

November 27th 1914

UNIVERSITY AND ARMY MEDICAL  
CORPS.

To the Editor.

Sir—"Practical," in his letter on the above subject in your issue of the 24th inst., brings forward a subject which at the present crisis should command a great deal of attention. Whilst agreeing with his suggestion concerning the University authorities supplying their medical students with a little inducement to offer their services to act at the front, I would like to point out that there is another means whereby men may be prepared for "the noble work of attending the wounded and rendering the valuable first aid which has saved thousands of lives, not only in warfare, but in our everyday home life. I allude to the St. John Ambulance Brigade, one of the objects of which is to prepare men to fill in the gaps of the R.A.M.C. We have recently established in Adelaide a division of the above brigade, and with a number of members who are thoroughly enthusiastic in the good work have succeeded in making headway. Although we have only been established a few weeks, three of our members have already been accepted for active service, and there are several more now waiting for the call to duty. We have quite a number of members who have served in various divisions of the brigade in the old country, and also some who served with the R.A.M.C. in the South African war, so that we are able to obtain good practical instruction in drilling and first aid. As "Practical" states, "every man will be wanted," so now is the time to rally up. We want every man who possesses a St. John Ambulance Association certificate to come along and join our brigade. It costs nothing, only a little time for practices and drill, but the benefit to our fellow-creatures is immeasurable. We have our meetings weekly in the Y.M.C.A. Buildings, and any certificate-holder who comes along will be made thoroughly welcome, and if "Practical" can do anything to assist us, either financially or otherwise, we shall be only too pleased to join hand in hand with him and push forward this great work in helping our beloved country and fellow-creatures.—I am, &c.,

L. DOE.

Gleneig, November 24, 1914.

Professor Portus, of Sydney, who has filled the chair of modern history, English literature, and language at the Adelaide University, during the vacation of Professor Henderson, left for Sydney on Friday afternoon, after having been in Adelaide since the beginning of the year.

The Register  
November 5<sup>th</sup> 1914

## EXAMINATIONS.

### CANDIDATES AND THEIR PAPERS.

[By G. G. Newman, B.A.]

November and December are busy months in the educational circles of South Australia. In the former period candidates who have been seriously studying during the year undergo their baptism of fire in the form of the test paper. Only those who have sat at the table awaiting the distribution of this long-talked-of and much-discussed little slip of paper know the exquisite torture of those few minutes before and after its arrival. One nervous candidate only this week told me that when she started to write nothing but zig-zag shapes of letters floated before her eyes. It was her first appearance at a public examination, and she had conjured up all sorts of ideas about it. She probably experienced something of the same emotions which Mr. James Pucker did when he was presented with his paper arranged by the immortal Verdant Green and his confreres;—1. Draw a historical parallel (after the manner of Plutarch) between Hannibal and Annie Laurie. 2. Show the strong presumption there was that Nox was the God of Battles. 3. Give a brief account of the Roman Emperors who visited the United States, and say what they did there. 4. Draw a parallel between the Children in the Wood and Achilles in the Styx. 5. If seven horses eat 25 acres of grass in three days, what will be their condition on the fourth day? Prove by practice. If we consider the anxiety of the student eager to do his best, and his mental state, we are not at all surprised to find that when the results of the examination appear some who were considered certainties have proved failures, and others moulded of a more indifferent disposition have come through with colours flying.

—“Howlers.”—

Nor are we astonished to read of “howlers” perpetrated unwittingly by some agitated examinant. One student translated “Cesar non respuit conditionem” (Cesar did not reject the proposal) by “Cesar did not vomit the antidote”; another “Nescit qualis sit” by “The quail sits on the nest.” It fell to my lot once to examine some exercises in French sentences, and among them the following ingenious translation appeared:—“Le paon est plein d’orgueil” (the peacock is full of pride)—“The piano is better than the organ.”

—Luck.—

In all departments of life the element of luck exists, and it is often found in examinations. Some years ago I had a strange coaching experience. A young gentleman, who had aspirations to become a medical man, came to me to prepare for the initial test. Five subjects had to be passed at one and the same time. It took five consecutive attempts before this student finally succeeded. On three occasions he passed in French, and failed in other subjects; on the fourth he passed in all the other subjects but failed in French. Thinking a clerical error might have occurred, I interviewed the clerical department at the University, and found that no error had occurred. I then suggested to the student to try Melbourne University matric. Two months later he sat in Melbourne for the same subjects, and came through all successfully. He obtained his ad eundem Adelaide, and is to-day a fully qualified medical man—a man who has travelled the world since, and still takes the keenest interest in the classics. Not long ago, returning from Fiji, he called on me to procure a translation of Virgil’s Georgics, a book which had been a constant companion of his leisure hours. Mistakes will sometimes occur, either with the examiner or the examining body. One such happened on a former occasion when the afternoon’s paper was given out in the morning, and some candidates surreptitiously secreted the same for immediate future use. And recently a letter in The Register by “Trig” alleges that in one subject candidates were called upon to give up their papers at least half an hour before the allotted time. In such cases allowances—reasonable and just—are always conceded by those in authority.

