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months ago, for instance, that of the candidates who passed at the annual examination not one was left unemployed a few days afterwards.

It seems strange that the study of accountancy should only recently have been admitted as one of the subjects recognised by the great Universities of the world. Surely the quantitative sciences as applied to such purposes as the investment of money in public funds and the actuarial work necessary in connection with insurance, are as much entitled to places in the academic curriculum as others which have been admitted from time immemorial. In the absence of an authoritative standard set up by the governing body of some public institution it has been fortunate that South Australia has had the advantage of the examinations conducted by the Incorporated Society of Accountants. Similarly, it was only right that, before the establishment of the University, the tests prescribed for admission to the legal profession should be under the guidance of trusted members of the Bar and of others concerned in the administration of justice; but if an institution like the University is prepared to take up the work of prescribing qualifying tests for accountants, as well as for lawyers and doctors, the possibility of public misconceptions arising in connection with the granting of diplomas will be greatly reduced. It is well also that the value of a good all-round education as the foundation for a commercial career should be frankly admitted from the beginning; and that, with this object in view, the ordinary public examinations annually held at the University should be taken as the standards—at any rate, so far as they relate to those subjects coming fairly within the line of information useful to those engaged in trade.

This point has recently been emphasized by Mr. Fabian Ware in a book dealing with "The Educational Foundations of Trade and Industry." The author shows that in the systems of Germany and the United States the value of those studies which have a broadening and humanising influence has not been in the slightest degree discounted while technical commercial studies have been prescribed. Still, any institution undertaking to give certificates or diplomas carrying with them guarantees of fitness for commercial work should not be satisfied with requirements which can readily be complied with on an educational system of mere cram. The ability to do, rather than the capacity to know, should be the essential crux of each test prescribed. Certain subjects of pure study ought to be made compulsory in each course simply by way of a trial of natural brain power, improved and strengthened by industry. It will never do to establish a series of tests like that which was correctly condemned by a critic as "an exam. that any duffer could pass if only he soaked at his books long enough." The time is doubtless coming when one great function of our highest educational institutions will be to "sort out" the rising generation of ambitious young men according to their mental capacities, so that the one who is fitted by nature to take the lead shall have his place quickly assigned to him; and business concerns, commercial institutions, and public departments may not be obliged to discover their true managers through the costly process of losing by the blunders of the unfit. Many boards of directors and others having large commercial operations under their care have had only too much reason to understand the truth of Roger Ascham's aphorism—"He hazardeth sore that waxeth wise by experience." This is the great lesson that American business men have learnt in recent years. They now deliberately make it their practice to place young men with brains at the front, instead of only permitting them to find their way thither by dint of patience and seniority. President Schurman, of Cornell University, says:—"Judging from our experience there never has been a time when there were so many demands for able and well-trained young men as at present. I think that the opportunities for young men under the present system of large combinations of capital are greater than ever before in the history of the world."

There are, at the time of writing, only seven applicants for the vacant position of Professor of Music in the Adelaide University, though Mr. Grainger expects five more before the 23rd inst., when the list closes. The difficulty apparently is to find musicians with university degrees who are otherwise eligible. Shortly after the date named Mr. Grainger will, with Professor Lamb, of the Owen University, Manchester, and Professor Stirling, devote a day to considering the applications and interviewing such candidates as may be considered desirable.

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Professor Stirling is well and strong after his shooting trip in the north. He called upon the State Agent this week, chiefly about the applications for the musical professorship. He reports some good shooting, the best bag was 500 brace for 8 guns at the covers in Westmoreland, belonging to his brother-in-law, Sir Wm. Ingram.

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MISS GULI HACK'S ANNUAL CONCERT.

Miss Guli Hack, the popular Conservatorium singing teacher, achieved an artistic triumph on Monday evening, on the occasion of her annual students' concert. The spacious Conservatorium Hall was crowded by an enthusiastic audience, and amongst those present were Lord and Lady Tennyson and Lord Richard Nevill, and the viceregal party manifested keen interest in the concert. Miss Hack received several beautiful floral tributes. The feature of the evening was an excellent rendering by the vocal ensemble class of Liza Lehmann's beautiful song cycle "In a Persian garden." The original words were written by Omar Khayhan, the Persian poet, and one of the principal translators was Edward Fitzgerald. Liza Lehmann is a composer of considerable renown, among her latest efforts being the pretty "Daisy chain," a light, popular work. "In a Persian garden" was given at most of the London classical concerts last season, and found much favour with the critics. It had not been heard in Adelaide prior to Monday night. The music is exceedingly tuneful, and it was warmly received. The opening chorus, which was sung tastefully by Misses Martha Bruggemann and May Otto, and Messrs. Gerald Hack and C. G. Weger, begins:—

Wake! for the sun who scattered into flight
The stars before him from the field of night,
Drives night along with them from heaven, and
strikes

The Sultan's turret with a shaft of light.
The piece concludes with the lines:—
Alas! that spring should vanish with the rose,
That youth's sweet-scented manuscript should
close!

