

Register. 22/3/21.

THE MEDICAL SCHOOL IN ADELAIDE.

The Medical School of the University of Adelaide was founded in 1884, nearly 37 years ago (says The Medical Journal of Australia for March 19). It has played a great part in medical education in the Commonwealth, but like many other institutions in a young country, it has outgrown its clothing. The late Sir Edward Stirling equipped the physiological laboratory when the school was still in its infancy with apparatus then regarded as efficient and adequate. To-day the physiological laboratory is a bare department, with anything but adequate and efficient equipment. Professor Watson was asked to establish the department of anatomy in a few rooms, and, with the genius of adaptive invention, he moulded his requirements to fit into the limits of what seems to-day to be a singularly cramped space. No doubt the physiological and anatomical departments were sufficient and adequate in 1886. Time brings with it changes which cannot be ignored. . . . The department of physiology consists of one laboratory of moderate dimensions and a small study for the professor. There is so little accommodation that the histology work has been suspended, as it were, between heaven and earth. It is still attached to the physiological department, but is housed in relatively cramped surroundings in the vicinity of the anatomical rooms. The department of anatomy is scarcely more than a dissecting room. There is no room for modern research work, none for advanced teaching in embryology, histology, and morphology. . . . There are various proposals in the air concerning the reconstruction of the medical school. All these plans suffer from the same defect. They are makeshifts, presented because of the small amount of money available. When building is started, consideration should be had to the possibility of expansion. If the site adjoining the Adelaide Hospital is not extensive enough, the sacrifice should be made, and the school divorced for a time from the clinical teaching. . . . The rich citizens of the beautiful city of Adelaide and the Government of South Australia must provide the means to erect an edifice fitted to be the house of medical studies. While the outer walls of the present school of medicine have become too narrow to hold their legitimate contents, the interior of the two older departments calls for even greater development. Within recent times three new professors have been appointed. They are all young, energetic, and competent. They have the ability and the desire to provide for the Adelaide students as good a training as can be obtained anywhere. The professor of anatomy (Professor Wood Jones) presides over a department without a library, without a microscope, without a balance, or even a pair of scales for weighing an organ, without a beaker, without a test tube, and without any of the modern instruments of precision necessary for original investigation or advanced teaching. A small grant has been sanctioned for the purchase of a few of the more essential things. The sum is inadequate even for modest requirements. . . . In the department of pathology the equipment and the accommodation are less inadequate, owing to the fact that this department was founded when Professor J. B. Cleland was appointed to the chair. His difficulties are therefore different from those of his colleagues who have taken over departments established in 1884. Professor Brailsford Robertson has already added some valuable apparatus to the equipment of his department, and has exercised much ingenuity in adapting the material in his possession to the space available and to the needs of his classes. There is still much apparatus missing that he should possess. . . . Now is the time to remedy these serious defects.

Advertiser. 23/3/21.

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

Supplementary examinations for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery.—
First Year.
Physiology.—Bellenger, Claude Joseph.
Organic Chemistry.—Walsh, Edmund Thomas. Thus completing the first year.
Second Year.
 Materia Medica.—Harris, John; Naylor, Rupert Lewis. Thus completing the second year.
Third Year.
Medicine.—Kessell, John Samuel; Litschko, Friedrich Berthold; McLoughlin, Eugene; Quinn, Thomas Vincent. Thus completing the third year.
Fourth Year.
Medicine.—Emmott, Harold Ralph; Holts, Alan Frank. Thus completing the fourth year.

Register. 23/3/21.

THE UNIVERSITY.

Interesting Notes.

To the Editor.

