

Reg. 8th Dec 1902.

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When educational systems and University examinations cause our young people to learn things in which they feel no curiosity, and take no interest, they fail to be strictly educational. The public service examinations in England were organized as a protection against the great scandal and cost of appointments and promotions through political influence. Clive and Wellington, Napoleon and Washington, Sir Isaac Newton and Linnaeus, Swift and Scott were dunces or idlers at school; and, though they lived in the old stupid days of teaching, there is little doubt that they would have failed under our modern tests. Why should all our educated men be turned out on the same pattern when the whole trend of evolution is to differentiate? The competition for employment among educated men is all the keener because of the uniformity of the training they receive. However, the examination system is in existence, and all that can be done is to suggest some palliatives which would give it more elasticity. Except for a few important dates, absolute exactness is not so good as an approximation to it; for the latter shows conversance with the period, while the precise date may be mere rote work. Where two or more facts give rise to an idea, it should be considered more valuable than a greater number of facts without any original thought. Where one subject is intelligently treated, the paper in which it is discussed should have preference over a colourless essay, which is better spelt or marked by superior construction. Political economy is one thing; spelling and grammar are quite different matters. The examiners should encourage and not discourage originality, and they might frame the questions to that end. Memory was not the only parent of the Muses—the creative spirit of Zeus had even a larger share in their origin; and memory without that creative spirit may be both slavish and tyrannical.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.
EXAMINATION IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING—NOVEMBER, 1902.
Pass.—Charles Louis Almers, Gustav Emil Untebbaum.
PRACTICE OF MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.
—Award of Medals.—
Medals granted to the highest candidates in public examinations of practice of music have been awarded as under:—
Gold Medals.—Senior grade, Maurice Clayton Chenoweth (singing); junior grade, Maude Bryce Rodall (pianoforte). Silver Medal.—Senior grade, Lillian Venetia Glendinnen (pianoforte).

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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.
DEGREE OF MUS. BAC.
—First Year.—
First Class.—None.
Second Class.—Reginald John Bevan.
Third Class.—Winifred Phoebe Nicoll.
—Second Year.—
First Class.—George Gavin Forrest Gardner.
Second Class.—Ruby Claudia Emily Davy, Gones Christian Crawford Bellemann.
Third Class.—Mary Imelda Callery.
—Third Year.—
None.
CONSERVATORIUM PRIZES.
The council of the University, at its meeting on Friday, approved the following awards of prizes in connection with the Elder Conservatorium:—
The Oratorio Prize, for the best solo singer of oratorio music—Ethel H. H. Hantke.
The Brookman Prize for the best player on a stringed instrument—Eugene H. Alderman (violin).
The Frederick Bevan Prize, for the best accompanist of vocal music—Maude M. Puddy.
The Elder Conservatorium Prize (see University Calendar for 1902, pages 226 and 227)—Eugene H. Alderman, Maude M. Puddy, equal.
The Directors' Prize, for the best performer on the pianoforte—Maude M. Puddy.
The Robert Winham Prize, for elocution—Ada C. L. Thomas.

Ad. 15th Dec. 1902.

THE FIRST LOCAL DOCTOR OF MUSIC.

SUCCESS OF MR. E. HAROLD DAVIES.

The musical public of Adelaide will learn with pleasure of the success of Mr. E. Harold Davies, who has passed his final examination for the degree of Doctor of Music of the University of Adelaide, and thus is the first musician to win that distinction. Prior to this he held the degree of Mus. Bac. of the same University and Associate of the Royal College of Organists, London. Mr. E. Harold Davies was born at Oswestry, England, in July, 1857. He comes of a musical family, his father having been conductor of the local Handel Society, and associated with the celebrated Dr. Henry Leslie in the local production of many choral works. Mr. E. Harold Davies was educated at the Oswestry Grammar School, where he was one of the choristers in the chapel choir. At the early age of 16 he became organist of Christ Church, and remained there until his departure for South Australia, which took place in December, 1886. Mr. Davies then being in his twentieth year. It was not, however, until after he had secured this appointment that he entertained serious thoughts of taking up music as a profession. When this step was taken he at once became a pupil of Dr. Joseph C. Bridge, the eminent organist of Chester Cathedral. On his arrival in Adelaide he was appointed organist and choirmaster of Christ Church, Kapunda. This position he held for nearly two years, at the same time conducting the Kapunda Philharmonic Society. His next position was at St. Peter's, Glenelg, where he entered upon his duties in November, 1888, and continued until January, 1890, when he resigned in order to have a trip to England. Shortly after his arrival in the old country he secured the appointment of organist and choirmaster of the Chapel Royal, Windsor Park (H.R.H. Prince Christian's), and in July, 1890, he succeeded in obtaining the degree of Associate of the Royal College of Organists. He was busy preparing for the higher degree of Fellow of the same college when the approach of a severe winter made it necessary for him to seek a warmer climate, so he resigned his appointment, and again sailed for South Australia. Soon after his return he was selected from a number of candidates for the position of organist and choirmaster at St. Paul's, Adelaide. Mr. Davies's University career was an exceptionally brilliant one, and he occupies the unique position of being the first student who obtained a first class in each year of the musical course. The degree of Mus. Bac. was conferred upon him at the University of Adelaide commemoration celebration in December, 1896. The report of the examiners—Sir Herbert Oakley, M.A., Mus. Doc., and Professor J. F. Bridge, Mus. Doc.—on his exercise was most flattering. They said:—"The composition by Mr. E. Harold Davies appears to rank higher than the average on these occasions, and contains some excellent work, evincing not only qualifications for the degree sought by the candidate, but revealing, we believe, decided promise as a composer." This composition, which won such high encomiums from the English examiners, was a setting of the 145th Psalm, for chorus and solo voices, with an accompaniment for a quintet of strings, and organ. Since April, 1897, Mr. Davies has held an appointment as organist and choirmaster of the Kent Town Wesleyan Church, which contains one of the finest organs in the states, and was specially built for Mr. Davies. He has been unusually successful in the teaching of composition, having instructed in the art all the graduates (of whom there are now six) that have taken the degree of Mus. Bac. during the last four years. Mr. Davies is the composer of several songs and anthems. Three of the latter have been published by Messrs. Novello & Co., who also purchased the copyright in two instances. Two of his brothers have been engaged in the musical profession—the late Mr. C. A. Davies, who was well known in Gawler, where he lived, as a musician of singular refinement and ability; and Dr. Walford Davies, a younger brother, who is at present organist of Temple Church, London, a professor of the R.O.M., and a composer who has already achieved fame in the rising English school.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor will this morning attend the annual meeting of the Old Colonists' Association. On Tuesday morning he will, with Lady Way and Sir John and Lady Forrest, attend the St. Peter's College annual speech-day, and the service in the college chapel. In the evening his Excellency will hold an at-home at the Elder Hall, to the students and professorial and teaching staff of the University. On Wednesday morning he will officially receive his Excellency the Governor-General upon the latter's arrival in Adelaide. In the afternoon of the same day he will, as Chancellor, preside at the annual commemoration of the University, and in the evening, at the annual University dinner. On Thursday afternoon Sir Samuel will attend the annual speech-day of Prince Alfred College. On Friday evening he will preside at the first annual speech-day of the Methodist Ladies' College, and Lady Way will present the prizes.

