advertiser 8/4/22 Degister 10/4/22.

UNIVERSITY AND COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

From "F.W.R.":-A strong effort 'is being made to have "commercial correspondence" struck off the list of subjects that candidates may take at the junior commercal examination at the University, on the Diea that correspondence is, at best, but an inferior and subsidiary form of literature. No one denies that letter-writing is a form of literature; it is, in fact, probably the oldest, and on this ground alone it should be given a greater measure of respect than certain critics are willing to accord it. Again, the writing of a really first-class letter, private or otherwise, calls for such a combination of qualities at once rare in themselves, and rarer still in their conjunction, that the art cannot be lightly set aside as unworthy of attainment. As to commercial correspondence, that term is understood in two senses, widely different. The present opponents of it as a subject of instruction and examination by the Pubhe Examination Board of the University are no doubt thinking of it in its marro ver meaning, so far as it relates to the letters that pass daily between people in the business world. Even in this restricted sense, however, correspondence calls for something more than the ability to write English clearly and precisely, for the writme of business letters involves technicalities and dioms not to be "picked up" in the ordinary literature lessons. Modern educationists give to the term "commercial correspondence a wider meaning, and not only apply it to the writing of business letters. but intend it to embrace a knowledge of how the clerical side of business transactions of all descriptions is conducted. Looked at from this point of view, the satjeet is certainly worthy of inclusion in the public examinations of any university that clasms to eater for the wants of all classes. It is then seen to include a thorough knowletter of office routine, from the junior clerk's duties to those of the chief clerk. Filing and indexing must be studied, precis writing learnt, and more than a passing acquaintance made with inland and foreign postal information. The drafting of telegrams, letters, circular letters, and adverthements: the preparation of commercial forms and accounts, such as account sales, accounts current, and the like are distinetly a section of loffice routine. The studies should also cover sales of goods, carriage, banking, cheques, bills of exchange and promissory notes, maurance, import and export trade, the markets of the world, and so on. All this comprises an extensive subject of education, not useless or subsidiary to any other branch of literature. but important enough to have a place of as own in the junior commercial examination. There need be no lowering of the academic flag so long as teachers and examiners deal with the subject-os they should with all subjects they touch-in a lofty spirit and with a strict regard to the principles involved.

Régister 1/122.

Mr. Laurie Kennedy and Miss Dorothy McBride, Mus. Bac. (Mrs. Kennedy), who migrated from Adelaide to bigger musical fields several years ago, have more than justified that step. Successful recitals have been given by the gifted 'cellist and planiste in many of the big English and continental centres. This year they have had recitals in London at Wigmore Hall, and these have been splendidly patronised. Commenting upon one of the performances, The London Daily Telegraph stated:- Mr. Lauri Kennedy introduced three very attractive little pieces for violonce lo by Arthur Hinton, at the recital which he and Miss Dorothy Me-Bride gave at the Wigmore Hall on Tuesday evening. Mr. Kennedy, who is certainly a very fine violoncellist indeed, played them beautifully. He was very happy in his association with Miss Mc-Bride in two Sonatas, those by Sammartini in G, and Beethoven in D, and their artimate understanding and perfect unanimity gave the performances a rare distinction. . The London Times also paid this tribute: - "The Sonatas, Sammartini in G., and Beethoven in D., showed their art to the best advantage, since it was quite evident that they had made a special study of ensemble playing. They played by heart, and the thorough knowledge of the music which this implied went further than just certainty as to the notes, it was a knowledge of each other's intentions and powers, and in the case of Beethoven an unusual degree of musical understandirst as well. One may mention the fact that the performance of the difficult slow movement was rather exceptional, by reason of the clear way in which its strange romanterism was brought out." Miss Mc-Bride is a daughter of Inspector W. J. Mettrele, ex-conductor of the "Thousand Voices Choir," in connection with the Education Department, and Mr. Kenmody can trace his gift, on the maternal ade, to the Carrandint family, 1

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

A school for the theoretical and practical training of pianoforte teachers will be opened in connection with the Elder Conservatorium of Music at the beginning of the third term of this year. Mr. I. C. Reimann, who received his training in this subject under Dr. H. Bischoff, Professors X. Schanwenka, and H. Germer, while abroad, and who has successfully conducted teachers' classes, will have charge. The full course is to last two years (one weekly lecture). The principal subjects coming under review will be:-Elementary and advanced teaching methods, tone production, principles of artistic rendition, history and laws of phrasing, musical ornaments, history of pianoforte playing and literature. Although the complete course will occupy two years, arrangements will be made whereby students will be able to enter for the pianoforte teachers' examination of either the diploma course or the public examinations in music, conducted by the Australian Universities at the end of 1923. Intending members of this course must have attained a fairly advanced standard in pianoforte playing.

