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sampe the matter. The three gentlemen who ! presided over the Education Department did not accept the reports of Inspectors Neele and Planumer, and why dal not the Minuder of Education quote their report? It appeared to him that Mesers. Plummer, Neale, Smith, and others sent in their reports and the board gave their venliet and sent in their report to Parliament. What was the verdict of the three members of the board on the complaints of these two gentlemen? They menand wound up by saying :- "This is certainly demoralising, and points to the necessity for fresh logislation, so as to bring about a better state of things. We are pleased to believe, however, that the cases referred to are not general; the number of schools affected must be small, as the receipts from fees abow that the number of pupils in class v has been atsadily increasing." Did that support the reference to Mesors, Neals and Planmer? The Minister referred to a letter dated January 31, 1898, but here was a report dated April 4, 1898, and he asked the Minister to look Education-"I have read it,") He had not profited by it, and he had not quoted it. The Minuter of Education-"1 quoted facts.") He quoted evidence which was not The Minister of Education-"That's not a (ury.") They might call it what they liked. The board did not bear out the objections taken to the continuation of the fifth class fees by Mesara Neale and Plummer. The board admitted that it was demoralising, but pointed out that the attendance was increasing, and it applied only to some schools. In the face of that the Ministry had no right to repeal the regulation. That was the objection he took. The time was not ripe for it. He believed this was only a step towards the removal of the fees from the Advanced School for Giris. They knew what the Government was capable of, Mr. Neale reported in 1803. Now, a year nearer the general election this appeal for popularity was made. The fact was significant. The House should bear in mind that out of the S0,000 or 90,000 children of a sufficient age to attend school closs upon 12,000 went to the 236 private schools in the colony, and surely this latest step was submitting them to undue

competition on the part of the State. Mr. COPLEY said the Minister of Education had given instructions for the establishment of fifth classes in schools with 40 attendants, and he believed it was a desirable thing if it could be done without extra expense in respect to teachers, but the Minister had shown no justification for the abolition of fees. He stated that there was only one school on Yorke's Peninsula with a fifth class, but considering that there were three-large schools at Maitland, Minlaton, and Yorketown, he thought that was extremely improbable. The Minister of Education attributed the increase in the number of fifth class students to the abolition of the fees. He denied that. The new regulation came into force before July 1, and it was impossible for this increase to have resulted in a fortnight. It was due to the establishment of more fifth classes. Mr. Butler had quoted the reports of the inspectors. He respected them, but he also attached weight to his own opinion, which was founded on what he knew to be true. The real remon why children had not presented themselves for examination was not because they would have to pay fees if they got into a higher class. That did not apply till they reached the age of 13. In many cases it was on account of the strain on the children. Parents had told him that illness among the children through the anxiety of the teachers to obtain high percentages had been quite frequent, "Cram fever" they called the disease. When they considered that 12,000 children attended the private schools they should hesitate about increasing the com-petition by the abolition of this fee, which was only paid after the child had arrived at a certain ago and passed the standard. He claimed that he had been most loyal to the education system of the colony. When he was first a candidate for Parliament he was in favor of secular and compulsory education, and he had met with considerable opposition through his unswerving allegiance to it. He was in favor of the maintenance of an efficient educational system, but when the Ministry, without consulting Parliament, adopted this regulation, which meant, according to the estimate, an increase of £2,000 in the cost of education, it was time for them to consider, especially after the Treasurer had stated that there would be a deficiency for last year of some £28,000. In the great bulk of cases children reached the compulsory standard before they were 13 years of age. There was not a pupil 13 years old at Black Hock for instance, and very few he was sure at Orooroo. At both schools there were efficient teachers, and the children were brought on so well that they reached the compulsory standard before they were 13 years old. Persons who could not afford to pay school fees naturally wished for some employment for their children when they were 13 years of age. But although £2,000 was the estimate of the cost of this alteration, they knew how likely it wan to be increased. The Inspector-General estimated that the cost of free education would be about £35,000, and be made allowance for an extra attendance. They knew how the cest had grown, and it would be the same in this case. As Mr. Giles had tabled the motion he would have to vote in favor of he repeal of the regulation. There had been no need for all this burry on the part of the Government, who should have taken the House into its confidence. (The Treasurer-"That is why we fixed it to come into operation on July 1; we might have done it in March.") There was no possibility of the House dealing with it by July L. The Ministry evidently wanted to throw the responsibility of rejecting the regulation on the House, the inference being that those who voted against it were

Mr. CASTINE moved-"That the debate e now adjourned." Negatived.

opposed to the education of the people, whereas he at any rate was in favor of educating

children up to a resconable standard at the

expense of the State, after which the cost

hould be borne by the parents.

