To the Editor,

Sir—As I have been pretty intimately acquainted with education matters for over 40 years, I have always been interested in the means of spreading knowledge and spreading the word to the people. I believe that certainly there has never been such a prosperous time in South Australia for all private schools as at the present moment. It is a time of progress and change, and it is incumbent upon all of us, the parents and teachers, to work together for the betterment of our children.

I am,

ANOTHER PARENT.

To the Editor,

Sir—As a member of the public and interested in the efficient and proper government and control of our public institutions, I desire to add my voice to the discussion at the disagreement which has arisen between the Director and the University. Judging by the press information published about the situation, it appears that the information letter appearing in Wednesday's issue above the line of E. L. is false. The matter is bad and that the Director is suppressing the truth. The University is bankrupt and the University is already spoken of by some people as being dissolved by the public. I hope that no student will so far abuse him as to believe the lies that are being spread. I hope that the University will not be made by an unblinded authority. In the meantime, I say, "Sing a song of love and joy."

I am, Sir, etc.,

MAL-VERS.

The Australian.

THE UNIVERSITY TRAINING COLLEGE.

The recent strike of University Training College students, while apparently of a trifling character, has its serious aspects, with which no one can possibly feel indifferent.

If every pupil refused to do his lessons, then the thought of his absence might be far from a happy one, and soon his vocation would be a matter of doubt. Indeed, the number of young teachers who, in the course of a few years, may exercise authority in their own schools, disregarding directions not less arbitrary than they themselves will be obliged to give. How can they expect or exact obedience from pupils, if, in their own case, they will not perform the same service?

The first batch not attending their various schools for teaching, but remaining in the University for examination, were called the next morning before the magistrates, who were very strict and warming in their instructions that they must not perform any duties, and if they offered resistance, then they were to be dismissed. And so the matter appeared to end, and should have ended; but the breach of confidence with other teachers wanting the same concession does not admit of any other conclusion.

It is a different matter between the students' special subject and the teachers' ordinary one. Such a breach of confidence would be class unsupervised for the situation in hand it is an open secret. From the Director of Education, to the students, and students are likely to be overworked; but, in the end, the work is of such a nature that they have nearly as much other work under the Education Department as would be expected of a private student at the University. This, certainly, is not the way to endeavour to become proficient in their work, and it is no way to give confidence to the staff.

In the examination, the students were thrown down in health, Question of hospitality, accommodation, and food, are generally considered thoroughly agreeable, and certainly the first thing should be to learn to teach, which is what the students are doing. The whole tone of the Director's remarks, as far as I can understand them, strengthens my previous impression that at this University, the efforts are, in fact, upon the students to obtain their degree. A subject for the Director of Education, and the comparative cost of education in all the private schools is very different. The number below all others, and the sum of £30 per annum for a young man of from 30 to 35 years will be found a large sum, considering they have just completed two years at the University and that they probably are not able to earn more than £10 per annum, during which they have probably lived only £50. I can, therefore, understand the wisdom of accepting the mild terms offered for their return to the college.

Sincerely yours,

The Australian.

THE QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY.

Queensland is to have a University. Parliament has passed the necessary Act, and voted an annual grant of £10,000, and Government House, Brisbane, has been set apart as the home of the new school of learning. There remains much to be done in the way of organization, but the work has been taken in hand by the Senate appointed a couple of months ago, and is being pushed on with all possible speed. Applications are about to be invited for filing of enrolments. The subject of zoology, however, and mathematics, and engineering, to which salaries of £200 yearly have been attached, and those appointments have been made, lecturers will be appointed. Mr. Henderson, one of the members of the council, in the course of a conversation on Wednesday, said the standard for the preliminary examination had been raised about the same as in Sydney except that Latin is considered a compulsory subject. "Our idea," he continued, "is to keep the entrance door as wide as we can, and to maintain a high standard for the degrees. The standard for English language and literature is one of the subjects. University assistance includes the granting of 20 entrance scholarships, tenable for three years, with a grant of £25 a year to students who can live at home, and of £100 a year to the others who are forced to starve from home during their course. These will be provided for by soliciting the assistance of the public. The arts course will carry a fee of £30 a year to all students, and the science course the maximum fee, including laboratory charges, will be £40. The students will be provided with all the accommodation necessary in classrooms, &c., for several years. There are several buildings already at the disposal of the University, and additional buildings can be erected as and when they may be more fitted up, and the University proposes to erect a building on the site the Central Technical College.