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UNIVERSITY SPORTS.

A SUCCESSFUL DAY.

An excellent programme of athletic sports was decided on the Adelaide Oval on Friday afternoon, under the auspices of the Adelaide University Sports' Association. The weather was a trifle boisterous, but the attendance was large, and every one thoroughly enjoyed the score of varied and interesting events that came on for decision. There were 101 competitors, and in some of the races large fields faced the starter, and invariably the judges were called upon to decide some exciting finishes. The Schools' Race, for which two representatives from the following schools took part, Medical, Law, Science, and Arts, resulted in a dead heat between C. R. Doudy and J. S. MacLennan, both of whom hail from the Law School. The cup event was won by B. L. Gardiner, who succeeded in the 20 Yards Hurdles and the 440 Yards Flat, and thus secured 10 points out of a possible 15. The Bicycle Race somewhat unexpectedly fell to D. Henderson, who took the lead at the end of the first lap, and thereafter was not approached. A. B. Webb scored a similar victory in the Mile Flat Race. First time past the judge's box he held an advantage of quite 50 yards, and he ultimately won by that much. The Gretina Green Race caused no end of amusement, and the winners, G. D. Moore and V. G. Martin, came in for hearty applause. At the conclusion of the sports Lady Way distributed the prizes. The officials of the sports were:—Stewards—Hon. Sir Edwin Smith, M.L.C., Dr. Barlow, Dr. Anstey Giles, Professor Bragg, Rev. H. Girdlestone, Messrs. F. Halcumb, F. Chapple, C. T. Hargrave, C. W. Hayward, L. A. Jessop, W. A. Magarey, G. J. R. Murray, A. W. Piper, Committee—Hon. George Brookman, M.L.C., Professor Henderson, Messrs. E. Chapple, A. Curtis, B. L. Gardiner, W. Henderson, C. L. Jessop, L. L. Jones, J. S. K. MacLennan, A. F. Miller. Judges—Drs. R. W. Hornbrook, F. Magarey, H. Newland, G. C. Hayward. Starter—Mr. Mostyn Evan. Timekeepers—Rev. C. E. Doudney, Messrs. W. H. Stevenson, and H. T. Ward. Hon. secretary—C. L. Jessop. Results:—

Schools' Race, 100 yards.—C. R. Doudy and J. S. K. MacLennan dead heat, B. L. Gardiner, Time, 19 2-5s.
 Long Jump.—D. E. Cowan, L. G. Folland.
 Obstacle Race, 440 yards.—C. W. Hooper (scr.), L. L. Jones (6 yds.), C. T. Hargrave (5 yds.). Time, 1m. 14s.
 150 Yards Flat.—R. Davidson (6 yds.), M. Spred (2 yds.), B. E. Bayly (9 yds.). Time, 16 2-6s.
 120 Yards Flat (Cup event).—J. S. K. MacLennan (scr.) and F. G. Cowan (3 yds.) dead heat, L. Cowan (4 yds.).
 Half-mile.—G. W. Richards (scr.), R. H. Wallmann (13 yds.), N. G. Sherlaw (20 yds.). Time, 2m. 10 1-5s.
 220 Yards Flat.—C. L. Jessop (5 yds.), B. B. Bayly (14 yds.), V. G. Martin (5 yds.). Time, 2s.
 150 Yards Hurdles.—F. G. Cowan (3 yds.), J. S. Murray (7 yds.), L. Cowan (scr.). Time, 19s.
 Bicycle Race.—D. Henderson (75 yds.), H. Hanton (80 yds.). Time, 2m. 10s.
 120 Yards Hurdles (Cup event).—B. L. Gardiner (2 yds.), F. G. Cowan (2 yds.), J. S. Murray (6 yds.). Time, 16 2-5s.
 Throwing Lacrosse Ball.—L. L. Jones, B. L. Gardiner.
 440 Yards Flat (Cup event).—B. L. Gardiner (scr.), D. Dawson (4 yds.), S. Byrne (6 yds.). Time, 57 2-6s.
 Gretina Green, 100 yards.—G. D. Moore and V. G. Martin.
 Steeplechase, 200 yards.—J. S. K. MacLennan (3 yds.), E. Chapple (scr.), N. J. Hargrave (12 yds.). Time, 60s.
 Mile.—A. B. Webb (60 yds.), G. D. Moore (60 yds.). Time 5m. 2s.

many cases, however, but for the existence of the disabilities I have mentioned, he would come to England. He might, he should, go to Cambridge, for instance, to study electrical engineering." Speaking of the inferior facilities for research in this land as compared with the other countries named above, this further statement was made:—

If University education is coordinated throughout the empire there is no reason why special schools with adequate equipment in personnel and material for certain branches of applied science should not be established in the great colonial Universities. The British student might go to a South African University to study mining and metallurgy, to a Canadian University to learn steel, to an Australian University for some similar purpose. Thus we should have, as a development of our scheme of reciprocity for British brains, a co-ordinated system of interchanging facilities for research. Then the empire would possess an imperial standard of education, and the action and reaction of public opinion in Great Britain and in Greater Britain would make for the highest efficiency in the industrial and commercial life of the national life. National efficiency would be secured on the industrial side and the rule of thumb would be superseded by scientific attainments and accuracy. A report of the conference, which was highly successful, was dispatched to The Register by cablegram.