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At the last meeting of the council of the Adelaide University Mr. E. Harold Davies, who has just completed his Mus. Doc. course with distinction, was appointed to a seat on the board of musical studies of the University. Mr. Davies will doubtless prove an acquisition to this department of the University, and the appointment of such a prominent member of the local profession outside of the Elder Conservatorium should prove popular in musical circles.

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UNIVERSITY COMMEMORATION.
A University commemoration will be held in the Elder Hall on Wednesday afternoon, when candidates for various degrees and the winners of prizes and scholarships will be presented to the Chancellor. Among those to be admitted ad eundem gradum is Rp. Sir John Forrest, LL.D., of Cambridge, upon whom the degree of Doctor of Laws will be conferred. The members of the senate and the council will leave the concert room at 2.50 p.m., attired in academic costume proper to their respective degrees and offices, and the formal ceremonies of admission will be carried out.

Reg 10th Dec. 1902.

AMUSEMENTS.

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

The final concert of the year by the students of the Elder Conservatorium attracted a crowded and most appreciative audience on Tuesday evening. All of the young people who appeared are fairly well known to regular attendants at these concerts; indeed, the majority may be fairly regarded as the "crack" students of the institution. Consequently the performance generally was of a high order, and the audience attested their approval by recalling every one of the young musicians. A satisfactory opening was made with the first movement of Mendelssohn's Octet, Op. 29, for four violins, two violas, and two cellos, played by Misses Clarice Gmeiner, Winnifred Cowperthwaite, Florence Cooke, Mus. Bac., Vera Jurs., and Ethel Ridings, and Messrs. Eugene Alderman, Harold Parsons, and Fritz Homburg. In their rendering of this attractive work the young instrumentalists gave every evidence of careful preparation, and though there were occasional lapses, their intonation was, on the whole, good. Master Brewster Jones, a young pianist of great promise, displayed capital technical powers and intelligence in his playing of Liszt's difficult "Rigoletto fantasia." Another excellent pianoforte solo was contributed by Miss Helen Phillips, who gave the first movement from Schumann's A minor concerto, with technical finish and much taste. The orchestral accompaniment was played on a second pianoforte by Mr. G. Reimann. Miss Maud Puddy displayed fine power in her rendering of Brahms's "Variations on a Hungarian song," and obtained a splendid climax to the piece. A neat performance came from Miss May Manning, whose selection was Kirchner's "Friendly greetings," Op. 5, No. 4, and Brahms's "Capriccio," Op. 70, No. 5, for the pianoforte. The violin was represented by Mr. Eugene Alderman, who played the "Romance" and "Finale a la Zingara," from Wieniawski's second concerto in a really brilliant manner, and Mr. William Code, who was billed for the familiar "Ballade et Polonaise," by Vieuxtemps, but, unfortunately, after giving about half the piece in splendid style, the young violinist's memory deserted him, and he had to abandon it. Mr. Maurice Chenoweth excelled himself in his fine rendering of Blumenthal's song "The Message," in which he displayed clear enunciation and admirable expression. An equally good performance came from Miss Martha Brugemann, whose voice management in the recit. "And God said," and aria "With verdure clad," from Haydn's "Creation," calls for warm commendation. Save for a slight tendency to force her voice Miss Ethel Hantke may be cordially praised for her interpretation of a familiar selection from Gounod's "Faust," and Miss Katie Joyce and Miss Nellie Jarvis were heard to great advantage in a scene from Sullivan's "Golden Legend," which they sang with a high degree of intelligence. Master Harold Parsons displayed excellent technique and a good tone in his cello solo Grutzmacher's "Fantasie Hongroise," Op. 7. The pianoforte accompaniments were shared by Miss Guli Haak, A.R.C.M., Mr. Heinicke, Mr. Bevan, and Master Brewster Jones.

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TRINITY COLLEGE MUSICAL EXAMINATIONS.