

Advertiser 17th Sept. 1900

Register 17th Sept. 1900

"The best Australian"
3rd Sept. 1900.

THE ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.
 Before a crowded audience, which included His Excellency the Governor, Lady Tennyson, and suite, and Sir Samuel and Lady Way, Mr. Bryceson Treharne gave his first pianoforte recital at the Elder Hall on Saturday night. The programme chosen for Saturday night's concert was an excellent one. The numbers were carefully selected, and gave the pianist an opportunity to show alike his brilliancy, delicacy, power, and sympathy. Mendelssohn's Prelude and Fugue in E minor opened the recital, and a hearty round of applause greeted Mr. Treharne at its conclusion. Chopin's Sonata in B minor, op. 38, gave the performer scope of which he availed himself to the fullest extent. The alternating fortissimo and dolce passages in the allegro maestoso movement were contrasted artistically; the inspiring scherzo (part of which was omitted) and the massive largo movement were succeeded by the brilliant finale presto non tanto. Each movement was rendered with the taste and skill of the expert musician. A bracket, "Scherzo humoristique" (Tchaikowsky), Paderewski's "Nocturne," a little number breathing love and invested with dainty grace, and "The Rigoletto fantasia" (Liszt), which was beautifully handled by Mr. Treharne, met with a great reception. The concluding number, "Faschingsschwank aus Wien," op. 26 (Schumann), consisting of five movements, was another most enjoyable selection. Miss Gull Hack was the vocalist of the evening. She was in excellent voice, and rendered with great success a quaint little bracket by Coleridge Taylor, "Tears" (a lament), and the dainty little conceit, "Mingullo." Miss Hack bowed her acknowledgments in response to a recall. A set of four charming little Japanese songs (MSS.) by Mr. Treharne, formed one of the gems of the programme. The tenderness of these little airs was given full expression to by Miss Hack, and their quaintness and originality was enhanced by the beautiful accompaniment, rendered by the composer himself. "Mizuna," "To a nightingale," "A snowflake," and "Yuki" were the songs—two of them plaintive little melodies, and two bright and cheerful. They will not be rendered with success in many drawing-rooms, however, for they require artists to sing them, and a good musician to give proper effect to the accompaniment. Miss Hack met with a well-deserved recall for her rendition, and the audience would not be satisfied until another number had been submitted.

The entries for the practical examinations of Trinity College, London, which will be held next November, show a remarkable increase on last year's figures. Up to the present Mr. H. E. Fuller, the local Secretary, has received the names of 347 students; but 22 more have entered at the Mount Gambier centre; three are going up for the teachers' examination, and two for the Degree of Associate. This brings the grand total up to 374. Last year 227 students were examined; in 1898 there were 35, and in 1897 only 22 names were sent in. The increase is certainly remarkable, and bears unmistakable testimony to the popularity of the Trinity College tests with the members of the local profession.

Register 18th Sept. 1900.

MEDICAL SCIENCE.
 To the Editor.
 Sir—The University extension lectures now being given upon "Medical Science during the Nineteenth Century" should prove exceedingly interesting. What an amount of research and labour is represented. What marvels has genius discovered during that time! Ergo, as so many "impossible" things have been done, every doctor must be fascinated with the possibility of more discovery. Let us hope our Adelaide doctors will not be debarred much longer from access to every facility for continuing those researches. The Christian scientists feel themselves divine; but surely in the noble profession of medicine are men who work throughout their unselfish abnegatory lives, and do work and use means that have been prompted and permeated by the Holy Spirit. Who that has benefited by his doctor's skill, and been cheered by his good temper and helpfulness, will question it? Let us hope that such a Hospital Bill will be passed as will ensure room for harmonious scientific research, as well as comfort for the patients.
 I am, Sir, &c.,
 HYPATIA INGOMAR.

Register 20th Sept. 1900.

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ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.
 A few pianoforte recital by Mr. Bryceson Treharne, one of the masters of the Elder Conservatorium attracted a large audience to the Elder Hall on Saturday evening. Among those present were His Excellency the Governor and Lady Tennyson and Sir Samuel and Lady Way. Mr. Treharne's programme was interesting and representative, and had for its chief numbers Chopin's sonata in B minor, which must not be confused with the more familiar one in B flat minor, containing the celebrated funeral march, and Schumann's "Carnival scenes from Vienna," op. 26. The playing of the pianist undoubtedly strengthened the good impressions of his technique that were formed at his initial recital given a few months ago, and as far as mechanical skill is concerned his playing left but little to be desired. Occasionally, however, there was a lack of restraint, and some of the quieter movements were scarcely invested with that sympathy and finish that the best visiting pianists have accustomed us to. In all other respects, however, Mr. Treharne's performance was a fine one, and he is to be commended for presenting a programme containing so many of the best writings of the greatest writers for the instrument. The numerous technical difficulties of the Chopin sonata were overcome with astonishing ease and certainty, and the pianist's playing of the brilliant finale was quite a tour de force. His interpretation of Schumann's "Carnival" may also be warmly commended, save for the occasional lack of restraint previously alluded to. In Mendelssohn's pretty "Prelude and Fugue" in E minor Mr. Treharne was at his best, and his treatment of the fugue was most effective, leaving nothing to be desired. Tchaikowsky's "Scherzo Humoresque," a wild, weird piece of writing, no doubt requires to be heard several times to be thoroughly appreciated, but a pretty little "Nocturne" by Paderewski, which succeeded it in a bracket of three items—the last being the familiar Liszt "Rigoletto" fantasia—is written in a language that was familiar to all present—just a simple, charming, little song without words that was artistically presented and warmly applauded. Mr. Treharne's rendering of the popular "Rigoletto" fantasia was certainly one of the best yet heard in this city, the florid passages being brilliant in the extreme, and the fortissimos superb. At its conclusion he received a storm of applause, and had to twice bow his acknowledgments.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.
 To the Editor.
 Sir—I have been expecting to see the usual protests with regard to the dictation at the Preliminary Exam.—the more so on this occasion, as I am personally interested in some of the candidates who recently sat for examination. Up to now I have been disappointed—not, as I learn, because the past evils have been altogether remedied; but because they apply only to an unfortunate few. It appears that some of the candidates at the last examination were dictated to in the small music-room of the University, and some in the larger library, but by far the greater number in the very large new Elder Hall. The first mentioned ones all seem to have heard distinctly, and some of the second ones only fairly well, but many of the third ones extremely badly, if at times at all. No exception can be taken to the pronunciation of the person who dictated; but, as in the Elder Hall he stood at one end, his words could not always be heard at the other. Even the supervisor stationed at the opposite end announced this fact; and, though the candidates were asked to hold up their hands if they did not hear, they did so at length so frequently at this end that no notice was at last taken of their continued protests. In these circumstances would it not be only fair to these unfortunates for the examiners to take into consideration the position of the seats they occupied before failing them in their whole examination for not hearing the dictation?
 I am, Sir, &c.,
 INTERESTED.

