

Register 20/6/22.

Dr. Percival Bollen.

Dr. Percival Bollen, one of the most widely esteemed members of the medical profession in South Australia, died at his residence, Semaphore road, Semaphore, on Sunday night. The deceased was a large-hearted man, who never withheld his services from persons in poor circumstances, who were unable to pay for medical attention. He particularly directed his attention to the study of infantile paralysis, and had for many years been a recognised authority on this disease. Only recently the late Dr. Bollen made special representations for the declaration of infantile paralysis as a proclaimable malady. He was a great admirer of the work of the District Trained Nursing Society, and was a staunch supporter of the School for Mothers. His practice was a most extensive one, and although he had been in indifferent health for a long time, his energy was undiminished. The deceased was a son of the late Dr. George Bollen, who was Mayor of Port Adelaide in 1882. He was born at Mount Barker on November 16, 1869. Having received his earliest education at Mr. McPherson's school, he attended Mr. Allen Martin's Grammar School—now the Port Adelaide State School. At that institution he secured a scholarship which took him to Prince Alfred College. From that educational establishment he proceeded to Canada to



THE LATE DR. PERCIVAL BOLLEN.

study medicine, and graduated in 1891 at the Toronto University. Dr. Bollen returned to South Australia in the same year, and began to practice at Port Adelaide and Semaphore, in which district he had since remained. The late doctor did not confine his activities to that locality, however, for his practice extended to nearly every part of the metropolitan area, and beyond. In 1892 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Saunders, a daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Saunders, who at that time was superintendent of the Port Adelaide waterworks. Two of his brothers—one of whom is now dead—were also members of the medical profession, and his son, Dr. Kenneth W. Bollen, is now conducting his father's practice. For a number of years prior to the amalgamation with the Port Adelaide Corporation, Dr. Percival Bollen was medical officer of health to the Semaphore Corporation, and in 1907 he was appointed to a similar position with the Port Adelaide Corporation, an office which he had, since fulfilled. He displayed great zeal in the interests of the health of the seaport city, and recently made valuable suggestions, which were adopted, in connection with the prevention of bubonic plague at Port Adelaide. A member of the Methodist Church, in which he had held office, the late Dr. Bollen was an ardent supporter of the total abstinence cause. He had also often lectured in the interests of the South Australian Temperance Alliance, and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. For some time the deceased had been the medical examiner for the South Australian Methodist Conference, and the work of the St. John Ambulance Association had in him an enthusiastic advocate. The late doctor had travelled widely—Europe, America, and the South Sea Islands being among the places he had visited at different times. Besides the widow there survive a son (Dr. K. W. Bollen), and two daughters (Misses Lorna and Erica Bollen).

Register 21/6/22.

UNIVERSITY LECTURES

"RELATIVITY AND GRAVITATION."

The third and last lecture by Professor J. R. Wilton on "Relativity and the Modern Theory of Gravitation," was given at the Prince of Wales Theatre, University of Adelaide, on Tuesday night. There was again a crowded audience. The professor began with the remark that, in spite of the revolution which it had wrought in scientific thought and in spite of its great achievement in the co-ordination of previously disconnected and even conflicting experimental results and its prediction of new results, the restricted principle of relativity was yet unsatisfying because of the way in which it singled out uniform motion in a straight line as something essentially distinct from motion of every other kind. But, he added, we could never be certain of any given motion whether it was, or was not, uniform motion in a straight line, because of the lack of any standard of such motion to which it could be referred. It, therefore, became necessary to extend the theory of relativity so that it would apply to the observations of experimenters moving in any manner whatever. That task Einstein had achieved in 1915 by the enunciation of the principle of equivalence which might be worded:—"For the description of natural phenomena any observer may postulate that he is himself at rest, provided that he includes in his description of phenomena the forces which are requisite to keep him at rest."