The nightingale that in the branches sang,
Ah! whence and whither flown again, who knows?
The composition was done full justice to by Miss Hack's class. The parts were equally balanced, and the voices were perfectly blended. The various numbers were given with a precision which spoke volumes for the training the singers had received. The soloists were well chosen, and sustained their parts admirably, while the choral work was splendid. Among the principal soloists was Miss Bruggemann, a lady who possesses an excellent dramatic soprano voice, of surprising volume and power. Her rendering of the difficult recitative, "But if the soul can ring the dust aside," and the song "I sent my soul through the invisible" evoked much enthusiasm. Recalls were not, however, allowed, and no items were repeated. Miss Katie Joyce, who scored a success at Miss Hack's last concert, was again heard to great advantage, her sweet soprano voice being well suited to her part. Miss Nellie Jarvis, who has a contralto voice with a splendid tone, carried out her part with conspicuous success, while Miss May Otto, the other contralto, contributed largely to the musical treat. Mr. J. Mor's was the principal bass, and his rich voice was used effectively. The other bass was Mr. Gerald Hack, who went through his work with credit. Messrs. M. Chenoweth and C. G. Weger supplied the tenor and, although the latter unfortunately had a rather severe cold, they sang admirably. At the conclusion of the cycle Miss Hack received an ovation. By her students she was presented with a beautiful harp, composed of roses and ferns. Emma Mundella's "Victory of song" was given for the first time in Adelaide by Miss Hack's part singing class. It is a beautiful piece of music, and was rendered splendidly by the well-trained students. The class was subsequently heard in a bracket, Elgar's "The Snow," and Mendelssohn's "Oh Lord, Thou hast searched me out," which were equally well interpreted. Misses Hulda Montan, Nellie Jarvis, May Otto, and Minnie Gehardt were the soloists. The final piece selected was Hofmann's stirring and powerful cantata "The song of the horns," which has not been heard here before. Miss Bruggemann was the principal soloist, and she did excellent work. A young lady of great promise is Miss Gwen Lloyd, whose voice is of a beautiful quality, and her rendering of the solo "And Chriemhild, mourning for her murdered lord" was sufficient testimony to her training.

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—Professor of Music.—
Mr. Grainger has received 27 applications for the position of Elder Professor of Music and Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Music. Prof. Stirling has lately spent some time at the State Agent's office in connection with the matter, and with Sir Hubert Parry and Sir Alexander Mackenzie, President of the Royal Academy of Music, he is now engaged in selecting six or seven of the candidates, who will on Monday be interviewed by Prof. Stirling and Prof. Lamb.

As to the Future.—Mr. C. S. Hill, in a letter to the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, writes:—"Will you allow me to congratulate your Board and self on the very excellent arrangements made with the Adelaide University, and the useful system of practical education foreshadowed in the report of the committee, which I trust will tend somewhat to prevent the art of pharmacy becoming a lost art to the retail chemist. I am pleased to think that I had some hand in the movement, if only by recognising the 'psychological moment' to put hidden forces into motion. As a strong disbeliever in the examination system as a test of efficiency in technical education, whatever it may be for letters, I hope that the governing Boards will yet so far honour their instructors as to accept their report that a student has shown such diligence and intelligent aptitude in his studies as to warrant his certificate being given in lieu thereof. For it cannot be denied that the man who teaches and trains should be, and is, a better judge of the general efficiency, especially in a small class, than an examiner who oftener than not sees the best students at their worst. This is the point to which many educationalists strive. When it is reached, the position of instructor will have more responsibility, but still greater honour."

This is more than a step forward; it is a running jump. South Australia has led the way in many political movements, but it is not easy to imagine how this idea of Mr. Hill's will commend itself to such educationalists as govern pharmacy throughout the Empire. No doubt there have been, and always will be, found students, apparently capable young fellows, who lose themselves completely in an examination test, but experience shows that this is due to abnormal sensitiveness in a first attempt, and which is rarely, if ever, shown in a second. It seems to be not a difficult thing for students accustomed to examinations to give their answers fully if they know them. A diligent and apt student, who has attended the lectures, could surely in two or three hours give written answers to half a dozen questions selected from those lectures. So far as concern the Pharmacy Board's examinations, failures are nearly always in those subjects which have not been specifically taught, but now that it is proposed to teach all the subjects failures will not be expected. No governing body lives to itself. It has to admit the possibility of other such bodies giving certificates of competency of a degree like its own. It would be interesting to learn Mr. Hill's further views on the matter. One member of the Council thought it would be as if one should say: "Our accountant knows his business thoroughly! He keeps the books, and knows what the financial position is. We can trust him; therefore, why have auditors?" This is perhaps not a parallel case, but either would show that humanity had arrived at perfection.

Apropos Mr. Hill's Suggestion (see page 295), a passed candidate for the Preliminary just held met his coach after the results were known, who congratulated him on his success, but confessed to owning great doubts as to his fitness. Remembering that six months must elapse before the next entries are called for, examination in this case, at least, seems to be justified. Singularly enough, when this same candidate's employer went up for the Standard not many years since, his presence in the examination room caused much merriment on account of the "no ghost of a show" opinion expressed by the late Mr. Turner, who, as lecturer in chemistry and pharmacy, had good opportunity of knowing. The results, however, showed a rattling good pass. Under Mr. Hill's plan the lecturer's certificate might have been withheld until now, especially as the student seemed totally indifferent to what was going on in lectures.

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A FACULTY OF COMMERCE.

For a considerable time the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce has had under consideration a scheme of education as a qualification for commercial pursuits, and, when four or five months ago it was approached by the Adelaide University with a view to the co-operation of the Chamber of Commerce in the establishment of a faculty of commerce, entered heartily into the project. It is now gratifying to learn that the council of the Adelaide University has almost completed arrangements for the initiation of this new and important faculty. There is every reason to believe that the various associations of bankers, accountants, and others carrying on the commerce of this state will warmly welcome a departure likely to increase the status and usefulness of those they employ. The committee of the Chamber of Commerce has examined the systems of commercial education which are successfully carried out in Sydney, Belgium, and other places, and believes that the enterprise of the Adelaide University in this direction will be largely availed of and prove of great advantage.