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Advertiser Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> 07.

## UNIVERSITY ARTS ASSOCIATION.

### FIRST ANNUAL DINNER.

The first annual dinner in connection with the newly-formed University Arts Association was held at the York Hotel on Saturday evening, when professor Mitchell presided over a large attendance of graduates and undergraduates. The association was recently formed as the result of a suggestion by Professor Henderson, and is intended to bring the students into closer contact with each other for the purpose of social and intellectual intercourse. Professor Mitchell is the president, and Mr. T. G. Robertson the secretary.

The loyal toast was honored at the instance of the president.

Mr. Andrew Scott proposed "The University." He said that when he went to the Training College in 1880 there was one door in the building with the words, "The University," on it. It seemed to him then that this room was comprised in the Adelaide University. The position was changed now, for in the University there was a room, on the door of which they might see, "Adelaide Training College." The Training College had been taken into the heart of the University. There were many departments in a University, but the two essential parts were the professorial staff and the students. The professors were doing their work with marked ability, and one important feature was the large amount of original work done by them. When he thought of one of them writing books, amidst his other duties, which read as charmingly as a fairy tale, he was lost in wonder at the colossal intellect which could do such things. Then, too, Professor Henderson was a champion of the golf field. It was not enough to have good professors; they must also have the students, and he was pleased that the present buildings, which a few years ago were believed to be capable of meeting all requirements for some time to come, were now not adequate to accommodate the large number of students thronging them. After all, the real test of a University was the men it turned out. From the Adelaide University distinguished men had gone to all parts of the world, and wherever they went they were "keeping both ends up." The hope of the future was with the present, and he was glad that such a high ideal was being held up to South Australia in the way their students were trained. (Cheers.)

Professor Henderson, in responding, said it was interesting that on the day when the association had its first annual dinner a contest should have taken place on the river between members of that association and representatives of another school. It was a matter of but little regret to him that they did not win. They only lost by half a length, and they made a good fight. They had worked hard and prepared for the race as if they intended to win. If they could always say that they worked hard like men who intended to win they would not have to record many failures. Referring to the University, he wanted to say that his opinion was that the students formed the important part of the University. It was not half a dozen men in the centre who controlled the power exerted by the University. It was the men who went out from it. If they had ideals and grit and go in them they would stimulate the people of the State, for they would go into different parts and carry their influence with them. The people of the State needed stirring up, and if they could get men of ideals and personality to go to the different centres that would stimulate the life of the country. No individual or nation could be strong unless inwardly resourceful. They expected the students to do much for the State. He believed the Arts Association would be a growing power. He looked for friendly rivalry between the different schools of the University. By organizing they had made themselves a power. (Cheers.)

Mr. C. R. Hodge proposed the "Arts Association." He said a few years ago they could count the students in the arts course on the fingers of both hands. Now they were so numerous that they had become a power, and with such professors as they had they would be second to none in Australia. They never saw Adelaide graduates walking about the streets with their hands in their pockets. The association just formed would be a power in the University, and with such professors as they had to encourage and help them it was bound to be successful. They should remember that united effort counted for a

great deal. During the period he had known the University it had never been so prosperous as at present. (Cheers.)

Professor Naylor, in responding, said he greatly desired to see colleges established at the Adelaide University. Many of the students present would make money, and he was sure that when they did go they would remember their University. The association would give a better chance of doing justice to Cecil Rhodes' will. It would be easier now to find which students were public spirited, and possessed the qualities so highly esteemed by Mr. Rhodes. He hoped and expected that they would have many original compositions at the meetings of the association. Some of these would be serious and some otherwise, and he wanted original songs to have a place. Some time ago they received a request from the Sydney University for a song. Professor Ennis was writing the music to the one which had been decided on. He hoped their gatherings would be of a social character, and that they would be allowed to smoke. He had heard by a side wind the other day that there was every reason to believe that they were going to get a cricket ground, and he wanted to see a club formed before the end of the year, as they wished to compete on equal terms with Melbourne and Sydney. They could not do that until they put a first-class team in the field. (Cheers.)

A number of ditties were sung in chorus by the company, and Messrs. J. T. Barnes and G. Oram, and Professor Naylor, contributed songs, and Mr. W. H. Ifould gave recitation.

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### BEAUTY IN THE MOUNT LOFTY RANGES.

