

ciency; costing, lay out of works, and efficiency of labor would be matters of which the organiser could give advice. (6) Especial attention was drawn to the desirability of the institute encouraging by its State committees and organisers the formation of trade associations. Such associations could assist in—(a) The organisation of the industry. (b) The specialisation of work among its members. (c) The dissemination of technical information among its members. (d) The establishment or appointment of analytical facilities for the routine work of its members at an arranged tariff.

Review 13.7.14.

MR. WALENN'S VIOLIN RECITAL.

The announcement made by the University some months ago, of the appointment of Mr. Gerald Walenn to the Conservatorium, awakened keen interest in musical circles, and his arrival in Adelaide was awaited with eager anticipation. Mr. Walenn was known to be an artist whose attainments were recognised and acknowledged in the old country, and so the large audience that flocked to the Elder Hall on Thursday evening to hear him at his first appearance in this city were firmly of the conviction that they were to have the privilege of listening to a master. The responsibility of making good this conviction was no light burden, but the instantaneous success of the recital on Thursday evening proved that Mr. Walenn was more than fitted to bear it. The University is to be heartily congratulated upon an appointment which will be of untold benefit to the whole musical community of Adelaide.

It was fitting that Dr. Ennis, to whom Adelaide mainly owes the fact of Mr. Walenn's presence, should be associated with the violinist at his first recital. Not only did he play the accompaniments throughout the evening, but shared the honours which fell to the two musicians for their delightful and well-balanced playing of Grieg's "Sonata in G," for violin and piano. Mendelssohn's "Concerto in E minor" formed the chief item on Mr. Walenn's programme, and his performance of it might well stand as a model for the interpretation of that charming and spontaneous work. The qualities that make for its ideal rendering—clear-cut, brilliant technique, beauty of tone production, and well-balanced temperament—are happily possessed by Mr. Walenn in abundance, and the ovation that greeted him at its conclusion amounted to a triumph. Equally inspiring was his virile playing of the "Variations on a theme of Corelli," Tartini-Kreisler, a composition of such daylight freshness and charm. It was interesting to hear something from the violinist's own pen, and his "Song of the desert," a strikingly melodious and grateful piece for the instrument, received marked appreciation from the audience. Wieniawski's "Airs Russes" is a great test of virtuosity, and it was evident, from the brilliant manner in which Mr. Walenn triumphed over its difficulties, that his equipment in that direction, as well as in the purely artistic one, is equal to all demands. It was gratifying to realize, after the splendid performance of last night, that it was only the first of many more that can be anticipated with equal pleasure in the future from this fine artist.

Advertiser

13.7.14.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

AN INTERESTING REPORT.

A report dealing with the work of the Education Department during 1916 was presented to Parliament on Thursday. The number of schools in operation was 857, or an increase of eight on the previous year. There were 322 public primary schools, 22 district high schools, 6 domestic science centres, 496 class IX. (formerly known as provisional) schools, and 10 part time schools. The number of pupils under instruction was 66,982, or a net increase of 4,382 on the number in 1915. The daily average attendance for the year in all schools was 52,474, an increase of 3,902. Out of 60,617 children examined for promotion (by the teachers) 80.65 per cent. were promoted, compared with 53,638 examined and 60.64 per cent. promoted in 1915. There were 37 students in the Teachers' Training College, and in December 25 completed the prescribed course. Six students joined the I.F., and five were allowed to remain in college for an additional year of train-

ing. In January, 1916, 290 junior teachers remained in the high school from 1915, and 142 new candidates were admitted. In December 98 left the school to commence teaching. About the same time 156 candidates out of 236 passed the junior teachers' entrance examination. The Adelaide High School had on its roll 926 pupils, of whom 342 were junior teachers, 291 were improving their general education prior to beginning work, 186 were studying for University public examinations, and 107 were taking a commercial course. The high schools had become a valuable source from which the department now drew a supply of junior teachers.

The expenditure for the year showed a net increase of £16,246. The cost of administration increased by £2,645. The total cost of primary education was £241,128, or an increase of £11,206 on the previous year, accounted for daily by the increased number of teachers (1,982, compared with 1,854 in 1915), increases of salaries paid to teachers, and increased cost of training incurred through the extra number of junior teachers. The cost per child in average attendance decreased from £4 19/6 to £4 16/73. Upon secondary education the expenditure amounted to £27,270, an increase of £647. Scholarships and bursaries entailed an outlay of £1,532. The cost of technical education was £19,126, compared with £16,707 in 1915. This included £8,836 grant to School of Mines, as against £8,983 in the previous year, and £2,700 for country technical schools. About £268 less was spent on the School of Arts and Crafts, and £413 more on the domestic arts schools. Sites, buildings, improvements, and repairs cost £34,053, an increase of £1,181. The total capital expenditure (from loans) on school buildings since the passing of the Education Act of 1875 amounted to £759,135, and the interest for the year totalled £30,365.