—Principle of Equivalence.—
Professor Wilton then described the two illustrations which Einstein had himself given of his principle of equivalence—the moving "chest" and the rotating disc. An experimenter who, with the necessary instruments, was enclosed in a chamber far removed from the solar system and from all other heavenly bodies, would, he added, be quite unconscious of any motion of his chamber. He would also be quite unconscious of any weight, either in himself or in any of his instruments. If he were to place, say, a ball of brass and a ball of cork, anywhere in his chamber, they would stay just where he put them, apparently floating in the air. "But if, now, some supernatural being were to haul on the chest so that it began to move with constant acceleration it would immediately begin to overtake the brass ball and the cork, and, if they were at the same distance from the floor of the chamber, it would strike them both at the same instant. But, from the point of view of our observer, what had happened would appear to be that the brass and the cork had suddenly gained weight, and had fallen to the floor of the chamber. He would think of himself as having blundered into the neighbourhood of some planet or other heavenly body, the gravitational pull of which he was feeling in his own sense of weight, and in the weight of the balls of brass and cork. In the same way beings who, living on a rotating disc, were unaware of its rotation, would conclude that there was a gravitational field on the disc repelling all bodies with a force varying as their distance from the centre."

—"Space Time."—
The actual method by which, however, Einstein elaborated his general principle of relativity consisted, proceeded Professor Wilton, in an application of four dimensional geometry to the determination of invariant properties of space time. But as such a geometry was too difficult to explain in a popular lecture he was compelled to resort to an illustration from geometry on a surface in ordinary space. He explained that, joining any two points on such a surface, there was just one curved line which, lying entirely on the surface, was shorter than any other such line. That line was known as a geodesic. Its important property from the point of view of relativity was that it was the path which would be followed by a particle of matter which was moving on the surface under the action of no forces, so that, for instance, it had no weight. Einstein's law of gravitation might be stated thus:—"The path of any material body (such as the planet Mercury) through space and time was a geodesic in the space time continuum. In the case of the field of a single particle Einstein's law of gravitation could be expressed in a form approximating extremely closely to the well-known law of Newton, but containing a small additional term, which term accounted for the discrepancy between the observed and the calculated motion of the perihelion of Mercury, which term, also, was such as to require the bending of the light from a star through about one and three-quarter seconds of arc as it passed close to the sun."

Advertiser 22/6/22.

Music Examinations.

MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.

From EDWARD HOWARD, Angas-street:—In your issue of June 12 I gave four reasons why music teachers should not support the local examinations of the University. As these statements have not been contradicted, it must be assumed that they are valid. If this be so, it is admitted that the University Conservatorium is doing work that is unnecessary for such an institution to undertake, is thereby acting unjustly towards the outside teachers, and is pursuing a course that is derogatory to the dignity of a University. Now we teachers are unorganised, inarticulate, and I am afraid invertebrate, or things would have been altered long ago. Still we have rights which should be considered by those in authority, as, though perhaps willing to be friendly with the lion, we do not care to lie down inside of him. As the Music Examination Board has been given the opportunity to criticise the reasons why the teachers should not support the local music examinations of the University, it is only fair that comment should be allowed on the reasons given by the M.E.B. in favor of our supporting these examinations. 1. "That the standard of the syllabus is unquestionably high." Anyone well acquainted with this matter will know that the standard of a musical examination as it appears in the syllabus is as froth to the liquid on which it floats, when compared with the competence and reliability of the examiners and the evenness of their marking. Examinations must be judged by their educational value, not by any so-called standard, which may run to seed at either extreme. 2. "That such profits as may be derived from the examinations are expended entirely on musical education in Australia." How are teachers or public to know if there be any profits after expenses are paid? and, if so, where do they go if not to support the Conservatorium, which is a commercial undertaking, run contrary to the interests of the best qualified class of outside teachers? 3. "That, on the other hand, all fees paid to examining bodies from overseas are appropriated to the benefit of English music students." This is contrary to fact. I have before me a list of annual local exhibitions of Trinity College, London. In practical music eight senior exhibitions are awarded in the British Isles, and ten in the Dominions. The same numbers apply to the intermediate and junior grades. This makes 24 for the British Isles and 30 for the Dominions. In theory there are five exhibitions for the British Isles and five for the Dominions. In execution there are two for the British Isles and four for the Dominions. Total—British Isles, 31; Dominions, 39. The pecuniary value is the same in all cases, and the winners can continue their instruction under the same teachers who helped them to gain the exhibitions. 4. "That our own examinations are in our own hands, and can be moulded to our own artistic ideals." Is this at the present stage a benefit? A few years ago there was much talk in Australia of cutting the political painter, connecting us with the old country. Who advocates it now? Well, what is wrong with the musical painter? Who examines the exercises of the Australian candidates for musical degrees? How do the visiting examiners compare with the Australian local examiners? Let anyone look at the list of examiners for the Australian Music Examinations Board, as contained in the manual, and compare them with those sent out by Trinity College and the Associated Board, and the question is answered. The visiting men are not only musicians of standing, but they are professionally trained for this department of music, and in many cases make it their life's work. Much good, therefore, and no harm can be done by following the "artistic ideals" of such institutions as these men represent.