The educational work committee of the Y.M.C.A. were fortunate in being able to arrange for a course of lectures to be given at the Victoria Hall by Professor Henderson in connection with the University extension lectures. The first of these on "Wordsworth" was delivered on Monday evening, when there was a large audience. The Governor and Lady Le Hunte were present. Professor Henderson explained that he was going to speak of Wordsworth as the "priest of nature." His second lecture would be on Tennyson's position as an artist, and in the third he would deal with Browning as a philosopher. In his opinion Browning had given a more complete philosophy of life than any other poet of the 19th century. If they could in some measure understand his works life would become to them a brighter, happier, and better thing. Speaking of Wordsworth he said a great artist was distinguished in that he could invest with a sublime interest the things which were regarded as the commonplaces of life, and by some people were looked on as unworthy of notice. What Wordsworth had done was to idealise the commonplace. At the close of the lecture Mr. Henderson gave a fine word-painting of a sunrise in the Mount Lofty Ranges, and said that there was nothing more beautiful in Cumberland or in Italy than the splendor of the sunrise which might be seen near Adelaide. What he said about the sunrise he might also say about the sunset and the witchery of the blue sky. These things were common. There were people who would fret their souls about the color of their carpet, and yet these beauties would hardly cause them an extra heart-beat. He had heard men rave about diamonds, and in some instances they were quite indifferent to the beauty of a dewdrop flashing out the same prismatic colors. This showed that they were slaves to convention. People would talk about pictures who had no appreciation of the glorious sunset. The best thing pictures could do was to train the mind in a way that would lead to the appreciation of the beauty common in nature and which cost nothing. Those who thought a picture of the sunset better than the sunset itself forgot that the artist would say that the nearer he came to reproducing the western sky the prouder he was of his painting.

### UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES

The name of Professor Henderson is synonymous with large audiences. Probably no more popular lecturer could have been secured to inaugurate the University extension lectures under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. By his brilliant effort at the Victoria Hall on Monday night, the professor placed the scheme of the board of management on a firm, promising basis, and the series should, while giving delight and illumination to hundreds of literary students, benefit the funds of the institution—a stimulation that will be meritorious. The Y.M.C.A. has big enterprises to control, and success in one direction facilitates general development of the work. The authorities have been fortunate in thus securing the co-operation of the University, and the alliance should be beneficent and helpful. The weather was not wholly favourable for the opening lecture, but Professor Henderson attracted a crowd to hear him on "Wordsworth," his first discourse on "Poets of the Nineteenth Century." Among those present were His Excellency the Governor and Lady Le Hunte. The speaker was in entertaining form, and the audience made frequent demonstrations of appreciation. Professor Henderson dealt with the boyhood of the poet—happy, vigorous, free—in the picturesque Lakes country, and the joy he evinced for open spaces and blue skies and green fields. Like Jean Francois Millet, Wordsworth had the genius for idealizing the commonplace. He appealed to the highest faculties in the natures of the British people, and won scorn and contumely. The poet, however, succeeded in educating the public from that point of view. Scorn was swept away, and he was given a place of distinction among the great thinkers. Student life at Cambridge was referred to, the visit to the Continent, and Wordsworth's association with the French Revolution. Apt quotations were given of his love of nature. His interpretation was spiritual. He saw into "the life of things" by the aid of "the light that never was on sea or land." It was a light shining in his own soul. Generally speaking, Wordsworth was lacking in these qualities that made for success in dramatic poetry, but he was one of the best lyrical poets, pre-eminently the poet and priest of Nature.

### THE CONSERVATOR

The Register to the Musical Association to the Elder Co-dissatisfaction extension on its account which represents the music teacher than one hundred "a) That the minimum by students be raised to sixteen for one principal the usual second there be but one students; and (b) of the Conservatory during term the disposal of times be precluded professional Australia, save tional circumstances may grant spe that this press stipulations with the s the bearing of tions upon com enterprise, the larger question functions of the The Register of Peterson (Ormorsby) University of Melbourne minating man Universities and and practically; his argument v tion in music s Universities un to those prevail other branches his article did plate a Univers and secondary which, commit Conservatorium out in the begin noted in pass meaning of "Co-pital. That w nursing, but t has won the having had t extended in mu Mr. Bryceon T lished in The ception to Pro sion of eleme Conservatoriu that the impor dent properly stages justified All Universi sist that can every course s fitness to rec but they lea to supply the rule music st may be quit Peterson in musical educ state of the n fusion;" and obstacles are establishment served by st city require