

—Buildings and their Cost.—

When Sir Thomas Elder died in 1897 he bequeathed to the University £65,000, which brought his total gift to the institution to nearly £100,000. By the terms of his will £20,000 was apportioned to the School of Medicine, and £20,000 to the School of Music; while the residue was left available for general purposes. The Elder Conservatorium of Music was accordingly established in 1898, and opened on September 26, 1900. In consequence of the large increase in the number of students, and the necessity for increased accommodation for the Engineering and Science Schools, a large suite of rooms was built during 1901. The foundation stone of the new building was laid by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York on July 11, 1901, and with his consent the name Prince of Wales Building was bestowed. New buildings for the Medical School were completed in time for the beginning of the academic year 1903. The original wing of the University, together with its additions (the first dissecting room, medical theatre, and classrooms for biology), cost over £39,000. Since 1898 the expenditure on buildings has been:—Elder Conservatorium, £18,780; Prince of Wales Building, £11,055; and Medical School, £5,814.

—Memorial to Sir Henry Ayers.—

Within the main building are busts of Bishop Short, Sir Thomas Elder, Sir Walter Hughes, and ex-Governor Sir William Robinson. The most recent addition to the memorials is a handsome tablet on the main stairs to commemorate the services to the institution of Sir Henry Ayers, who was for 12 years its treasurer. It is of bronze, backgrounded by marble. At its apex is a medallion of the late statesman, and the ornamentation is artistic. Sir Henry placed the University's finances on an eminently sound basis. The monument was erected by his grandchildren.

—Agriculture and Science.—

The Technical School in Perth and the Roseworthy Agricultural College are both affiliated to the University. In the case of the former institution the teaching in some of the subjects for a science degree course—for example, physics, mathematics, and chemistry—is recognised by the University, and students are thereby enabled to proceed with such subjects and qualify for examination at the end of a certain period. Several Western Australian students have graduated. In the case of a student taking the degree of B.Sc. with agriculture the curriculum is divided between the University and the Roseworthy College.

—Advantages for Student Teachers.—

Some years ago the council offered greater facilities for the education of State school teachers, and the bonds between the University and the Education Department have been drawn closer in consequence. The Chancellor in a public utterance claimed that there was no other country in the world in which the University provided for candidates in elementary school teacher-ship in the same way. The University aimed, he said, at giving a complete academic and special training to candidates of the public teaching profession in Adelaide free of charge, and without adding a sixpence to the burden of the taxpayers. He thought there was no event in the history of education in South Australia of more far-reaching importance than the arrangement which secured for young teachers in training some of the benefits of the endowments of the University.

—The Elder Conservatorium.—

The Elder Conservatorium has done much for musical education in South Australia. A complete curriculum is provided and facilities are offered to students for obtaining the associateship after three years' study and examinations. A number of those who have been trained at the Conservatorium have proved themselves to be artists of ability. A commendable departure in regard to the method of obtaining the degree of Mus. Bac. has recently been made. Formerly to obtain it the student had to attend lectures for three years and pass examinations appropriate to each. It was then necessary to write an original exercise on certain defined lines. Naturally, those with a gift of composition found comparatively little difficulty in fulfilling the requirements, but for the more practical mind, judging by the small number who attained the degree, this was a decided obstacle. The council has provided as an alternative to composing that the student may obtain the degree on the practical side. That is to say, after a student has completed three years' academical course, he or she may specialize and pass examinations as an executant in singing, pianoforte, or other approved subject. The first student to take up the practical work for the degree (Miss Marion Kirkwood Kemp) passed as an executant in singing in November last. The

joint scheme of the Universities of Melbourne and Adelaide in regard to public examinations in music has been in operation for three years. In view of the high standard which exists and the facilities offered for the interchange of examiners, the plan should commend itself to teachers and students of music in the Commonwealth, especially as it was stated at the jubilee celebrations of Melbourne University that it would prove to be the nucleus of a federal scheme to be approved and adopted by the Universities of Australasia. Under this scheme fees would be retained in the various States and used for the furtherance of musical education.