The report of the Director of Education (Mr. M. M. Maughan, B.A.) stated that the juvenile population of the State had grown more rapidly than the finances, and there was a demand for school accommodation much beyond the power of the department to meet. Many schools were overcrowded. New schools had been built, only to be filled at once, and with practically no relief to neighboring schools. Besides the new schools required a very large amount of rebuilding, repairing, and reconstructing was urgently needed; but to do everything would cost at least £500,000. He was glad the number of applicants for admission to the Adelaide High School as junior teachers was greater than ever before. The department was in a fair way to keep up with the demand for teachers, though it would be some years before the size of classes could be reduced to the numbers recommended by the Education Commission. The reports of the inspectors were all optimistic. There was a general agreement among them that the schools were doing well, and that the department was making progress. They were beginning to trust the child more, and to give him greater opportunity to become self-reliant, but they were still a long way from the ideal. Some teachers, with the best intentions, still wanted the whole class to do the same thing at the same moment, thus preventing the more capable child from making the most of his abilities. The department hoped to begin the training of special teachers with a view ultimately of introducing the Montessori method into all infant schools. The Government owned school property of a total value of £750,000, and very few of the buildings were used after 5 p.m. He saw no sufficient reason why they should not be available for evening meetings of many kinds—such as parents' meetings and societies—and become a centre of social life.

Report 13. 7. 17.

At the invitation of the director of the Elder Conservatorium, Professor Ennis, a large audience assembled at the Elder Hall last night to hear Mr. Gerald Walenn, the recently-appointed teacher of the violin, give a recital of violin works. The audience included his Excellency the Governor, Lady Galway, and Captain d'Erlanger. For some time the arrival of Mr. Gerald Walenn has been looked forward to by those who welcome fresh talent, new ideas, and the consequent strengthening of the musical community. It is not necessary to remark on Mr. Walenn's treatment of the technical difficulties of the violin. One need not say that his double stopping, harmonics, and so on were skilful. These things are a successful violinist's equipment. It was in his mastery of a good singing tone, his perfection of rhythm, his clear interpretation and adequate bowing that Mr. Walenn attracted attention. His style is scholarly, classical, and historically correct. The works presented were the "Sonata in G," for violin and pianoforte, by Grieg—all four movements were played. Then the Mendelssohn "Concerto," which is well known here and always acceptable. It was in the last movement, allegro molto vivace, that Mr. Walenn achieved his chief success from the audience's point of view. A further group consisted of the Corelli "Gavotte Theme and Variations," by Tartini-Kreisler; the Wieniawski "Airs Russes," and a lyrical piece of violin literature written by the recitalist. "Song of the Desert," which made a good impression. To these was added, by way of encore, Moskowski's beautiful "Serenata," in which Mr. Walenn entered the realm of poetic interpretation. Professor Ennis was at the piano and capably rendered that assistance without which a violinist is powerless.

The Mail 16. 7. 17

CHEMISTRY AND THE WAR.

GERMAN OPERATIONS.

On Friday evening Professor Rennie gave a lecture to the Science Association on "Chemistry and the War." The lecturer said that if it were true in general that Germany was prepared and Britain and her Allies unprepared for the war, it was specially true in the realm of applied chemistry. For 40 years German chemical industries had been progressing by leaps and bounds, whereas in Great Britain great prosperity, due to many causes, had led to the neglect of industries which, in time of war, became of paramount importance—for example, the manufacture of explosives, dyes, drugs, &c., and the conservation and growth of foodstuffs. The lecturer then proceeded to discuss the nature and proportions of various materials used either directly or indirectly in warfare. The preparation of hydrogen on the large scale was explained, this gas being required for airships in immense quantities, approximating 1,000,000 cubic feet for a single Zeppelin. The various poisonous gases were passed in review, notably chlorine, bromine, phosgene, and nitrogen oxides, and it was pointed out that with the two latter gases the serious symptoms were often delayed for hours, so that men were not conscious of their danger. The various explosives were referred to, and it was explained that these are all of one type, the so-called nitro compounds, of which guncotton, nitroglycerine, trinitrotoluene (T.N.T.), and picric acid are the most important. These substances required large quantities of sulphuric and nitric acid for their production, hence the prices of these acids had largely increased, and other industries dependent on their use were seriously hampered. As regards manures, again Germany had greatly improved processes for their preparation, and they were able to command immense quantities for their own purposes, making use, for example, of atmospheric nitrogen and hydrogen for the production of sulphate of ammonia. Again, with reference to foodstuffs, they were growing enormous quantities of a special variety of yeast, sufficient to provide nearly all the fodder they required for cattle and horses. The keeping up of the supply of fat to provide glycerine for the manufacture of nitro-glycerine was probably one of the greatest difficulties Germany had to face, but they were facing it and utilising sources of fat which would not have been thought of in times of peace, such as cherry stones, horse chestnuts, and it was without doubt true that they were using the bodies of those killed in war for the extraction of such fat as they contained. The lecturer concluded with brief statements of the difficulties encountered in Britain and elsewhere owing to the fact that Germany had before the war produced by far the largest proportion of dyes used in the textile industries, and of certain drugs which are largely required for medical purposes. Prices had at first enormously increased, in certain cases up to 700 times the pre-war price, but the problem of supplying these materials was being faced in Britain and America with very satisfactory results.

