

Ad. 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1906.

Ad. 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1906.

Reg. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1906

### THE LEARNING OF THE YOUNG.

The examiners who went through the papers of the candidates who sat for the last primary examination at the Adelaide University have issued their reports, and they contain some interesting reading. The age of those taking the papers is generally from 12 to 14 years, so that advanced knowledge can hardly be expected. In respect to history the examiners say, "Generally speaking the quality of the work has improved. The most striking defect in the papers consisted in the uncertain apprehension of events, concerning which Mr. Gardiner is very explicit." On the subject

of geography the carelessness in spelling proper names is noted, the examples quoted being "Glasgow," "Glasecow"—the student in this case stating that it was noted for the glass industry—and "Edinborough." The critic goes on to remark, "The knowledge exhibited of the inland lake system of South Australia was, generally speaking, good, though there was great diversity of opinion as to the explanation of the prevailing physical conditions. An error made by not a few was that of confounding the inconsiderable body of water dammed up in the Torrens River in the vicinity of Adelaide with one of the most important lakes in the State." In Greek "the handwriting was by no means good" in several cases, though "the accents were, as a rule, placed correctly." On the subject of Latin it is stated that "many candidates wasted their time, and made the examiner's work harder by writing out the questions as well as the answers. Such candidates have themselves to thank if their answers are overlooked in the crowd of words with which they are surrounded." As to the drawing, the verdict is, "Evidently the schools entering candidates for the primary examination in drawing are not seized of the value of drawing, or else the primary candidates were unprepared for their examination in that subject."

Ad. 25<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1906.

### THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS.

Further communications have been received in Adelaide recently from the trustees under the will of Mr. Cecil Rhodes for the information of intending South Australian candidates for the Rhodes scholarships. The election of a scholar in South Australia and in each of the other

Australian States takes place annually not later than the end of February, the date being fixed by the committee of selection in each State, and successful candidates will begin their residence at Oxford in October of the year for which they are elected. An annual scholarship is assigned to each State of the Commonwealth, tenable for three years, and of the value of £300. The applications, so far as this State are concerned, must be received not later than January 31, the selection committee being the Governor (chairman), the Chief Justice, Mr. G. J. R. Murray, Professors Bragg, Henderson, and Stirling. In South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania it is stipulated that candidates must have passed their 19th birthday, but not their 25th birthday, on October 1 of the year for which they are elected, and must have been resident in the State for at least four out of the six years immediately prior to their candidature.

Reg 30<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1906.

### MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.

We have received from the Registrar of the Adelaide University particulars of the public examinations in theory and practice of music to be held in 1906. The pamphlet, which runs into 81 pages, sets out the regulations under both headings, and gives a list of the local centres. In addition the examinations papers set for 1905 and the pass lists are printed.

Reg. 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1906

### HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, AND PHYSIOLOGY.

"The history papers sent up by the junior candidates," say the examiners, in their report as to last year's work, "show an improvement in spelling and generally in composition. In some of the papers, however, it was evident that the candidates had had but slight experience in written work; hence such a sentence as 'Feudal army was a subject of the things that William the Conqueror had to weaken the English.' Other candidates wrote in a stilted style, using long words which they did not understand, for example:—'Do Monfort was strict in paradoxy; 'Langland was the persecutor of religion, Chaucer the persecutor of literature.' In question 4, Piers Plowman was a stumbling block to many. One candidate hazarded the suggestion—'Very likely he was a man who, assisted to drive a plow; another wrote an account of St. Francis of Assisi; two or three said that it was one of the names taken by Piers Gaveston; while another candidate took refuge in generalities and said, 'Piers was a happy old soul, quite contented with his lot.'" As to geography, these statements are made:—"That something more than the teaching of mere geographical nomenclature is needed in our schools is seen from such answers as the following:—'Japan was first peopled by the Norse Vikings; 'Cape Colony was discovered by Stanley, and by him annexed to the British Crown; 'India was acquired by Great Britain when the Mahdi was de-

feated.' A very large proportion stated that 'Cape Colony was conquered by England in the late Boer war.' The above examples will illustrate the need for improved methods of teaching this subject." The English into Latin translations, it is said, were "in a few instances distinctly scholarly." The examiner in physiology wisely remarks:—"In the total absence of any explanation of the results which digestion is designed to bring about, the frequently recurring statement (in reply to the question—What is the object of the digestive processes?), that one of the objects of cooking is to make food digestible, is without value. The statement also frequently made, containing a modicum of truth, that another object of cooking is 'to kill insects,' requires, I hope, some revision." He adds:—"Looking at all the answers collectively it is again apparent to the examiner that in learning their physiology reliance is placed too exclusively on a book knowledge of the subjects. Over and over again errors of statement are made that would not have occurred if the writers had seen the things they attempted to describe. Much as it is desirable that a more general knowledge of physiology should be diffused amongst young people, it would be better to drop the subject than to make it an instrument of cram. Taught objectively, the examiner believes that there is no subject better fitted to excite the intelligent interest of even quite young children. The examiner wishes to call attention to the objectionable practice, followed by many candidates, of inserting odd bits of information which have occurred as after-thoughts, in odd places disconnected from the main answer."

### THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP.

The third Rhodes scholar from South Australia will be chosen at the end of the month. The late Cecil Rhodes in his will made provision that scholarships tenable for three years at the Oxford University should be available for boys from all the colonies of the Empire. South Australia has sent two to England already—Messrs. Norman Jolly and Roy Robinson. The committee to select the third ~~scholar~~ engaged considering the qualifications of the applicants. Six lads have forwarded their names, and in University circles it is understood that they are Messrs. W. R. Reynell, Gordon Campbell, H. M. Jay, A. J. Brooks, H. J. Priest, and W. Ray.

