

Reg. 15th Dec
1903.

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC.

DISTRIBUTION OF CERTIFICATES.

The awards gained by the students of the Conservatorium of Music in connection with the recent examination in the theory and practice of music were distributed on Monday afternoon. The greater part of the Elder Hall was filled with the students and visitors. The presentations were made by the Chancellor of the University of Adelaide (Sir Samuel Way, Bart.), who presided and was accompanied on the platform by the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow, LL.D., Chairman of the Board of Musical Studies), Professor Bragg, and Mr. F. Basse, who are also members of the board. Lady Way was also present.

The Chancellor said that last year a new departure was made by the examinations of the Conservatorium being held in conjunction with the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music; and, besides, at the local centres a system of school examinations was begun. This year another novel step was being taken. Previously, and since 1897, the certificates had been distributed at the registrar's office or by the agents at the local centres. They felt, however, that the examinations were of sufficient importance to warrant the certificates being delivered publicly, and that view was sanctioned by the large attendance before him. Though he was supported on the platform by representatives of the Board of Musical Studies, no members of the teaching staff occupied so prominent a position in the meeting. The object in not inviting the latter was to accentuate the fact that the teachers at the Conservatorium took no part in the examinations. That plan had been the original purpose; but the members of the teaching profession was so strongly of opinion that no teacher preparing students for examination should take any part in them that the Board of Musical Studies and the Council of the University had deferred to their expression of disapproval. Some of his own friends had told him that the examination had been rather stiff; if that were the case, then the honour was all the greater to those who had passed it. He would like to draw attention to the fact that the examiner was appointed by the two royal bodies leading the van of music in England—the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music—and thus the certificates given were valuable as entitling the holders to recognition in any part of the civilized world. He congratulated those who had gained certificates, and wished them all future success. He hoped those who had been unfortunate in the examinations would try again, and gain passes at the next examination, and that a larger percentage of juniors might enrol as students of the Conservatorium and the University. He wished the compliments of the season and pleasant holidays to all those before him.

The registrar of the University (Mr. Hodge) then announced the names, while Sir Samuel handed over the certificates.

Gold and silver medals were presented in each division to the competitors obtaining the highest and second highest number of marks in the examination for the practice of music. In the senior division the gold medal was gained by Miss Carlien Ethel May Jurs, and the silver medal by Miss Alice Pearl Bullock. The recipient of the gold medal for the junior division was Miss Daisy Fowler Kennedy, and the silver token was secured by Miss Myra Ann Player.

At the close of the proceedings the Chancellor called for a vote of appreciation for the manner in which the registrar of the University (Mr. Hodge) and his assistant (Mr. Eardley) had organized and carried out the function. The vote was carried with hearty applause.