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Advertiser, Jan. 27, 1911.

Register, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.

Advertiser Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY.

Perth, January 26.

The University Bill passed its second reading, and was carried through the committee stage without amendment, in the Legislative Assembly last night. Mr. Underwood (Labor) urged that the institution should be controlled by the Government under the Minister of Education and not by pedantic and arrogant university graduates. He spoke in condemnatory terms of the classics. He said there was nothing in Plato, and Parliament should not waste the people's money on Latin or a chair of music, which would accomplish nothing, but should provide a faculty of medicine and teach agriculture and veterinary science. University men had never been leaders, and it would be easier for a porcupine to go backwards through a canvas hose than for a university man to enter politics.

Mr. Nanson (Minister of Education) hoped one result of the University Bill would be the establishment of a State council of educational experts on the lines of the Victorian Bill.

The third reading of the Bill was passed to-day.

The Council of the University of Adelaide on Friday granted a request from Professor Watson for leave of absence for the year 1911, and appointed Dr. Cavenagh-Mainwaring to carry on his work during his absence. At the same meeting an invitation from the University of St. Andrew to the University of Adelaide to be represented on the occasion of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the St. Andrew Institution in September next was received. It was resolved to accept the invitation, and invite Professor Watson to attend as the University representative. The professor of the University was a passenger to Melbourne by the express on Saturday. When asked by a representative of The Register whether he desired to state the course of his movements, he replied in characteristic manner to the effect that he did not know himself. He does not anticipate returning to Adelaide before June, and he emphasized the fact that he was not going away on any scientific mission. So far as he knew he would visit Queensland and Timor, and if time permitted he might extend his journey to America.

**UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.**  
PETERSBURG, February 3.—The University extension committee met on Tuesday afternoon, and there was a good attendance. The secretary reported having written to the registrar, with the result that arrangements were being made for a course of lectures by Dr. Douglas Mawson in Petersburg during the August vacation, when he would have returned from London. The syllabus of public examinations in music was placed before the committee, as also a circular and pamphlet issued by the Faculty of Music. The Universities of Melbourne, Adelaide, and Queensland have combined for the examinations, and are endeavoring to arrange for examinations in Western Australia and Tasmania, thus giving to successful candidates the highest standing in the Commonwealth. Grade VI. had been introduced to meet the wishes of teachers, and scholarship are offered, carrying with them great educational facilities. The circular states, "The Universities exist for the public benefit, and the better they are supported the greater will be the facilities for reduction they will provide." The committee asked that the organizing secretary be sent to Petersburg to interview those interested in the hope that a larger number of candidates this year be secured. The local secretary (Rev. B. Hewison) will supply copies of the syllabus, pamphlet, and circular to those desiring them. Continually increasing interest is being taken in the University extension lectures here.

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## UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the council was held on January 27. Present—The Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Chapple, Dr. Stirling, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Talbot Smith, Professor Ennis, Dr. Hayward, Dr. Poulton, and Mr. Murray. The annual report and the balance sheets for 1910, submitted by the education and finance committee, were approved. The council had before them several applications from intending students in medicine, asking whether they could sit for the senior public examination in March, take the compulsory subjects, physics, chemistry, and biology, in November, and postpone entry for the medical course until 1912. The council decided that as the senior examination in March is a special one for which only candidates who intend to enter in the same year for a course of study for a degree can present themselves intending students of medicine could not sit in March and then postpone entry until next year. It was pointed out, however, that such candidates might enter for the senior examination in March and proceed with the B.Sc. course in the subjects of physics, chemistry, and biology, and thus qualify for entry for the medical course in 1912. Mr. J. Edwin Thomas and Mr. A. Y. Harvey were reappointed University auditors. Professor Ennis wrote offering to give a special course of lectures on J. S. Bach's "Well-tempered Clavichord," a work which consists of 48 preludes and fugues, and is one of the most important classics in pianoforte literature. The council accepted Professor Ennis' offer with thanks. The report of the Public Examinations' Board in regard to the Hartley studentship and the Government bursaries for 1911 was approved.

Advertiser, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, 1911.

## ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.

A meeting of the council of the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia was held on Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of considering the proposed expedition to be led by Dr. Mawson, of the Adelaide University, to the Antarctic continent. Dr. Mawson was present by invitation, and after an interesting discussion it was resolved:—"Recognising it to be the valuable right and privilege, as well as the duty, of Australia to take an active part in antarctic exploration while the opportunity remains for her doing so, this council will do all in its power to promote the proposed Australasian Antarctic expedition, and heartily commends the expedition to public support." The president (Mr. A. W. Piper), Sir Langdon Bonython, and Messrs. W. J. Sowden and W. B. Wilkinson were appointed delegates to act with representatives of other bodies on any committee that may be formed in Adelaide to further the interests of the expedition.

## JOHN KNOX "A FENIAN LEADER."

The report of the board of examiners of the Adelaide University in respect to the recent public examinations has just been issued. In referring to the answers to the history questions in the junior examination, they say:—"The failures in history were due rather to inadequate than to inaccurate answers, but there was a little guessing. The instrument of government was variously described as a guillotine, a parliament, an army, and a king. There are many indications that such terms are not clearly understood, and this deficiency was apparent even in the papers that displayed a fair knowledge of history. The Act of Uniformity was 'taken,' the Puritans were sent to prison or 'emancipated,' the Elizabethan revival was 'the name given to the religious movement in Elizabeth's reign.' There is still very little evidence that candidates are taught anything outside the covers of the text-book. One candidate, however, was able to refer to Bacon's attitude of toleration in religious matters, and Richard Hooker's services to the church were mentioned once or twice. The absence of any breadth of view in the better papers leads one to suppose that the weaker candidates are not given that assistance which comes from a living interest in the subject matter. Of course, such methods of instruction make greater demands upon the powers of the teacher, but it is only with teaching of this nature that the study of history can be of permanent educational value. Question 3 on Elizabeth's policy in regard to religious matters was well answered. But Calvin and Luther were frequently spoken of as Englishmen, and John Knox was described as the 'leader of a party of preachers who were called Fenians.' Many strange statements were made about the 39 articles, and the sailing of the Mayflower was often mentioned as an event of Elizabeth's reign."

Register, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>.

Register, 2/2/11.

## THE UNIVERSITY.

The Adelaide University is this year offering five scholarships in connection with the Elder Conservatorium of Music, which will be open for public competition, and will afford the successful candidates three years' free tuition. In singing there will be one each for male and female vocalists, and another special scholarship will be offered for the tenor voice, as it is recognised that this quality is rare, and difficulty is being experienced throughout the world to secure sufficient tenors to supply demand. The other scholarships will be for piano, cello, and organ. In connection with studies at the Conservatorium it has also recently been decided that in future there will be four terms annually instead of three, and the year will begin in February instead of March, as hitherto.

Professor Watson, M.D., will leave Adelaide this afternoon for an extended holiday trip. He will proceed to the eastern States by the Melbourne express, and at a later period will continue his journey to America. The professor is one of the most conspicuous figures in South Australia in connection with medical and surgical circles. He was born in the Riverina district, New South Wales, in 1849, and is a son of the late Mr. S. G. Watson, R.N. His parents wished him to qualify for the church, but his inclinations were always with the medical profession, with the result that he spent a number of years in study in the principal centres of Europe. Professor Watson has occupied the Chair of Anatomy at the Adelaide University since 1885.

Register, Feb. 4.

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## HIGHER EDUCATION.

Last week the Minister of Education (Mr. Coneybeer), the Hons. J. Cowan and A. W. Styles, M.L.C.'s, and A. H. Peake, M.P., and Messrs. Green, Ryan, and Young, M.P.'s, were appointed a royal commission to enquire into and report upon higher education and the University of Adelaide. At a preliminary meeting held on Tuesday Mr. Ryan (who was Chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Assembly on the same subject last year) was elected Chairman, and Mr. J. Sincock (Government Shorthand Writer) was appointed secretary. A memorandum of the needs of the Adelaide University has been placed before the commission by the University council, and this will be taken into consideration at a meeting next Tuesday, when the work of the commission will be mapped out.

## HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION.

The recently-appointed Royal Commission on the Adelaide University and Higher Education held its first meeting on Tuesday morning. The members present were:—Messrs. T. Ryan (chairman), J. Cowan, A. H. Peake, A. W. Styles, and T. Green. After a general discussion as to the best line of enquiry it was resolved to begin by ascertaining what assistance is given by the State to enable State school children to reach the University. The Director of Education (Mr. A. Williams) will be examined by the Commission on Friday at Parliament House.