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being University graduates. As to the difficulty which some students experienced in devoting three years to study, he suggested that many might with benefit attend a single year for the study of subjects in which they were specially interested. "How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! Yea, to get understanding is rather to be chosen than silver!" It was with humility if not with shame that they must feel how far from the ideal their efforts came, but that ideal must be ever before them. (Cheers.)

The CHANCELLOR said—In closing I want, on behalf of all present, to thank Professor Bensly for his kindly, appropriate, suggestive, and graceful address. It is no small intellectual feat on an afternoon like this to hold a large mixed audience in this temperature enchained with attention as the Professor has done. I hope that there are others associated with the University who cherish the same ideals as Professor Bensly—that other Sir Thomas Elders, other Sir W. W. Hugheses and John Howard Angases will come into the field to enable us to realize them. I have to thank your Excellency for the honour you have done us, as Her Majesty's representative, as Visitor to this University, and as a graduate of it, by being present this afternoon. I thank the Premier and the ladies and gentlemen who have also honoured us with their presence. I trust that before long, in a larger hall, we shall be able to accommodate a still greater number. I now declare this commemoration closed.

At the request of the Chancellor the students sang the National Anthem, accompanying with instrumental music, as the Governor and the University officials retired.

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AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

On Wednesday afternoon the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the recently established Agricultural School took place in the schoolroom, Old Exhibition Building. There were a few friends present, including the Minister of Education and Agriculture (Hon. Dr. Cockburn), the Hon. G. McGregor, M.L.C., Messrs. J. Miller, W. H. Carpenter, J. W. Castine, F. J. Hourigan, and I. MacGillivray, M.P.'s, Mr. L. W. Stanton, Chairman of the Board of Inspectors, and Inspector Whitham.

The HEAD MASTER, Mr. A. Ferguson, read his annual report as follows:—

In presenting the first report of the school, I am pleased to state that since the opening day the attendance has been steadily increasing. We began with nineteen boys on June 7, and we have now an average attendance of more than forty. In all sixty-six boys have passed through the school, and our roll number is now fifty-seven. The school is intended to bridge over the gap existing between our public schools and the Roseworthy Agricultural College and the School of Mines and Industries. And while hoping that many students will find their way to these institutions, we also hope to keep in touch with our public schools. The school is receiving much support from practical men, who see the possibility of the institution doing good work in the direction of manual training and fitting boys for occupations other than clerks. The need of a special agricultural education is now generally recognised. Farming is becoming more and more a profession which demands special skill, and calls forth all the natural resources a man possesses, and he will best succeed whose previous training has been such as will enable him to use his skill to the best advantage. An education including an elementary knowledge of the sciences is very desirable for every boy for its own sake, but it is absolutely necessary if he is to be placed at an Agricultural College where the sciences are taught. We do not attempt, nor is it desirable, to turn out carpenters, chemists, entomologists, or expert botanists. By science teaching we wish to train boys to observe accurately, to reason carefully, to be honest and truthful, to judge dispassionately, and to avoid hasty generalizations. We wish to teach them to be self-reliant and self-sacrificing. Let me refer now to the work done at the school during the last six months. We began late in the year, the boys had done very little manual labour, and were mere novices with the spade, but with that enthusiasm so characteristic of youth they set to work with great vigour, and as a result they now do very satisfactory work, and are greatly benefited by this outdoor work physically and mentally. Great interest has been taken in the experimental plots in the field, all of which were carefully attended by the pupils, and much valuable infor-

mation was gained in watching the progress of the growing crops. Good practical work has been done in vine pruning and cultivation. The vineyard at the Asylum was placed at our disposal, and a splendid lesson on pruning was given the boys by Professor Perkins. On several occasions since the vineyard has been visited, and, assisted by Mr. Quinn, many valuable hints have been acquired in vine-pruning. We have established nursery plots in connection with the orchard, and intend to rear all the trees we require. Practical lessons in propagating fruit-trees by grafting and budding will be given. Mathematics, drawing, arithmetic, and mensuration occupy a prominent position on the time-table, and spelling and composition are not neglected. Chemistry and carpentry are taken at the School of Mines and Industries. The work is thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils, and very good progress is being made in both subjects. What I shall now have to say will be of special interest to the boys. As most of you are aware, we have just passed through the ordeal of an examination, and as usual some have acquitted themselves well and others not so creditably. The examiners were Professors Lowrie and Perkins and Messrs. J. A. Haslam, G. Quinn, and A. E. G. Reynolds.

