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 many, and America. As the range grows wider may we not hope to hear half-way round the world. A voice may tell the Yorkshireman the day's happenings in Canada, India, and Australia, and thus make the Empire a real thing to him instead of a string of red splashes on a map.  
 For our outback Australia the possibilities are unlimited. When the cocky, squatter, and railway worker can hear the day's news that day, a Conservatorium concert, the Bach Society doing "Hiawatha," or the Tramways Band playing dance music, town and country become more like one, and the drift from the rural areas to the capital cities will receive a severe check.

12 MAR 1924  
**DEATH OF DR. T. BORTHWICK.**

**A Well-Known Health Officer.**

Dr. T. Borthwick, who recently resigned the position of Medical Officer of Health for the City of Adelaide, died at his home at Largs on Tuesday, at the age of 64 years. He held his municipal appointment for 24 years. He has left a widow. A son died some years ago. Dr. Borthwick, who had the degrees of M.D., C.M. (Edin.), was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health of England, and a Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, London. He was born in Scotland in 1860, and was educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated in 1881, and gained his M.D. degree in 1891, for a thesis dealing with the demography of South Australia, which the faculty deemed worthy of competing for a gold medal. He came to South Australia in 1883, and acted as health officer for the municipalities of Kensington and Norwood and St Peters, and the district of Burnside for several years. Subsequently he was health officer for the East Torrens County Board of Health, and in 1900 was appointed medical officer of health for the City of Adelaide. He was examiner in hygiene, and lecturer on bacteriology at the University of Adelaide, and Chairman of the Board of Examiners for the local branch of the Royal Sanitary Institute. He inaugurated the bacteriological department in the Adelaide Children's Hospital, and was later the hon. bacteriologist to the Adelaide Hospital. Dr. Borthwick, who had been ill for some time, was on his recent retirement from the position of city health officer paid a retiring allowance equal to a year's salary in recognition of his long and valued services. At the same time the City Council placed on record its high appreciation of his work, and expressed regret at the cause of his resignation.

**A Valued Officer.**  
 Sir Lewis Cohen (ex-Lord Mayor of Adelaide) on Tuesday said that he could speak in eulogistic terms of Dr. Borthwick. Many of the sanitary improvements which had done so much to bring Adelaide into prominence had been inaugurated by the deceased. He was a man in whom the council always had the very fullest confidence, and his retirement caused a gap which could not be easily filled. They were fortunate indeed in having secured the services of Dr. Angus Johnson; and, while they deplored the loss of Dr. Borthwick, the city could be congratulated upon having obtained to follow him a medical officer of the eminence of the present holder of the position.



THE LATE DR. T. BORTHWICK.

12 MAR 1924  
**LAWYER AND LITERATEUR.**

**DEATH OF MR. J. T. HACKETT.**

Mr. George A. Day, of Malvern, has received a cable message from Mrs. J. T. Hackett stating that her husband died at Luxor, Egypt, on March 6.

Mr. James Thompson Hackett was a deeply studious man, a lover of books, a connoisseur in art, and a writer of wonderful clearness and vision. His "Commonplace Book" which won encomiums from the best literary critics in England, as well as those in Australia, was not only a record of wide and well-directed reading, but of cultured taste and a keen judgment for the best things in poetry and prose. It contained also notes and criticisms from his own pen which testified not only to his ripe scholarship, but also to his broadness of view, his indefatigable industry, and his acuteness of perception. Mr. Hackett, although his profession of a lawyer had been thoroughly mastered in those branches in which he specialised, was, above all things, a lover of good books, and his familiarity with classical and modern languages opened up for him a wide realm for pleasant and profitable research. He was a great traveller, and his love for and his expert knowledge of art enabled him to choose extremely interesting and valuable specimens of the best things which he saw in Eastern and European countries. His collection of such objects, as well as of rare books and furniture, was famous throughout Australia, and when he reluctantly determined on its dispersal because of his approaching departure on a world tour the sale arranged in Sydney in 1918 attracted the attention of collectors in all parts of the Commonwealth. Not alone because of his wide studies and his acquaintance with strange countries, but by reason of a natural gift Mr. Hackett was a very entertaining conversationalist, and he wrote most interesting letters. He had a ready wit and a power of quick observation, and he was always able to convey his thoughts in trenchant and clear language. Letters came to Adelaide from him quite recently. These were written in Egypt when he was with his wife, and Professor Sayce, the famous archaeologist.