Mr. MOODY said the education question as one on which he held strong views, ilsa approving much which Mr. Giles had he did not know the full length that hon, per wanted to go. He had stated to his tioents that be was not in favor of a capigrant. What he lavored before free edupartie State should educate a child up perspelsory standard, and that then the But rold be called upon to pay a shilling and That course had been followed. a matument had now altered it. The the and the other imspectors went a which were a likel on the parents, when schools were examined the teachers tried to keep scholars away so that their percentage of passes might be high, but ha had never heard an instance of parents keeping their children away because they were afraid of their passing the compulsory standard. In the district he represented there were probably more private schools than in any other in the colony, and altogether there were, as Mr. Glynn had stated, some 12,000 pupils attending private schools in South Auguralia. That should not be altogether overlooked, He would be inclined not only to keep the shilling on for the fifth class, but to re-establish the general charge of 6d, a week which was in vogue before it was called free educa-

tion. Now that the teacher was paid a fixed salary those who were able to do so should pay the 6d, a week, and there was no need to divulge the names of those who are not able

Mr. McDONALD had always been a sup-porter: of free education. When Mr. Giles brought in his motion in 1893 to prevent the fifth class from being free he sup ported him because he thought it enough if they educated the children free up to the compulsory standard. But now, after a fair trial, the system had proved to be all for the town and nothing for the country. Children had had to come from the country into Adelaide to attend the fifth class, and the parents had been put to expense to maintain them in the city. Our present system was so onesided in this respect that he considered it would be better to have free education altogether. He admitted it was a very hard case for the parents of those who attend private schools, but they acted on their own responsibility. The morality and cleanliness of our public schools was a credit to the State. The Minister had told them that the new regulations were that no school with less than 40 children can have a fifth class. (The Minister of Education-"Some with less than 40 have.") Well, in the country districts where the pioneers were trying to do the best for the country they were restricted in this way. (The Minister of Education-"Up to 40 scholars the teacher is not allowed an assistant; above that number he is.") Where the teacher was competent there should be a fifth class if there were only 30 scholars. He hoped Mr. Giles would not put his motion. He voted with the hon, member before, but after five years' trial he saw the injustice which was worked to parents hving in the country, and he must therefore support the Minister. At the same time he condemned the way in which the Government had brought the change about, and they had saved no time by not bringing the matter properly before the House.

Mr. LANDSEER would support the Government. They knew from experience the advantages of free education. Where the people were best educated there were the best people, and it did not matter what vocation a man followed high education was of service to him. Let us, therefore, do all we can to keep in the van so that our sons and daughters may look back and say, "Our sires did well." Dollars alone were not of so much value as knowledge, for after all it was knowledge that created the dollars. He regretted to hear so much said about town v. country, but it was always true that majorities must rule, and the people of a metropolis always enjoy advantages superior to those of the country residents. We should, however, not centralise any more than was needful. He recognised the many higher attractions of the city; in fact, he did not think he would be able to induce his sons to go back and live in the country again; they felt it would be too quiet there. There was much to be said in favor of Mr. McDonald's auggestion that the fifth-class should not be so purely dependent on the numbers of the

On the motion of Mr. CASTINE the debate was adjourned till Wednesday, August 3. TOTALIVATOR AMENDING BILL Second reading.

Second reading.

