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CAPS AND GOWNS.

From EDWARD HOWARD:—The display of a college cap and gown implies that the wearer possesses a University degree. Many members of the musical profession would be glad to know on what grounds the London College of Music authorises its associates and licentiates to don these articles of adornment. As an examining body, how does this college compare with such institutions as Trinity College, the Associated Board, or the University of Adelaide, none of whom recognise the advisableness of such a misleading procedure? Even the Royal Academy of Music, and the Royal College of Music do not suggest the propriety of wearing any distinctive dress in the case of their associates or licentiates, though these are of a professional standard. It is a pity that such ideas should be introduced into Australia, and it would be well if the facts could be explained or accounted for by those responsible.

Advertiser 6.2.23

SPECIAL SENIOR EXAMINATION.

The special senior examination, which takes place in February, was originally intended for students who had failed in the November examination, and without this opportunity to have another test, might miss a year at the University. The privilege, however, has been extended, and according to Mr. R. J. M. Clucas, 190 entries have been received, which is easily a record, the previous largest number having been 129 in 1921. The number of subjects, which is 19, also constitutes a record. The examinations will begin at the University on February 13, and at six country centres:—Port Pirie, Gawler, Murray Bridge, Renmark, Mount Gambier, and Streaky Bay.

Register 6.2.23

MISSING VIOLIN RECOVERED FROM GROUND.

Details of the disappearance of a valuable violin from the Elder Conservatorium and its subsequent recovery from the ground at the rear of the Adelaide University have just been revealed. It appears that recently the instrument, which was lent by Mr. W. R. Cade to Miss Whittington, the well-known violinist, was taken from a cupboard. The matter was reported to the police, and two days later the instrument was unearthed from the ground at the rear of the North-terrace institution, none the worse for its burial. It was found intact in its case.

Register 9.2.23

The Angas Engineering Exhibition, which is of the annual value of £40 per annum, tenable for three years at the University of Adelaide, has been awarded to Mr. F. W. Wagner, son of F. H. Wagner, of North Adelaide. The successful student received his education at Queen's School, and although only 17 years of age, has passed his Junior, Senior, and Higher Public Examinations with credits.

Advertiser 9.2.23

CAPS AND GOWNS.

From "A.B.C.D. and C."—I suppose there is no law to prevent the London College of Music authorising the wearing of caps and gowns any more than there is to prevent a picture-show proprietor clothing his spruiker in a uniform. But worse than the cap and gown business is the fact that one often hears, and even reads, various diplomas spoken of as "degrees." There are only two "degrees" in music—the Mus. Doc. and Mus. Bac. I question the propriety of the use of the letters A.M.U.A. by the Adelaide University, as apparently no University in Great Britain allows anything but Mus. Bac. or Mus. Doc. to be used after a name. A while ago I notice a name with eleven letters after it (only three of which counted for anything), and I thought poor old John Sebastian Bach, George Frederick Handel, and some other worthies were quite insignificant musicians compared with some of their young successors in Australia.

Advertiser 10.2.23

CAPS AND GOWNS.

From EDWARD HOWARD:—"A.B.C.D." suggests there is no law to prevent the ill-advised use of caps and gowns. We want to know what reasons render such procedure expedient. However, there are laws which should prevent this slur on the musical profession, though unfortunately, there is no machinery by which they can be enforced. The writer might claim that there is no law to prevent him from parading Rundle-street with his coat turned inside out. But if that action drew the attention of the small boys and the vacant-minded, as it undoubtedly would, thus causing an obstruction, he would soon find himself in the police court answerable to the law, and that for merely walking about the street in a dress that pleased his fancy. There are laws of propriety, self-respect, dignity, consideration for others, and public safety. All these may be brought into contempt without in the first instance breaking a statute law. So with the matter under discussion there are unwritten laws of propriety, fairness, and wisdom. It has been said, indeed, that unwritten laws are the strongest, for from them the written laws spring. Music teachers would like the public to have correct ideas of the value that is to be placed upon the work of the various examining bodies. It is the music teachers who are responsible to the public in this branch of education, and for no one teacher to look into such questions as this is not only a matter of right, but one of duty also.

JOHN CRESWELL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Applications will be received up till noon on February 9 by the Cricket Association and Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society from the sons of members, for the John Creswell scholarships for the diploma of commerce course of the Adelaide University. Candidates must have passed the junior commercial, senior commercial, or senior public examination of the University, and be under the age of 19 years on March 1. The scholarships are tenable for five years.

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NEW UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS.

There will be several changes in the staff of the Adelaide University this year. Professor Harvey Johnson will take up his duties of Professor of Zoology. He was appointed in 1921, but notified his inability to begin work for a year, owing to his prickly pear researches in Queensland. Professor John McKellar Stewart will take over the Hughes Chair of Philosophy, recently vacated by Professor Mitchell. Neither has yet arrived. Mr. A. L. G. McKee, who was appointed last year as Assistant Lecturer in Economics, will also begin his duties this year. Vacation will end on March 13. The number of students cannot yet be estimated, as applications for enrolment will not be in before March 1.

Advertiser 7.2.23

UNIVERSITIES AND THE MAKING OF GREAT MEN.

