

A SANITARY AWAKENING.

The signs of the times point to a further remarkable sanitary awakening. The cause of it seems to have started with the discussions in Parliament on the Health Bill, and the evolution of that measure affords some indication of the awakening process, which has been proceeding in connection with sanitary matters. The Bill was first introduced as an amending measure in order to secure compulsory notification of infectious diseases and inspection of meat and cattle, but the debates on it soon showed that a great deal more was needed to enable South Australia to maintain its place in the front ranks of progressive legislation. The educational value of the discussion—and notably of the Hon. Dr. Campbell's speeches—was such as to create a demand, stimulated likewise by the valuable theses published outside Parliament by Dr. Borthwick and others, for a Bill which, in addition to consolidating the existing Health Acts, was to be brought up to date by a recognition of the results of recent scientific research. Accordingly the original measure was withdrawn, and a consolidating one was substituted last session. Fair progress was made with it, but the amendments were so numerous that it was decided to have it recast for reintroduction this year. Whatever the result of so much travail may be, there is distinct evidence that legislators and others have at last been aroused to a comprehension of the importance of the subject. Promptly acting upon a suggestion in "The Register" the Chief Secretary invited the various Local Boards of Health to suggest amendments upon the first Bill, and this has been done. Whatever the value of these proposals may be, the attention of the local bodies was directed to public health legislation, and that was something gained in the direction of sanitary education. One practical result has been shown in the action of the Unley Local Board in anticipating the passing of the Health Bill by providing by means of a by-law for compulsory notification of infectious diseases, thus following in the steps of the eastern suburban Local Boards. Even in the country districts we find indications of a similar awakening in the recognition of at least the necessity for something being done. Just now they want the Central Board of Health to do it for them, but soon they will understand the advisableness of doing it for themselves.

The latest development of public opinion in the matter was the meeting held in the University last Thursday night. That gathering was a proof that the awakening process has been general. It was convened to consider the establishment of a Bacteriological and Hygienic Institute, and its representative character, and the unanimity with which the resolutions submitted were carried, showed that the general public appreciate the advantages to be derived from such an Institute. We believe that this is the first attempt to form a Health Society of any kind in the colony, and there cannot be the slightest doubt that the time was ripe for it. The scheme propounded by Dr. Borthwick—and the Institute is fortunate in having secured as its Honorary Secretary so high an authority on sanitary science—is certainly comprehensive, but not unduly ambitious. The aims are to provide facilities for doing bacteriological work not only for medical men but also for Local Boards of Health; to encourage original research; to discuss matters pertaining to sanitary science; to disseminate literature on sanitary subjects; and to arrange for popular addresses and special courses of lectures. Regarding the latter, mention was made of lectures to Sanitary Inspectors, to nurses in relation to disinfection, and to school teachers. The value of such scientific and educational work is very great, and the instruction must affect the whole colony and not merely the members of the Institute. The advantages are so apparent that it is almost superfluous to specify them. Any one can see how a district would be better served by a trained than by an untrained Sanitary Inspector. But even a trained Inspector has his limits. For instance, he can visit a house where infectious disease exists and leave verbal or printed instructions, but he cannot guarantee that these instructions shall be intelligently obeyed. This fact points to the necessity for employing specially trained nurses in sanitary administration, for they could penetrate into the house and the sick-

room and give practical demonstration of the methods of applying disinfection. The Institute will supply the deficiency as soon as the demand for such nurses arises. It will also provide for a need which was not mentioned at the meeting, but which will be felt as soon as the new Health Bill shall become law—the need of trained inspectors of meat and of cattle. It may appear at first sight anomalous to talk about teaching school teachers, but the representative of that class at the meeting was quite enthusiastic concerning the advantages to be derived from the work of the Institute; and if the teachers benefit by it the advantage will naturally be reflected on the scholars. The popular lectures and the dissemination of sanitary literature will reach the general public directly; indeed, an Institute of the nature proposed—embracing the encouragement of purely scientific and educational work of the most popular character—can have practically no limit to its usefulness, and its successful inauguration on Thursday is a matter for general congratulation.

CONSERVATORIUM ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS.

