

Ad. 28th May 1906.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION MOVEMENT.

INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR HENDERSON.

THE PERTH UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

Professor G. C. Henderson, of Adelaide University, who has arrived here with the object of giving a series of six lectures in connection with the University extension movement, was seen by a reporter. Professor Henderson said:—"The extension movement differs from University education in that the lecturer does not expect people to give that attention to the subject as they would do if they were studying at a University proper. All the lecturer may hope to do is to give results in as an attractive manner as possible of that research and study that he himself has entered into. The object of the Adelaide University is to attain to something like the Gilchrist scheme in England, rather than what is known in England as the University Extension System."

A Perth University.

What are your views regarding an establishment of a university in Perth?

"It seems to me rather an anomaly that, while in other parts of the world there has been so marked a development of university education and life, especially in industrial centres, there should have been no decided movement up to the present time in favour of the establishment of a university in Perth. In England, for example, you have universities at Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Durham, Newcastle, and one is shortly to be established at Hanley, in Staffordshire. The feeling is that, from a material point of view, it is desirable to have the best teaching in scientific subjects, and to have it in the neighbourhood. The establishment of a university is desirable from another point of view. You have in Perth some very good primary and secondary schools; I know this because I have examined some of the papers. At the present time, there is no institution within the State which can consummate the efforts made by the teachers in these schools. This is hardly fair to the teachers, because the mere existence of a university stimulates pupils to a high pitch of endeavour so that they may attain distinction in what is regarded as the highest education in the country. On the subject of history, some of the schools in this State are doing very excellent work, which will compare favourably in this branch of knowledge with other States."

The Rhodes Scholarship.

"I am, as you know," continued Professor Henderson, "one of the selection committee for the Rhodes scholars. Doubts have often been expressed as to the impossibility of finding the man that Cecil Rhodes had in his mind's eye when he created these scholarships, and when he promulgated the conditions which are attached to them. When in South Africa, I met Sir Lewis Mitchell, upon whom the mantle of Rhodes has, to a very considerable extent, fallen, and, in course of conversation with him, he informed me that to his mind the man that Rhodes was seeking was a man who should be able to lead, a man strong from all points of view, not simply a reading man, an athlete or a man of brute force. In one word, the man that Rhodes wanted must possess that grand quality which is found in individuality. I am convinced that man is to be found in Australia to-day. To my mind the Rhodes scholarships are one of the grandest schemes ever originated in recent years. They are having a good effect on university education, men are stimulated to put forth their best efforts, and as a means of consolidating and fostering sympathy between the different parts of the Empire, the Rhodes scholarships are playing a very important part."

Subjects of Lectures.

With reference to the subjects of your lectures, Professor Henderson?

"Well, I have, as you know, taken up two subjects, 'Puritan Revolution' and 'Poets of the Nineteenth Century.' I have done this because I wish to combine the two subjects of history and literature. In the historic course I have chosen three types, the practical man, Wentworth, the idealist, John Milton, and the practical and idealist, Oliver Cromwell."

You would call Oliver Cromwell an idealist?

"Most assuredly. You will remember that Lord Rosebery fitted him beautifully when he was pleased to describe him as a practical mystic, Ro-

garding the poets of the nineteenth century, it is my desire to present the idealism of the nineteenth century as expressed in the writings of the leading poets—Wordsworth, the poet of Nature; Tennyson, the artist; and Browning, the optimist."

THOMAS WENTWORTH, EARL OF STRAFFORD.

The keen interest taken by the public in the course of lectures to be delivered in Perth by Professor G. C. Henderson, of the Adelaide University, was demonstrated by the crowded audience which assembled on Wednesday at the Swan River Mechanics' Institute. Dr. J. W. Hackott, M.L.C., who presided, said that Professor Henderson had divided his lectures into two series, the first consisting of three addresses of a political and historical character, dealing with the great leaders of the Puritan age, and the second of three lectures upon literary subjects. He drew attention again to the fact that Western Australia could not yet boast of a university. Until the State had a university its educational system must necessarily be incomplete. Professor Henderson came to them as an Australian-born, and as connected closely with that University with which they were more familiar than any other and which had done so much to assist the course of education in this State—the University of Adelaide. (Applause.)

Professor Henderson said that before proceeding with his address he wished to thank the chairman for his remarks concerning the necessity for the establishment of a university in Western Australia. He trusted through the medium of the lectures which he would give to raise some enthusiasm for what was regarded as higher learning. There was no time in the world's history since the Renaissance when there had been such a feeling in favour of artistic sensibilities as there was at the present, and he marvelled that there had not been a stronger movement to establish a university in Western Australia. (Applause.) He had chosen, he said, to speak in his lectures about three characters who lived at a time than which there was no greater in the history of England. The Puritan revolution constituted a movement and an upheaval which were far more important than any other epoch in English history. In this his first lecture he purposed dealing with the life and character of Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford.

