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As fees are concerned we have no chance of competing with any State schools under that scheme. Already free education encroaches largely on the numbers attending such schools as St. Peter's. Many people who have no business whatever to avail themselves of the facilities of free education do so, and send their boys to college when they are getting old and past mense, for perhaps six months. They can then say they have been to St. Peter's, and enjoy the old scholars' association. They should come six years earlier. The fees and competition must influence many boys whose parents are not wealthy from attending the college. When we have to compete with a Government which has at its disposal a wide-mouthed purse—so wide that some administrators have not hesitated to stick an unflinching hand into it—(laughter)—we cannot compete on level terms. We shall be called upon to compete in examination results, and in that respect I do not think St. Peter's will do as well as the Government secondary schools when they once get going. Many who attend the college have no burning desire to gain certificates for the higher public examinations. A good many have been brought up to know they are provided for—perhaps with a million sheep—and it does not require much mathematical or classical training to watch the golden fleece growing. (Laughter.) So they are rather pastorally incensed than for a seminary life. We may look forward to suffer in that competition. It might be suggested that the college should be tacked on to the Government system—take a subsidy and give a free education. (Cries of "No.") I do not think that will come yet. When the officers in these institutions are all organized by Government departments it will be time for S.P.S.C. to kow-tow to the Pooch-bah of this ordinary hotch-potch. (Laughter.) I am thankful to say I do not expect to live to see the day when we shall be part of the Government system of free education. (Applause.) I think our school has better life and instinct than that, and these other schools will have something to compete against. We must offer something different from what can be got elsewhere—not necessarily something better. We have the advantage that we are not starting a new system. It is not as if we were sending out a flowery prospectus of a new gold mine, but we have a good, old, sound investment, which every one knows about. We have a reputation which has not been lightly won. We have got to maintain it, and I hope it will keep the school in its high position as long as there is a place for schools at all. That will rest a good deal with old scholars. I have urged and recommended that we should have a preparatory school. I believe we should catch boys younger. There is an American prophecy—therefore true—that the natural end of schoolmasters is to die of starvation. (Laughter.) I have looked forward to that with some anxiety. (Laughter.) Some of us have thought it would be a long process, and we are grateful to-night that you have at least deferred it for a short time by this feast. (Cheers.)

A London cablegram just to hand announces that the Victoria University, Manchester, has conferred the degree of Doctor of Science upon W. Geoffrey Duffield, B.Sc. (Adelaide), B.A. (Cantab), M.Sc. (Manchester), F.R.A.S. In the physical laboratories at Manchester University Dr. Duffield has for some years been doing research work upon "The effect of pressure upon arc spectra," and his paper, read before the Royal Society, has recently been published in extenso by the society in its "Philosophical Transactions." The latest number of The Astrophysical Journal contains a paper upon "The spectrum near the poles of an iron arc," contributed by Dr. Duffield, who also in June read a paper before the Royal Astronomical Society. Dr. Duffield is an earnest advocate of the scheme for establishing in Australia a solar physics observatory, and his work in furtherance of the movement has been referred to in our columns and in The London Standard of Empire.

Mr. R. Wilson Tassie, B.Sc., who last month was awarded the Angas engineering scholarship by the Adelaide University, left for Sydney by the express train on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Tassie, who has had a distinguished career at both Prince Alfred College and the University, is proceeding to the famous Cornell University at Ithaca, in the United States of America, to continue his studies in electrical engineering. The scholarship, which is worth £200, is tenable for two years but after serving a year at the University Mr. Tassie will be at liberty to enter any large electrical engineering works approved by the Cornell authorities if he chooses to do so, and continue to work there under the auspices of the University, so that he may have practical experience. By so doing he can supplement his income from the scholarship, and this arrangement is a decided advantage to winners of it. Mr. Tassie is a son of Mr. T. W. Tassie, of Messrs. W. Storrie & Co., of Rundle street. Before leaving he was presented by his fellow students at the Adelaide University with a beautiful clock as a token of the esteem in which he is held. Among those at the railway-station to bid the traveller good-bye were the Director of Education, Professor Rennie, and a number of University students.

