CANCER AND CONSUMPTION HOMES.

In the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom, and it is not impossible that as the result of mischance now presenting itself in the world, may yet be found even for cancer, and the extremely distressing tubercle bacillus become a mere curiosity of medical lore. Pending that happy state of things a good deal may be done to alleviate the sufferings of the afflicted, in the case of consumption, at least, minimize the risks of infection. In South Australia, for instance, as the purely reports of the Institution show, there has been one or two small agencies. Private efforts in the form of charitable assistance, but it cannot cover the whole ground, and the Institution, which in the alternative is the one in charge of consumption cases, was never designed, architecturally or otherwise, as a home for incurables. What is needed is special provision for the treatment of consumptives, so that the experience of others may be utilized. Urgent cases of the kind have to find shelter somewhere, if it is not in large general hospitals. Insistences there in private dwellings, where skilled treatment and nursing are uneconomical, and where hygiene conditions are not always present. The conversion of the Institution or homes on North Terrace into a hospital for the treatment of such cases, which the Government appears to have in its mind, is an excellent idea if economy alone has to be considered. But it is essentially condemned on the ground that such a venture ought to be declined, and which have been stated to carry each cusey in our columns by Dr. Stirling and Mr. B. R. Cheadle. One of the purposes to be served by insisting upon proper hygiene from the rest of the community is, of course, to draw them from physical and mental discomfort. This is true from the point of view of the sick, but it is still a serious consideration. The requirements are certainly not met by the ragged state, even if the building were in a fit form for use. Messrs. Stirling's suggestions as to convert the Institution or the vacated parts of the Albert Hospital, that should be associated in one building at all events, and the site on North Terrace, which has been mentioned before, are to be welcomed.

university examinations.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I desire to refer to the question of the government examination and registration of students. It is certainly not usual, and indeed, I think, it is the exception. The question of the number of schools which are not registered is a very serious one, and the government should do all in its power to regulate the system. The government has a duty to the young men of the country, and it is essential that the examination should be conducted in a thorough and systematic manner. In conclusion, I would say that the government is acting wisely in regulating the system of examinations, and that it is to be hoped that the examining body will do all in its power to ensure the success of the students.

I am, Sir, a.

F. H. HAYWARD.

university extension.

Professor Emich, M.A., D.D., gives the first lecture in the University Extension on Thursday evening, at the South Australian Institute. The lecture was well attended, and the subject was taken up with great interest.

Constitution and Cancer.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am forwarding a letter of a somewhat alarming character, but I think it was written under the influence of the recent discovery of the existence of a disease which is apt to be connected with cancer cases, and which is known as the tubercle bacillus. It seems that the disease is of a very serious nature, and the public ought to be made aware of the danger that it may involve. It is evident that the public should exercise caution in this matter, and that the authorities should take steps to prevent the spread of the disease. I have no doubt that the government will do all in its power to prevent any further cases of this nature from occurring.

I am, Sir, a.

E. F. GARDNER.