The Dux of the school is Lloyd Higginbottom, who wins the prize presented by Mr. J. Darling. Tom Whillas was a good second, and was only a few marks behind. Ernest Hubble secures first prize in the II. Division and Leslie Furlong in the I. Division. The prize for fieldwork, given by Mr. Norman, was won by John Adams, of Smithfield. Spencer Ising obtained the highest number marks in the examination bearing directly on the work done in the field, and wins Mr. Norman's prize. Tom Whillas obtained the highest number of marks in agriculture, viticulture, and fruit-culture, and so takes Mr. Miller's prize. The good-conduct prize, presented by Mr. W. C. Rigby, goes to Frank Batchelor, of Salisbury. This award, I think, will give general satisfaction. Charles Gilbert obtained the highest number of marks for homework. Tom Whillas obtained Dr. Cockburn's prize.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, after expressing his pleasure at the satisfactory nature of the report, said the school was one of those little germs that like the famous mustard seed would grow into a tree. There were not many boys at present in the school, but there were more than it was prophesied they would have. Every new movement, whether for good or evil, had its enemies, who said that it was a "fad," and would not succeed; but, as was usual, he was glad they had falsified the croakers. They had started with nineteen boys, and now there were fifty-seven boys. Nine had left, but the majority had gone because they had secured work to do, and he believed what they had learnt in the school had placed them in a less unfavourable position than they otherwise would have been, and he looked forward to the time when any young man who had been a pupil at the school would be sought after, because at the school they would have practical education which would teach them useful things, and which would give them good judgment and powers of discernment. The present school was only one of the many schools that were to be started. Mr. Miller might be said to be the father of the system, and he had the co-operation among others of all the members present. It was not enough to teach the children the three R's, which was done at the primary schools. If they were going to be a great nation they must take the pupils a great deal further. When that school had been proved beyond all possibility of doubt a success, and the other schools at Jamestown, and he hoped at Narracoorte, had been proved to be a success, then they would scatter the schools right through the country, and whenever there was a primary school in an agricultural or industrial district there would be a chance of the boys going on and getting a secondary education. If Great Britain and her colonies were not going to lose their place in the race they must see to it. At present they had competitors outpacing them at every stride. Germany was upon their heels, and if they did not take care she would pass them. Germany was accelerating her national advance by liberal, industrial, technical education, so that wherever there was an assembly of boys there was a standpipe of knowledge from which the waters of life could be taken by every one who was thirsty. It should be the same here, and it should never cease until every one was satisfied. Wherever boys could learn, it should be the duty of the State to give them the oppor-

tunity to do so. He thanked the School of Mines and other institutions which had assisted the school. Every inducement would be given to those at other schools to attend the Agricultural School for two or three days in the week and take part in the work. He thanked those who had given prizes, and he himself would give a pound's worth of carpenter's tools to the boy who was selected by his comrades.

A referendum was taken, and the prize fell to T. Whillas.

The Hon. G. MCGREGOR, M.L.C., in a few words, expressed his pleasure at the progress that had been made.

Mr. J. MILLER, M.P., spoke of the benefit the pupils would receive from the instruction given at the school. He had taken the greatest interest in the work, and he hoped that next year there would be more pupils from the country. He gave kindly encouragement to those who had tried hard but had not received prizes.

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY, M.P., was glad that the school had turned out better than the croakers had anticipated, and he hoped next year there would be more scholars.

Mr. J. W. CASTINE, M.P., also expressed his pleasure at being present, and advised the boys to devote themselves keenly to their studies, so that in later years they would do their share in seeing that the wheat was put in and reaped in a satisfactory way.

Mr. HOURIGAN thought that Mr. Ferguson and the pupils should be complimented upon the progress that had been made. They had gone in none too soon for scientific education if they wished to maintain the supremacy in the commercial world which England had secured. It was the duty of the State to see that all facilities given by Divine Providence should be developed by the State, and the School was one of the methods of doing it.

Mr. W. H. CARPENTER, M.P., thought Mr. Miller must be a proud man to be present at the first demonstration of the school, which he had so strongly advocated. He alluded to the great advantage of technical education. They were looking forward to the next generation of farmers being scientific farmers, and the future prosperity of South Australia would depend upon the shoulders of the present pupils.

The DUX of the school, Master L. Higginbottom, made a neat little speech in thanking the visitors for their presence.

The MINISTER of EDUCATION expressed his thanks to the Board of Inspectors for the way in which they had interpreted what they believed to be the wishes of the Legislature in regard to the school. They had spared no time or trouble in the matter. He mentioned that next year there would be two pupil teachers in the school who would be able to assist Mr. Ferguson, and they would acquire such knowledge of the methods of the school that they would be able to go into the country and assist in the schools to be established there.

Mr. L. W. STANTON said he was pleased their small efforts to find out the requirements of the school had met with appreciation. They had taken a great deal of interest in the school, because it was established very shortly after they came into office. (Mr. Whitham—"It was a new family baby.")

Cheers were given for the Minister, the Inspectors, the prize-givers, and the Head Master, and before leaving the visitors inspected the work of the scholars.

WHINHAM COLLEGE.

The annual speech-day in connection with Whinham College took place at the institution, North Adelaide, on Wednesday afternoon, the Hon. J. H. Gordon, M.L.C., presiding over a very large audience, which included the Revs. Dr. Jefferis and E. H. Ellis and the Hon. J. L. Parsons. A long pro-