

Bald

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With regard to the pursuit of pleasure, there are evidences, I think, that we have lost the appreciation, to some extent, of the simpler and healthier forms of enjoyment, and this it is that suggests the inquiry whether our modern educational institutions have succeeded in developing the finer feelings and powers of appreciation upon which, for example, Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, placed such emphasis."

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### THE DENTAL HOSPITAL.

#### OPENING OF THE NEW BUILDING.

On Tuesday the building recently completed as a dental hospital on Frome-road, a little north of the Adelaide Hospital nurses' quarters, was opened for the use of the public. Dr. Chaplin is the dental superintendent, and is assisted by Mr. Campbell, dental surgeon, two mechanics, and a nurse. The institution will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays inclusive, and from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturdays. The Adelaide Hospital Board will control it.

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### VIEWS AND COMMENTS

#### MUSICAL EDUCATION.

From EDWARD HOWARD, Angas street.—In your report of the interesting and instructive lecture by Professor Davi the lecturer says:—"Musical education might be directed in three ways—First, the training of performers, either players or singers; secondly, the training of composers; and thirdly, the training of hearers." The training of performer either players or singers, he dismisses in the following words:—"With this we are sufficiently familiar. It presents a fair wide though limited field of operation, and its fruits are various." As one interested in the teaching of singing, may I be allowed a few words of comment. Singer cannot appropriately be classified with players. There are fundamental differences between them. The professor's comment is justly not complimentary, and whatever may be the defects of instrumental instruction, with which I am not personally concerned, as regards singing, the subject is neither properly taught, nor even understood by many of those who teach it. If the public realised this there would be an alteration before many years were past. Instruction in singing is saturated with "blind seeing and deaf hearing." Properly taught, the learner should hear with the eye and see with the ear. This indifferent teaching is not the fault of the students, though some of them may be shallow, for the instruction is not proportioned to the talent and knowledge, or lack of knowledge, of the individual learner, but is, as it were, shovelled in like coal into a furnace. Correct voice use is not understood, and the intellectual aspect of the subject is neglected. In commenting on "the making of composers," Dr. Davies refers to the "training of children to make their own tunes." This child training in schools is of necessity almost entirely on the vocal side. As regards the discussion on "the training of hearers," it is undoubtedly true that the mechanical playing of the piano "has as little to do with music as operating a typewriter has to do with literature." I do not think, however, "it is easy to teach the great majority of people to listen to music with keen discernment, and real appreciation quite apart from any skill in performance." To do nothing is practically an evidence of knowing nothing as regards this subject. Even does often know little or nothing. Nevertheless, it is those who are likely to show the "keenest discernment and real appreciation"—others will only listen sensuously, though they may be somewhat influenced by those who understand and can do something. In singing are involved, first, the physical training of the voice; second, the training of the ear in respect to intonation, relative pitch, and mental effects; third, the relationship of music to literature. Even a poor singer pays a little deference to words—the pianoforte player has none. Some of these things, therefore, do not apply to instrumental music at all; the others in a less marked degree. Consequently the vocal art is deserving of more careful study, and more scientific teaching than even instrumental music, instead of being looked upon as the Cinderella of musical subjects.

Mr. T. G. Storer, herbal practitioner, of Adelaide, has been notified by a cable message from London that his son, Robert Vivian, has received the diplomas of Member of the Royal College of Surgeons (Eng.) and Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians (Lond.). Dr. Storer received his early training at the Unley High School and gained a scholarship which entitled him to three years at Prince Alfred College, where he was dux of the school in his final year and obtained thereby a further scholarship which carried him to the Adelaide University and the hospital. He received an appointment as surgeon of the steamer Matatia last December and travelled to London, where



Dr. R. V. Storer.

he had the opportunity to pursue his studies at St. Bartholomea's Hospital, London, the oldest hospital in the world, which a few weeks ago celebrated its 800th anniversary. At the gatherings in honor of the occasion Dr. Storer met many eminent medical men from all parts of the world, including Sir Joseph Verco, of Adelaide, who expressed his pleasure that the young student was enabled to gain experience in such a wonderfully equipped institution. Dr. Storer's many friends in Adelaide will heartily congratulate him on his success so early in life. He is only 22 years of age.

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### UNIVERSITY LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening, Professor Coleman Phillipson delivered a lecture to a large number of students at the University. He took for his subject, "The Bar and the Inns of Court," and sketched the chief features contained in what he described as "an association unique in the world's history." The Inns were originally a great legal University, but never became associated with any other body, and down to the present day they were solely controlled by their own members, who were answerable to no one in the Empire. In fact, the Inns were a kind of great legal democracy working harmoniously without any outside interference. The influence of this body on the growth of the Empire had been unbounded. From earliest times their members had stood for justice and liberty of conscience, as well as in politics. Pym, Coke and Selborne, to mention only a few, were members of the Inns. The students of the Inns did much to encourage the drama, and stood out against the Puritans' intolerance of the stage. Two of Shakespeare's plays were first produced at Gray's Inn, namely, "The Comedy of Errors" and "Twelfth Night." That the position held by the members of the Inns had always been a high one was evidenced by the fact that they had given to the English Bench its most famous judges, and to the House of Commons some of its most brilliant statesmen. The members of the Inns still cling to the ideals of their predecessors, and those Inns were still, in the words of Ben Jonson, "the noblest nurseries of liberty and humanity in the kingdom."

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND THE ECLIPSE. THE EINSTEIN THEORY TEST. OBSERVATORY CANNOT COMPLETE IT. NECESSARY APPARATUS WANTING.