Part of his time in London on his latest visit was devoted to the revision and publication of an enlarged edition of "My Commonplace Book" which, first issued in 1919, has gone through four editions, and has won an exceedingly high reputation as being among the very best books of its class in the wide range of English literature. Mr. Hackett was simple in his tastes and far from aggressive in any of his opinions or of his numerous activities but he was deservedly proud of this book which had brought him into touch with many literary men of high standing.

Descended from a well-known Irish family Mr. Hackett was born in Melbourne on May 13, 1858. His father, Mr. James Hackett, formerly of Brachy Castle, King's County, was at that time an official in the Victorian Public Service. Mr. Hackett was one of the first students to attend Wesley College, in the days when Dr. Corrigan was headmaster and the Rev. Dr. Waugh was principal. He had a brilliant career there, and he passed to Melbourne University with a scholarship. There he took the Arts course, and at that institution he was closely associated with Richard Hodgson, to whom he dedicated "My Commonplace Book," and of whom he wrote: "He had a remarkably pure and noble and lovable character, and was one of the most gifted men Australia has produced. He was endowed with fine taste and a clear and mature literary judgment, and he guided me in my early reading. More than this, about one third of the main quotations came direct from Hodgson." Mr. Hackett had been intimate from boyhood with Dr. Hodgson, who attained great eminence as a philosopher and psychologist in England and America, and who died in Boston in 1905. They were both members of the Bible Class led by Dr. Hodgson's father, at Wesley Church, Melbourne, and they maintained a voluminous correspondence till death separated them. In the latter half of the seventies, Mr. Hackett was a master at Whinham College.

Taking up the study of the law on his return to Adelaide, Mr. Hackett won a prize offered by the Law Society, with a thesis which attracted considerable attention. He was articled to the legal firm of Bray and Sheridan and on his admission to the Bar he became a partner of Sir John Bray—that was in 1884. His erudition and his power of application gave him success in his profession, and he rapidly gained the confidence of clients. He remained a member of the firm until the death of Sir John, who was one of the most popular of South Australian public men, and who served the State splendidly as Premier, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and Agent-General. Subsequently Mr. Hackett continued a member of the old firm in part-

nership with Mr. Hunt, and although he had some years ago retired from active practice, he was associated with the business till quite recently.

In the preface to his "Commonplace Book," Mr. Hackett remarks that, "apart from the usual ineffectual efforts of one's youth, I had never before attempted literary work, and for the first time experienced the great pleasure there is in such writing." As a youth, however, as his friends know, he wrote very clever verse and prose, and he was at times a piquant contributor to the newspapers. He always found his pleasure in reading, art collection, and the accumulation of good books, and he had a nice taste in music. In 1902 he married in Adelaide a daughter of Mr. James Gardiner. The union was a singularly happy one, and Mrs. Hackett, who is now left a widow, entered with a cheerful heart into all her husband's pursuits and enjoyments. There were no children of the union.

News

8 MAR 1924

**Pen Portrait**

**Noted Educationist**

Undoubtedly a tower of strength to the Workers' Educational Association, Mr. George McRitchie (secretary) gives the impression of permanence and stability, combined with tireless energy.



Mr. G. McRitchie

He is a Scotch Australian by birth, and completed his education at Prince Alfred College. Before his career as an apprentice to a retail chemist, he spent 15 years in that business. He was subsequently engaged, for seven years as a manufacturing chemist with the firm of Dickford & Sons, Limited, and for about two years of that period was acting manager of the firm's laboratory and works.

During his business life he took an active interest in educational matters. He served on the executive of the Literary Society Union, and was president of both the Wayville and H. H. Horn Literary Societies. In 1919 Mr. McRitchie was a member of the team that won the literary societies' state tournament against Keen sportsmen.

When the Workers' Educational Association formed classes in 1917, Mr. McRitchie immediately became an active student. Later he served as vice-president and president, and was the immediate past president of one of the 15 applicants he was unanimously chosen general secretary.