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THE PRIMARY EXAMINATIONS.
The Adelaide University authorities announced on Monday morning that 1,002 entries had been received from Western Australian centres and South Australia for the annual primary examination, which will begin on August 25. This number is about 200 less than that recorded last year, but the falling off is not regarded in any serious light.

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CONSERVATORIUM ORGAN RECITAL.
The fourth of the series of public organ recitals promoted by Dr. Ennis was given before a crowded assembly in the Elder-Conservatorium Hall on Thursday night. The recitalist was assisted by Mr. Eugene Alderman. One feature of the programmes which has proved of distinct value to the audiences throughout the series has been the supplementary remarks to each item. Dr. Ennis in this way has added not only to the pleasure of his hearers by the manner of his performance, but has incalculated a "tabloid" history of each composer and the work to be performed. He played upon the organ Bach's familiar "Toccata and fugue in D minor," Mendelssohn's "Sonata in A" (the third); the first movement of a symphony (No. 5) by Widor; "Barcarolle" (Spohr); "Ballad" (Wolstenholme); and the Schubert overture "Rosamunde." Mr. Alderman gave pleasure by his repetitions of several violin works which he has introduced in Adelaide. They included "Ballade" (Sinding), "Cavatina" (Cui), and "Rhapsodie Hongroise" (Singer).

DEEP CALLING TO DEEP.
Professor Henry Jones concluded a fine lecture on Friday with a peroration which held his large audience in the Great Hall of Sydney University spellbound. He said:—"I find you here, a young nation, with powers not yet defined and possibilities not yet limited. The virgin peace of a vast continent wraps you all about. I wonder if to its solemn quietude there responds a complementary quietness in your soul, and deep answers unto deep. Your city sparkles like a gem under your clear skies, with all its defects a fair thing in the midst of loveliness. One wonders if at times you pause, so that its beauty may pass into the soul and saturate it with joy. I do not judge you, for I do not know. But one thing I do know, that no man and no nation was ever truly great which did not commune with the quiet of the world—sometimes by means of reflective thought, as in the East, sometimes by means of art, as in Greece and mediaeval Italy, and more frequently by means of religion. Israel's greatest legislator was called forth from the land of Midian, where he tended sheep. The most picturesque figure among its prophets and reformers was a dweller amidst the mountains of Gilead, who hid by the brook Cherith, or lodged in a cave at Horeb, the Mount of God. These men mustered their powers among the silences. Cromwell, who rode the wildest storm which ever broke over our hard-earned 'home'—that other gem amidst the seas, the little England with the mighty heart—Cromwell had his times of quiet, his 'lown place,' his sure refuge. And so had his unrivalled Ironsides. And most assuredly it cannot be well with you here, or with us at home, who are heirs to the still unexhausted inheritance of the stern virtues of the Puritan age, if we lose utterly this quietness of spirit, this solemn delight in deep communion and the sense of the might and grandeur of the world and of the mind of men, which come therewith and cannot come in any other way. Either through religion, or through art and the wisest literature, or, better still, through all of them, we should and must hear the murmur of the deeper meaning of the world and of the life of man—otherwise we cannot prosper."—Sydney Morning Herald.

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AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS.
At the annual dinner in connection with the Prince Alfred Old Collegians' Association on Friday night the headmaster of the school (Mr. F. Chapple) said that he was not enamored of the new system by which the awarding of scholarships depended upon the opinions of a number of estimable and worthy gentlemen who acted as judges. He did not like anything that savored the least bit of patronage, and was not talking at random, but was fighting a battle because it had been proposed in some quarters to determine the award of the Angas Engineering Scholarship in a different way from that which had been observed in the past. He was Tory and Conservative enough to say "Don't alter unless you can improve." He remembered that grand day for England when appointments to the Civil Service of Great Britain and India were first thrown open to public competition, and the time for bestowing them upon uncles, cousins, and nephews had passed away. Mr. W. J. Denny, M.P., in referring at a later stage to Mr. Chapple's remarks, pleaded for free and unrestricted competition, and he contended that ability should be the sole test.