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## EDUCATION MADE EASY.

"FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL TO UNIVERSITY FREE."

Sydney, August 25.

Mr. Carmichael (Minister of Education) said yesterday that in future boys would pass from public school to university free of charge. He was endeavoring to bring about a number of reforms which he thought should have been established years ago. They had continued primary education into the high schools, which should be the receptacle of the whole brains of the State, and they also proposed to make the university the final coping-stone. The present Government had laid down a progressive scheme so far as education was concerned, and they hoped to pass a Bill which would make compulsory trade and industrial education, which should be the foundation of their natural prosperity. In short, the boy of the future would be able to pass from the smallest primary school in the country to the university and become a professional man without a charge upon his father.

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## MISS MARTHA BRUGGEMANN.

SUCCESSFUL APPEARANCE IN LONDON.

LONDON, August 24.

Miss Martha Bruggemann, the South Australian soprano, made a successful appearance at the Queen's Hall, at one of the popular promenade concerts of Sir Henry Wood, on Friday night.

Miss Martha Bruggemann has been honoured with two engagements in the present "promenade" season under the eminent conductor, Sir Henry Wood. During the past few months the popular Adelaide singer, who was sent to Europe for study through the assistance of the Girls' Realm Guild, has been receiving finishing tuition at the hands of M. Buozy, in Paris.

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The Senate of the recently established University of Western Australia consists of 18 members. Two of these are ladies, one a graduate in medicine, and the other in arts. This is the only university governing body in Australia—probably in the British Empire (says The Sydney Mail)—on which ladies serve in this capacity, and the innovation may be regarded as an indication of the recognition of the rights and privileges of women in the cause of education. The ladies thus honoured in the West are Miss Gertrude Mead, M.B., Ch.B., a graduate of the University of Melbourne, and Mrs. M. L. Moss, B.A., of Otago, New Zealand, wife of the well-

Mr. Harold Giles, B.A., of Penton Vale Station, Yorketown, who has been studying for the Anglican ministry, left last week for England, where he will have a three years' course preparatory to taking up missionary work in China. Miss Giles, his sister, is accompanying him.

Mr. Harry C. Wible, who has been

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Among the passengers who arrived by R.M.S. Orontes on Saturday last were Professor and Mrs. T. G. E. Osborn. Professor Osborn has been appointed professor of botany, vegetable pathology, and parasitology at the Adelaide University, and consulting botanist and vegetable pathologist to the South Australian Government. He graduated at the Victoria University of Manchester with high distinctions, and for the last four years has held the post of lecturer in economic botany there. Such a post brought him in touch with many problems in connection with applied botany, and especially in relation to various diseases of plants. He has investigated and made useful observations on some of the diseases which menace the English crops. The greater part of the research work he has undertaken has been in connection with plant pathology. Mrs. Osborn also graduated with high honours at Manchester University, and for the last three years has held a post of lecturer there. She has done important research in plant morphology. Professor and Mrs. Osborn are at present staying with their aunt, Mrs. Berry, at Grafton, Statenborough street, Knightsbridge. Professor Osborn, who will not be 25 years of age until October 2, will receive £800 per annum. He won his M.Sc. degree last year, and has filled many important positions.

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## AN ELECTOR.

### THE PRIMARY UNIVERSITY EXAMS.

To the Editor.

Sir—The University primary examination papers this year were generally fair and reasonable. In the Latin paper and in a few others the examiners went beyond the text-books set in one or two questions, but hardly to an extent that would seriously affect the prospects of candidates. In the French paper, however, the examiner went much further, and set a paper which can only be characterised as grossly unfair to students and teachers. In the syllabus of the primary exam. for 1912 Pasnacht's grammar and progressive French course, first year (Macmillan), is given as the text-book, and it is expressly set forth that the examination will be "easy translations" from French to English, and English to French, and that "the vocabulary required will be that used in the grammar." In the face of this, very difficult passages were set for translation, which would have taxed the best junior students to do correctly, to say nothing of boys between 12 and 14. In the French pieces I have myself counted no less than 12 words which are not given in the vocabulary, besides three of which the examiner has kindly furnished the meaning at foot. "How do you do?" and "toothache" are in the same category in English into French. One of the three words given at foot is the comparatively easy one, "boire," to drink, while such a phrase as "en moins de rien" (an idiom meaning "in no time," "in a trice") is not given at all. It is perfectly evident that the examiner had no notion of what is really required from primary students, and was unacquainted with the text-book. Many of the candidates, I am told, refused to do the paper at all. Others struggled through half or more of it. It is said that owing to the exceptional difficulty of the papers, many of these may get a pass, as the standard will be a low one. But is this fair to boys who rightly refused to attempt an unfair paper? They should in all fairness have a fresh examination. Another question here arises—Is there no one to revise the papers of the examiners and see that such things do not occur? If the University Council does not exercise some supervision, then the Government should do so.—I am, &c.,

NOT A TEACHER.

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## Conservatorium Students.

Last night's concert at the Elder Hall, given by students of the Conservatorium, assisted by Mr. Harold Parsons and Mr. I. G. Reimann, was one of the most successful of the season. Taken as a whole, the performers showed marked talent, though in one or two instances fault might be found, chiefly with the weak intonation in one of the vocal numbers and a lapse of memory on the part of an instrumentalist. The opening number, a Rubenstein trio for piano, violin, and violoncello, played by Miss Genevieve Idle, Miss Hilda Reimann, and Mr. Harold Parsons, was a work of a most poetic character, the sentiment of which was admirably portrayed. Miss Gwen Lewis was heard in Gounod's "Entreat me not to leave thee," and Mr. Harold W. Davies played a violoncello solo from Goltermann's concerto in A minor. Mr. Fred Stone was very successful in two songs, "She dwelt among the untrodden ways" (Kellie), and Johnson's "To Neera," in which his tenor voice was produced with great ease. Chopin's scherzo in B flat minor was brilliantly interpreted by Miss Ivy Basedow. It was a really

fine performance of a difficult work. Madame Elizabeth Weger was heard in a recitative and air from Gounod's "Sapho," which met with warm appreciation from the audience. One of the features of the concert was a fine rendering of Gounod's "Lend me your aid" by Mr. Walter Wood, who was heard at his best. The recitative was given with great power and intellectual insight. Another excellent number was a violin solo, a prelude and allegro by Pugnani-Kreisler, played by Miss Irene Adams. This arrangement, perhaps, is new to Adelaide audiences. It abounds in technical difficulties, which, however, were not apparent, so easily were they overcome. Miss Kathleen O'Dea is making rapid strides, which was evident in the finished style with which she sang Donizetti's difficult recitative and air, "O Mio Fernando." The vocalisation was particularly clear. She was twice called back to make her acknowledgments to the audience. The concert was concluded with Mendelssohn's Rondo Brilliant (op. 29), played by Miss Lalla d'Arcy Irvine, with orchestral part on second piano by Mr. Reimann.

Selection Army Fair.