

Advertiser 7th Mar '07

The West Australian
July 28th '07

The first term of the Elder Conservatorium has begun, and the following classes will reassemble at the times mentioned:—University choral class, under the conductorship of Mr. Frederick Bevan, March 12, at 7.30; ladies' part singing class, March 11, at 1.45; sight singing class, Monday next, 3 p.m.; the elocution class, at 4 p.m. the same day; and the theory classes on Wednesdays and Saturdays at the usual times. The director will meet intending students for ensemble playing on Friday afternoon.

Register 7th Mar '07

Students of the Elder Conservatorium are notified by a business announcement of the reassembling of the following classes:—University Choral Class, under the conductorship of Mr. Frederick Bevan, Tuesday evening next, at 7.30; work in rehearsal Sullivan's "Martyr of Antioch;" ladies' part-singing class, under the conductorship of Miss Guli Hock, Monday afternoon, at 1.45, and Wednesday evening, at 7.30; works in rehearsal, Kiel's "Stabat Mater," Schubert's "God in Nature," and Volbach's "Raffael." The sight-singing class meets on Monday, at 3 o'clock; theory classes, under Mr. T. H. Jones, Mus. Bac., on Wednesday and Saturday at the usual hours; and elocution on Monday, at 4 o'clock, under Mr. Edward Reeves. The director requests all intending students of ensemble playing to meet him at the Conservatorium on Friday, March 8, at 3 o'clock.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES.

SPEECH BY THE MINISTER FOR WORKS.

ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITY ADVOCATED.

The Town Hall was filled yesterday afternoon by a large gathering, comprising a vast preponderance of scholars interested in the recent Adelaide University examinations, with a fairly large sprinkling of parents and friends. The occasion was the distribution of the certificates, prizes, etc., won by candidates at the examinations referred to. Bishop Riley presided, and was supported on the platform by the Minister for Works (Mr. J. Price, M.L.A.), Monsignor Burke, the Inspector-General (Mr. C. P. Andrews), and the principals of several of the secondary schools.

In opening the meeting, the chairman stated that it was the third annual distribution of certificates and prizes in connection with the Adelaide University examinations. In past years the secretarial work of the West Australian University committee had been carried out by Mr. W. E. Cooke and Mr. Jocelyn, but those gentlemen had found that the work had increased to such an extent that they were unable to cope with it. The committee had been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Kandell, late chief clerk of the Education Department, and the work, he had no doubt, would be carried out with that success which had distinguished it in the hands of the two gentlemen who had conducted it previously. The object of the gathering that afternoon was to let the public and the parents know what good work had been achieved by the scholars in West Australian schools. The gathering would also be useful in letting the authorities know how many young men and women there were who wished to educate themselves, and who should be provided with the necessary facilities for extending their knowledge. Last year the Minister for Education had promised that secondary education in Western Australia would be attended to, and also that the questions of higher education and a university would receive the attention of the Government. He trusted that the representative of the Ministry present would have something in the nature of a promise at least to make. Referring to the junior, senior, and higher public examinations, he pointed out that candidates for, say, the junior were not necessarily juniors. A man of 90 years of age might sit for the junior examination, but he could not participate in any of the Government scholarships and such-like, because the rules laid down a stipulated age. In both South Australia and Western Australia the age limit for the junior was 16, and for the senior (Western Australia) 18 years and (South Australia) 17 years. In the higher public examinations the age in both States was 19 years. He referred to the successes which West Australian scholars had achieved in the recent examinations, and dealt with the honours gained by different students in the special honours branches. In the honours list of the junior examination out of 56 honour candidates Western Australia had 22, the first two places coming to this side of the Bight. In the special honours list Western Australian scholars held a good many firsts. In the senior honours list Western Australia scored 16 out of 43, and the first six were from this State. In the higher public examination the honours list was similarly gratifying. Out of 15 Western Australia scored five places. He expressed

ed the hope that scholars would go on with their studies and attain a knowledge which was not merely one gained for money-making purposes.

The distribution of the prizes, medals, and certificates in connection with the primary, junior, senior, higher public, and music examinations to the successful scholars then took place.

The Minister for Works, who during the absence of the Minister for Education is carrying out the duties of that Department, said that the success of West Australian candidates was gratifying. The Government had under consideration, and hoped to have shortly in existence, educational institutions for the higher branches of learning. It seemed to him a rather unfortunate state of affairs that in their midst they had no university where boys and girls might carry their education further. It was unfortunate that parents had to send their children to the Eastern States for those facilities. He had been looking up some statistics in regard to the establishment of universities, and he had found that when in 1876 South Australia had a population of about the same dimensions as that of Western Australia now, the Adelaide University was formed. New South Wales commenced with a population of 190,000, Victoria in 1855 with a population similar to our own, and Tasmania in 1890 with 170,000. Those figures showed that the time had come when Western Australia was entitled to the establishment of a university. They could not close their eyes to the fact that in manufacture, art, science, etc., the prize went to the highest-educated nations. They had only to look at Germany and the United States to see what education had done for those countries. If they wished to retain their position among the nations they had to see to the education of their people. In the agricultural and mining industries they had any amount of scope for the application of science. He did not wish to dogmatise about the class of university they wanted, but its powers should be wide enough to give every boy from the schools, including those of the State, a training without cost to the parents. In Western Australia they had few men of leisure. Most of the boys who would go to the University would go there to assist their progress in after-life. A training which might be suitable for men of leisure was not what the Australian wanted. He hoped that that matter would receive the attention of the authorities when the university was being considered. He considered that if the Ministerial Party and the Labour Party joined forces to secure to the people a university it would be a matter of certainty that the people would get one soon. He did not think that it was generally known that by an arrangement with the Adelaide University students could take the science course at the Perth Technical School. In secondary schools he believed that not one of them had a decent laboratory. In conclusion, he stated that the present education system was like driving a nail into wood. They wanted secondary education and a university to drive it home and clinch it.

At the instance of Monsignor Burke a vote of thanks was accorded the chairman.