"I want to talk to you," Professor Henderson said, "about a man of affairs who lived in the stress and the stir of business—a man of clear intellect, firm, believing in the supremacy of intellect, like Bacon, and whose loyalty reminds us of the chivalry of the Middle Ages. He played a losing game. Why I have chosen him is this—that he played that game well."

The lecturer went on to say that in his second address he would deal with John Milton, through whose life could be studied the religious history of his time, and whose mind was a reflex of Puritanism. His third lecture would deal with one of the greatest of men—Oliver Cromwell. He had chosen Oliver Cromwell as the subject for his third address because, while in the first lecture he was dealing with a practical man and in the second with an idealist, they had in Cromwell the two tendencies united—the master of strategy and war, the man of business instincts, and a man of yearning after the infinite, which was the chief characteristic of that wonderful type they knew as the mystic. Lord Rosebery had called him the practical mystic—one of the most powerful combinations of human qualities which it was possible to conceive.

At the conclusion of the lecture a number of interesting pictures were thrown upon the screen, and a short explanatory address was contributed by Professor Henderson.

Ad. 26th May 1906.

THE TEACHING OF SCIENCE.

The education committee of the University of Adelaide, at the meeting of the council, which was held on Friday, laid on the table recommendations under the terms of which the maximum number of marks awarded for chemistry at the higher public examinations will be raised from 200 to 300, and the marks for physics will also be raised from 200 to 300. These alterations, if adopted by the council, will put the science student in a much fairer position than he occupies at present, although both Latin and Greek, which are each appraised at 400 marks, are still to be reckoned on a higher scale than the utilitarian studies.

Mr. E. Darnley Naylor, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed professor of classics at the Adelaide University in succession to Professor Bently, resigned. For eleven years Mr. Naylor has occupied the post of lecturer on classics at the Ormond Presbyterian College, of the Melbourne University. He is vice-master of Ormond College, having been appointed to that position in 1903. Mr. Naylor has carried out much original work in the field of classical literature, and his writings have appeared in the "Classical Review," an English publication.

Ad. 2nd June 1906

FEDERAL EXAMINATIONS IN MUSIC.

In April, when representatives of the Commonwealth States and New Zealand assembled in Melbourne to take part in the Melbourne University jubilee celebrations, conferences were held to discuss various matters. In connection with the conduct of examinations in music, the representatives of the Adelaide and Melbourne universities adopted resolutions providing that co-operation between the universities of Melbourne and Adelaide in the conduct of public examinations in music was desirable; that co-operative action should extend at least as far as a common scheme in method, grades, fees, list of examiners, syllabus, and certificates; that the spheres of the two universities should be defined, and the finances separately administered, it being understood that for the present Tasmania should be regarded as within the sphere of the University of Melbourne, Western Australia within the sphere of the University of Adelaide; that the examination boards of the two universities should agree to act in such co-operation for a period of three years, and to decide at the end of the second year whether the co-operation should continue or be modified; that such co-operation should come into force on July 1, 1907, the institution of earlier examinations in Adelaide under the proposed scheme being left for further consideration; and that the two boards should remain entirely independent of each other, but that at least two meetings per annum should be held, one in Melbourne and one in Adelaide, at which representatives of both boards should be present, two from Melbourne in Adelaide, two from Adelaide in Melbourne. Subsequently the question of extending the proposed federation so as to embrace the whole of Australasia was debated, and, on the motion of Professor Peterson, of Melbourne, it was resolved—"That co-operation between the universities of Australasia in the conduct of public examinations in music is desirable, such co-operation to be on the general lines of the proposed agreement between the universities of Melbourne and Adelaide adopted at the conference held in Melbourne on April 23." The resolutions were forwarded to the councils of the two universities for approval or otherwise, and the matter came on for discussion at the meeting of the Adelaide University council on Friday afternoon. The council approved the amalgamation of the Adelaide and Melbourne universities, but with respect to the larger question of Australasian co-operation no action was taken. The matter decided upon was referred back to the Faculty of Music, who will now set to work to fix the details of the amalgamation scheme. Various points have already been discussed in an informal way, but a properly constituted meeting will be held for the consideration of the whole question.

Ad. 2nd June 1906.

THE UNIVERSITY SPORTS FUND.

The Government having refused to ratify the regulation submitted by the University council in connection with the imposition of a sports fund fee of £1/1 a year, the council will not take further action in the matter. The students among themselves will probably arrange a scheme.

Reg 2nd June

MUSICAL EXAMINATIONS.

At a meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide on Friday afternoon the principle of the scheme for co-operation with the Melbourne University on the question of musical examinations, as recommended at the conference recently held in Melbourne, was approved.

Reg 2nd June

Dr. Jethro Brown, the new Professor of Law at the University of Adelaide, will arrive from England by the Mongolia to-day to enter upon the duties of his chair. The Premier (Hon. T. Price) returned on Friday evening from Quorn and Port Augusta, where he delivered addresses on "Current politics."