—The Old Gaiety Defunct—

Req. 18th Aug.

THE ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

An interesting and attractive programme was presented by the Conservatorium choral and orchestra classes, under the direction of Mr. Frederick Bevan, at the Elder Hall on Monday evening. The principal feature of the concert was the performance of Schumann's cantata "Paradise and the Peri," an exquisite musical setting of the second of the four poems which form Moore's "Lalla Rookh." The soloists were the Misses Ethel Hantke (contralto) and Ada Thomas (soprano), Mr. Maurice Chenoweth (tenor), and Mr. Max Fotheringham (baritone). Miss Thomas was somewhat overweighted with the soprano music, which makes considerable demands upon the powers of the singer, and her notes in the lower register were at times inaudible. Her best effort was the solo "Sleep on," which she sang with taste and feeling, while she also won applause in "Joy; joy, for ever." Miss Ethel Hantke's rich voice and clear enunciation were listened to with pleasure in the contralto music, and in the opening solo and the other numbers which fell to her lot she was entirely successful. Mr. Maurice Chenoweth, who possesses a tenor of sweet quality, also won general approval, although in abridging the work some of his opportunities had been sacrificed. Mr. Max Fotheringham, in the baritone solo "And now o'er Syria's rosy plain" sang with intelligent appreciation of both words and music, and was warmly applauded. The choruses were admirably rendered throughout, the dramatic number "But crimson now her rivers ran" being invested with appropriate verve and feeling, while the graceful and melodious "Chorus of hours" proved highly enjoyable. The other choral items were excellent, and the work of the orchestral class must be highly commended. Gade's choral song "Spring's message," with which the concert opened, was sung with a sprightliness and vim suggestive of the pleasures of the vernal season, and won universal approbation. The other number on the programme was Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer" in which Miss Annie McCarthy as the soloist was heard to great advantage, her voice ringing out with fine effect, while her enunciation was excellent. The choral part was rendered with apt devotional fervor, the final chorus "O, for the wings" being greatly appreciated. Mr. Frederick Bevan is to be congratulated upon the excellent work done by the classes under his control.

Ad. 18th Aug.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

The Hon. T. Fink, M.L.A., president of the Commission appointed by the Government of Victoria to enquire into the working of the Melbourne University, is expected to arrive in Adelaide by the express from Melbourne this morning. The other members of the Commission are:—The Hon. G. Smith, M.L.C., Mr. J. A. Boyd, M.L.A., and Mr. D. Barry (secretary). These gentlemen are already in Adelaide. The Commission has taken a large amount of evidence in Melbourne, and the members have visited the Sydney University, and made themselves acquainted with the methods of working adopted there. In addition to enquiring into the Adelaide system they propose to visit the Roseworthy Agricultural College, and to gain information in respect to the School of Mines. Some attention will be devoted to the arrangements in connection with the evening classes at the University, and when the enquiries are complete the Commission will report the result of their investigations to the Victorian Government, and will make recommendations in respect to the future working of the Melbourne University.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

