

Register
15/5/14

Daily Herald
15/5/14

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the central council of the Workers' Educational Association was held at the Adelaide University on Wednesday evening. Mr. T. Ryan (President) occupied the chair. Professors Mitchell and Jethro Brown represented the University, and Sir Langdon Bonython and Mr. L. Grayson the School of Mines. Among others present were Dr. Gertrude Halley and Messrs. B. S. Roach, W. Ham, F. M. Reid, W. C. Melbourne, and J. Burgess, a large number of delegates from the trades unions, and the assistant secretary (Mr. Victor Kroemer).

Professor Meredith Atkinson, director of tutorial classes of the Sydney University, gave an interesting address on tutorial classes and other activities of the Workers' Educational Association. He considered that the ideal standard of the three years' course in connection with the University tutorial classes should be maintained, and was strongly opposed to any relaxation of the conditions attaching thereto. In New South Wales the demand for classes was greatly in excess of the supply of tutors. Four classes of 30 students each was the utmost that any one tutor could safely manage, and after forming the first four classes he had had to draft the surplus applicants into study classes under competent young undergraduates. He did not think a three years' course too severe. The man who was prepared to devote himself wholeheartedly to the studies on the line indicated was the man they wanted. There were cases in which it was best to have shorter courses, but these shorter courses were not called University tutorial classes. The work of the shorter courses was invariably carried out by the Workers' Educational Association Council, but the University tutorial classes were conducted under the guidance of the University. The work of tutorial classes was usually conducted by a joint committee, consisting of an equal number of members of the University and the Workers' Educational Association Council.

Mr. Doley (Australian Society of Engineers) moved—"That steps be immediately taken for the formation of a joint committee." This was carried, as also was a motion, "That the University be invited to co-operate with the Workers' Educational Association Council in the formation of a joint committee for the government and control of the University tutorial classes."

Professor Jethro Brown moved—"That the committee consist of four delegates from each body." The motion was carried, and the following delegates were elected to represent the Workers' Educational Association on the joint committee:—Sir Langdon Bonython (School of Mines), Messrs. W. C. Melbourne and J. Burgess (Vice-Presidents W.E.A.), and V. E. Kroemer (Assistant Secretary).

Mr. Kavanagh (Port Adelaide W.E.A.) moved—"That a deputation from the council wait on the Minister of Education for the purpose of obtaining a grant." Professor Jethro Brown seconded, and the motion was carried. It was further decided that the deputation should consist of as many of the members of the council as would be able to attend on the date fixed. On the motion of Mr. Melbourne, seconded by Mr. Doley, it was agreed that the Government should be approached for the grant "for University tutorial classes and general extension work."

Professor Meredith Atkinson stated that a conference of representatives of the W.E.A. from all the States would be held in Adelaide shortly after the congress of the British Science Association in August next. It was hoped that the conference would result in the formation of a Federal Council of the Workers' Educational Association.

A meeting of the intending members of the tutorial classes in connection with the World Workers' Educational Association was held in the Trades Hall on Thursday evening. Professor Atkinson explained the methods. Forty-five names were given for the class for economics. Already 29 names have been received for the industrial law class. There is a limit of 30 members for each class, so that there are nearly enough desirous of studying economics to make two for that subject.

TUTORIAL CLASSES

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE TO BE CALLED.

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Professor Meredith Atkinson, director of tutorial classes of the Sydney University, attended by invitation and gave an interesting address on tutorial classes and other activities of the Workers' Educational Association. He considered that the ideal standard of a three years' course in connection with the university tutorial classes should be maintained, and was strongly opposed to any relaxation of the conditions attaching thereto. In New South Wales the demand for classes was greatly in excess of the supply of tutors. Four classes of 30 students each was the utmost that any one tutor could safely manage, and after forming the first four classes he had had to draft the surplus applicants into study classes under competent young undergraduates. He did not think a three years' course too severe. The man who was prepared to devote himself wholeheartedly to the studies on the line indicated was the man they wanted. There were cases in which it was best to have shorter courses, but these shorter courses were not called university tutorial classes. The work of the shorter courses was invariably carried out by the Workers' Educational Association Council, but the university tutorial classes were conducted under the guidance of the university. The work of tutorial classes was usually conducted by a joint committee, consisting of an equal number of members of the university and the Workers' Educational Association Council.

Mr. Doley (Australian Society of Engineers) moved—"That steps be immediately taken for the formation of a joint committee." This was carried, as also was the subsequent motion, "That the university be invited to co-operate with the Workers' Educational Association Council in the formation of a joint committee for the government and control of the university tutorial classes."

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A SPLENDID BEGINNING.

A meeting of intending students of the tutorial classes of the Workers' Educational Association was held at the Trades Hall last night. Professor Atkinson addressed the gathering on the working of the classes. Forty-five persons intimated their desire to join the class and study economics, and 29 to study industrial law. As the class for the study of economics is limited to 30, two classes have been formed.

Advertiser 14/5/14

AT THE FOUNTAIN HEAD.

AN AUSTRALIAN MUSICIAN IN THE OLD WORLD.

MR. HAROLD PARSONS INTERVIEWED.

VALUABLE EXPERIENCES.

Mr. Harold Parsons has just returned to Adelaide after some highly interesting experiences and valuable study in the musical circles of England and the Continent. He met many of the world's foremost musicians, and heard the best music that may be heard by mortal ears. In conversation with a representative of "The Advertiser" on Wednesday, Mr. Parsons spoke in interesting fashion of his experiences and impressions.

"I went straight from Adelaide to London," he said, "arriving there about the middle of last June, in time to hear the music of the end of the season. I devoted a good deal of my time in London to getting experience with the organ, and I also heard what music I could. I visited the Royal College of Music, with the object of getting some idea of the nature of the work carried on there, and to compare it with the work at the Adelaide Conservatorium. Through the kindness of the registrar, I was able to hear quite a lot at the Royal College, and I met there perhaps one of the most interesting men in the modern musical world, Sir Walter Parratt. He seemed to be interested in Australian musical matters, and in Australia generally. He is certainly one of the most remarkable men in London. He is able to give a lesson in most intricate work and conduct a conversation at the same time. It is said of him that he can play all the Bach fugues from memory, and that, while playing one of these difficult compositions, he can conduct a game of chess. I heard several of the Royal College orchestral concerts, and was particularly interested to notice that more than half of the cellists of the orchestra were girls. The cello is being taken up very much by girls at home. I met in London Dr. Walford Davies, the distinguished brother of Dr. Davies, of Adelaide. Dr. Walford Davies is organist and choirmaster at the Temple Church, and I attended a service there. I don't think I ever heard finer church music."