Advertiser 15/6/22. Mr. D. J. Mahony.

Mr. D. J. Mahony, M.Sc., F.G.S., Government Pathologist of the Victorian Geological Survey Department, who has been engaged inspecting the Okes Durack Kimberley Oil Company's holdings in the extreme north of Western Australia, reached Adelaide on Tuesday night on his way to Melbourne. Mr. Mahony, after serving with the Artillery during the war, spent a year doing research work in the Geological Department of Cambridge University, in association with Professor Marr and Dr. Harper. He is favorably impressed with the discovery of oil in the West. Twelve years ago Mr. Mahony for a short time relieved Sir Douglas Mawson, professor of geology and mineralogy at the University of Adelaide, when the latter was preparing to go to the Antarctic.

Advertiser 23/6/22.

UNIVERSITY DISCIPLINE.

The Adelaide University authorities are watching with interest the endeavor of the staff and governing bodies of the Melbourne University to tighten up its statute dealing with University discipline, in order that wilful neglect of work on the part of students may bring such students within the disciplinary laws of the institution. Drastic proposals were made at the meeting of the Victorian University Council on Monday, and despite the fact that the professional staff pointed out the need for action the proposals were modified, and it was decided to add to the statute:—"That no student may present himself for examination on any one subject at more than two annual examinations, except with the permission of the professional board." When seen on Thursday the Registrar of the University (Mr. C. B. Hodge) said the Melbourne proposals opened up a subject for considerable discussion, but he would not say whether there was any need for similar action to be taken in Adelaide. At any rate, the Adelaide authorities have not yet discussed the matter at meetings of the council. The Adelaide University requires students to attend three-fourths of the prescribed lectures during the year, and where this is not done the students are debarred from sitting for examination, unless for some legitimate reasons they have been prevented from attending. In such cases exemptions are usually granted.

Advertiser 23/6/22. Statement by Prof. Cleland.

COMBATING DISEASE.

Professor J. B. Cleland, of the Adelaide University, stated yesterday he was surprised that, considering the large sums of money involved annually in the payment of life insurance policies on account of persons who died in the prime of life, there had as yet been no co-ordinated attempt on the part of the companies in Australia to investigate the causes leading up to such premature deaths, with a view to reducing their number. It was true, he said, that some investigations had been made into the nature of various diseases, and that they possessed also the advantages of research conducted in other parts of the world, but Australian conditions differed in some ways from those elsewhere. "The number of Australian investigators is too small to tackle even a tithe of the problems that present themselves," said Professor Cleland. "Quite apart from the benefit to the community at large that would result from a lessening of the incidence of any particular disease, it is clearly a sound business proposition on the part of the life insurance companies to expend a reasonable part of their profits in instituting research into the etiology and prevention of certain diseases. If they are prepared to act in this direction they can rest assured that the medical profession, at all times altruistic, will willingly cooperate."

Advertiser 13/6/22. STREET MUSIC.

From "W.J.S.":—Perhaps one of the world's greatest needs at the present time is music, not an established State orchestra or other classical affair between walls for the select, brilliant few, but just ordinary, everyday street music, such as this fair city boasted of in bygone days. Time was when Adelaide saw sons of Italy and other climes strum with deftly nimble fingers the once popular though now seemingly obsolete harp. This instrument, played in conjunction with piccolo or flageolet, together with the indispensable universal violin, made music which to many minds could not be surpassed. Apparently those days have now gone, eclipsed by an order of things specially designed and adapted for the wealthy. It is a shame to see so many woebegone countenances in the streets of Australia's fairest city, all for the want of the soothing effects of music. A little timely melody now and then would tend to revolutionise the mind, clearing the cobwebs from many a brain. When I think of the old days, of the beautiful harmony produced by the manipulation of stringed instruments in our streets, I yearn to hear once more the oft-repeated strains. Even the old-time cab horse would prick his ears and assume an unwonted vigor as with a whisk of his tail he set off with

enlivened pace. Why should street music be banned? Why should there not be an orchestra on the balcony of reputable business places, discoursing sweet music to passers-by? Yes, undoubtedly, what the world wants is what Adelaide wants, and that very badly just now—music.