Reg 13<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1906

We have been asked by the University authorities to state that the paragraph in The Register of Saturday regarding the Rhodes Scholarship was not officially supplied.

Ad. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1906

### THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIP.

The Rhodes scholarship selection committee, which consists of the Governor, the Chief Justice, Mr. G. J. R. Murray, and Professors Bragg, Henderson, and Stirling, will meet on Wednesday to choose the third South Australian scholar. The scholarship is tenable at Oxford University, for three years, and is of the annual value of £300. The applications for the present year's scholarship were received on January 31 last. It is understood that the six competitors are Messrs. A. J. Brooks, B.A., Gordon Campbell, H. M. Jay, H. J. Priest, B.A., B.Sc., W. Ray, and W. R. Reynell. This year's Rhodes scholars have already been chosen in most of the other Australian States, as well as New Zealand. The two South Australian Rhodes scholars at Oxford are Mr. N. W. Jolly, B.Sc., and Mr. R. L. Robinson, B.Sc., both of whom have arranged to enter the Indian Forestry Service at the close of their residence at Oxford.

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Mr. E. O. G. Shann, B.A., who was dux of Wesley College, Melbourne, in 1900, has been appointed Acting Professor of Philosophy at the Adelaide University. Mr. Shann will leave Melbourne for Adelaide to-day by the English mail steamer. He will take the place of Professor Mitchell, who has been granted 12 months' leave of absence.

Professor Ennis, Mus. Doc., was recently approached by the authorities of Stow Memorial Church to ascertain if he would accept the position of organist and choirmaster, which will shortly be rendered vacant owing to the retirement of Mr. James Shakespeare. The professor, however, feels unable to accept the office.

### RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

MR. W. R. REYNELL SELECTED.

Mr. Walter Rupert Reynell has been selected as the Rhodes scholar for South Australia for 1906. There were six candidates. Mr. Reynell is 20 years of age, and a son of Mr. Walter Reynell, of Reynella. The successful candidate entered Queen's School when ten years of age, and was placed bottom of the lowest form. At the end of the year he was second in his class. In the six following years he gained the form prizes of the remaining classes, and was "dux" when he left in 1901. He won 17 prizes while at Queen's School, and during his last three years there passed the preliminary in 1899, junior in 1900 (fourth on list), and senior in 1901 (twelfth on list). He entered St. Peter's College at the beginning of the second term, and left at the end of the year. At the age of 17 he passed the higher public examination. During his school life he attended only three out of the four terms each year. The first term of each year was spent on his father's estate, gaining experience in farming, viticulture, winemaking, and the chemical analysis of wines and soils. He also did a considerable amount of riding, driving, and shooting. The whole of 1903 was spent in this way. He began the course for the diploma in electrical engineering at the School of Mines in 1904, with the following record to his credit:—First year chemistry, first class, first place; second year chemistry (theoretical), first class, second place; second year chemistry (practical), first class, third place; second year mathematics, second class, fourth place; first year physics, second class, first in second class; fitting and turning, second class, first in second class; mechanical engineering I., first class, first place; applied mathematics, second class, first in second class. He also passed in building construction, drawing I., applied mechanics I., fitting and turning I., mechanical drawing II., iron, steel, and alloys. In 1905 he passed in Greek in the March senior public examination. At Queen's School his record as a lad of 16 is spoken of as phenomenal. As captain of the football team he was excellent in attack and defence. In cricket he had a batting average of 41, and was the best school wicket keeper the head master had seen in 18 years' experience. He also held the second bowling average. He was a member of the school hockey team which won the South Australian premiership. While at St. Peter's he played in the cricket, football, and tennis teams. At cricket he had the second highest batting average, kept wickets, and played in every match. He also played football in every match except one, when he was playing tennis against Prince Alfred College. In 1904 he played football for the University against Melbourne University, and was one of the selection committee. In the same year he played once for Norwood team, who were premiers of South Australia. He was regularly in the University A tennis team during 1904. He began rowing at the end of 1904, and after three weeks' practice was chosen a member of the University crew to row in the Champion Eights in February, 1905. Three weeks after the race he rowed for the University in senior-junior fours on the Torrens. In May he was one of the South Australian crew in the eight-oar championship on the Parramatta. In June he rowed with the University crew, which came second in the Australian Universities' boat race on the Port River, and in December in the Le Hunte Fours, and with the University crew which won the Dash Eights. In the three first eight-oar races he rowed No. 4; in the Dash Eights No. 8. He played tennis for University A team during the 1905 season, in March was selected to practise for the interstate team, but could not do so on account of rowing, and in November he was again chosen and played for South Australia against Victoria in Melbourne.

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In referring to Mr. Alexander Juett, the Western Australian Rhodes scholar, a western exchange says he is the son of a plain and sturdy quarryman who resided for many years at Aldgate, and still has property there. The new scholar is a nephew of Detective Fraser, of Adelaide, who is a brother of Mrs. Juett. The Frasers came of worthy and humble Scotch parentage, and the mother of Detective Fraser and Mrs. Juett continue to live at Aldgate. The Juett went to Western Australia when the goldfields were discovered, and, having proved fortunate, they carried out their cherished idea of having young Alexander well educated. He graduated at the Adelaide University from the Christian Brothers' College, Perth. It may not be generally known that Professor Henderson is the son of a working miner, and won his education by exhibitions from the State school to college and scholarships to colonial and English universities.