

Adv. 16-3-32

EXAM SYSTEM IN MUSIC

"Commercialises Instead Of Spiritualises"

"There is little or no real love of music for its own sake among teachers who are the products of any academic system," said the City Organist (Mr. John Dempster) yesterday.

He was referring to a statement made by Professor Harold Davies, in his commencement address to students of Elder Conservatorium on Monday night, that the standard of teaching was deplorably low in music as well as in many other subjects.

Mr. Dempster agreed that the general standard of teaching was low.

"The examination system, no matter by whom it is sponsored, is largely responsible for this state of affairs," he said. "It has commercialised music, instead of spiritualising it."

"How would you improve matters?" Mr. Dempster was asked.

Bring In Italian Singers

"Let us take singing as an example," he replied. "I would bring in half a dozen Italians, who sing from their souls, and are not always thinking about their pockets. People with a real love of their subject are needed to teach."

Professor Davies said yesterday that he had no desire to stress music more than other subjects which were being taught in every faculty of human knowledge.

"It is generally recognised among thoughtful people today," he said, "that the art of teaching is something quite apart from the possession of knowledge by the person entrusted with the responsibility of teaching. The teacher can only point the way. If that is done adroitly, the student's interest will be aroused and he will do the rest."

Many Excellent Teachers

Mr. H. Brewster Jones said that a number of Australians had studied music in Europe, and equipped themselves for their profession. Many of them had had excellent results with their pupils, some of whom could hold their own on the concert platform anywhere. There were also a number of very good European musicians who had settled in Australia, and who had taught with equal success.

"Presumably, Professor Davies's shaft was not aimed at these," he added. "He may have been referring to the teachers who are flooding this country with the thousands of people who imagine that they have only to pass some futile examination, tacking on to their names two or three letters of the alphabet, to be henceforth regarded as oracles of wisdom and competence."

"Cap And Gown Fraternity"

"He cannot mean the former, for one need only call to mind the European successes of Australian students whose talent was first nurtured in this country. Concerning the latter, one may be pardoned for agreeing that examination candidates appear to be encouraged to attach far too much importance to the standard they have reached, and that the artistic standard which applies to the cap and gown fraternity may deserve some of the criticism which Dr. Davies has levelled against it."

News 18-3-32

Window in Memory of Prof. Robertson

A stained glass window in the main building of Adelaide University was unveiled late this afternoon by the chancellor (Sir George Murray), in memory of the late Prof. T. Brailsford Robertson, who was professor of bio-chemistry and chief of the animal nutrition section of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. Leading members of the university staff, Mrs. Robertson, and friends of the late professor were present.

The window, which was presented by Mrs. Robertson, is the work of Miss Edith Langley. It represents the figure of Science, with torch in hand, standing on the threshold of reality. Prof. Robertson died on January 18, 1930, at the age of 48.

Adv. 19-3-32

PROF. ROBERTSON'S MEMORY HONORED

Window Unveiled At University

STRIKING TRIBUTES

A distinguished gathering at the University yesterday afternoon saw the Chancellor (Sir George Murray) unveil a window in the staircase hall of the main building as a memorial to Professor Thorburn Brailsford Robertson, who died on January 18, 1930, when completing experiments which he believed would solve the mystery of physical life in its successive stages for the benefit of his fellow men.

"What he saw developing in his researches we do not know," said Sir George Murray. "He merely described it as 'something worth while.' He was a great investigator, and we may be sure, from the acuteness of his perceptions, and the thoroughness of his methods, that he had good reasons for his faith. His work will live."

Sir George Murray added that few people knew how wide Professor Robertson's intellectual interests were. His writings showed that he was well read in philosophy, history, and classical literature, and might have excelled in any of those branches of study as he did in science. The work he accomplished in his short life—he died when 46—was prodigious. It would be rash to assert that the loss to science or humanity by his death was irreparable, but it would probably be a long time before any other was able to gather together the threads and produce the fabric he was attempting to weave.