Advertiser 23. 7. 17

ENGLISH EDUCATION.

VALUE OF SCIENCE.

LONDON, July 20.

The Premier of New South Wales (Mr. Holman), who presided on Friday over the Imperial Teachers' Conference, which was held under the auspices of the League of the Empire, stated that the reorganisation of the New South Wales University and secondary schools, involving the doubling of the expenditure, was more than justified by the practical results. English education must be similarly reformed. English schools and universities turned out statesmen and administrators of a high character and disinterested and unselfish public men, but that was not enough. A wounded Mesopotamia soldier, suffering through the inefficiency of an official of blameless character, would cry, "I don't care how bad his character is. Give me bandages." England, for the first time in hundreds of years, was menaced by dangers to her food supply and by air raids. How were the men of her famous educational institutions facing the crisis? The answer was by imported ideas—aeroplanes from America, wireless telegraphy from Italy, and guns from France. The result of the educa-

tional methods was that public men were looking to other countries for means for defeating the submarines and stabilizing aircraft, because the classical and historical training left them unequipped with practical knowledge. One Edison inventing a detector of a submarine was worth more than a hundred well-intentioned academics muddling through as their ancestors did.

Captain Waddy, the headmaster of the Parramatta school, speaking before the Secondary Schools' Association, admitted the value of scientific and commercial education. Australia deprecated a ruthless sacrifice of the classics to utilitarianism, but under the present system it was possible for a student to graduate without a single sentence of Latin.

Daily Herald 23.7.17

WORKING-CLASS EDUCATION.

"W.G." writes:—In my letters to "The Daily Herald" I have tried to make it plain to the readers that the Workers' Educational Association, in its systematic ignoring of the Labor standpoint, must inevitably be fighting the battle of the capitalist against the working class in its struggle for emancipation. In this letter I propose, with your permission, to advance one more step in establishing my contention. Let me direct the attention of the workers to the question of unemployment—the most acute problem with which we are confronted in every part of world into which modern capitalism has penetrated. What is the cause of unemployment? The capitalist school of economics, in which I include the W.E.A., answers this question in its own way, without ever hinting that it is inherent in the capitalist system. The working-class economists, on the other hand, accept the Marxian explanation as being the only scientific and simple one yet expounded, being in perfect conformity with all the facts. In his work on "Capital," Marx has made clear why it is that the wage-earning class lives in habitual fear of want in the midst of a superfluity of wealth which their labor has created. Labor, he said, receives so small a share of the wealth produced that it is unable to purchase the whole of the commodities it produces. Capital receives as its share (in rent, interest, and profit) more than it can spend; it invests the surplus in further production, and so increases the amount of goods produced, without increasing at the same time and in the same ratio the wages or spending power of labor. The result is the overcrowding of the markets with goods which the great body of the workers cannot buy. Depression follows, the wage-earners are thrown out on the streets in search of employment till the surplus stock are sold off—absorbed. Thus said Marx, unemployment and want on the side of the workers and unbounded wealth and luxury on the side of the capitalist class follow as sure as night follows day from the capitalist system of production for profit, the only remedy being Socialism, that is, collective or communal organization of production for use. Let us now turn again to the W.E.A. In his seventh lecture on "Economics," Mr. Herbert Heston deals with this question in the usual orthodox capitalist fashion, and in the way that must bring joy to the hearts of the members of the Chamber of Manufactures. Indeed, he sets it practically aside jokingly as just one of the 230 or so different theories of little or no interest except as showing the eccentricities of the human mind. The true explanation of the cause of trade depressions and unemployment, he says, is to be found, not in the disorganization and economic anarchy of the capitalist system, nor in over-production nor under-consumption; it is to be found in "the psychology of the business community." And he never for a moment seems to have asked what produces this peculiar "psychology." Had he done so he would have found the cause of it in the economic conditions created by capitalism, but this discovery would not have suited the purposes of the W.E.A. If this body were truly a working-class educational institution, as it pretends to be, surely it would occur to Mr. Heston to suggest that the great functions of wealth production, distribution, and exchange might be more efficiently carried out, in the interests of all, by the community organized for that specific purpose, instead of being left to the horrible banging of "the psychology of the business community" for private profit.

Register 25.7.17

AFFORESTATION.

Mr. H. H. Corbin, B.Sc. (Lecturer in Forestry at the Adelaide University), gave an interesting address to a party of public school teachers on Monday on the subject of afforestation and the desirability of encouraging the use of native-grown timbers. The message was excellently illustrated by lantern slides, as well as by specimens of various timbers, home-grown and imported. Professor R. W. Chapman explained methods of testing the strength of various timbers, and showed the superiority in many aspects of our indigenous timbers.

Advertiser 25.7.17

Sir George Le Hunte, formerly Governor of South Australia, was in London two months ago, and wrote a very kind letter to Mrs. Moisewitsch (Miss Daisy Kennedy, daughter of Mr. J. A. Kennedy, of Adelaide). He said he was going to attend her forthcoming concert, and that he had very happy reminiscences of Adelaide and her concerts at the University. Miss Kennedy had some highly appreciative notices of her violin concert in the London papers.