During his three years in position the number of students had increased from 238 to 660. Mr. McRitchie rejoices in the many opportunities for useful work for adult education which he is making his life's work. He is satisfied that the association is doing even greater work than can be indicated in his annual report. Besides general organising work, employment of students, and the practical details of management under an executive, Mr. McRitchie has charge of a useful and expanding book department.

Mr. McRitchie has also served for two years as chairman of the South Australian Congregational Union, and for two years was chairman of the Adelaide municipal community organising committee.

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Advertiser

12 MAR 1924

**PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.**

**HINTS FOR CANDIDATES.**

The manual of the Public Examinations Board for 1924, in connection with the University of Adelaide, has just been issued. It deals with regulations and syllabus for 1924, and examination papers for 1923, and contains a report for the year 1923. The section devoted to "Notes for examiners" contains useful hints to future candidates, and indicates the various points of weakness noticeable in last year's papers. The following items are extracted from the report:—

The intermediate English essays in many respects were highly satisfactory. The wide range of choice enabled every candidate to write about something in which he was really interested, and accordingly many of the essays were written with a gusto which is generally to be found only in the work of the best candidates. Marks were given chiefly for the vividness with which candidates were able to invest their past experiences, or for the freshness and force with which they were able to describe the books they had been reading. Many of the habitual mistakes of composition were encountered. The use of the exclamations "Ah" and "Oh," and indeed of all exclamatory phrases and sentences, should be discouraged; and rhetorical questions are rarely effective.

A great deal of difficulty was experienced in the use of pronouns. "His" used in the earlier part of a sentence would be followed by "their" later on. A passion for accuracy caused the frequent use of "his or her." "You" is certainly the indefinite pronoun in ordinary speech, but it is neither relevant nor tactful to tell the examiner that he needs to improve his backhand strokes, or to use a little more footwork in his batting. There are certain words which pupils must learn to use correctly. Teachers should be particularly on their guard against the misuse of the following:—Nice, beautiful, quite, idea, lady, gentleman (even "gent" was found in some essays). "So" and "such" should not be used without the relative pronoun "as." On general matters of composition and use of words the abridged edition of Fowler's "King's English" will be found exceedingly useful for the guidance of teachers.

Referring to the intermediate English division, the report states:—In the past too much attention was admittedly paid to complexities of analysis and parsing, but that is no reason why we should fully reject the experience of bygone generations of teachers. A knowledge of accuracy and of the laws of construction is essential now as it ever was. That is sadly lacking is proved by the fact that such atrocities as "I would of went," "I never seen," "Between you and I" are from rare. Abbreviations (e.g. "the I") are to be discouraged, and it is significant that tired members of the school of "and" and "Tata" are the worst offenders in way of repetition and prolixity. Unable to tell a simple story without wounding the listener with "but, however," "of course," and the maddening reiter of "he (or she) said." In some quarters an impression seems to prevail that "man" is an impolite word or hopeful out of date, and that it must in all cases make room for "lady." Madame Del led her band of murderous ladies ("her recruits?") "The Pied Piper was followed by a throng of men and ladies," and incongruities are of frequent occurrence. That the word "woman" has grown so familiar is shown by the fact that more than sixty candidates have written "women." As regards style, there are who offend by being too florid and about the habit of writing sentences (the mark) without either subject or verb has never before been so prevalent. It is a trick of the fifth-rate novelist and the worst model for a young student. A great improvement could be made in essay writing if more attention were paid to the choice and use of adverbs. Adjectives give color to language, but vigor are added by adverbs. Many of them are link-words, and search for continuity of thought and expression.

Register 11 MAR 1924

Advertiser 12 MAR 1924

**ST. MARK'S COLLEGE**

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Donations forwarded to the secretary (A. B. Harvey), 45-49 Steamship Buildings, will be immediately acknowledged. (Adv.)

Mr. Arthur E. Howarth, M.A., second son of the Rev. Henry Howard, reached Adelaide from London on Saturday by the Orsova, and continued the voyage to Melbourne in the evening. He expects to return to Adelaide in the course of a few days for a week's rest. He will leave for England again in September.