The Art Process, in moving the second reading, said this was not a question of totall afor or no totalizator, although he recognised that a good deaf could be soid against its use, but as the House had decided that there should be a totalizator he thought there should be fair play all round. Hast session a very strong effort was inside to put down place totes in Adelaide. The House struggled by head to do this, and he was assured that in spite of the stringent regalations there are no less than five place tote in full clast in the city o-day, and that women and children are still investing their shillings and expences up he granting. They might take that as a proof that in pite of the efforts of the House graphing on horseneing would go on, and if so it was better to have at carried on in the light of day. At small races there were bookmakers, and the object of the House was to get rid of the bookmaker by establishing the totalizator. The reason for his national matter that there are several places like Port Pinis, which is now deprived of the totalizator because one has been granted to Laura in the ground that granted to Laura or the ground that the crow flies here are not to miles have the two plants of the James own racecourse, had been shifted four miles to take it outside the 10-mile radius from Laura. Quorn was within 20 miles of Pole Augusta as the crow flies, and Moonta although it had an older racing club that it ading, was for a like reason deprived of the use of the totalizator. The Bill repealed clause of the Lottery and Caming her which provided that the totalizator egold not be used or vided that the totalizator could not be used or any acing course within 20 miles of another course on which it is used Clause 5 of that Act exempted the Onka paring a course which would of which bave been deprived of the use of the machine. He did not interfere with any districts near Adelaide, Chause 5 of the present Act remained intact. He left it to the discretion of the Commissioner of Police to grant licenses subject to the approval of the Chief Shoretary He preserved clause 7 of last year's Act, and the only alteration he sought to effect was that country clubs which had been deprived of the use of the totalizator without the knowledge and country of the recent the knowledge and consent of the House should be given a chance to apply to the Committee of Police for Icenses. If logic were to guide them in this matter, then on moral, just, and proper grounds the Bull should be carried. Personally he thought too much racins was done in the city, and as country people were denied the pleasures which town tolks about they should be granted this concession. He was not standing there as an advocate of either the potalizator or betting he only taked that in the interests of justice those in the country should share the privileges of feet who lived in the country. On the motion of the ATTORNEY GENERAL the debate was adjourned till Wednesday, July 27.

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The first series of University extension lectures will be given next month. Dr. Morgan will give a course of the lectures on "Birds," beginning on August 3, while a course on the period of history set for the senior public examination, "The Normans in Europe," will be given by Mr. E. G. Blackmore, This course will commence on August A. Particullars will be found in our advertising columns.

The Australasian Medical Gazette: 20th July, 1898,

EDITORIALS.

FEDERATION: UNIVERSITY AND PRIMARY EDUCATION.

WE regret that the terms of the Convention Bill were such that it was not carried by an overwhelming majority on June 3rd throughout Australia. Last year we advocated the inclusion in the Bill of a clause providing for the establishment of a National University of Australia, non-teaching in its character, and

with power to indicate curricula for degrees and courses of studies for the primary schools, &c. * Such a course was recommended by us because it was believed that thereby a greater feeling of unity would be developed amongst the children attending the schools throughout the Commonwealth, and, secondly, the prestige of Australian University degrees would be raised commensurately with the prestige of the Commonwealth itself. However, the only permission under the late Convention Bill for establishing such a University was that afforded by the excellent clause which provided that the federal capital should be in federal territory. That is to say, had the Bill been carried, there would have been a federal territory, and this being so it would have been competent for the federal authority to have established an educational system in such territory, including schools and a University, and it is probable that the latter would have been called the University of Australia. Such a state of affairs would have been very satisfactory, and it is possible that hundreds of students would have availed themselves of the advantages of this federal institution.

We rejoice to say that the prospect for such a national system of education has not been damaged by the rejection of the Bill, for it appears that, in order to more accurately adjust the great financial difficulty that stands in the way of union, it is necessary that the cost of education in the colonies should be handed over to the Federal Parliament. It is satisfactory to find that the reasons cited by us last year, when dealing with this question, are now supported by others of a potent financial character.

The Premier of New South Wales (the Right Hon. G. H. Reid), on July 4th, in an eloquent address to his party, and when dealing with the financial provisions of the Bill, said: "I have come to the conclusion that there is only one system possible in its place, and that is that the railways and public debts should be handed over to the federation, and it would even be necessary, whether you handed over the control of the schools or not, to hand over the cost of education in the colonies";

The Chancellor of the University of Sydney (The Hon. H. N. MacLaurin, M.D.), on July 6th, in a splendid speech delivered in the Upper House of the New South Wales Parliament, and when referring to the same financial problems, said, "I am inclined to look with con-

siderable favour upon the proposal which has been made to add to what has been already adopted by the Convention, the transference of the railways, the funded and unfunded debts, and provisions for primary instruction.".

The financial Editor of the Sydney Daily Telegraph (Mr. R. L. Nash), in a series of articles upon federal finance, which appeared in his journal after the Sydney Convention last year, showed, amongst other able conclusions, that by transferring the cost of education from the States to the Federation, the financial problem would be enormously simplified, if not settled. †

These authorities have given their figures, but it is not necessary for our purpose to quote more than the above. It will thus be seen that some good measure of federal education has very substantial support.

Our desire is to see a national University of Australia established, upon the lines indicated by us on August 20th last year, for such an institution would, we repeat, greatly tend to raise the status of Australian medical degrees throughout the world.