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TEACHERS' UNION WATCHING SECONDARY education has outstripped the growth of population in South Australia. With social and economic conditions improving each year this is only natural, but even a sovereign State must cut its coat according to its cloth, said one education authority yesterday.

He was commenting on the resolution of the Council of the Taxpayers' Association that the free high school education should not be the responsibility of the State, but should be a University course and who were genuinely in need of financial assistance.

It is said that South Australia is spending more on secondary education than could reasonably be expected of it, figures proved last year.

Twenty-one years ago the population of South Australia was 270,000. At the end of 1920 it was 370,000—an increase of 35 per cent.

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The big increase was highly creditable, but the cost to the State was out of all proportion.

In 1907 the total Government expenditure on secondary education was only £1,852. In 1920 it was £38,761.

If the State's income had increased in any proportion to its expenditure on its education, there could be no objection to its spending what it did on secondary education.

But it did not. In 1907 its total general revenue was £13,970,000, and last year it was £11,340,000.

RISING COST One other aspect of the matter had to be emphasized—the cost per child under instruction.

In 1907 South Australia paid £2/12/3 for every child attending its secondary schools. By 1920 this had risen to £18/14/1.

Perhaps, through causes over which they had no control, pupils sometimes remained away from school. The absence of 599 scholars last year and an odd day there cost the State an immense amount of money, for last year, with 3,962 pupils on the rolls, the average daily attendance was 4,664.

The absence were thus equivalent to 599 scholars not attending school at all during the year.

COSTS 60 PER CENT OF TAX Association says, "There is no quarrel with the fact that there has never been an increase in the cost of education was 3/3 per head of population, in South Australia last year it was £16/2/6."

From income tax the Government collected £23/4 a head of population, and this expended 60 per cent of it on education.

COST NOT SO GREAT If the expenditure of £30,000 on secondary education were only the taxpayer's responsibility, it would only be saved by the 13 per cent of the population of the Teachers' Union (Mr. J. Charlesworth).

The Commonwealth Year Book shows that in 1920 the expenditure on secondary education in South Australia was 2/11/1.

In 1920 it was 2/3—an increase of 10 per cent in three years.

The same authority shows that for seven years in 1920 the expenditure on secondary education West Australia spent 3/8 Victoria 3/9 New South Wales 3/6 Queensland 2/6 and Tasmania 1/7 a head of the population in 1920.

Only Queensland and Tasmania spent less than South Australia on secondary education.

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The University had increased in 20 per cent in the past three years. Each student cost £8/10/1 a year.

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TEACHERS' COMMITTEE Messrs. G. Charlesworth, R. West, and H. Fergie, were appointed last year to deal with the matter of the Teachers' Association, and watch the interests of teachers and of education.

Mr. S. S. Norton. I have considered your classification of the Farms Manager and the Burglar. His duties have responsibility but also extensive employment of the public. These latter

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Mr. S. S. Norton. I have now considered and have advised the Registrar. Secretary discussed the matter of the Director of the Welfare Institute. However, I would prefer to see that there is no doubt that at the year's recommendation approve that expected of a professor in the library's recommendation to the Barr Sixth Grade 2 level.

DR. DAVIES ADVOCATES TEST Wants Impartial Adjudicator

Dr. L. Harold Davies, Director of Education (University of Music), University of Adelaide, writes—It is understood that the appointment of a salaried City Organist.

Many people and citizens interested in the selection of a successor to Mr. W. R. Knox have every reason to believe that the various applicants for this important post shall be given full opportunity to prove themselves.

The proper way would be to invite each applicant to undergo such a practical test as it was allocated as follows:—Primary schools, total expenditure £263,000, cost per head of population, £1 3/3; cost per head of population, £1 3/3; cost per head of population, £1 3/3.

To plan a programme of standard organ works of recognized difficulty, including one or two orchestral transcriptions which must be effectively rendered.

To read from score and transpose at sight.

To improvise in extended form upon a given theme.

Letter to Lord Mayor Having this in mind I have addressed a letter to the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Mr. J. Lavington, on Monday last.

In connection with the appointment of a successor to Mr. W. R. Knox, I am glad to be allowed to express what I believe to be an important suggestion.

That the services of a qualified and experienced organist in the position of the Ministerial head. If that were so, several candidates who are offering for the post would be disqualified.

It is no reflection upon members of the profession who are not of the quality of the best to be capable of arriving at this estimate of the most important point.

It is a matter of fact that the organist of the most important point, increase of 4d. per head in three years.

Decision on Monday In this the Lord Mayor has replied as follows:—

"I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and am glad to hear that the matter has been already considered in committee, and the recommendation will be finalized at the next council meeting on Monday, when the decision will be announced."

In conclusion, says Dr. Davies, it is well as that of all those interested in this matter, that members of the council will yet decide to appoint the candidates themselves would certainly be a great advantage.

adv. 10-9-29 CONSERVATORIAL STUDENTS' CONCERN

Conservatorial students last night in the Elder Hall, gave a concert that showed a generally high standard, and reflected credit on their teachers.

Programme solos were played by Miss Gwendeth Thompson, pupil of Mr. John Horner (A. Brahms "Intermezzo"), Miss Mary Morton (Mr. George H. Pearce), "Romance in F Minor" (Tchaikovsky); and Miss Bessie Franco (Mr. William Silver), who rendered the first movement of an Arensky concerto.

Miss Betty Egan (Mr. W. H. Bellamy), Miss Gladys (Mrs. L. R. Rose) (Adams), and Mr. Alan Gibbs (Mr. Harold Parsons) played a "Vella solo," a movement from Heberlein's concerto.

The first movement of Schubert's string quartet in B flat was given by Messrs. W. H. Bellamy, Miss Gladys (Mrs. L. R. Rose), Mrs. Mary Lamphie, and Helena Harris of the ensemble class.

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Reply to Taxpayers' Association

The view that education in the secondary schools has greatly increased in cost during the past few years, and that generally so much is being expended by the Education Department, expressed by members of the Taxpayers' Association, and reported in "The Advertiser" on Friday, has been freely criticised.

A prominent educationalist, on Saturday that the figures presented by the Taxpayers' Association, hardly reflected their real significance.

The expenditure on education was £3,043,900. This included maintenance, £226,000, and building expenditure, £277,900. The maintenance expenditure on secondary schools, total expenditure £263,000, cost per head of population, £1 3/3; cost per head of population, £1 3/3; cost per head of population, £1 3/3.

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adv. 11-9-29 PLANT RESEARCH New Laboratories Proposed

A report labored in the House of Representatives by the Public Works Committee today recommends the erection of laboratories and an administrative block for the division of Research in Canberra at a cost of £32,624.

It is proposed to use the block for economic biology and economic entomology research. The subjects to be dealt with being plant diseases, plant pathology, physiological studies, agricultural entomology, plant introduction, seed control and poison plants.

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