—The Lure of Learning.—

There is a good story told of a student’s persistent endeavours to satisfy the examiner. Each year he failed. He married and had a son, who, in due course, sat for the same exam. On one occasion a friend met the son, and enquired from him the result of the exam. “Oh!” said he, “I passed, but the old man failed again.” The object of the examination system is the encouragement of learning, and if a reasonable amount of stringency is exercised the greatest good to the greatest number will necessarily result.

The Advertiser

November 28. 14

Major (Professor) Watson left Adelaide by the express on Friday afternoon for Melbourne to join the expeditionary force for the front.

The Register

December 1<sup>st</sup> 1914

—Conservatorium Concert.—

The closing concert of the Conservatorium series, together with the formal conferring of diplomas, was attended by a large audience in the Elder Hall on Monday night. The Director of the Conservatorium (Dr. Ennis) presented to the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow) the following four students for the A.M.U.A. degree, as well as the Elder Scholars, the Public Examination Scholars, and the Brookman Scholar:—Associates in Music—George Townsend Griffiths (principal subject, pianoforte); Dorothy Oldham (pianoforte); Florence Nellie Rowe (singing); Daisy Vardon (singing). Elder Scholars—Leslie Robert Martin, L. by Emmaline Sara. Public Examination Scholars—Mary Anastasia Carrack, Harriett Rosetta Spriggs. Brookman Scholar—Hilda Beatrice Gill. The programme opened with Schumann's "Song for the new year," which beautiful work was sonorously rendered by the University Choral Class, under Mr. Frederick Bevan. The soloists were Mr. Stanley Gare (bass), Misses Dorothy Baker and Thelma Martin (soprani), and Misses Una Andrew and Rose Holthouse (contralti). Miss Dorothy McBride was the pianist. Particularly fine and voluminous were the closing hymn lines, in unison. The vocal soloists' items of the evening comprised:—Miss Vida Sutton (accompanied by Mr. Winsloe Hall), "Too late for love" (Coleridge Taylor); Miss Elsie Amos (acompanied by Mr. Winsloe Hall), "St. Agnes Eve" (Sullivan); Miss Daisy Vardon (accompanied by Madame Delmar Hall), "A Spanish ditty" and "Minguillo" (Coleridge Taylor); Miss Marguerite Clausen (accompanied by Mrs. Quesnel), "A false note" (Borodine) and "Thou art risen, my beloved" (Coleridge Taylor); Mr. Jack Fischer (accompanied by Mr. Hall), "The Prologue," from "Pagliacci;" and Miss Clytie Whittington (accompanied by Mr. Bevan), "Tell me, my heart" (Bisnop). Among the instrumental numbers Miss Dorothy Oldham's pianoforte solo, the Chopin "Scherzo in C sharp minor," created sustained interest. This young player is superbly developing the promise shown as a very youthful student, and she should rank among the highest, for she has both the "soul" and the technique. Miss Paula Mewkill's violin selection, "Spanish dance" (Nachez), was skilfully and sweetly rendered, the clear tone being a feature. Another violinist who met with demonstrative applause was Miss Erica Chaplin, who presented the op. 28 of Saint-Saen's "Introduction et rondo capriccioso." This Elder Scholar played with deep feeling and technical freedom as well. In an adagio for two 'cellos the performers were Messrs. Carlyle Jones and Edwin Noske. The concert concluded with selections by the Conservatorium String Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Eugene Alderman. Percy Grainger's popular "Molly on the shore" and Thieriot's "Valse" (op. 54) were both spiritedly and daintily rendered.

At the latest meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide Professor Watson was granted leave of absence for the year 1915 to allow him to proceed to the war. Dr. C. H. Kelleway, of Melbourne, was appointed Acting Professor of Anatomy for next year.

Dr. Barlow was unanimously re-elected for the sixth time, at the last meeting of the council of the University of Adelaide, as Vice-Chancellor.