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very brilliant. Electricity is everywhere. Practically every house is lighted and heated by it. The cooking is done in electric stoves, and electric power is in general use."

Mr. Smith went on to explain that the price for electric supply varies in different parts of the country. For domestic purposes it ranges from 5d. per unit, downwards, and for power from 3d. to 1d. per unit. In many districts the current is generated in the mountains by means of waterfalls, while in other districts coal is used. The current is sometimes carried for 200 or 300 miles by means of high-tension mains. As an illustration of the wide range of use to which it is put, Mr. Smith mentioned that it is extensively used in connection with irrigation works, as the motive power for driving the plant. "California," he said, "is literally covered with a network of high-tension lines, from which a great number of communities are supplied with power for irrigation and light. Every city of any size has its electric car service. The horse-drawn car has entirely disappeared, and there are very few cable cars left." He explained that the "inter-urban electric roads" had been very largely developed. A good example of this was supplied by the state of Indiana, which was practically covered with systems of electric car lines, some of them running 200 or 300 miles in different directions. The overhead trolley was used, and the cars travelled at a speed of 40 miles an hour. So extensive were the inter-urban systems that it was now possible to travel all the way from New York to Chicago by them. Of course, this would take longer than going direct by ordinary railroad, but it was possible.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

Various causes have contributed to the delay in the publication of the results of the senior and junior public examinations for 1912, which should have been available about the end of December. To suit the convenience of the teachers the examinations were put off until a fortnight after the usual time for holding them, so that they should fall as near the break-up for the Christmas vacation as possible. That meant that the examiners were not able to complete their work before the holidays. Another cause was that there were record numbers of candidates in three of the divisions—junior, senior, and junior commercial. The senior commercial candidates for 1912 numbered only 9, compared with 22 for the previous year. A factor which also militated against the completion of the results was the fact that there were 13 centres in Western Australia, most of which have irregular mail services, and the missing of one mail meant that the papers did not reach Adelaide until a week after they were due. In fact, many of the examiners have only just handed in their papers. The number of candidates who sat at the examinations were:—Junior, 933 (representing 6,000 papers); senior, 532 (2,600 papers); junior commercial, 81 (570 papers); senior commercial, 9 (43 papers). The candidates for 1911 numbered 746, 530, 47, 22. All those papers will have to be carefully checked, and the results will not be available until about the end of this month. The senior will be published first, and will be followed by the junior some days later.

EDUCATION SQUARE.

THE CONTEMPLATED ALTERATIONS.

A GRAND SCHEME.

The alterations which are contemplated in the block running back from North terrace, which is popularly known now as Education Square represent a vast undertaking worthy of the imagination of men who believe in the future of South Australia. The University alone needs more room, particularly in connection with the scheme for providing residential quarters for the undergraduates, and it is certain that other institutions on North terrace in the no distant future, will need to be added to.

Broadly, the scheme which is contemplated is to remove the Police Barracks, probably to the ground near the Adelaide Gaol. The Destitute Asylum will also be taken away, and accommodation provided for the old people at Magill, where they will be comfortably housed in bungalows surrounded by a hedge, which will be less austere than the high wall which surrounds their home in Adelaide. They will have a magnificent view, and should be better off altogether than they are at present. The Military Department, of course, will be moved in due time to Keswick. When all these old buildings have been demolished there will be a considerable area for the extension of the University and other institutions on North terrace.

Before extra ground is given to the University the utmost care will probably be taken to safeguard the future requirements of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery. The lastnamed especially is likely to require considerably more room, and when it is to be extended another wing will probably be added further west, with an ambulatory passage at the northern end connecting the two wings. With the building there, except for the frontage to North terrace, the space available for these important educational institutions which are controlled by the Public Library Board, will have been exhausted, unless an area of ground is reserved on the southern boundary of the block which will be made available by the removal of the military offices and the Destitute Asylum. There will be left considerable space for the uses of the University. Proposals have been made that the Exhibition Gardens and the western portion of the Exhibition itself should be handed over to the University, but it is very doubtful whether this will be done, because the gardens, which have their like in only one other city in the world, are in great request, and are one of the most popular resorts in the city, while the building itself is in constant demand for educational, religious, and other purposes valued by the public.

Whatever may be ultimately decided in detail, the scheme is a grand one, involving a very large expenditure. It will mean a vast improvement to North terrace, and the utmost care and forethought will be needed with the possibilities of the future kept well in mind to see that the money is wisely spent.

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—University of Self-education.—

Mr. Peake had graduated at the same university as that which had produced Abraham Lincoln—the university of self-education. (Applause.) As Chancellor of the University he desired to mention the fact that Mr. Peake had a hereditary interest in the cause of education, because he was the son of a schoolmaster. In each instance when Mr. Peake had held Ministerial office he had taken the portfolio of education as one of his portfolios. In 1908 and again in 1912 he had raised the salaries of the most ill-paid servants of the Public Service of South Australia—the school teachers. (Hear, hear.) In making those increases in the salaries he had paid special attention to the claims of the small schools in the remote districts. Thus one of the great difficulties of education in South Australia had been practically solved. In addition, Mr. Peake had established free secondary education at the Adelaide High School, and had been responsible for the establishment of schools of that character all over the State.

—Interest in Higher Education.—

He wished to express appreciation for the kindly interest Mr. Peake had shown in higher education, not only with regard to the Adelaide University but also the School of Mines. Before the Education Commission, when sitting on the Opposition benches, Mr. Peake had supported the Veran Government respecting the recommendation of the Commission to the Government to add £4,000 to the endowment of the University and to give £12,000 for buildings, without which the institution could not have been satisfactorily carried on. (Hear, hear.) His latest service to the University had been in giving effect to Mr. Barr Smith's offer—(Applause)—a munificence to which, happily, they were all so accustomed that frequently the anonymity of some of his most generous gifts was destroyed. Mr. Peake had promised that the Government would supplement pound for pound the £10,000 given by Mr. Barr Smith, and also set apart more land to the University, and thus help it to proceed with its work on still more satisfactory lines.

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A Murray Bridge correspondent writes:—"The Minister for Education has granted the request for a high school at Murray Bridge, and Mr. Arthur Hilton, B.A., has been appointed assistant in charge. The one successful candidate for South Australia for the Military College cadetship of those educated at the public schools, and specially referred to by the Minister for Defence, is Mr. A. W. Coward, of the Murray Bridge School. He followed his teacher from Clare last January, and studied for both the senior and the Military College examinations; and as, owing to an alteration of dates, the two examinations clashed, he was granted by the council the unique distinction of having a special senior examination in three subjects arranged for all to himself at the Murray Bridge University centre. When entering on his course he had received the assurance of the military authorities that their examinations would not synchronize with any of the dates for university public examinations."

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Dr. Ronald Trudinger and Mr. Martin Trudinger, B.A., were tendered a public farewell on Friday evening, at St. Giles's Presbyterian Church, Norwood, on the eve of their departure for the Sudan United Mission. They are sons of Mr. Augustus Trudinger, of Marryatville, and already have five sisters and one brother in the Chinese mission fields. The two young men have been associated with St. Giles's since their infancy. Dr. Trudinger will be attached to the Freed Slave Medical Institute, and his brother will be engaged in training native teachers, in order to establish a church. The sterling merit of the two missionaries was referred to in the course of interesting addresses delivered by the Revs. A. J. Wade (Moderator), J. Hall Angus (Chairman), and Lockhart Morton, and Messrs. W. Herbert Phillipps, and R. Gilchrist. The brothers were each presented with a purse of sovereigns by Mr. W. L. Ligertwood, in behalf of a number of subscribers.