The continuation classes in State schools, which have now been established in various rural centres, are presumably intended for the benefit of the teacher, so that he may be thoroughly equipped and fully effective for a task which cannot be tested in examinations or measured in statements of accomplishment, and rarely justly appreciated. Yet more than statesmen, and probably not less than churches, the teachers are builders of the State, educating the lower, shaping the ideals, and tempering the character of the coming citizens. If immortality of influence is treasure which theft cannot steal or metal corrupt, then the worthy instruction of a new generation, and the present drawbacks, are much to be envied.

Among the educational events of the year has been the Empire Conference, in which those delegates of the South Australian and Victorian Directors of Public Instruction, although they went to learn, it appears that they remained to teach the Empire exports of knowledge on all technical, pedagogical, and practical subjects. The reports indicate a co-ordination of practical and scientific training and higher education in the Commonwealth. In this State much remains to be done under this head. The reputation does not rest on the directing hand in the direction of creating a free ladder from the kindergarten to the university, but before the communication can be fully established it will be necessary to remove the obstacles which have at present enshrine the new Australian universities. Upon this subject Professor Jordan has recently shed valuable light by describing the services rendered in the United States by a typical university. In a general way its function represents an extension of the new education as the phrase is understood relatively to our State, and it would be admirable to realize the principles that knowledge should end its action, and that the kind of knowledge best suited to an individual is that which conduces to personal usefulness.

The American university exists to develop the talent of the community — its best asset— which is distributed among all classes, and particularly in the rural districts. Its teaching is strictly educational and practical. Examinations and scholarships are abolished, and young men are trained to begin life in opportunities and let promotion attend on merit. No preference is shown for literary or scientific courses; each student follows his bent, and finds culture in thoroughness. The atmosphere of the university, with intimate association with professors and fellow-students with varied experiences and aims furnishes broad views. In contrast to the ideal of education in the German university, the character of the student is not formed in English halls of learning, the American institution, while uniting scholarship and grace, is remarkable for a practical training under Australian conditions, which are analogous in more respects than those derived from the similarity of the political federations of the Republic and the Commonwealth.

The UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

A meeting of the council was held on June 29. There were present Professor Thomson, V. Cooper, Professors Murray, C. Brodie, Proctor, Directors of Public Instruction, Dr. S. Smith, Mr. Hazzard, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Moir, Mr. M. Smith, and Mr. E. C. Claridge. The council were advised that a library committee has been appointed to consider the advisability of an extension of the present library. The question was referred to the board of examiners for examination and report. The situation of the college was explained, and the desirability of further accommodation for the students in various subjects was indicated. The council expressed the hope that the funds might, if possible, be raised by subscription, which would be needed for the purpose. The council expressed the hope that the funds might, if possible, be raised by subscription, which would be needed for the purpose.

The council expressed the desire that their gifts be employed in the purchase of books to the University Library. The council also expressed the wish that the department of English should be extended, and that the department of languages be given more attention.

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