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UNIVERSITY SPORTS GROUND.

It seems probable that, as a result of the negotiations between the council of the University and the Adelaide City Council, the question of the sports ground desired for the students will soon be definitely settled in a manner satisfactory to the University. The arrangements with the City Council is that the University authorities shall have a 21 years' lease of the "nursery" paddock near the Torrens, at a rental of £30 per annum, provided £500 is spent within the first five years. It is understood that £500 has been guaranteed by the University council, while a gentleman in the city has promised to donate another £500 for the erection of a boatshed, in the event of the grounds being obtained. The sub-committee appointed by the University council, with full power to act, comprises Messrs. S. J. Jacobs and G. J. R. Murray, and Professors Henderson and Naylor, who are now waiting for the lease, which is being drawn up by the City Council.

Register Aug 5th 08. Foundation of Centre.

KADINA, August 3—Recently a memorial was signed by a number of leading townsmen and presented to the Adelaide University authorities asking that a University centre be established here. The request has been granted, and Mr. Hodge will attend on Friday evening next to arrange matters. Previously local children wishing to pass an examination had to journey to Moonta and stay a week there, which was a great inconvenience and a bar to many. Since the establishment of the

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SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Several months ago The Register pointed out serious defects in South Australia's "systemless system" of secondary education. It also advocated the formation of a thoroughly representative council to readjust and co-ordinate the work of the numerous public and private institutions which fill the gap between the primary schools and the University. Evidently this is not the only State in which such reorganization is necessary. In New South Wales the evils of disorganization have become so acute that attempts have lately been made to apply statutory remedies; but, owing to various difficulties, the scheme has not advanced

beyond the drafting of a Bill providing for registration of teachers. The Director of Education (Mr. Board) doubts the efficacy of the proposed innovations, and in his latest annual report he has outlined an alternative plan of co-operation which closely resembles the scheme suggested by The Register. He points out that the secondary schools, the higher technical schools, and the Sydney University "stand in no definite relation to one another," although the examinations prescribed by the latter institution arbitrarily fix the standard and define the scope of secondary education. Without more complete organization "there are no means by which the range of secondary school work can be extended to meet University needs, nor any means by which a clearly defined aim may be placed before students whose higher education leads to other than a University career." Mr. Board believes that voluntary organization and co-operation, "undertaken with a full sense of the educational ends to

be gained," would overcome most, if not all, of the difficulties without prejudicially restricting the legitimate liberty of private schools and colleges. He therefore suggests the formation of a supervising council composed of representatives of the University, the Department of Public Instruction, and the independent secondary schools. The chief duty of this directing body of experts would be to "determine conditions of secondary school efficiency, and to register schools complying with those conditions; to bring about the co-ordination of the curricula of the schools with the requirements of the University, or with the needs of a non-academic career; to place the examination as an educational agency in its right relation to the work of the school; and to establish a standard of qualifications for teachers employed in efficient secondary schools." An incidental improvement to which Mr. Board attaches great importance would be that schools which complied with the council's conditions might be authorized to grant "leaving certificates" of efficiency in specified courses, thus obviating the need for University junior and senior examinations, which "have outlived the period of their greatest usefulness."

South Australian conditions may not be identical with those in New South Wales, but there is sufficient similarity to justify the belief that the reforms advocated by Mr. Board would prove beneficial in both States. Here, as in New South Wales, there are "ragged ends" of education which require trimming into conformity with a comprehensive and definite scheme of technical instruction; and there is also a great deal of costly overlapping which might be avoided by systematic co-operation. Mr. Board suggests that, if the organization of a voluntary council embracing all secondary schools should prove impracticable, the Education Department should apply to institutions under its own control the principles he recommends. This advice is also pertinent to South Australia, for a reorganization of the existing public facilities for technical and advanced academic teaching would materially reduce the cost and increase the efficiency of the secondary education system. The fact that this important aspect of education is engaging the earnest attention of some of the ablest and most zealous authorities in the Commonwealth is an auspicious sign of progress along the right lines; and it would be a pity if so favourable an opportunity for readjusting dislocated systems of primary and secondary instruction were neglected.

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DOCTORS AND CORPSES.

To the Editor. Sir—Let us hope the enthusiasm in the cause of medical science which enabled Professor Watson surreptitiously to remove the head from the corpse of the Point McLeay native for the enlightenment of his students will prompt him to make a provision in his will bequeathing his own body for a similar purpose. I am sure it would be of great interest to the students to examine a brain which could wax facetious after such a gruesome theft. The adoption of this suggestion by all medical professors who have more regard for their students' researches than for the sanctity of the dead will in future remove temptation from their successors, and assure civilians that the burial of their friends is not a mockery and a huge joke to those in the know.—I am, &c., ALLEN WILSON. Exeter, August 4, 1908.

DR. ENNIS'S RECITAL.

The last of the series of six organ recitals by Dr. Ennis at the Elder Conservatorium was given on Thursday night, when there was a large attendance. The recitalist played "Fantasia and fugue in G minor" (Bach), "Adagio" (from Renzi's "Sonata No. 1 in A minor"), "Pastorale" (Wadham Nicholl), "Concert overture in C minor" (Hollins), "Benediction nuptiale" (Saint-Saens), "Minuet" (Boellmann), and "Marche militaire" (Schubert). Miss Ethel Hantke sang "The heart's rest" (Bevan) and "Abide with me" (Liddle). Mrs. Ennis played the violin solos "Barcarolle" and "Scherzo" (Spohr) and "Swedish dances" (Max Brusch). Accompaniments were played by Messrs. Frederick Bevan and Arthur Williamson.

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INTERSTATE HOCKEY.

RIVAL 'VARSITY LADIES' TEAMS. The members of the Melbourne University ladies' hockey team, who are to play a match against a team representing the ladies of the Adelaide University, arrived by the Melbourne express on Thursday morning. A number of enthusiastic players assembled on the platform to welcome the visitors. This evening they will be entertained at a conversation at the University, and on Saturday it is proposed to have a drag picnic to the hills. The match will be contested on the Jubilee Oval on Monday afternoon. This is the first occasion on which an interstate hockey team has journeyed to South Australia to play representatives of this State, and in this respect the ladies have gone ahead of the male exponents of the game. The Melbourne team will be selected from the following players:—Misses E. Bage, Cowper, Grey, Scantlebury, Taylor, Cole, Nixon, Davey, Argyle, Langford, Wood, Addison (captain), and F. Bage (secretary). Adelaide will be represented by Misses H. Coffen, A. Sellars, W. Arnold, S. Gardner, L. Fowler, C. Playfair, E. Crump, J. Cooper (secretary), L. Soar, R. Miller, and E. Bishop (captain). The emergencies are Misses Bowen, Reimann, and K. K. Thomas.