £10, 15 patients. It is to be distinctly understood that these recommendations are only to be issued by the contributors to persons who cannot pay for medical treatment elsewhere. It is optional for contributors to have indoor order forms supplied in lieu of outdoor forms at the rate of one of the former for six of the latter. It is to be distinctly understood that these recommendations are only to be given to persons who, on account of their poverty, are proper subjects for hospital treatment. Applicants for admission to the hospital shall, unless possessed of means sufficient to pay for medical advice, make a declaration, on a form printed for that purpose, to the effect that they are unable to pay for medical advice, and stating whether they are entitled to medical attendance from any benefit society or lodge. Persons seeking admission whose means will not enable them in any other way to procure such medical attendance as their cases may require may be admitted into the institution upon payment of maintenance fees at the rate of from 3/ to 6/ per diem, and upon the patient or a responsible person making an agreement with the accountant guaranteeing the payment during the time the patient remains in the institution.

It is also provided that the patients must assist those in charge of the ward if necessary, and also attend to the minor wants of those less capable of helping themselves.

Considerable discussion centred on the old rules regarding operations. In new rules various anomalies have been removed, and in some respects they are clearer than the old ones on the same subject were. Here are some extracts:—

All operations and consultations, except those of urgency, shall take place at a fixed hour on such days as shall be determined by the board. No patient who has been in the hospital under the treatment of one physician or surgeon shall be placed in a bed under the control of another physician or surgeon for treatment for the same disease, except by mutual arrangement. Each honorary assistant surgeon shall attend all operations of his senior colleague, and render such assistance as may be required. When an operation is about to be performed on a regular operating day, or a consultation to be held, the resident medical officer in charge of the case shall give notice of the same to the medical superintendent, who shall cause notices to be sent to the surgical and gynaecological staff, and to other members of the staff who have made application to the board for such notices, and notice of such operation or consultation shall also be posted in the entrance hall. No operation shall be performed without the consent of the patient or his or her responsible relation or guardian, where this consent can possibly be obtained; but the life of the patient is not to be endangered by delay for this purpose.

While the rules provide that the honorary doctors have certain rights to examine patients, a new rule lays it down that the comfort of the sick is not to be sacrificed. It says:—

The honorary medical staff are expected not to interfere unduly with the ordinary routine of the wards, and shall take care that no patient is painfully disturbed, nor has his symptoms aggravated by being made the subject of clinical instruction.

The rights and privileges of students are clearly defined. The new rules state:—

Each medical student of the University of Adelaide shall be admitted as a pupil to the practice of the hospital under the control of the medical superintendent. No student shall publish the report of any case without the written permission of the physician or the surgeon under whose care the patient has been. Each pupil entering for dispensary practice shall be under the immediate control of the dispenser, and, in his absence, of the assistant dispenser, who shall be answerable to the board for his good conduct. Every pupil shall conduct himself with propriety, and discharge the duties assigned to him, and pay for or replace any article injured or lost, or destroyed by him, and make good any loss sustained by his negligence. The members of the honorary staff will give clinical instruction on the following terms, viz.:—For the medical practice of the hospital, for each pupil, £5 5/ per annum; for the surgical practice of the hospital, for each pupil, £5 5/ per annum; and for both medical and surgical practice and practice in special subjects (as in the fifth year), £10 10/ per annum. These fees to include the appointment of clinical clerk and dresser. For each six months' instruction in the post-mortem room, £2 2/; for three months' instruction by the dispenser in practical pharmacy, £2 2/. Each student commencing attendance on the clinical practice of the hospital shall be required to pay an entrance fee of £5 5/. No student shall visit any patient who has undergone a major operation, or any case of acute illness, without permission of the resident physician or surgeon. No student shall attend the practice of the surgical wards during the period that he is performing post-mortem examinations.

From the humble beginnings of 1874 there has been a steady advance to the present total of 343 undergraduates, with 209 other or "non-graduating" students. This is exclusive of 352 who study music at the Conservatorium. To deal with this host of aspirants is the task of nine professors and 21 lecturers, besides 11 teachers of music. Perhaps the most striking feature—the one most vividly bringing home to the consciousness of the casual observer the amount of work done—is the income from fees. These are understood to be calculated on a reasonable scale, but they yielded last year nearly £9,500! It must be remembered that much labour is entailed by the outside examinations, now under the control of a board specially appointed to deal with them. In all, 2,959 candidates presented themselves in 1903. Much is done in this way outside Adelaide, every effort being made to give to the south-east, to the Moonta district, and to outlying centres of population, such as Jamestown, Clare, and Port Pirie, privileges—from the primary to the "higher"—equal to those enjoyed by schools in the capital. Even Perth and Albany come within the sphere of influence, while Broken Hill and Kalgoorlie also share in the combined examinations in the practice of music, held by arrangement with certain English authorities. Western Australia, indeed, shows a marked effect on the honours lists in public examinations. Of the prizes annually given for all-round distinction, the second and third among the juniors and the first among the seniors all went to schools at either Fremantle or Perth; and of Lord Tennyson's three medals for English literature the junior was won by a little girl from the same district. These are remarkable results for a single year. No doubt a University will in time be founded at Perth, but meanwhile a benevolent federal influence can continue to be exerted from Adelaide for mutual good. Much surprise will be felt at an intimation that almost immediately Oxford proposes to institute throughout Australia public examinations such as those which it holds in every large town of England. Simultaneously London announces that it intends to examine here for degrees! Such activity comes altogether too late. At one time it would have been welcomed; but the established series of fine Universities in the various state capitals are now fully competent to do their work, and their influence upon education could only be hampered by the multiplying of rival examinations. The emphatic protest against these encroachments which has been forwarded from Adelaide will doubtless be echoed by all the sister foundations in the Commonwealth.

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### THE ELDER SCHOLARSHIPS.

To the Editor.

Sir—I notice by The Advertiser that the Conservatorium of Music is offering three scholarships. While I agree that everything should be done to encourage our young musicians, I certainly did not understand that the object of the late Sir Thomas Elder was that the teachers at the Conservatorium should be the judges when their own pupils are competing for these prizes. Last year two candidates, at least, who were pupils of the judges gained the prizes. Does it not stand to reason that a teacher will be biased in favor of his own pupil? If the Conservatorium wants to make a success of the institution its teachers should either not judge, or else their pupils should not compete. The latter I do not consider fair; therefore some outside persons from one of the other States should be appointed to judge, if it is desired to make the general public believe that everything is fair and above board.—I am, &c.

FAIRPLAY.