The choral and orchestral classes of the Elder Conservatorium joined forces for the thirtieth students' concert of the institution, which was given on Monday evening before a fairly large audience. Three numbers figured on the programme—Schumann's cantata "Paradise and the Peri," which had not previously been heard in Adelaide; Gade's choral song "Spring's message;" and Mendelssohn's beautiful and popular little motet for soprano solo and chorus "Hear my prayer." The most important work was, of course, the Schumann cantata which appeared last on the programme, and occupied the greater part of the evening. Since the Conservatorium choral classes—which is conducted by Mr. Frederick Bevan—last appeared they have apparently augmented their numbers, particularly in the tenor section, and the class is now a strong, effective, and well-balanced force. In the majority of the choruses a good attack and general precision were manifested, and the loud numbers were given with fine vigour and spirit. The quieter choruses were scarcely so satisfactory in the cantata, for occasionally both vocalists and instrumentalists manifested a tendency to turn their pianos and pianissimos into mezzo-fortes. Otherwise creditable work was done, and due attention was paid to other effects of light and shade. The most important solo part in "Paradise and the Peri" is allotted to the soprano, who is cast as the Peri. This part is not only long and exacting, but much of it lies in the higher register of the voice, and it is therefore most trying for any but the most gifted and experienced professionals. Miss Ada Thomas, who undertook it, did good work, but was obviously overweighted, and the orchestral accompaniment was in most of her items too loud; consequently many of her passages were almost inaudible. Mr. Maurice Chenoweth sang the tenor part with intelligence and good taste, and Miss Ethel Hantke's rich voice was heard to great advantage in the contralto role. The small part that falls to the basso was carried out in a satisfactory manner by Mr. Max Fotheringham. Gade's choral song, which opened the concert, contains much effective writing for full chorus, and it was sung throughout with a gratifying amount of finish. Miss Annie McCarthy, who possesses a good soprano voice of pleasing quality, sang the solo in "Hear my prayer" with taste and appropriate expression. The chorus sustained their part excellently, and their attacks were particularly good. The orchestra was led by Mr. Eugene Alderman, and Mr. A. H. Otto presided at the organ. Mr. Bevan conducted, and manifested a capable control over his forces.

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THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY COMMISSION.

The chairman of the Royal Commission on the Melbourne University left by train for Melbourne on Thursday afternoon. He continued his enquiries at the Adelaide University during the day, and just before leaving said on behalf of the Commission:—"We are greatly impressed with the value of the work being done by the University, and above all, the spirit in which it is done and the interest which the University men take in all questions of education outside purely university teaching, especially with regard to the training of teachers. One prominent characteristic is the liberal attitude that the staff display towards education generally. Many institutions assume the title of university that are anything but worthy of it, but there can be no doubt that in Adelaide is a university of the highest rank, not only in name but in spirit, performances, and ideal. We are pleased to find that the professors and others here are following with great interest the evidence taken by the Commission, and are looking forward to the report as being likely to throw light on problems of university government generally, apart from those relating particularly to Melbourne." Mr. Fink expressed his acknowledgment of the great kindness shown him by the Chancellor (Sir S. J. Way). Although the Commission were not accompanied by a stenographer for the purpose of taking evidence they were engaged for three days in discussing important points with the Adelaide authorities, in, perhaps, a freer way than could have been accomplished by formal examination. They are satisfied that the information obtained here will be of great assistance in the preparation of their report. Three of the members of the Commission—Messrs. E. E. Smith, M.L.C., J. A. Boyd, M.L.A., and D. Barry (secretary)—paid a visit of inspection to the Roseworthy Agricultural College on Thursday. They were accompanied to the institution by the Secretary for Agriculture (Professor Perkins), and the Hon. J. Lewis was also a member of the party. They were conducted over the premises, and shown the crops and the live stock by the principal (Professor Towar). In the afternoon the party journeyed to Gawler, where they went over the iron foundry of Messrs. James Martin & Co., and inspected other large establishments.

Req. 15th Aug.

—The Universities' Conference.—

Sir Gilbert Parker, Sir John Cockburn, Mr. Kinloch Cooke, and the other promoters of the movement for the co-ordination of University education throughout the empire, the development of post graduate research, and the promotion of an imperial council to deal permanently with these and other matters of special interest to colonial and British University students, have for weeks past been sparing no pains to make their operations of practical value. As explained by themselves, their object is to bring the empire more into line with Germany and the United States in the matter of state endowments for scientific and technical work, and the solution of industrial problems of real value to the community; and, to this end, to make full use of the experience of such admirably equipped colonial institutions as the McGill School of Engineering in Canada, and afford further facilities to colonial graduates to secure the advantages of higher education in the mother country. In explaining to a journalist the drawbacks that exist, and the steps to be taken to remove them, Sir Gilbert Parker began by putting his finger upon one blot in present arrangements. The Canadian or Australian who has taken his degree at Toronto or Melbourne, when he comes to Oxford or Cambridge for post graduate work, has to put up with the anomaly that his three years of study at home counts for only one year's residence here, and this, although he certainly is a much better man than the student who has gained his pass degree at the English Universities. What was wanted was that all such educational disabilities should be removed, and an educational Kreisverein established. Unfortunately, as things were, the incentive to the Canadian or Australian or South African youth of promise to come to the mother country for a post graduate course, and qualify himself for his life's task, was nothing like so great as was afforded by Germany and America; and, too often, when he betook himself to one of those countries, his knowledge and energy were lost to the empire. "The graduate of a Canadian University, for example," continued Sir Gilbert, "who goes to the United States to study some special application of science generally find employment there. The capitalists of the United States are collectors of brains—they add his brain to their collection, and use it in the improvement and extension of some great American industry. In