A programme of the customary pattern, containing mainly popular and familiar numbers, with a couple of short new selections, was presented by the Conservatorium Grand Orchestra at the Town Hall on Saturday evening. The audience was a large one, and thoroughly appreciative. Under the conductorship of Mr. Heinicke the playing of the band was generally excellent, the only noticeable defects being an uncertainty with the horns in the "Semiramide" overture, a failure of the first flute in another number, and a want of unity on the part of the first violins in the "Sylvia" pizzicato. These are, however, but trifling and somewhat unavoidable blemishes, which to a great extent must disappear with further practice. The first new number, Reidel's pretty and melodious "Slumber song" for strings, con sordini, without bass, contains most of the familiar effects of this species of composition; the viola part is striking, the harmonies pleasing, and the finale decidedly effective. It was played with delicacy and precision, and with a rich body of tone. A "nocturne" from Delibes' "Coppelia" ballet, two numbers of which were introduced at the opening concert, formed the second novelty. This dainty little piece, which is all too short, abounds in graceful little detached passages for the muted strings and wood wind, which are built upon long holding notes, a combination which is invariably effective. The whole piece is fanciful and graceful, and exhibits some of the most delightful characteristics of the talented French composer. Its interpretation by the orchestra was marked by commendable precision and expression. One of the best performances of the evening was the familiar "Zampa" overture, which was presented with considerable finish. Rossini's "Semiramide" overture, save for the defect before-mentioned, was thoroughly satisfactory, and Handel's "Largo" created its customary effect, and served to exhibit the cantilene of the first violins to advantage. The long selection from Sullivan's "Ivanhoe" was capably played, and a word of praise is due to the oboe, cornet, and euphonium soloists for their respective performances. The tone produced by the last named was particularly pleasing. Ellenberg's pretty little waltz-measure "Reve du Bal" for string quintet, proved as pleasing as ever, and Desormes' attractive trifle "Les mandolines" was recalled with considerable enthusiasm, thus affording another evidence of the triumph of meretriciousness. Mr. Heinicke, however, refused to grant an encore. The remaining instrumental numbers were Delibes's pizzicato "Sylvia" and "The Queen's Grand March" (Reviere). Miss Ethel Lohrmann was heard with considerable pleasure in "The valley by the sea" (Adams), which she sang with feeling and taste, and in response to the recall which followed gave an equally acceptable rendering of Lasser's charming song "All Souls' Day." In the second part of the programme Miss Lohrmann introduced a new composition by Hartwell Jones, "The great eternal home," a typical sacred ballad, following much the sentiment of "Ora pro nobis," "Misum corda," and a host of other similar writings. We have the customary triplets in the accompaniment to work up the finale, and, though melodious, the song is cast in a stereotyped mould, and exhibits nothing fresh. Miss Lohrmann's interpretation was artistic, and she was rewarded with considerable applause. Mr. J. Opie, who appeared as a debutant, must have agreeably surprised the majority of the audience, who would scarcely expect to hear such a rich, powerful voice from so youthful a performer. Mr. Opie also sings with considerable taste, and, though as a student he has naturally much to learn before he attains to the full stature of a professional vocalist, his prospects are nevertheless distinctly encouraging. He was deservedly encored for his first song, "Kings of the road" (Bevan), and responded by repeating the last verse. A similar compliment followed his singing of "This workaday world" (Adams), the extra, which, however, partook of the nature of an anticlimax, being Tosti's familiar "For ever and for ever." Mr. A. H. Otto accompanied all the songs with taste and discretion, and Mr. A. C. Quin once again proved a steady and thoroughly trustworthy leader.

The next Orchestral Concert will be given on Saturday next, when Mr. Frederick

Bevan, the new Singing Master of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, will make his first public appearance in Adelaide. His songs will be Schubert's "Erl King" and Gounod's "Nazareth." It has been decided to discontinue reserved seats, and charge one uniform price for admission to all parts of the hall.

"The Register" June 25th 1898.

ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS.

To-night the second popular orchestral concert will be given by the Conservatorium's Grand Orchestra in the Town Hall. Fifty-five performers will take part, including all the members of Heinicke's Grand Orchestra. An attractive programme has been prepared, and includes Rossini's celebrated overture "Semiramide," and a selection from Sir Arthur Sullivan's opera "Ivanhoe," the overture "Zampa," selections from the Ballet Music "Coppelia" and "Sylvia," the well-known string quintets "Reve du Bal" and "Mandolines," a new "Slumber Song" by Riedel, and the "Queen's Grand March." Miss Ethel Lohrmann and Mr. J. Opie will each sing two songs. A crowded house is expected.

Advertiser 1st July 1898

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

The programme issued for to-morrow's orchestral concert in the Town Hall contains no less than 16 different compositions, full particulars of which appear in our business columns. Mr. Frederick Bevan, the new professor of singing of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, will make his first appearance and sing "The Erl King" (Schubert), and "Nazareth" (Gounod), the latter accompanied by the orchestra and grand organ. Miss Gull Hack, A.R.C.M., will contribute three songs. Herr Kugelberg will play a violoncello solo, "Ave Maria," with grand organ (Professor Ives, Mus. Bac.) and piano (Herr Reimann) obligato. The full orchestra will play six compositions, including Handel's celebrated "Largo," with grand organ (Professor Ives). The string section will play four charming compositions, including Schumann's beautiful "Traumerl." The admission to all parts of the hall is 1s.; no reserved seats. Doors will be open as usual at 7.15.

Advertiser 2nd July 1898

ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

Great interest is being shown in the popular orchestral concert to be given to-night in the Town Hall by the Grand Conservatorium Orchestra. The first appearance of Mr. Frederick Bevan, the new professor of singing of the Elder Conservatorium of Music, is announced; he will sing "The Erl King" (Schubert) and "Nazareth" (Gounod). Miss Gull Hack will contribute three songs; Professor Ives, Mus. Bac., will preside at the grand organ, which will be used in three numbers; Herr Reimann (piano), and Herr Kugelberg (cello) will also assist. The full orchestra play six compositions, including the favorite overtures "William Tell" (Rossini), "Bohemian Girl" (Balfe), and Bizet's grand march from "Carmen." The string section will play four quintets, including Helmund's tuneful serenade "Rococo." Herr Heinicke as usual will conduct. Only one price of admission will be charged; no seats are reserved; doors open at 7.15. The full programme appears in our business columns.