advertiser. 11/7/22

CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Classical Association met at the University on Friday evening. Professor Darnley Naylor occupied the chair, paper was read by Mr. G. M. Potts on "Recent archaeological discoveries." The speaker gave a brief account of excavations during the last 25 years in Greek lands, and in the ancient Egyptian town of Oxyrhynchus. The most important discovery was that of an Aegean civilisation which existed nearly 4,000 years ago. Excavations in Crete had uncovered the palace of Minos, Lord of Knossos, and the discoveries made there and elsewhere in Crete proved the existence of a highly cultured peopule. That culture spread over the Aegean, and thence to the mainland of Greece. Combining with the culture of the Dorian invaders, it gave rise to the Greek civilisation of historic times. Excavations had also been carried out in Athens, Corinth, and Delphi. In Asia Minor similar work had been done at Ephesus, Pergamum, Sardis, and other Greek cities. At Oxyrhynchus valuable discoveries of Greek papyri had been made by Grenfell and Hunt. Among these papyri were found numerous classical texts, royal ordinances, accounts, contracts, and letters belongin; to the first century of the Christian era. Many had been edited and published, but the work was not by any means completed.

advertiser 121 POETRY.

There was a large attendance at the Prince of Wales Theatre at the University on Tuesday evening, when Professor Strong delivered the second of a series of three lectures on Swinburne and Morris. He said much of the poetry of William Morris had an important place in English literature. Like Swinburne, Rosetti, Browning, and Ruskin, he was born to comfort and leisure. A more helpful influence in his life, however, was the sombre beauty of Epping Forest, on the outskirts of which was his boyhood's home. The peculiar love for the middle ages, which was so much a part of his work, was born in him. As a boy his favorite toy was a miniature suit of armor, cladin which he used to ride in the forest, He loved the fourteenth century, and his conception of art was based on mediaeval art. To him the Renaissance was disturbing and even offensive. His biographer, Mr. J. W. McKail, related that Morris learned to read at an early age, and when he was four years old be was deep in the Waverley novels, soon to be followed by the "Arabian Nights." His schooldays were spent at Marlborough, and in 1843 he went to Exeter CoHege, Oxford, There he made friends with Edward Burne-Jones. At this time Morris had aristocratic and high church leanings, which were in strong contrast to the Socialistic beliefs of his later life. He was profoundly influenced by Ruskin, and in a less degree by Tennyson. His first poem, "The Willow and the Red Cliff," appeared while he was at Oxford. He now began to read Browning and Chaucer, and the influence of the latter was visible in his work throughout his life. Much of his work appeared in a magazine sponsored by himself and some

of his under-graduate friends, who formed a brotherhood. He met Dante Gabriel Rossetti at the close of his university days. He worked for a time in the office of Street, the great architect, and afterwards studied painting with Burne-Jones, and helped him to decorate the Oxford Union. As an evidence of the lengths to which his love of the mediaeval could carry him it was related that he was so pleased with a suit of mail designed as a model for him that he insisted on dining in it. His tempestuous nature now began to assert itself. In 1858 he published his first book, "The Defence of Guinevere," and although the poems had not the sweep and depth of color of those of Mallory, whom Morris so intensely admired, they had a sweeping grace of form and an intensity and poignancy, although they lacked the overwhelming melody of sound with which Swinburne flooded a mediaeval subject. The painter's vision was repeatedly noticeable in the rich, colorful effect gained with a wonderful economy of words, After the publication of this book Morris spent five years at Aobey Wood, and then went to London, where he founded the firm of Morris & Co., decorators and house furnishers, in Red Lion-square. All the many sides of his genius found expression here, and when it was remembered that in addition to all the intricacies of this great business he mastered the arts of dyeing and printing one could guess something of his

erowded life. After astonishing activity in these directions between 1865 and 1870 he turned to literature again, publishing "The Life and Death of Jason" in 1887. This was beautiful but not richly-wrought poetry. Morris denied that there was any such thing as poetic inspiration, declaring that success in poetry was achieved only by craftsmanship. It was related that in one day he composed 700 lines of his great work, "The Earthly Paradise. He became a student of Icelandic Sagas, and in 1876 this culminated in the publication of an epic work, "Sigurd the Volsung." It was written in true Saga style, and one had to look through violent effects for the beauty and nobility which were there. Sigurd stood as a tragic and epic figure, a great lover and great hero foiled for ack of something within himself. The poem in many ways transcended "Tristram of Lyonnesse," for the heroic couplet, the metre used in the latter, alowed for no great sublimity such as was looked for in an epic. The metre chosen and largely fashioned by Morris for Sigurd allowed of great richness and depth of expression. "Sigurd the Volsung," set Morris in a place peculiarly his own among English poets, and the metre he employed in it would have a profound effect upon English poetry. There was a great future for it, because, like blank verse, it was singularly suited to the needs of an Eng-

lish emc. Professor Strong gave several fine renderings of passages from "The Defence of Guinevere" and "Sigard the Volsung."

advertiser 14/1/22. advertiser 18/1/22.

UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS. From G. G. NEWMAN:-Afflicted with the prevailing itch of innovation, the University authorities have issued a provisional syllabus, the contents of which must irk many a teacher and more students. old primary is dead and buried, the junior and semior have been laid to rest, but allowed to revive under the new titles of intermediate and leaving. The insane conjunction of science and trigonometry under the name of algebra for mere children taking the intermediate continues, and its detail contains pages of headlines designated with meticulous monotony. In Leaving English literature students are asked to read 12 English novels, none of which are named, but must be selected at free will. In Leaving Latin about 12 text-books are recommended. What folly is this? How can booksellers cater for each individual? If Livy, Horace, Vergil, and Cicero must be studied why not select one book each? Is there anything wrong with the old rule of teaching one book and teaching it well? There can be only about a dozen professors in any town; this workaday world is carried on by the average individual, whowhen he leaves school, for the most part forgets most of his studies. The greatest heroes have not always been great scholars. I doubt whether South Antralia's greatest son, the late Sir Ross Smith, ever passed Junior or Senior. At any rate, I read that one speaker at a dinner in Sydney recalled the fact that in one of his school reports the master said, "Ross will never set the Thames on fire." It would pe interesting to head to 15 of t sails all ban A satisfaction in wear, appearance, and com fort. sarved 500 of these for our Country O. ers. offer of a few hundred Suits, to make room it

VISEN-WELL-MADE ALL-WOOL TWEED SUITS, remarkable Price Concessions. section, with the result that w advertiser 14 UNIVERSITY AND COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

From "MERCATOR":- I support the plea advanced by "F.W.R." against the omission of "Commercial correspondence" from the junior commercial examination of the University. Letter writing is of great importance in any scheme of education. There is no more useful accompliabment in these days than the ability to write a good business letter. It is generally regarded as a guarantee of other abilities, and frequently serves to secure a favorable introduction into the business world for those possessing it. The extension of higher commercial education, and the increase in the amount of business transacted by correspondence, both require that serious study should be given to this subject. Joseph Addison, the most graceful of English essayists, referring to letter-writing, wrote:-"I cannot forebear mentioning a particular which is of use in every station of life, and which, methinks, every master should teach his scholars; I mean the writing of letters. To this end, instead of perplexing them with Latin epistles, themes, and verses there might be a punctual correspondence established between two boys, who might act in any imaginary parts of business, or be allowed sometimes to give a range to their own fancies, and communicate to each other whatever trifles they thought fit, provided neither of them ever sailed at the appointed time to answer his correspondent's letter. I believe I may venture to affirm that the generality of boys would find themselves more advantaged by this custom when they come to be men, than by all the Greek and Latin their masters can teach them in seven or eight years. The want of it is very visible in many learned persons, who, while they are admiring the style of Demosthenes or Cicero, want phrases to explain themselves on the most common occasions." In later times Professor Hadley, of Yale University, said in a public address:-"One may be a graduate of a university and not be able to write a good business letter." Two centuries separate these expressions, yet what a similarity in thought! It is admitted that advanced education gives culture with appreciation of higher arts and large affairs, but it often overlooks training in those minor practical usages so valuable to all men. If, as Addison suggests, training in letter writing was needed in the eighteenth century, when post-offices were scarcely heard or, how much more is it needed in the twentieth century when the post reaches the uttermost parts of the earth, and when the largest share of the world's business is canducted by correspondence. I trust that the subject of correspondence, even without the additions which "F.W.R." recommends, will continue to fill a place in the junior commercial examinations.

UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS

From "STUDENT": -I have read Mr. G. G. Newman's comments, and my views of the subject are concordant with his. All persons doing the intermediate or leaving examinations do not attend colleges or high schools, and, consequently, have not so much time to study as those who attend day school. Some persons, like myself, have had to leave school through adverse circumstances, and go to work, but nevertheless, attend night school. How can they in one year read 12 English novels thoroughly and do the general English besides, or become familiar with 12 recommended Latin books of the classics. It is difficult enough to study two Latin books thoroughly, let alone become acquainted with, 12. The worthy gentlemen on the Latin committee might reduce the number of set books to three. According to the recent University syllabus, a preposterous amount of studying will be required. Studying is a pleasure, but when overdone, a crime. I trust that the gentlemen on the Public Examinations Board will revise their recent syllabus.