

Register Nov. 17. 1891

MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY. — The examinations in musical studies at the University still maintain their popularity. It is true that the results for this year, which have now been published, indicate a falling off in the total number of entries for the junior and senior divisions from 295 to 275, but on the other hand it is to be noticed that the number of passes are practically the same for 1890 and 1891, the figures being 227 for the former and 224 for the latter year. The percentage of passes is therefore higher this year than it was last. To this result the excellent averages attained by the candidates for the senior practical examination in music have very largely contributed, seeing that out of 54 who entered no less than 47 passed. Not only so, but 21 were placed in the first class as against only 12 at the corresponding examinations last year, and two young ladies acquitted themselves so well—the one at the pianoforte and the other in singing—as to merit special mention by the examiner. In the junior examination in the theory of music there is a falling off in the number of entries from 113 to 92, and yet the number of passes obtained compares well with last year, the figures being 91 and 79. On the other hand the numbers for the junior practical examination have risen from 95 to 108 and the passes from 75 to 86, while 34 have been placed in the first class. The greatest falling off is observable in the case of the senior theory examinations, in which only 12 passes are recorded, as against 26 for last year. Moreover, the first class passes have fallen from 7 to 2. It is evident that at the present moment the most difficult musical subject in which to try for honours at the University is the more advanced theoretical work. Of course the decline in the numbers may, to a certain extent, be explained by the fact that during the first few years after the inauguration of any system of examinations there is probably to be found a considerable number of candidates who might have been ready for the test perhaps years before they had a chance to submit to it. The present candidates, however, are nearly all those who are passing on by steps from the junior grade to the senior. It is evident so far as the academic results can be taken as a criterion that the music teachers of the colony have done a successful year's work. The test, of course, is only a partial one, as in most cases it affects merely the specially clever or the more advanced pupils, and leaves out of count all the work done with pupils who from one reason or another have not presented themselves at the examinations. Yet this is a defect inherent in almost all public periodical tests. The substantial fact for the public to notice is the steady and regular advance of sound training and taste among the rising generation. The tawdry and meretricious music which at one time threatened to make pianoforte-playing in general a by-word and a reproach is now giving place to music which requires taste and care in the production, and gives pleasure to the cultivated ear in the hearing. To this result the University examinations may fairly be credited with having in a marked degree contributed.

Register. Nov. 26. 1891

#### UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Will you kindly give me space to utter a protest against the character of the Latin paper set at the University Senior Examination now being held? If the examiner be strict in his marking it is certain that but few, if any, of the candidates will obtain a credit. Let an unbiassed person compare the questions with those set at some of the B.A. exams., and I think he will admit that in point of difficulty there is very little difference between them. The learned Professor who set the paper must not imagine that all possess the same special natural gifts that he does. According to report a large number of the candidates handed in their answers long before the given time had expired. This shows in what light the majority of them regarded the paper. It is a laborious and long task to reach even moderate excellence in the study of latin, and this fact should be borne in mind by examiners, who as a rule are too apt to gauge other intellects by their own. Might I recommend to their notice the remarks of Dean Bradley, and other scholars upon the subject.

I am, Sir, &c.,

QUOUSQUE TANDEM.

North Adelaide, November 25.



## UNIVERSITY LAW EXAMINATIONS.

The following are the results of the ordinary examinations for the degree of LL.B.:—

## THIRD YEAR.

Second Class—R. B. Andrews, J. G. McDougall, J. M. Solomon.

Third Class—E. W. Benham, C. A'C. Bloxam.

## SECOND YEAR.

First Class—F. L. Stow.

## FIRST YEAR.

Second Class—G. Ash.

Third Class—W. J. Gunson.

## CERTIFICATES AWARDED.

Law of Wrongs—E. A. Beare, R. P. A. von Bertouch, P. E. R. Whitby.

Law of Evidence and Procedure—E. A. Beare, B. Benny, R. P. A. von Bertouch.

Law of Contracts—J. E. H. Winnall.

Law of Property—J. H. Fox, A. J. McLachlan, W. H. Wadey.

Recommended for the Stow Prize—F. L. Stow.

UNIVERSITY SENATE.—A meeting of the University Senate was held at the University on Wednesday, November 25, when the principal business on the agenda-paper was the election of seven members of the Council, five having recently retired by rotation and two having sent in their resignations. Some difficulty arose owing to Bishop Kennion having written to Mr. Henderson requesting that his nomination might be withdrawn, and the Warden ruled that no withdrawal could be valid unless contained in a letter addressed to the Clerk of the Senate; at the same time Dr. Farr intimated that he had a letter from the Rev. W. R. Fletcher, and it was understood that its purport was to state that the writer would not stand in opposition to Dr. Kennion. Finally the following were elected:—Dr. Barlow, Mr. F. Ayers, Dr. Stirling, Hon. Dr. Cockburn, M.P., Mr. J. A. Hartley, B.A., B.Sc., Dr. Lendon, and Mr. G. J. R. Murray. A tie having occurred between the last-named gentleman and the Rev. W. R. Fletcher in the voting, and a new vote being taken, it was found that Mr. Murray had secured the greater number of votes. Subsequently regulations for uniform academic dues, excepting in the case of *ad eundem* graduates; for omitting botany from the third year course for the degree of Bachelor of Science; and for prescribing senior English, Latin, mathematics, and one modern language for the entrance to the medical course were adopted, Dr. Farr explaining that recent action by the British General Medical Council had rendered the last step necessary. Mr. Hewitson then moved—"That in the opinion of this Senate all persons holding positions of emolument, subject to appointment or dismissal by the Council, shall in future be ineligible for nomination as candidates for election to the Council." He argued that the motive of self-service should be placed as far as possible from the members of all governing bodies, and that the principle applied to members of Parliament and to Judges should also be made to apply to members of the University Council. There were no members of the professional staff on the Council of Melbourne University. Mr. Henderson, while paying a tribute to the present staff of Professors, supported the motion on principle. Professor Pennefather opposed it strongly, and questioned the power of the Senate to move in such a matter. Dr. Paton said he was against all sorts of prohibitions in elections, and declared that the passing of such a resolution would affix a stigma to the names of the Professors. Dr. Farr also objected, and said an Act of Parliament would be necessary to give legal effect to the resolution. Mr. Hartley (Inspector-General of Schools) said that a good deal was to be said in favour of the motion, as he considered that Professors ought not to have votes in the Council. Yet the presence of a fixed number by Act of Parliament might be beneficial. The motion was lost.

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL.—The Senate of the University was on Wednesday placed in an extremely awkward position, primarily on account of the limitation placed by the University Act upon the number of ministers of religion who shall at any one time occupy seats on the Council, and in the next place owing to the fact that through some misunderstanding the names of two ministers were submitted for election when only one could be returned. The circumstances under which this misunderstanding arose are fully set out elsewhere. Bishop Kennion, who has been a member of the Council, finding that he was unable, owing to the pressure of episcopal duties, to give that