In an article on "Universities and the making of great men," contributed to a bulletin on "Higher Education in Australia and New Zealand," issued by the

Department of the Interior, U.S.A., by Professor C. E. Thwing, President Emeritus of Western Reserve University, who visited Australia some time ago, the writer says the Universities of these lands have sent forth as many great men as they have adopted or assimilated. He adds, after referring to "the Braggs, father and son" and some others, "I might also refer to Gilbert Murray, born in Sydney, although he left Australia after 11 years, and to George E. Morrison, born in Victoria, who was for many years the chief British adviser to the Chinese Empire. Australia has also won to itself great men born elsewhere, as well as sent forth her own sons. Among such names as David, professor of geology, in the University of Sydney, who led the party which reached the South Magnetic Pole in the great Shackleton expedition in 1907-9; Sir John Macfarland, Chancellor of the University of Melbourne; Masson, son of Masson of Edinburgh, the biographer of Milton, himself great in the field of chemistry; Sir James Barrett, of Melbourne, author and scientist, wise interpreter of the relations of the State and the higher education; the State President of the Industrial Court, Jethro Brown, of Adelaide; Chief Justice Stout, of New Zealand; William A. Sheil, Vice-Chancellor of Adelaide; and Madrasin, who, though born in Scotland, received his preparatory education in Auckland, becoming president of the Massachusetts Institution of Technology in Boston. These and many more whom one could mention represent, both in their service and in their personality, as noble a condition as could usually be found in any similar society throughout the world. Their constructive aims, and their scholarly and human endeavors, are as worthy as the interpreter could find elsewhere. They represent, and they constitute, the highest leadership. It is a leadership of which democracy and government is charged with, neither creating nor nourishing. The charge is, of course, false. Australia has created and nourished such an individual educational and communal result."

URRBRAE ESTATE.

Handed Over to University. A Magnificent Endowment.

On Saturday, the daughters of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter Waite—Misses Lily and Eva Waite—who left for London by the Macedonia on Monday, informally handed over the Urrbrae Estate, Glen Osmond, to the Adelaide University. The Chancellor (Sir George Murray) and the Assistant Registrar (Mr. F. W. Eardley) were the only two persons from the University present.

In 1913 the late Mr. Peter Waite offered to the Adelaide University (subject to a life tenancy of the survivor of himself and his wife) his residence Urrbrae, with 67 acres of land (the remaining 67 acres of the same section being offered to the Government for a public park, with the right to the University to reserve 10 to 15 acres of it for use as a sports ground). In 1915, the late Mr. Waite increased his benefaction by purchasing the Claremont Estate of 53 acres, and 112 acres of the Netherby Estate (both of which properties are contiguous to Urrbrae) and transferring them also to the University. There was thus constituted a magnificent endowment of 232 acres of excellent and varied pasture, with a good rainfall, close to the city, and with substantial buildings, the house in particular being extremely well built, and suitable to accommodate the agricultural school of the University. To provide funds to enable these gifts to be effectively used, the late Mr. Waite, in 1918, transferred to trustees for the University 4,900 shares in Elder, Smith, & Co., Limited, which carried the benefit of an issue of 980 new shares, making a total of 5,880 shares, worth more than £200,000. The gifts were made with a view to advancing the cause of education in agriculture, forestry, and allied subjects, which might tend to the better development of the natural resources of the land. No arrangements with regard to the estate have yet been made, and they will stand in abeyance until matters have been discussed by the University Council and staff.

THE X RAYS.

PROFESSOR RONTGEN DEAD. LONDON, February 10.

The death is announced of Professor Rontgen, the discoverer of the X rays, at the age of 78 years.

Professor Rontgen, the famous German physicist, was born at Lennep, in the Prussian Rhine province, on March 27, 1845. He was educated at Zurich University, and became a professor successively at Heikheim (1875), Strassburg (1876), Giessen (1879), and Warzburg (1885). In November, 1895, he announced the discovery of the rays which bear his name; in 1899 he was appointed professor of experimental physics at Munich, and in 1901 he received the Nobel Prize for physics. Professor Rontgen was awarded the Rumford Medal of Columbia University for his



Professor W. K. Rontgen.

discovery of Rontgen or X rays. He wrote many scientific papers on them, as well as on other branches of physics, and carried out valuable research work on the conductivity of heat of crystals, magnetic rotation of polarised light, absorption of heat of gases, investigations on elasticity. The Rontgen rays form the phenomena which occur when an electric charge passes through a highly rarified vacuum; for example, a Crookes tube. In such circumstances emanations pass from the negative electrode or across the vacuum to the positive electrode or anode; and if these emanations, or so-called cathode rays, strike upon matter, then, in addition to inducing phosphorescence and raising the temperature, they give rise to the production of another kind of rays which differ from the cathode rays and from ordinary light rays in many particulars. These rays were first found by Professor Rontgen in 1895 and announced in 1896.

Register 12.2.23

THE RONTGEN RAYS.

In the construction of the edifice of scientific knowledge, one stone is laid so quickly upon another, and there is such a host of labourers, that it is not often easy to see who makes the most important contribution to the work. But occasionally a new wing is thrown out from the main building, and here there is generally some conspicuous master mason. To him, if scientists had time for such things, there should be given a golden trowel, and he should be asked to lay a foundation stone with some ceremony. In the rush of scientific progress there is never any ceremony, but Rontgen was more fortunate than many of his scientific friends, for, in a sense, he did lay a foundation stone with his own name upon it when he discovered the Rontgen rays in 1895. Upon the foundation due to the work of this