Register 22nd Sept. 1900.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.
 At the University on Friday evening Dr. A. A. Lendon delivered the second of a course of lectures on "The Progress of Medicine During the Nineteenth Century." His remarks were devoted to anaesthesia and its discoveries. The lecturer ably dealt with his subject, and, beginning with surgery in the pre-anaesthetic days, took his listeners through the history of early attempts to produce insensibility to pain during operations by the uses of nupentha, haschisch, mandrake, opiate, stimulant, depressant, compression of nerves and blood-vessels, and hypnotism, and then to use of nitrous oxide or laughing gas, and its anaesthetic value as recognised by Davy and utilized by Wells. This was followed by a description of the investigation of ether by Faraday, and its uses by Long, its utility afterwards suggested to Morton by Jackson, and experimented with by the latter on animals and himself. It was used by Morton in 1844 in a dental operation, this being its first practical application, and in the same year it was administered in two surgical operations and another tooth extraction. The spread of the use of this anaesthetic in England and Scotland was referred to. Chloroform was discovered by Soubiran and Liebig independently in 1831, and Floreas investigated its physiological action in 1847, its anaesthetic property being discovered by Simpson in the same year. The only other anaesthetic mentioned was cocaine, which Koller discovered in 1884. The lecturer concluded his discourse with comments on the administration of anaesthetics generally.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.
 To the Editor.
 Sir,—In your issue of this morning (September 1) there appears a letter signed "Onlooker," in which the writer unjustly criticises the recent Trinity College of Music examinations. As a parent of one of the successful candidates at the examination, and in justice to the school, and also to the teachers, I would ask permission through your paper to correct "Onlooker," as far as the pupils from the Convent of the Sacred Heart School, Highgate Hill, are concerned. On the first day of the examination (Monday, August 13) 13 pupils from the above school attended at the Mechanics' Institute for examination. Of this number 11 were successful in passing their various grades. So much for "Onlooker's" facts, as far as the Sacred Heart Convent School is concerned. I quite agree with the latter portion of "Onlooker's" letter, viz., "that all pupils should be placed on an equal footing." There should be partiality to none. All should compete on equal grounds.—Yours, etc.,
 PARENT.
 Highgate Hill, September 1.

To the Editor.
 Sir,—In to-day's issue of the "West Australian" appears two letters, one signed by "Onlooker" and the other "Justice," taking exception to certain arrangements made in connection with the above-mentioned examinations. It is a pity that your correspondents did not first assure themselves of the accuracy of their statements before drawing such erroneous conclusions therefrom. As both writers practically make the same assertions, it will be sufficient if I deal with those contained in the epistle signed "Onlooker." The statement that Catholic children were specially favoured, while Protestant children were examined under unfavourable conditions is so utterly absurd, that comment is hardly necessary. One would imagine from the tone of your correspondent's statements, that candidates were admitted to the examination room on the production of their Church catechism, instead of a simple examination card. Students from four separate convents were examined at the Mechanics' Institute, and five of the pupils of the Loretto Convent, who obtained honours, were examined in the same building, and under the same conditions. The Loretto Convent, like several other Perth convents, is affiliated with Trinity College, and has the right to hold the examination in its own building if more than 15 candidates are presented for examination. This examination is just as much a public one as an examination held elsewhere, no Sister or other interested person being allowed in the room while the examination is proceeding. The rules of the college compel me to engage rooms in a public building, and I had no word of complaint from the examiner that the street traffic interfered with the proper discharge of his duties. The German band certainly put in an appearance a few minutes before the examination closed on one day. Directly I knew of it, I explained matters to the bandmaster, and he most obligingly moved away, so as to allow the last candidate to be examined. Any portion of the town would be liable to an interruption of this kind, and it would be almost as difficult to guard against in a private street as in a public thoroughfare. "Onlooker" in the first portion of his letter, has generously bestowed more "honours" on candidates than those awarded by Mr. Foster. Fortunately, your correspondent's "decision" is not "final." Were it otherwise, I would feel seriously embarrassed when the time arrived to bestow these extra honour certificates on successful candidates.—Yours, etc.,
 W. H. COUPLAND,
 Local Sec. Perth Centre.
 Perth, September 1.