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THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the council was held on February 22. Present—The Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Hayward, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Chapple, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Isbister, Mr. S. T. Smith, and Professor Stirling.

The Chancellor, in referring to the death of the Rev. Dr. Paton, expressed the deep sense of the loss that the council had sustained. Dr. Paton had been a member of the council for 20 years, and all recognised the conscientious and able manner in which he had served the University. It was resolved that a letter be sent to Mrs. Paton, expressing the sympathy of the council with the family in their great loss. Dr. W. T. Hayward was re-elected representative of the University on the board of the Adelaide Hospital.

The report of the Faculty of Music in regard to the new scheme of public examinations in music and a letter from the Music Teachers' Association were considered. The faculty recommended the addition of two outside teachers of music to the faculty, such members to be nominated by the Music Teachers' Association, subject to the approval of the council. This recommendation was approved by the council. Other recommendations of the faculty were postponed for further consideration.

On the recommendation of the board of commercial studies, it was resolved that lectures in business practice and in commercial law be delivered in 1907, and thereafter in alternate years.

The council approved the recommendation of the board that candidates who have failed to pass in some of the compulsory subjects at the junior commercial examination in 1906 be permitted to enter themselves for that examination in 1907 for the subjects in which they have failed upon payment of a fee of 5/ for each subject. Upon passing in these subjects candidates will be entitled to receive the certificate.

MUSIC TEACHERS AND THE UNIVERSITY.

A good understanding has now been arrived at between the University Council and the outside musical profession of South Australia, and Mr. C. J. Stevens and Mr. E. E. Mitchell, two members of the Music Teachers' Association, are to occupy positions on the Faculty of Music of the University. The profits of the examinations in music, too, will not in future be applied to the financing of the Conservatorium, directly or indirectly, but will be devoted to the furtherance and culture of the art of music. The associated teachers have consequently expressed themselves, under the altered conditions, in favor of supporting the new scheme of examinations.

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MUSIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE UNIVERSITY.

A well-attended meeting of the Music Teachers' Association was held on Saturday evening in the Y.W.C.A. Hall, Hindmarsh square. Mr. C. J. Stevens presided. The secretary (Mr. E. E. Mitchell) reported having forwarded to the registrar of the University of Adelaide the resolution of the previous meeting, in which the council was asked to devise some scheme whereby the surplus funds accruing from the University public examinations in music might be devoted to the general advancement and culture of the art of music in this State in the widest manner, and in which, further, the appointment was recommended of two additional members of the outside musical profession to the University Faculty of Music. A reply had been received, stating that the resolution was heartily welcomed and duly considered, and that the principle involved in the first request met with the approval and sympathy of the council, the matter being referred to the Faculty of Music to formulate proposals having this aim in view. With regard to the second request, the association was asked for a nomination of two of its members, and upon a ballot being taken Messrs. C. J. Stevens and E. E. Mitchell were chosen. The Chancellor has since confirmed this, and the gentlemen named are therefore now members of the Faculty of Music. There was considerable approbation of the council's reply, and the hope was expressed that the not-too-distant future would bring about other changes, resulting in an improved and—more satisfactory working of the Conservatorium. The following resolution, moved by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Miss Pizey, was carried unanimously:—“We gratefully acknowledge the cordiality with which our suggestions have been approved by the council, and in response will do all that is in our power to ensure the success of the admirable scheme of examinations in music of our own University.” For the current year Mr. C. J. Stevens was elected President of the association, and Dr. E. H. Davies, Miss F. Tilly, and Messrs. E. W. Packer, J. M. Dunn, and W. R. Pybus members of the committee.

MUSICAL REFORM.

Modern music, we have been told, is practically founded on chromatic dissonance. Certainly in relation to the Conservatorium of Music the public ear has been filled with a controversy “of cacophonous sound,” which is now to be succeeded, according to latest reports, “with passages of undoubted beauty.” In other words the long-standing differences between the music teachers and the University Council have been composed under conditions which will admit of all parties interested in the promotion of the divine art working together in the greatest harmony. To begin with, the University Council has decided to take the outside profession into its confidence, and to give two members of the Music Teachers' Association seats upon the Faculty of Music. The effect of this tactful proceeding will be to bring the association into close touch with the aims and difficulties of the University Council in connection with the Conservatorium of Music, and to place upon the association a measure of responsibility for the administration of this branch of the University. In the selection of Mr. C. J. Stevens and Mr. E. E. Mitchell to represent the musical profession in the manner indicated the council has chosen two gentlemen whose official positions indicate that they possess the confidence of their contemporaries.

Upon the burning question of a radical reform of the Conservatorium, no promise has been made, as no promise could be made. The institution has not fulfilled all the high expectations originally formed of it, but it has rendered some excellent service to the community. It is an establishment in going order, carrying with it various obligations which cannot in the name of reform be abruptly terminated. Whatever improvements may be possible must be introduced with care and as opportunity offers. The immediate dispute between private teachers and the University authorities concerned the musical examinations, chiefly in connection with the application of the profits. The Music Teachers' Association contended that such profits should not be employed to make good Conservatorium deficits or in any way to sustain its financing, and the principle has been conceded. The proceeds in question are to be reserved “to the furtherance and culture of the art of music,” an expression which conceals a wealth of caustic criticism of the North terrace “nursery.” “All's well that ends well,” and though the diversion of patronage to the University cannot be effected all at once, the hope is sincerely entertained that now the objections to the local musical examinations have been withdrawn, such friendly feelings between the authorities and the profession will be developed as to lead ultimately to the happiest results. Given enthusiastic co-operation, Adelaide may become a chief musical centre of the Commonwealth. For the present it is gratifying that harmony at last prevails in our musical circles.

THE CONSERVATORIUM.

MUSIC TEACHERS' REQUESTS CONCEDED.

There was a good attendance at a meeting of the Music Teachers' Association on Saturday evening in the Y.W.C.A. Hall. Mr. C. J. Stevens presided. Mr. E. E. Mitchell reported that the resolution of the previous meeting had been forwarded to the University, and that a reply had been received thereto. The request that the council should devise some method of applying the profits of the examinations in music to the “general advancement of the art of music in this State in the widest manner” was declared to involve a principle that met with the sympathy and approval of the council, and was referred to the Faculty of Music to formulate proposals with this aim in view. The second request contained in the association's resolution was for the appointment to positions on the faculty of two additional members of the outside musical profession, and this also was conceded, and the association was asked to nominate accordingly. As the result of a ballot Mr. C. J. Stevens and Mr. E. E. Mitchell were chosen, and the association's nominations were approved on Monday by the Chancellor of the University. Mr. Mitchell moved, and Miss Pizey seconded the following resolution:—“We gratefully acknowledge the cordiality with which our suggestions have been approved by the council, and in response will do all that is in our power to ensure the success of the admirable scheme of examinations in music of our own University.” Carried unanimously. For the year 1907 Mr. Stevens was elected president of the association, and Dr. E. H. Davies, Miss F. Tilly, and Messrs. Wallace Packer, W. R. Pybus, and J. M. Dunn were elected members of the committee.

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