Professor Robertson would also be remembered for having obtained the erection of the Darling Building for the Medical School, the establishment of the Animal Products Research Foundation, the Graduates' Association, and the Medical Sciences Club.

"Token Of Love"

"The window is a token of love from his widow," Sir George Murray said. "A tender and beautiful acknowledgment of the happiness their union brought to them."

Among those who attended were Professor Robertson's mother, his widow, and children, Judith, David, and Stirling, the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Sir William Mitchell), and the following members of the council:—Sir Douglas Mawson, Sir Langdon Bonython, Professor R. W. Chapman, Professor Kerr Grant, Professor J. McKellar Stewart, Dr. A. Grenfell Price, Dr. F. S. Hone, Messrs. Anthony, M.P., W. J. Adey, and W. R. Bayley, and most of the professors and lecturers.

Window Portrays His Life

The window was erected by Professor Robertson's widow. The design, presented to her by Miss Edith Langley whose work has been accepted by the Royal Academy, shows the figure of science holding the torch of knowledge. Above the figure are inscribed "The Laws of Nature are the Thoughts of God," words by Oersted, the Danish physicist, to whom Professor Robertson frequently referred when lecturing. "In lumine," the motto chosen by the professor for his book-plate, appears beneath the inscription, and written in an open book held by the figure is Gilbert Murray's translation of the Bacchae of Euripides, of which Professor Robertson was particularly fond. Beneath the dedication lines is an extract from a letter written when he was a student at the University of California—"Then I turn to the one thing which will conquer and transform the world. I turn again to grope in the void for new knowledge I try to lift a torch in the surrounding blackness which will one day lead to the land of eternal sunshine."

Adv. 19-3-32

CUT SOUGHT IN UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION FEES

A resolution that the Education Department should urge the University of Adelaide to reduce the fee for the Intermediate examination from £1 10s to £1 1s, and that the fees for higher examinations be reduced proportionately, was adopted at a meeting of the Thebarton Technical High School Council. A letter to this effect will be sent to the department. Officers elected were:—President, Mr. A. G. Roberts; vice-presidents, Mr. E. T. Isley, and Mrs. C. H. Keen.

Adv. 21-3-32

NOTABLE MUSICAL FIGURE PASSES

Mr. I. G. Reimann's Death

TAUGHT THOUSANDS

Mr. I. G. Reimann, teacher of piano and deputy-director of the Elder Conservatorium, died on Saturday afternoon at his home at William street, Norwood. He had been ill with bronchial pneumonia for a week.

No one did more for the cause of music in South Australia than this urbane and popular enthusiast, whose Adelaide School of Music was the nucleus of the present Elder Conservatorium, and whose valued help and kindly encouragement have been shared by thousands of students now scattered in all parts of the world.

For 57 years he exercised a wonderful influence over the musical life of South Australia, and after the formation of the Australian Board of Musical Examinations, this was extended to the whole Commonwealth; for not only was Mr. Reimann a delegate to the board, and one of its principal examiners, but he was also the editor and annotator of most of its publications. At the time of his death he had almost finished a complete revision of its examination works, had begun the preparation of an edition of hitherto unpublished pieces by Mozart, and had arranged to revise the full list of Allan's Imperial edition of musical publications.

As an examiner he travelled over a considerable part of Australia, and was everywhere regarded as an authority on the piano. His knowledge, practical and historical, of the literature of the instrument was immense, and his musical library, both at his home and at the Conservatorium, was acknowledged to be one of the finest in Australia.

Born At Hahndorf

A South Australian by birth—he was born at Hahndorf 73 years ago—he began his piano studies with Mr. T. W. Boehm in his home town, then had several years in Adelaide, and in 1880 went to Berlin, first studying under Kullak and Bischoff, and later at the Berlin Conservatorium under Scharwenka. He returned to Adelaide thoroughly equipped for his life's work, and, founding the Adelaide School of Music, began to exert that influence on the art which soon caused South Australia to be widely recognised as one of the musical centres of the Commonwealth. He brought many well-known teachers of string instruments to Adelaide, and two of them, Messrs. H. Heinicke and H. Kugelberg, are still here.