If it were possible to split a human hair into 20 separate strips, the thickness of one strip would indicate the margin of accuracy which an astronomer permits himself in making measurements of the positions of stars on photographic plates to test the Einstein theory.

The Adelaide Observatory, unfortunately, is not equipped with apparatus delicate enough to make these measurements, and the Einstein photographs taken at the time of the solar eclipse last September have been sent to the Greenwich Observatory for the test to be made. The work of comparing the photographs is one requiring the utmost exactness. Mr. G. F. Dodwell, the Government Astronomer, and Professor Kerr Grant, undertook this task, but lack of suitable apparatus has compelled them to give up, with the problem unanswered.

Months ago Dr. Campbell, of the Lick Observatory, America, after travelling thousands of miles, confirmed the Einstein theory, but South Australia, after having been favored with perfect conditions for scientific photographing of stars at an eclipse within a few hundred miles of the capital, will not know until informed by the Astronomer Royal some months hence, what answer the scientists of this State have to make in connection with a problem which may require the modification of the formulae of physics established by centuries of research.

There are curious scientific facts concerning the Einstein theory of which the public are little aware. In a general way, people have grasped the explanation that the sun exerts an attractive force on light passing near it, and that Einstein's general theory of relativity was to be proved by telescopic photographs of the stars "near" the sun during the period of totality. Most people think, however, that if the theory were correct the stars would appear to be drawn in towards the sun. The truth is that they seem to be thrust away, for in passing the sun the light waves are deflected inward and the line of sight is, as it were, given an outward cant.

In checking the photographs the scientists had several difficulties to overcome. There was the orientation of the plate—that is the angle at which the plate was exposed—then there was the scale value which depended on the focal length of the lens, differential refraction, distortion caused by the lens combination—no lens is absolutely perfect in giving a flat and symmetrical field. All these things are corrected with infinite pains by working out equations to connect up all the stars with the different co-efficients for each term, according to the position of the star on the plate. In the preliminary calculations the various coefficients and other data were determined so that in the final equations the effects of difference of orientation, &c., could be eliminated.

The next step was to identify the stars of the two different fields, for the heavens were photographed in two different places on the one plate and again six months later on another plate. Then very fine lines had to be ruled on what is termed the "scale plate." A special instrument was made by Mr. Rogers, of the Adelaide University on a suggestion by Professor Kerr Grant, for ruling double lines. Although the success hoped for in ruling lines of absolutely invariable difference apart was not attained it was shown that, with better facilities, this could be done, and in any case, the use of double lines instead of single lines was an advantage in measurement. The scale plate was super-imposed on one of the eclipse plates for comparison and measurements made with the micrometer measuring machine, used for measuring spectra, and loaned by Professor W. G. Duffield, who is

now in Adelaide. After a long series of measurements had been taken and repeated, it was found that there were inconsistencies in measurements because the machine, although of sufficient accuracy for spectra, was not able to yield the results required in this measuring of the Einstein stars, which is perhaps the last word in ultra-fine astronomical measurement.

So the scientists were forced to the conclusion that there is not an instrument in the State that is good enough for the work, and they have sent the plates to Greenwich Observatory, as previously arranged with the Astronomer Royal. They left by the Orsova on Monday last.

In this work it was necessary to measure less than a ten-thousandth part of an inch.

It is regrettable that the Government Astronomer in this State has not the high class apparatus required for such work. The Adelaide Observatory has no endowments, and receives no gifts other than the Government grants, and so cannot afford to be up-to-date. Such assistance from private sources would be welcomed. It is a poor advertisement for the State to have to send such work abroad. The work that has been done in Adelaide will be very helpful to the Astronomer Royal, however.

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### THE EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The Education Society of South Australia held its second meeting at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Adelaide University, on Thursday evening. Officers elected:—Patrons, Prof. W. Mitchell (Vice-Chancellor of the University), Mr. W. T. McCoy (Director of Education); President, Prof. McKellar Stuart; Vice-Presidents, Mr. W. T. Bayly (Head Master of Prince Alfred College), Dr. A. J. Schulz (Principal of the Teachers' College); Committee, Miss W. Berry (St. Peter's Collegiate School for Girls), Miss A. Miethke (Woodville High School), Brother D. G. Purton (Head Master, Christian Brothers' College, Rostrevor), Mr. G. L. Wood (St. Peter's College), Mr. E. Allen (Adelaide High School). The President delivered an inspiring address. He explained that all branches of education were intertwined. The aim of the society should be to watch the process of education and note results. The relation between authority and freedom called for special attention. The selection and education of those possessing superior ability was of prime importance, as also was the training of teachers. Only by attracting the best minds to the teaching profession would the status of the teacher be raised.

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### UNIVERSITY TUTORIAL CLASSES.

Mr. Whitford, M.P., who last week introduced a deputation to the Minister of Education from the Workers' Educational Association, who asked for an increased grant for University tutorial classes, has received a reply which states that Cabinet has approved that the Government grant shall be increased to £1,500.

Mail 14-7-23

### MR. KEITH WARD.

#### Returns from Central Australia.

After a three months' visit to Central Australia Mr. Keith Ward, the Government Geologist, returned to Adelaide last Thursday.

He accompanied Sir Baldwin Spence, who enquired into the question of aborigines and half-castes on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

Mr. Ward was sent by the South Australian Government to investigate the possibility of underground water supplies along the stock routes. He will report to the Government on the result of his observations between Alice Springs and Charlotte Waters, the country which he covered.

Mr. Ward said they had had five good rains while they were there, and the country was looking better.