Sir—We, the undersigned, desire to draw attention to several statements in the article contained in The Medical Journal of Australia for March 19, which was quoted in your issue of Tuesday, which may possibly prove misleading to your readers. The remarks made by the editor of The Medical Journal might, perhaps, have been a just statement of the situation had they been written and published two years ago; but during the past 18 months the Government and many private citizens have joined in an effort to establish our University and our Medical School upon a modern footing, and we feel that it is only proper that this fact should be recognised. The criticism which The Medical Journal of Australia has directed against a situation that is happily passing away, we hope for ever, may obscure to many the fact that, owing to the generous assistance which has now been extended to the University, our Medical School has already entered upon a new era, and will shortly be in a position to challenge comparison, not merely with any medical school in Australia, but with a majority of medical schools in Europe and America. The new laboratories which are now being erected, thanks to the generosity of the family of the late Mr. John Darling, will provide accommodation for an entry of 100 medical students in zoology, histology, pathology, physiology, and bio-chemistry. Our present beginning class is somewhat less than 50. Room for expansion to twice our present number of students is thus being provided. In addition, the present provision for pathology at the Hospital will be continued for the purpose of accommodating the more advanced instruction in clinical pathology, and additions to the anatomical laboratories which are now being planned, will similarly increase the available accommodation in that subject. The department of Anatomy possesses its proportionate representation in the main library of the University. It is not sufficient, nor is any department of our library sufficient for our needs; but the recent gift of £11,000 by the family of the late Mr. R. Barr Smith will go some distance in the future towards remedying the existing defects. A sum amounting to over £2,000, has been granted by the University Council for the purchase of apparatus for the Department of Physiology and Bio-chemistry, and the remaining departments representing the Medical Sciences will doubtless shortly be equipped to a corresponding standard. Speaking from a personal knowledge of European and American Universities, we can state that this scale of equipment for an entry of fifty students, while by no means lavish, is certainly not exiguous; and we feel that the facilities which will become available to our medical students, when we enter into our new laboratories, should suffice to permit the most advanced type of modern instruction in scientific medicine, and at the same time, with the addition of the necessary assistance of a somewhat enlarged staff of teachers, to permit the active prosecution of researches of international significance. We are convinced that the article in The Medical Journal of Australia was written with the kindly intention of awakening our community to a sense of its responsibility towards the medical school, and from this point of view we welcome it. But, while we agree with its author that much that is desirable or even urgent is still awaiting the necessary financial support, we are far from agreeing as a whole with the gloomy picture which he draws. On the contrary, we feel that, notwithstanding all that remains to be done, the future is full of hope. It will be our endeavour to justify, as far as we are individually able, the confidence which the public of South Australia have expressed in our University by their recent generous support, and to strive to attain, in the laboratories which we severally direct, a standard of efficiency in instruction and research which will equal, and if possible, excel, any now available in Australia. We are, Sir, &c., J. B. CLELAND, F. WOOD-JONES, T. BRAILSFORD ROBERTSON.

Register. 24/3/21.

Mrs. Kate Helen Weston has accepted the position of organizing secretary to the South Australian Orchestra.

Reg. 25/3/21

GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

Expedition to Central Australia.

Twenty-five years ago, the late Professor Tate and Professor Baldwin Spencer, when on the Horn Expedition through Central Australia, noticed in the cliffs on the Finke, near Crown Point, a number of glaciated pebbles. Much interest has been evinced in scientific circles in relation to these glacial remains, and on several occasions their occurrence and geological age have been subjects of discussion at the meetings of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. As the outcome of the interest manifested a small party will shortly explore the country where the discoveries were made. The expedition will comprise Professors W. Howchin, of Adelaide, geologist and paleontologist, and Professor David, of Sydney, the well-known scientist and arctic explorer, and Capt. S. A. White, the local champion of fauna and flora. When interviewed on Thursday Professor Howchin said that at the Adelaide meeting of the association in 1907 definite steps were taken to test the questions at issue by a small expedition to the locality, and a sum of money was voted towards the expenses. Events proved unfavourable for the carrying out of this project. Professor David, who was to be one of the expedition party, first went to the antarctic and then to the war, so that the scheme was for a number of years held in abeyance. At the last meeting of the association in Melbourne in January the subject was revived, and it was arranged that he and Professor David should undertake the journey during the coming winter. It was expected that Capt. S. A. White would accompany them, and his knowledge of the interior would be a great advantage. —Ancient Glacial Land.—