Throughout his long professional career he kept himself thoroughly abreast of all the latest developments abroad, and paid several visits to Europe for further study.

On the establishment of the Conservatorium in 1898, Mr. Reimann accepted an invitation to merge his institution into the new organisation, and the whole of his staff and students came under the new regime. For the first two years of its existence, the Conservatorium was conducted at the headquarters of the School of Music. His death removes the last of the original conservatorium staff.

As a soloist Mr. Reimann was a remarkably fine pianist, though of recent years he did not play much in public. For the best part of his life he was organist at the Lutheran Church, and held that position until his death.

He has left a widow, two sons and two daughters—Dr. Arnold Reimann, of London, Mr. Karcy Reimann, Miss Hilda Reimann, the noted violinist, and Miss Valesca Reimann, of Trinity College, Kandy, Ceylon.

News 21-3-32

"His Memory Can Never Die"—Late Mr. Reimann

The director of the Elder Conservatorium (Dr. E. Harold Davies), speaking of the late Mr. I. G. Reimann, teacher of pianoforte and deputy director of the Conservatorium, said:



Mr. Reimann

"We looked up to him as the father of us all. To him is due the credit for much of the progress South Australia has made in pianoforte work for the past 50 years. It would be impossible to number his pupils. His influence can never be measured."

"I shall miss his cheery presence and unflinching support more than words can

say. The memory of such a life of service can never die."

Pastor W. Janzow conducted the burial service this afternoon in West Terrace Cemetery. Members of the Conservatorium staff and past and present pupils, assembled to pay a last tribute. Mr. Reimann was 73 years of age.

Adv. 22-3-32
TRIBUTE TO LATE MR. REIMANN

Conservatorium Closed Yesterday

"The death of Mr. I. G. Reimann is a severe loss to the Conservatorium, and an even greater personal loss to myself and every member of the teaching staff," said the Director of the Elder Conservatorium (Dr. E. Harold Davies) yesterday, referring to the death on Saturday of the deputy director.

The Conservatorium was closed all day yesterday as a mark of respect to Mr. Reimann.

"We looked up to him as the father of us all," said Dr. Davies, "and, indeed, his wisdom and experience, as well as his lifelong devotion to music, entitled him to such a place of universal honor and respect."

"For nearly 40 years I have known him, and in all that time, and for many previous years, he labored faithfully and well in the teaching of the pianoforte. To him we may truthfully say is due the credit of much of the progress that South Australia has made in this important work during the past 50 years. It would be impossible to number his pupils, scores of whom have carried on, and are still inculcating the sound principles of their master. Such an influence can never be measured, nor will it ever cease. His watchword was utter thoroughness, allied to the highest musical ideals. For the last 12 years he and I have been drawn very closely together, and his sagacity and long experience were ever at my disposal. In the truest sense of the word we were friends, as well as colleagues, and I shall miss his cheery presence and unflinching co-operation more than words can say. For all of us the memory of such a life of service can never die."

Adv. 22-3-32
OF 1,500 STUDENTS 400 PLAY SPORTS

Percentage At Adelaide University

FORTNIGHTLY NEWS-PAPER

Mr. R. L. S. Muecke, representing the Sports' Association at the Commencement social of the Adelaide University Union, said that out of 1,500 or more students who attended the University, only about 400 played sports. That was not very gratifying, especially as one of the best ovals in the State, with every facility for practically every sport, was provided. On the sports field students could meet those from other faculties, with whom they would not come in contact in their daily University life.

The report of the secretary of the union (Mr. P. C. Greenland), presented at the annual meeting held before the social, stated that the membership was 1,058, and five committees—finance, house, graduates' union, men's union, and women's union—controlled activities.

Designs for a war memorial had been drawn up by an architect. A list of names of University students who served in the Great War was in preparation, and the committee was considering the form which the memorial should take.

It was intended to publish a student newspaper at fortnightly intervals, and the first edition should appear shortly after Easter.

Professor McKellar Stewart was made a life member.