There have been two very extensive ice ages in Australian geological history, added the professor, both very ancient. The later of the two occurred in southern Australia at the same time that the great New South Wales coal basin was in formation. Glaciers that gathered on South Australian highlands floated off at sea level, and, as icebergs, went north, spreading their moranic material over the submerged lands of New South Wales, and probably those of Queensland as well. It was to this period of glaciation that the remains at Hallett's Cove, Inman Valley, Yorke's Peninsula, and Kangaroo Island belonged. The other glacial period occurred at a time immensely older than the Hallett's Cove ice age, the remains of which were interbedded with the very ancient Cambrian rocks, near the bottom of the stratified rocks of Australia. Excellent exposures of these glacial remains—which are 1,500 ft. in thickness—occurred near Adelaide in the Sturt River, and in the ranges on either side of the railway, going north, and had been traced as far north as Maree (Hergott). It was an interesting question whether the glaciated stones found in the Finke, not many degrees north of the tropics, belonged to one or other of these geological ice ages, or whether they represented some other age of glaciation in Australia that had not hitherto been recognised.

—North of the Railhead.— Professor Howchin said that the expedition expected to get away during June. The real start would be made from Oodnadatta, and the scene of investigation would be about 180 miles north of the head of the railway line. As camel riding was not suitable for the work, Mr. S. Kidman had kindly offered to place a motor car at the disposal of the party. This offer was gratefully accepted, as it would facilitate the scientific research. The work entailed would probably occupy about six weeks.

Adv. 25/3/21

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ORCHESTRA.

The rehearsals of the South Australian Orchestra have begun, and the first concert will probably be given about the third week in April, Dr. Harold Davies being honorary conductor. The works in rehearsal are Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, Sullivan's "Overture di Ballo," Stanford's "Shamus O'Brien," Parry's "Lady Bot-

Reg. 28/3/21

INTER-VARSITY TENNIS.

MELBOURNE DEFEATED ADELAIDE.

SYDNEY, March 27. The contests between the university lawn tennis teams for the Niall Cup were continued on Saturday, when Melbourne beat Adelaide by 18 rubbers, 38 sets, 287 games to 3 rubbers, 10 sets, 179 games. Melbourne will play against Sydney on Monday.

Reg 29-3-21

CONSERVATORIUM CONCERT.

The plan of reserved seats for next Monday evening's opening concert of the Elder Conservatorium series, to be held in the Elder Hall, will be opened at S. Marshall and Sons' music warehouse this morning. A large number of intending patrons of these concerts have signified their intention of being present at the first, including His Excellency the Governor (Sir Archibald Weigall), Lady Weigall, the Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray), and the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mitchell).

Critic 30/3/21

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM

The programme for the opening concert of the Elder Conservatorium series of concerts, announced for Monday evening next in the Elder Hall, will include Debussy's Quartet for two violins, viola, and violoncello in G minor, op. 10; Faure's Quartet for pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello, C minor, op. 15; to be performed by Mr. Gerald Walenn, Miss Nora Kyffin Thomas, Miss Sylvia Whittington, A.M.U.A., Mr. Harold Parsons, mus. bac., and Mr. George Pearce. Vocal assistance will be given by Miss Rita Coonan, A.M.U.A., and Miss Lily Sara, A.M.U.A., will be the accompanist. A large number of patrons of these concerts have signified their intention of being present, including His Excellency the Governor (Sir Archibald Weigall, K.C.M.G.), Lady Weigall, the University Chancellor (Sir George Murray, K.C.M.G.), and the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mitchell). Plan of reserved seats now open at S. Marshall & Sons' music warehouse.

Herald 31/3/21

The following appointments to the Dental Hospital were made in Executive Council on Wednesday:—Superintendent and hon. dental surgeon, Dr. Arthur Chapman; hon. dental surgeons, Drs. W. T. Shanley, Frank Swan, P. R. Newling, and E. J. Millhouse.

Adv. 31/3/21

The death of Mr. John Burroughs, a famous American naturalist, occurred at Buffalo on Tuesday. He was born at Roxbury, New York, in April, 1837. He was the son of a farmer, but began his career as a teacher. After serving in that capacity for eight years, he became a Treasury clerk. He subsequently spent some time as a bank examiner, after which he lived on a farm, devoting his time to literature and fruit culture. He was a Doctor of Literature, Yale, and a Doctor of Humane Letters, Colgate University. He was also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Among his publications are "Walt Whitman, Poet and Person," and "Camping and Tramping with Roosevelt."